



GENERAL AWARENES

Capsule for

IBPS RRB PO

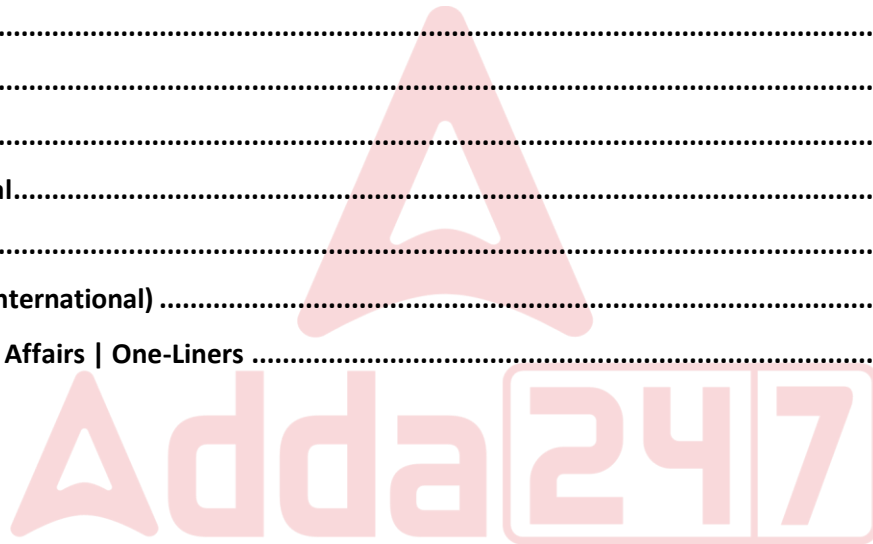
MAINS 2025

[Part 1]



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National Current Affairs

National Current Affairs of November 2025

India's Top 10 Philanthropists in 2025: Know The List



India's Top 10 Philanthropists in 2025


Rank	Name	FY25 Donation (₹ Cr)	5-Year Total (₹ Cr)	Foundation
1	Shiv Nadar & family	2,708	10,120	Shiv Nadar Foundation
2	Mukesh Ambani & family	626	2,855	Reliance Foundation
3	Bajaj family	446	1,728	Bajaj Group Trust
4	Kumar Mangalam Birla & family	440	1,630	Aditya Birla Capital Foundation
5	Gautam Adani & family	376	1,325	Adani Foundation
6	Nandan Nilekani	304	1,263	Nilekani Philanthropies
7	Hinduja family	298	1,083	Hinduja Foundation
8	Rohini Nilekani	204	763	Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies
9	Sudhir Mehta & Samir Mehta	189	541	UNM Foundation
10	Cyrus S Poonawalla & Adar Poonawalla	173	408	Villoo Poonawalla Foundation

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

ALL EXAMS, ONE SUBSCRIPTION.

Swachh Survekshan 2025: Madurai Tops the List of India's Dirtiest Cities

The Swachh Survekshan 2025 report, released under the **Swachh Bharat Mission**, has once again exposed the deep divide in India's urban cleanliness efforts. While some smaller cities have made impressive strides in maintaining hygiene, several of India's major metropolitan areas have failed to keep up. This year, **Madurai** has topped the list as the dirtiest city in India 2025, followed closely by Ludhiana, Chennai, Ranchi, and Bengaluru.

Top 10 Dirtiest Cities in India 2025

According to the official Swachh Survekshan 2025 results, the following cities performed the worst in the cleanliness rankings:

Rank	City	Score
1	Madurai	4823
2	Ludhiana	5272
3	Chennai	6822
4	Ranchi	6835
5	Bengaluru	6842
6	Dhanbad	7196
7	Faridabad	7329
8	Greater Mumbai	7419
9	Srinagar	7488
10	Delhi	7920

Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025 Announced, Check The Complete List of Winners

Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025: Full List of Winners by Language

- **Assamese** – Mainaahantar Padya (Poetry), Surendra Mohan Das
- **Bengali** – Ekhono Gaye Kanta Daye (Stories), Tridib Kumar Chattopadhyay
- **Bodo** – Khanthi Bwswan Arw Akhu Danai (Stories), Binay Kumar Brahma
- **Dogri** – Nanhi Tor (Poetry), P.L. Parihar 'Shauq'
- **English** – Dakshin: South Indian Myths and Fables Retold (Stories), Nitin Kushalappa MP
- **Gujarati** – Tinchak (Poetry), Kirtida Brahmbhatt
- **Hindi** – Ek Batey Barah (Non-fiction & Memoir), Susheel Shukla
- **Kannada** – Notebook (Short Stories), K. Shivalingappa Handihal
- **Kashmiri** – Shure Te Tchure Gyush (Short Stories), Izhar Mubashir
- **Konkani** – Belabaicho Shanker Ani Heir Kanyo (Stories), Nayana Adarkar
- **Maithili** – Chukka (Short Stories), Munni Kamat
- **Malayalam** – Penguinukalude Vankaravil (Novel), Sreejith Moothedath
- **Manipuri** – Angangshing-Gee Shannabungshida (Play), Shanto M.



- **Marathi** – Abhaimaya (Poetry), Suresh Govindrao Sawant
- **Nepali** – Shanti Van (Novel), Sangmu Lepcha
- **Odia** – Kete Phula Phutichi (Poetry), Rajakishore Parhi
- **Punjabi** – Jaddu Patta (Novel), Pali Khadim (Amrit Pal Singh)
- **Rajasthan** – Pankheruv Ni Peeda (Play), Bhogilal Patidar
- **Sanskrit** – Balvisvam (Poetry), Preeti R. Pujara
- **Santali** – Sona Miru-ag Sandesh (Poetry), Haralal Murmu
- **Sindhi** – Asmani Pari (Poetry), Heena Agnani 'Heer'
- **Tamil** – Ottrai Siragu Oviya (Novel), Vishnupuram Sarvanan
- **Telugu** – Kaburla Devatha (Story), Gangisetty Sivakumar
- **Urdu** – Qaumi Sitare (Articles), Ghazanfar Iqbal

National Water Awards

List of Winners – 6th National Water Awards 2024

1. Best State

Rank	Winner	State
1	Maharashtra	Maharashtra
2	Gujarat	Gujarat
3	Haryana	Haryana

2. Best District

Zone	District	State	Rank
East Zone	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh	1st
West Zone	Khargone	Madhya Pradesh	1st
South Zone	Tirunelveli	Tamil nadu	1st
North Zone	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	1st
North East Zone	Sepahijala	Tripura	1st

3. Best Urban Local Body (ULB)

Rank	Urban Local Body	State
1st	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra
2nd	Bhavanagar	Gujarat
3rd (Joint)	Nabadiganta Industrial Township	West Bengal
3rd (Joint)	Agra	Uttar Pradesh

4. Best Institution (Other than School/College)

Inside Campus Category

Rank	Institution	State
1st (Joint)	Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar	Gujarat
1st (Joint)	ICAR–Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute	Goa
2nd (Joint)	Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani	Rajasthan
2nd (Joint)	Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora	Jammu & Kashmir
Special Mention	Assam Rifles	Manipur

Outside Campus Category

Rank	Institution	State
1st (Joint)	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	Haryana
1st (Joint)	Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Berhampur Circle	Odisha

5. Best Water User Association (WUA)

Rank	Association	State
1st	Vettaikaranpudur Canal Odayakulam Village WUA, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
2nd	Kanifnath WUA, Nashik	Maharashtra
3rd	Kharlan WUA, Sri Ganganagar	Rajasthan

6. Best Civil Society

Rank	Organizations	State
1st	Banaskantha District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Ltd.	Gujarat
2nd	Ambuja Foundation	Rajasthan
3rd	Art of Living	Karnataka

7. Best Village Panchayat

Rank	Village Panchayat	District/State
1st (Joint)	Dubbiganipalli	Annamayya, Andhra Pradesh
1st (Joint)	Payam	Kannur, Kerala
2nd (Joint)	Kaweshwar	Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
2nd (Joint)	Murugummi	Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh
3rd (Joint)	Balapuram	Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu
3rd (Joint)	Dumarpani	Kanker, Chhattisgarh

8. Best School or College

Rank	Institution	State
1st (Joint)	Krishna Public School, Raipur	Chhattisgarh
1st (Joint)	Army Public School, Kolkata	West Bengal
2nd BHSS,	Zainakote, Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
3rd (Joint)	Malusanta Govt. Nodal Higher Secondary School, Damanjodi, Koraput	Odisha
3rd (Joint)	Jharkhand Balika Aawasiya Vidyalaya (JBAV), Rahe, Ranchi	Jharkhand
Special Mention	Mount Abu Public School, Rohini	Delhi
Special Mention	Maharaja Agarsain Public School, Ashok Vihar	Delhi
Special Mention	Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Model School, Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala



9. Best Industry

Rank	Industry	State
1st	Apollo Tyres Ltd., Kanchipuram	Tamil Nadu
2nd	Hero MotoCorp Ltd., Gurugram	Haryana
3rd	Jhajjar Power Ltd., Jhajjar	Haryana

10. Best Individual for Excellence in Water Sector

Zone	Name/State	Rank
East Zone	Shri Kishore Jaiswal/Bihar	1st
West Zone	Shri Bajrang Lal Jaithu/Rajasthan	1st
North Zone	Shri Mohan Chandra Kandpal/Uttarakhand	1st
South Zone	Shri Podili Rajasekhara Raju/Andhra Pradesh	1st

President Droupadi Murmu's Historic State Visit to Botswana

President **Droupadi Murmu** undertook a three-day official visit to **Botswana** from **11 to 13 November 2025**, marking the **first-ever state visit by an Indian President** to the country. This visit was the final part of her tour of **Angola and Botswana**, and comes ahead of the **60th anniversary of India-Botswana diplomatic relations** in 2026, established in 1966.

Major Highlights of the Visit

Arrival and Delegation

President Murmu arrived at the **Sir Seretse Khama International Airport** in Gaborone on 11 November 2025, where she received a ceremonial welcome. She was accompanied by:

- **V. Somanna**, Minister of State (MoJS & MoR)
- **Parbhubhai Vasava**, MP (Bardoli, Gujarat)
- **D.K. Aruna**, MP (Mahbubnagar, Madhya Pradesh)

Bilateral Meetings

She met **President Duma Gideon Boko** of Botswana and held one-to-one and delegation-level talks. Both sides explored cooperation in:

- Trade and investment
- Renewable energy
- Agriculture
- Health and pharmaceuticals
- Skill development
- Defence
- Digital technology

Key Visits

On 12 November 2025, President Murmu visited:

- **Diamond Training Company Botswana (DTCB)** – a major centre for diamond grading and training
- **National Assembly of Botswana**, the country's law-making body
- **Three Dikgosi Monument**, where she paid tribute to three key tribal leaders—Khama III, Sebele I, and Bathoen I—who played vital roles in Botswana's freedom movement

MoUs Signed During the Visit

1. Pharmacopoeial Cooperation

India and Botswana signed an MoU to harmonise pharmaceutical quality standards, improve regulatory collaboration, and expand access to Indian medicines in Botswana.

2. Supply of ARV Medicines

India agreed to supply **antiretroviral (ARV) drugs** used in the treatment of **HIV/AIDS**, strengthening Botswana's public health system.

3. Recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)

Botswana became the **18th country** to recognise the **Indian Pharmacopoeia** as a reference standard for medicines. This recognition reduces the need for repeat quality testing and promotes smoother pharmaceutical trade.

Countries already recognising IP include: Afghanistan, Ghana, Nepal, Mauritius, Suriname, Nicaragua, Bhutan, Mozambique, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Nauru, Malawi, Guyana, Fiji, Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, and Maldives.

Project Cheetah: Botswana Donates Eight Cheetahs

On 13 November 2025, President Murmu and President Boko visited the **Molokodi Nature Reserve**. They jointly witnessed the transfer of **eight cheetahs**, captured from Botswana's Ghanzi region, into a quarantine facility.

These cheetahs will later be sent to **Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh**, where India has already introduced batches from **Namibia and South Africa**.

Project Cheetah aims to restore the species in India, where cheetahs became extinct in **1952**.

Trade Relations

- India is one of Botswana's major trading partners, with **annual bilateral trade around USD 500 million**, dominated by the **diamond sector**.
- India imports rough diamonds from Botswana, processes them in hubs like **Surat (Gujarat)**, and re-exports finished stones globally.

About Botswana

- **President:** Duma Gideon Boko
- **Capital:** Gaborone
- **Currency:** Botswana Pula (BWP)

India Skills Report 2026 Released: India's Employability Rises to 56.35%

In November 2025, the **Educational Testing Service (ETS)**, along with its partners—the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, **AICTE**, **AIU**, and **Taggd**—released the **13th edition of the India Skills Report (2026)**. The report highlights a steady rise in India's overall employability, which increased to **56.35%** in 2026 from **54.81%** in 2025. This improvement reflects India's shift toward a **skill-first economy**, driven by AI adoption, digital skilling, and growing global workforce mobility.



Key Findings of the Report

1. Women Outperform Men in Employability

For the first time in five years, **women's employability (54%)** surpassed that of **men (51.5%)**.

The report attributes this growth to the rise of **hybrid work models**, increased **digital skilling**, and greater opportunities in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

Women's participation has notably increased in **BFSI, education, and healthcare** sectors.

2. Expanding Gig Workforce

India's **gig and freelance workforce** is expected to reach **23.5 million by 2030**.

Project-based hiring has increased by **38%** compared to the previous year.

Despite this rise, **permanent jobs still make up 72%** of total employment, but gig and third-party roles have grown to **16%**.

3. India as a Global Talent Hub

The report positions India as a leading global supplier of skilled professionals.

With global labour shortages projected to reach **85 million by 2030**, India is expected to offer a surplus talent pool of **45 million skilled workers**, strengthening its global relevance.

4. AI and Tech Skills in High Demand

- India now holds **16% of the world's AI talent**, expected to reach **1.25 million** professionals by 2027.
- Over **90% of employees** across sectors use **Generative AI tools**.
- 70% of IT firms** and **50% of BFSI** companies have adopted **AI-based recruitment** systems.
- Computer Science graduates** show the highest employability at **80%**, followed by **IT engineers at 78%**, showing strong demand for skills in AI, automation, and data analytics.

5. Top Hiring Trends

- Hiring intent for **FY 2026–27** stands at **40%**, compared to 29% last year.
- The most in-demand sectors are:
 - Technology**
 - BFSI**
 - Manufacturing**
 - Renewable Energy**
 - Healthcare**

6. Emerging Skill Hubs

Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, including **Lucknow, Kochi, and Chandigarh**, have emerged as strong employability hubs, helping reduce the urban–rural skill gap.

7. Top Employable States

The states with the highest employability in 2026 are:

- Uttar Pradesh**
- Maharashtra**
- Karnataka**

8. Most Employable Age Group

The **22–25 age group** continues to lead with an employability rate of **75.7%**, dominating entry-level recruitment.

About the India Skills Report

This year's theme is **"The Future of Work: Gig Workforce, Freelancing, AI-Supplemented Workforce, Remote Work and Entrepreneurship."**

The report surveyed **over 1 lakh candidates** through the **Global Employability Test (GET)** and gathered insights from **seven key industries**, giving a comprehensive view of India's evolving workforce landscape.

About Educational Testing Service (ETS)

- CEO:** Amit Sevak
- Headquarters:** Princeton, New Jersey, USA
- Founded:** 1947

List of Son of the Soil Awards 2025 Awardees:

Award Category	Recipients	Field / Contribution
Emerging Achievers Award	Sukrita Baruah	Media & Communication
	Sanghamitra Kalita	Entrepreneurship
	Isharani Baruah	Sports
	Himjyoti Talukdar	Art & Culture
	Dr. Debjani Borah	Conservation
Lifetime Achievement Awards	Arun Nath	Art & Culture
	Ravi Shankar Ravi	News-Media
	Mainuddin Ahmed	Sports
	Lakshmi Baruah	Entrepreneurship
	Simata Das	Public Service
Social Sector Development Award	Dr. Alaka Sarma	Education & Community Empowerment
	Akshar Foundation	

QS World University Sustainability Rankings 2026

The QS World University Sustainability Rankings 2026, an annual list by global education analytics firm QS, has ranked Lund University (Sweden) as the world's most sustainable university. This is the first time Lund University has topped the list since its inception in 2023, displacing the University of Toronto, which had held the top position in both 2024 and 2025. This year's rankings assess nearly 2,000 universities across 106 countries, up from around 1,750 in the previous edition, marking a significant expansion of global participation in evaluating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance in higher education.



Top 10 Universities in QS Sustainability Rankings 2026

The top 10 universities for 2026 are as follows,

1. Lund University, Sweden
2. University of Toronto, Canada
3. University College London (UCL), United Kingdom
4. University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
5. University of British Columbia, Canada
6. London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), United Kingdom
7. Imperial College London, United Kingdom
8. University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney), Australia
9. McGill University, Canada
10. University of Manchester, United Kingdom

This list reflects strong performances by universities in the UK and Canada, with Sweden's Lund University claiming a perfect score of 100.

India's Growing Footprint in Global Sustainability Rankings

India has shown notable progress in the 2026 edition,

- 103 Indian universities featured in the rankings
- 26 institutions debuted in the rankings, the second highest number of new entries after Mainland China
- India ranks fourth in terms of total representation, behind the US (240), China (163), and the UK (109)
- This signals growing attention toward sustainability in Indian higher education institutions, with more universities aligning with ESG goals and sustainable development practices.

About the QS World University Sustainability Rankings

The QS Sustainability Rankings were introduced in 2023 and are designed to measure how well universities are addressing the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges. The rankings are based on,

- Environmental impact (carbon footprint, green practices, climate action)
- Social impact (equality, access, community engagement)
- Governance and ethics (institutional transparency, sustainability targets)
- Universities are scored and ranked according to their ESG performance, providing a snapshot of how institutions contribute to a more sustainable global future.

Why These Rankings Matter

As the world grapples with climate change, inequality, and environmental degradation, universities are increasingly expected to lead by example. The QS Sustainability Rankings,

- Encourage universities to adopt sustainable operations
- Promote climate-conscious research and education
- Highlight socially responsible governance and inclusion
- Offer students a lens to evaluate universities beyond academics

For students, educators, and policymakers, these rankings reflect an institution's commitment to building a greener, more equitable world.

Key Takeaways

- **Ranking name:** QS World University Sustainability Rankings 2026
- **Top rank:** Lund University, Sweden
- **Previous top:** University of Toronto (2024 & 2025)
- **India's representation:** 103 universities
- **Indian debutants:** 26
- **Ranking criteria:** Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) impact
- **QS launched the sustainability rankings in:** 2023
- **Total institutions evaluated:** Nearly 2,000 from 106 locations
- **Top countries by representation:** USA (240), China (163), UK (109), India (103)

PM Narendra Modi's Visit to South Africa for the 20th G20 Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2025 visit Johannesburg marked a significant moment in India-Africa relations and the evolution of the G20. Hosted by South African President **Cyril Ramaphosa**, the summit focused on strengthening global solidarity, reforming financial institutions, and advancing sustainable development. The visit also featured important announcements, new partnerships, and several bilateral meetings with world leaders.

PM Narendra Modi Arrived in South Africa

PM Modi arrived at **Waterkloof Air Force Base** on **November 21, 2025**, where he received a ceremonial welcome.

This was his **fourth official visit** to South Africa, following his **2016 bilateral visit** and participation in **BRICS Summits in 2018 and 2023**.

Highlights of the 2025 G20 Summit

◆ Theme and Participation

The 2025 G20 Summit, held on **November 22–23**, was based on the theme **"Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability."**

Leaders from **19 member countries**, the **European Union**, and major global bodies such as the **UN, IMF, World Bank, WTO, WHO, OECD, and ILO** attended the summit.

The **United States** did not participate.

PM Narendra Modi's Addresses at the Summit

◆ Opening Session: "Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth – Leaving No One Behind"

PM Modi highlighted:

- The need to reform development financing
- The importance of inclusive and sustainable growth
- Enhancing the voice of the Global South

◆ Second Session: "A Resilient World"

He called for:

- Stronger global climate action
- Safeguarding global food security



◆ **Third Session: "A Fair and Just Future for All"**

He **proposed**:

- A **Global Framework for Talent Mobility**
- Cooperation on critical minerals
- Decent work standards
- Responsible and inclusive expansion of AI

He also **announced** that India would host the **AI Impact Summit** in **February 2026** under the theme "**Sarvajanam Hitaya, Sarvajanam Sukhaya.**"

Six Key Ideas Proposed by PM Modi

PM Modi **put forward** six major initiatives:

1. G20 Global Traditional Knowledge Repository

A global database to preserve and utilize traditional knowledge.

2. G20 Africa Skills Multiplier

Training **one million certified trainers** to build long-term skilling capacity across Africa.

3. G20 Global Health Response Team

A rapid-response team of experts for global health emergencies.

4. G20 Open Satellite Data Partnership

Sharing satellite data with developing countries for agriculture, disaster management, and fisheries.

5. G20 Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative

Promoting recycling, urban mining, and reuse to strengthen mineral supply chains.

6. G20 Initiative on Countering the Drug-Terror Nexus

A coordinated global effort to disrupt drug trafficking and terror financing.

G20 Adopted a 122-Point Joint Leaders' Declaration

G20 countries **adopted** a comprehensive **122-Point Leaders' Declaration** emphasizing:

- Climate Action and Sustainability
- Debt Relief and Development Financing
- Critical Minerals
- Trade and Multilateralism
- Peace and Security
- Support for Vulnerable Countries
- Reforms of Global Governance

Major Outcomes of the 2025 G20 Summit

◆ **IMF Reform**

The Summit **approved** a **25th IMF Executive Board seat** for **Sub-Saharan Africa**, enhancing the region's representation.

◆ **Mission 300**

Leaders **launched Mission 300**, aimed at providing electricity access to **300 million Africans by 2030**.

◆ **Renewable Energy Goals**

Members **agreed** to:

- Triple global renewable energy capacity by 2030
- Double global energy efficiency by 2030

◆ **Critical Minerals**

A **Critical Minerals Framework** was **adopted** for sustainable mining and resilient supply chains.

◆ **Food Security**

The **Ubuntu Approaches** on food security were **introduced**, supporting small farmers, local agriculture, and price stability.

◆ **AI for Africa**

The G20 **launched** the **AI for Africa Initiative**, strengthening digital talent, data access, and computing infrastructure.

ACITI Partnership Launched

India, Canada, and Australia **announced** the **ACITI Partnership** (Australia–Canada–India Technology & Innovation Partnership).

This trilateral initiative **focused on**:

- Critical and emerging technologies
- Green energy innovation
- Resilient supply chains, including critical minerals
- AI for public good

Bilateral Meetings Held by PM Modi

On the sidelines of the summit, PM Modi **met** several world leaders:

South Africa

He met President **Cyril Ramaphosa** and **reviewed** cooperation in trade, mining, skills, and investment.

Canada

He met Prime Minister **Mark Carney** and **discussed** expanding ties in defence, trade, space, and technology.

Both sides **agreed** to **resume CEPA negotiations**, aiming to double trade to **USD 50 billion by 2030**.

Japan

In his first meeting with PM **Sanae Takaichi**, both leaders **reviewed** progress under the **India–Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership (SSGP)**.

Italy

PM Modi met Italy's PM **Giorgia Meloni**, and both countries **adopted** the **India–Italy Joint Initiative to Counter Terror Financing**, strengthening cooperation in FATF and GCTF.

IBSA Leaders' Meeting

PM Modi **attended** the **IBSA Leaders' Meeting** with leaders from **Brazil** and **South Africa**.

He **proposed**:

- An **IBSA Digital Innovation Alliance** featuring UPI, CoWIN, cybersecurity exchanges, and women-led tech models.
- An **IBSA Fund for Climate-Resilient Agriculture** to boost South–South cooperation.



About the G20 (Quick Revision)

- **Established:** 1999
- **First Leaders' Summit:** 2008
- **Members:** 19 countries + European Union + African Union
- **Represents:**
 - 85% of global GDP
 - 75% of world trade
 - Two-thirds of the global population

The **USA** will host the **2026 G20 Summit** in **Doral, Florida**.

Key Highlights of ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol 2025

Participation and Host

- **Venue:** Cairo, Egypt
- **Dates:** 6–18 November 2025
- **Participants:** 720 shooters from 70 NOCs
- **Organizer:** International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)

Medal Tally – Top 5 Nations

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	12	7	2	21
2	South Korea	7	3	4	14
3	India	3	6	4	13
4	Switzerland	3	5	4	12
5	Norway	3	4	3	10

World Records Set During the Championship

- **Men's Target Sprint:** Jacob Hoffman (Germany) set a **new world record**.
- **Men's 300m Rifle 3 Positions:** Tomasz Bartnik (Poland) **equalled** the world record.
- **Women's 50m Pistol:** Yao Qianxun (China) set a **new world record** and won the first gold of the event.
- **Men's 50m Rifle Prone Team:** China created a new team world record with **1881.3 points**.

India's Performance at ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol 2025

India secured **13 medals: 3 gold, 6 silver, and 4 bronze**, finishing **third overall**.

Gold Medals

- **Samrat Rana** – Men's 10m Air Pistol
- **Ravinder Singh** – Men's 50m Standard Pistol
- **Men's 10m Air Pistol Team**

Silver Medals

- **Anish Bhanwala** – 25m Rapid Fire Pistol
- **Gurpreet Singh** – 25m Centre Fire Pistol
- **Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar** – 50m Rifle 3 Positions
- **Esha Singh** – Women's 10m Air Pistol
- **Samrat Rana** – Mixed/Team events
- **Other team rifle/pistol events**

Bronze Medals

- **Esha Singh** – Women's 10m Air Pistol
- **Elavenil Valarivan** – 10m Air Rifle
- **Varun Tomar** – 10m Air Pistol
- **Women's 10m Air Rifle Team**

About ISSF World Shooting Championships – Quick Notes

- **Founded:** 1897
- **1st Edition:** Lyon, France, 1897
- **Governed by:** ISSF
- The last combined rifle–pistol–shotgun championship took place in **Baku, Azerbaijan, in 2023**.
- The **separate Rifle/Pistol World Championships** began in **2022**, also held in Cairo.

COP30 Summit Held from November 10 to 21, 2025, in Belem, Brazil: Part II

Representation

India was represented by:

- **Dinesh Bhatia**, Indian Ambassador to Brazil
- **Bhupender Yadav**, Union Minister, MoEF&CC

Key Engagements

- **November 17, 2025:** Bhupender Yadav addressed the **High-Level Ministerial Segment on the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)**, promoting "Big Cat Landscapes" as **Nature-Based Climate Solutions**.
- Delivered **India's National Statement** and co-chaired the **LeadIT Industry Roundtable** with Sweden.
- Participated in the **11th JCM Partner Countries' Meeting** (Japan).
- **November 19:** Addressed the **ISA SIDS Platform**, urging global cooperation for energy security.
- **November 20:** Addressed the **Baku High-Level Dialogue on Adaptation** and the **Third High-Level Roundtable on Just Transition**.

Major Announcements

- **Global Big Cats Summit 2026** to be held in **New Delhi**.
- Release of the GoI publication "**One Earth, One Family, One Future: A Decade of Climate Action.**"
- **India joined the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF)** as an observer.

Key Global Outcomes and Initiatives

1. Belem Package Adopted

COP30, with participation from **195 countries**, adopted the **Belem Package**, a set of **29 decisions** covering:

- Adaptation finance
- Just transition
- Technology support
- Gender and climate
- Trade, mitigation, and implementation


Commitment:

Countries agreed to **double adaptation finance by 2025** and **triple it by 2035**.

2. ARISE Programme Launched

The **Climate Investment Fund (CIF)** launched the **ARISE (Accelerating Resilience Investments and Innovations for Sustainable Economies)** initiative.

Aim:

Support **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)** and **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** in integrating adaptation into development and mobilising large-scale climate finance.

Funding:

- Germany: **USD 63.25 million**
- Spain: **USD 36.8 million**
- Total: **~USD 100 million**

3. DRC Launched National Digital Carbon Credit Registry

The **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** introduced a national digital registry to **record, verify, track, and regulate** all carbon-credit projects, helping the country protect its forests and generate carbon revenue.

4. Cambodia Joined Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

Cambodia became the **18th country** to join the **Fossil Fuel Treaty**, a global campaign to:

- Stop new fossil-fuel projects
- Phase out coal, oil, and gas production

India has not joined the treaty.

5. 17 Countries Joined the Blue NDC Challenge

The **Blue NDC Challenge**, jointly launched by **Brazil and France**, aims to integrate **ocean-based climate solutions** into national climate commitments (NDCs).

Countries that Joined (17):

Brazil, France, Australia, Fiji, Kenya, Mexico, Palau, Seychelles, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Indonesia, Portugal, Singapore, Chile, Madagascar, United Kingdom.

Other Major Announcements at COP30

- **USD 1.3 trillion climate finance annually by 2035** committed for global climate action.
- Calls issued to **end and reverse global deforestation by 2030**.
- Initiatives such as the **Global Implementation Accelerator** and **Belém Mission to 1.5°C** were launched to track NDC progress.
- The **Just Transition Mechanism** supported fossil-fuel-dependent economies.
- Brazil introduced **roadmaps for equitable fossil-fuel transition and deforestation control**.
- The **Belém Health Action Plan** connected climate policies with public health.

- The **TFF** highlighted financial rewards for countries protecting tropical forests.
- Climate-Trade Dialogue promoted alignment between trade rules and climate goals.
- The **Global Mutirão Agreement** reinforced multilateral climate cooperation.

Earthshot Prize 2025

The **Earthshot Prize 2025** was awarded in Brazil to:

- **re.green** (Brazil)
- **City of Bogota** (Colombia)
- **High Seas Treaty** (Global)
- **Lagos Fashion Week** (Nigeria)
- **Friendship** (Bangladesh)

Each winner received **€1 million**.

COP31 Host (2026)

The **31st UN Climate Change Conference (COP31)** will be **hosted by Turkey in 2026**.

Four New Labour Codes made effective to Simplify and Streamline Labour Laws

In **November 2025**, the **Government of India (GoI)** officially **enforced four major labour codes**—the **Code on Wages (2019)**, the **Industrial Relations (IR) Code (2020)**, the **Code on Social Security (2020)**, and the **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHC) Code (2020)**.

These codes **came into effect on 21 November 2025**, replacing and consolidating **29 existing labour laws** into a unified and simplified framework.

The Code on Wages was earlier **notified on 8 August 2019**, while the remaining three codes were **notified on 29 September 2020**.

Key Highlights (Exam-Friendly)

- **What?** GoI enforced four major labour codes
- **Which Codes?** Wages Code (2019), IR Code, Social Security Code, OSHWC Code (all 2020)
- **Effective From:** 21 November 2025
- **Replaced:** 29 existing labour laws
- **Core Reforms:** Minimum wage right, gig worker coverage, fixed-term employment parity, 8-hour workday, appointment letters for transparency

Code on Wages, 2019 – Key Provisions
1. Consolidation of Four Laws

Merged:

- Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
- Equal Remuneration Act, 1976



2. Minimum Wage for All

A statutory **right to minimum wages** for all employees in both organised and unorganised sectors.

3. National Floor Wage

No state may fix wages below the *floor wage*, ensuring nationwide uniformity.

4. Wage Fixation Criteria

Skill level, location, and nature of work must guide minimum wage decisions.

5. Gender Equality

No discrimination based on gender—including **transgender** identity.

6. Wage Payment Rules Expanded

Timely wage payment and controls on deductions now apply to **all employees** (not limited to those earning below ₹24,000/month earlier).

7. Overtime

Overtime wages must be **at least 2×** the normal wage.

Industrial Relations (IR) Code, 2020 – Key Provisions

1. Fixed-Term Employment

Fixed-term workers get **equal pay and benefits** as permanent workers, including **gratuity after one year**.

2. Re-skilling Fund

A fund created for retrenched employees, with contributions equal to **15 days' wages per worker**.

3. Trade Union Recognition

A union with **51% membership** becomes the **Negotiating Union**; otherwise, a Negotiating Council forms.

4. Expanded Worker Definition

Includes journalists, sales promotion staff, and supervisors earning up to **₹18,000/month**.

5. Higher Threshold for Lay-off/Retrenchment/Closure

Approval threshold raised from **100 to 300 workers**.

6. Women's Representation

Mandatory proportional representation of women in grievance committees.

7. Work-from-Home Provision

Permitted through mutual consent in service sectors.

8. Direct Tribunal Access

Allowed if conciliation fails within **90 days**.

9. Notice for Strikes/Lockouts

Mandatory **14-day notice**, bringing uniformity.

Code on Social Security, 2020 – Key Provisions

1. Expanded Social Security Coverage

Covers **unorganised, gig, and platform workers**.

2. ESIS Nationwide Coverage

ESIS became applicable across **all of India**, not just notified areas.

3. EPF Inquiry Timelines

Inquiries must begin within **5 years** and end within **2 years** (extendable by 1 year).

Appeals require only **25% deposit** of the disputed amount.

4. Gig & Platform Workers Included

New definitions added—*gig worker, platform worker, aggregator*.

Aggregators contribute **1–2% of turnover**, capped at **5% of payments to workers**.

5. Social Security Fund

Dedicated fund for life, disability, health, and old-age benefits for unorganised and gig workers.

6. Uniform Definition of Wages

"Wages" = basic pay + DA + retaining allowance (must be **50%** of total remuneration).

7. Gratuity for Fixed-Term Employees

Eligibility reduced to **one year** instead of five.

8. Compounding of Offences

- Fine-only offences: **50%** of maximum fine
- Fine/imprisonment offences: **75%** of maximum fine

OSHC Code, 2020 – Key Provisions

1. Objectives

- Ensure **worker safety, health, and dignity**
- Create a **simplified and business-friendly** regulatory system

2. Unified Registration

Electronic registration required for establishments with **10+ employees**.

3. Mandatory Appointment Letters

All workers must receive appointment letters outlining job roles, wages, and benefits.

4. Wider Coverage of Workers

Definition of inter-state migrant workers expanded to include direct, contractual, and self-migrant workers.

Benefits Include:

- Annual travel allowance
- Portability of PDS & social security
- Toll-free helpline access

5. Expanded Journalist & Cine Worker Definitions

Covers all employees in electronic media and audio-visual content sectors.

6. Women's Employment

Women permitted to work across sectors, including **night shifts**, with consent and safety measures.

7. Victim Compensation

At least **50% of fines** imposed on offenders to be paid to victims or their families.

8. Contract Labour Threshold

Raised from **20 to 50 workers**.

9. Safety Committees

Mandatory for establishments with **500+ workers**.



10. Working Hours

- 8 hours/day, 48 hours/week
- Overtime at 2× wage, with worker consent

11. Revised Factory Thresholds

- With power: 10 → 20 workers
- Without power: 20 → 40 workers

12. Annual Health Check-ups

Free yearly health examinations for employees.

53rd International Emmy Awards 2025

Highlights of the 2025 Winners:

The Academy awarded **16 Emmy statuettes**, recognizing storytelling across continents.

Best Arts Programming: *Ryuichi Sakamoto* for the *Last Days* (Japan, NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai))

Best Drama Series: *Rivals* (United Kingdom; Disney+)

Best Comedy Series: *Ludwig* (United Kingdom (UK) ; BBC (The British Broadcasting Corporation))

Best Performance by an Actress: **Anna Maxwell Martin** (UK) for *Until I Kill You*

Best Performance by an Actor: **Oriol Pla** (Spain)

Category	Winner
Best Arts Programming	Ryuichi Sakamoto (Japan)
Best Performance by an Actress	Anna Maxwell Martin (UK)
Best Performance by an Actor	Oriol Pla (Spain)
Non- Scripted Entertainment	Shaolin in Heroes (Denmark)
Sports Documentary	It's all over: The Kiss That Changed the Spanish Football
Short Form Series	La Mediatrice (The Mediator)
TV Movie/ Mini-Series	Lost Boys and Fairies
Comedy	Ludwig
Telenovela	The Good and The Bad
Documentary	Hell Jumper
Current Affairs	Dispatches: Kill Zone: Inside Gaza
Best News	Gaza, Search for Life
Drama Series	Rivals
International Emmy Directorate Award Gaumont	João Roberto Marinho,
International Emmy Founder's Award	Dana Walden

Kids

Live-Action	Fallen
Factual & Entertainment	Auf Fritzis Spuren – Wie war das so in der DDR? [On Fritz's Traces – What Was It Like in the GDR?]
Animation	Bluey

About International Emmy Awards:

Presented by: The International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences presents the International Emmy Awards annually in New York, USA honoring global TV (Television) excellence across categories like Drama, Comedy, and Documentary.

Awards: It also offers the above-mentioned Special Awards and hosts events for members from over 60 countries.

Australian Open 2025 Badminton held in Sydney, Australia

The Australian Open (AO) 2025 Badminton, officially titled the Sathio Group Australian Open 2025, is a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 500 tournament, held at the State Sports Centre in Sydney, Australia, from 18 to 23 November 2025.

- Indian badminton player **Lakshya Sen** (world Rank 11) clinched the men's **singles title** at the Australian Open 2025 by defeating **Japan's Yushi Tanaka** 21-15, 21-11, marking his first title of the 2025 season and the sixth BWF World Tour crown of his career.
- He became the second Indian to win a BWF World Tour title in 2025 after Ayush Shetty at the US (United States of America) Open Super 300 in June 2025.

Exam Hints:

- **Event:** Australian Open 2025 Badminton
- **When?** 18 to 23 November 2025
- **Where?** Sydney, Australia
- **Category?** BWF Super 500
- **Men's Singles Winner:** Lakshya Sen (India)
- **Women's Singles Winner:** An Se Young (Korea)
- **Total Prize Money:** USD 4,75,000

RANKERS ^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025

Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm



Total Prize Money: The Australian Open 2025 had a total prize money pool of **USD 4,75,000**.

- **Distribution:** Of this amount, **USD 35,625** was awarded to the men's and women's singles winners, while **USD 37,525** each was allocated to the men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles champions.

Australian Open 2025 Badminton Winners:

Category	Winner	Runner-Up
Men's Singles	Lakshya Sen (India)	Yushi Tanaka (Japan)
Women's Singles	An Se Young (Korea)	Putri Kusuma Wardani (Indonesia)
Men's Doubles	Raymond Indra (Indonesia) and Nikolaus Joaquin (Indonesia)	Fajar Alfian (Indonesia) and Muhammad Shohib Fikri (Indonesia)
Women's Doubles	Rachel Allesya Rose (Indonesia) and Febi Setianinfrum (Indonesia)	Febriana Dwipuji Kusuma (Indonesia) and Meilysa Trias (Indonesia)
Mixed Doubles	Chen Tang Jie (Malaysia) and Toh Ee Wei (Malaysia)	Jafar Hidayatullah (Indonesia) and Felisha Alberta Pasaribu (Indonesia)

Cabinet Approvals

1. Cabinet Approves Rationalization of Royalty Rates for Critical Minerals

The Union Cabinet has approved revised **royalty rates** for four critical minerals — **Caesium, Graphite, Rubidium, and Zirconium** — to promote their auction and boost domestic production. The new structure includes **2% ASP for Caesium, 4% and 2% ASP for Graphite** depending on grade, **2% ASP for Rubidium**, and **1% ASP for Zirconium**. This change is expected to unlock new **mineral blocks**, reduce **import dependence**, enhance **supply chain security**, and support India's push towards **Green Energy**. These minerals play major roles in **EV batteries, nuclear energy, electronics, GPS systems, fibre optics**, and other high-tech sectors, and the move aligns with the country's growing focus on **critical and strategic minerals** under the **MMDR Act**.

2. Cabinet Approves Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)

The Union Cabinet has approved the **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)** to provide **100% credit guarantee** through **NCGTC** for additional lending of up to **₹20,000 crore**, benefiting both **MSME and non-MSME exporters**. The scheme aims to boost **liquidity**, support **market diversification**, and strengthen India's path toward achieving **USD 1 trillion exports**. By enabling **collateral-free credit**, the initiative will help exporters maintain operations, improve global competitiveness, and expand into new markets. With exports contributing significantly to **GDP**,

employment, and **foreign exchange reserves**, the scheme reinforces India's commitment to promoting an **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** through a more resilient export ecosystem.

3. Cabinet Resolution on Explosion Near Red Fort, Delhi

The Union Cabinet expressed deep grief over the tragic **terrorist car explosion near the Red Fort on 10 November 2025**, which caused multiple deaths and injuries. The Cabinet condemned the **heinous and cowardly act**, paid tribute to the victims, and appreciated the swift response of **security agencies, medical teams, and citizens**. The government reiterated its policy of **zero tolerance towards terrorism** and directed authorities to conduct a thorough and urgent **investigation** to identify and punish the perpetrators and their supporters. The Cabinet also acknowledged the global **solidarity and support** extended by various countries in response to the attack.

4. Cabinet Approves Export Promotion Mission (EPM) –

The Union Cabinet has approved the ambitious **Export Promotion Mission (EPM)** with an outlay of **₹25,060 crore** to strengthen India's **export ecosystem**, especially for **MSMEs, first-time exporters, and labour-intensive sectors**. The Mission consolidates earlier fragmented schemes into a single, flexible, digital framework operating through two components: **NIRYAT PROSAHAN** (focused on affordable trade finance) and **NIRYAT DISHA** (focused on compliance, branding, logistics, and market access). The initiative aims to tackle challenges such as costly finance, limited branding, logistics gaps, and high compliance costs, while also supporting sectors affected by recent **global tariff hikes**. Implemented by **DGFT**, EPM is expected to boost **employment**, improve **export readiness**, and help India move toward the vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047**.

5. Cabinet Approves Pune Metro Rail Project Phase-2 (Line 4 & 4A)

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved Pune Metro Phase-2's Line 4 (Kharadi–Hadapsar–Swargate–Khadakwasla) and Line 4A (Nal Stop–Warje–Manik Bag), covering 31.636 km with 28 elevated stations at a cost of **₹9,857.85 crore**, to be completed in five years. The project will be jointly funded by the Centre, Maharashtra Government, and multilateral agencies, and implemented by Maha-Metro. These corridors integrate with existing metro lines at Kharadi Bypass, Nal Stop, and Swargate, and provide interchanges at Hadapsar Railway Station with future links to Loni Kalbhor and Saswad Road. Running through major routes like Solapur Road, Magarpatta Road, Sinhagad Road, Karve Road, and Mumbai–Bengaluru Highway, the project aims to reduce congestion, improve connectivity across IT hubs, educational clusters, residential belts, and tourism zones. Ridership is projected at 4.09 lakh daily by 2028, rising to 11.7 lakh by 2058. With pre-construction underway, this approval takes Pune's metro network beyond 100 km and strengthens the city's path toward a modern, integrated, and sustainable transport system.





6. Cabinet Approves ₹7,280 Crore Scheme for Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPM)

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹7,280-crore Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPM), establishing India's first integrated 6,000 MTPA REPM production ecosystem to boost self-reliance and reduce import dependence. REPMs—critical for EVs, renewable energy, consumer electronics, aerospace, and defence—will be manufactured through complete value-chain conversion from rare earth oxides to final magnets. The scheme includes ₹6,450 crore in sales-linked incentives for five years and ₹750 crore capital subsidy for setting up manufacturing capacity, allocated to five global-bid winners with up to 1,200 MTPA each. The scheme duration is seven years, including a two-year gestation period and five years of incentive disbursement. With REPM demand expected to double by 2030, India aims to secure supply chains, boost advanced manufacturing, generate employment, and support the Net Zero by 2070 commitment under the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.

7. CCEA Approves Two Railway Multitracking Projects Worth ₹2,781 Crore

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved two major Indian Railways multitracking projects worth ₹2,781 crore: the 141-km Devbhumi Dwarka (Okha)–Kanalus doubling and the 32-km Badlapur–Karjat 3rd & 4th line. Together adding 224 km to the rail network across Maharashtra and Gujarat, the projects aim to ease congestion, boost mobility, improve operational efficiency, and enhance freight capacity by 18 MTPA. The PM Gati Shakti-aligned proposals will provide seamless multimodal connectivity, benefiting 585 villages with 32 lakh population. The Kanalus–Okha doubling improves access to Dwarkadhish Temple and accelerates Saurashtra's development, while the Badlapur–Karjat project strengthens the Mumbai suburban corridor and enhances links to southern India. The project will also reduce logistics costs, cut 3 crore litres of oil imports, lower CO₂ emissions by 16 crore kg (equivalent to planting 64 lakh trees), and support movement of key commodities such as coal, cement, POL, salt, and containers.

Parliament News

State-wise November Month Important Events

STATE-WISE CURRENT AFFAIRS (NOVEMBER 2025)

(All items organised under their respective states; no symbols used)

Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh approved three new districts: Polavaram, Markapuram, and Madanapalle, increasing the total from 26 to 29, along with five new revenue divisions.

The state launched the farmer welfare campaign "Rythanna Meekosam" from November 24–29, focusing on water security, agri-tech adoption, and demand-based farming. Digital Connexion announced an USD 11 billion AI-native data centre campus of 1 GW capacity in Visakhapatnam, targeted for completion by 2030.

Assam

Assam observed Lachit Divas on November 24, honouring the 1671 Battle of Saraighat hero Lachit Borphukan. Sarbananda Sonowal conferred the Sons of the Soil Awards to achievers in culture, sports, arts, and public service.

Bihar

Gogabeel Lake was declared a Ramsar Site in 2025, becoming Bihar's first community reserve; home to species such as the Smooth-Coated Otter and Helicopter Catfish. Nitish Kumar was sworn in as Chief Minister for a record 10th term after the NDA victory in the 2025 Assembly Elections.

Gujarat

Gujarat launched the Tribal Genome Project, India's first tribal-focused genome sequencing programme by GBRC, covering 2,000 genomes across 17 districts to address genetic disorders like sickle cell anaemia and thalassemia. Ambaji Marble from Banaskantha received the GI Tag under the High-Quality Natural Stone category.

Haryana

A 240 TPD biomass pellet plant was inaugurated in Rewari, and foundation was laid for the K2 Bio-Ethanol facility supporting E20 and Net Zero 2070 goals.

Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh celebrated the Raulane Festival in Kinnaur, featuring masked dances and ancient folklore traditions.

Jharkhand

The Supreme Court directed Jharkhand to declare Saranda Forest as a Wildlife Sanctuary.

Karnataka

Karnataka became India's first state to offer 12 days of paid menstrual leave annually for women across all sectors. Karnataka launched the KEO PC, an affordable AI-ready computer priced at ₹18,999. Karnataka announced India's first Quantum City, named Q-City, at Hesaraghatta under the ₹1,000 crore National Quantum Mission. Karnataka Planters' Association elected M. Salman Baseer as Chairman and M. C. Kariappa as Vice Chairman at its 67th AGM.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra signed a Starlink Connectivity Pact with SpaceX to enable satellite internet across remote districts under the Digital Maharashtra Mission.



The state launched a new agricultural identity with the logo and motto "Sashwat Sheti, Samruddha Shetkari", focusing on sustainable, technology-driven farming.

The Asian Development Bank approved USD 400 million under the Maharashtra Roads Connectivity for Inclusive Growth Programme to upgrade state highways and rural roads.

The World Bank approved USD 776 million for POCRA-II (climate-resilient agriculture) and digital education reforms (POISE) in Punjab and Maharashtra.

Mandale Depot for Mumbai Metro Line 2B, spread across 32 hectares, was inaugurated as Asia's largest and first elevated metro depot.

Pune Metro Phase-2 Lines 4 and 4A worth ₹9,857.85 crore received Cabinet approval, covering 31.636 km with 28 elevated stations.

Madhya Pradesh

Project Cheetah update: Eight cheetahs will arrive from Botswana by December 2025, increasing the total population at Kuno National Park to 35.

Nagaland

(No event provided)

Odisha

Puri Beach and Sunapur Beach regained Blue Flag Certification, meeting 33 environmental criteria for eco-friendly tourism.

Rajasthan

Rajasthan hosted the 5th Khelo India University Games in Jaipur, with more than 7,000 participants and 5,000 athletes from 230 universities across 23 sports.

Telangana

Telangana launched the Telangana AI Innovation Hub (TAIH) in Hyderabad in partnership with IIT-H, BITS Pilani, ISB, Google, and Microsoft, with a vision to become one of the top 20 global AI hubs by 2035.

Tamil Nadu

South Korea's Samhyun will build an EV motor component plant in Sriperumbudur, boosting the state's EV manufacturing ecosystem.

Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand celebrated its 25th Foundation Day; Prime Minister Modi inaugurated projects worth more than ₹8,000 crore at the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun.

Under PMFBY, ₹62 crore was released for more than 28,000 farmers.

Uttar Pradesh

A new Skill India Centre was inaugurated in Baraut, Baghpat, to train 600 youth and women in electronics and IT-enabled services.

Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh celebrated its Formation Day; Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated projects worth ₹14,260 crore, opened the new Assembly Complex, and unveiled Atal Bihari Vajpayee's statue in Nava Raipur.

Delhi (NCT)

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced staggered office timings from November 15 to February 15 to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion during the smog season.

Punjab

Punjab became the first state to fully implement the Bharat Net Scheme, providing broadband connectivity to nearly all villages. Anandpur Sahib, Talwandi Sabo, and Golden Temple Galiara were declared holy cities, banning liquor, meat, and tobacco products.

Sikkim

Khangchendzonga National Park received a "Good" rating from IUCN, making it India's only natural world heritage site with this rating.

Traditional Lepcha instruments Tungbuk and Pumtong Pulit received GI Tags.

November Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- **Marine Fisheries Census 2025** launched by Union Minister **George Kurian** in **Kochi**; India's first **fully digital** fisheries census using the **VYAS App Suite**.
- **Employees' Enrolment Scheme 2025 (EPFO)** announced by **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**; 6-month window for employers to declare unregistered workers.
- **Research, Development & Innovation (RDI) Scheme 2025** launched by PM Modi with ₹1 lakh crore funding for **AI, Quantum, Green Hydrogen, Semiconductors**, plus **10,000 PM Research Fellowships**.
- **Digital Museum for Tribal Freedom Fighters** inaugurated at **Nava Raipur**, honouring **Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh**.
- **PM Modi inaugurated four new Vande Bharat Express trains** from **Varanasi** — Banaras–Khajuraho, Lucknow–Saharanpur, Firozpur–Delhi, and Ernakulam–Bengaluru.
- **DRAP & UiWIN Programs** launched to clear **214 legacy dumpsites**, reclaiming **7,580 acres** and handling **8.8 crore tonnes** of waste.
- **Deep-Sea Fishing Rules Notified**, prioritising Indian cooperatives via **ReALCraft Portal** with 2.38 lakh boats registered.
- **Upgraded Aadhaar Mobile App** launched with **AI face authentication, QR verification, biometric lock, and selective data sharing**.
- **NHPC Golden Jubilee**: Minister Manohar Lal released a **₹50 commemorative coin** and launched a comic titled **"Chhota Bheem aur Bada Bandh."**





- **India to conduct All India Tiger Estimation 2026**, the world's largest wildlife survey using **AI-based camera traps & satellite mapping**.
- **India's first MWh-scale Vanadium Flow Battery** unveiled at **NTPC NETRA** under the **Green Hydrogen Mission**.
- **Aadhaar Biometric Enhancement Project**: UIDAI began pilot for AI-based fingerprint & iris capture for children aged 5–15 years.
- **PM Modi inaugurated the 1,020 MW Punatsangchhu-II Hydroelectric Project** in Bhutan.
- Government launched **₹1,500 crore projects** at **New Mangalore Port** to improve digital & cargo handling capacity.
- **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)** approved — ₹20,000 crore collateral-free credit via **NCGTC**.
- **MeitY notified the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules 2025**, officially putting into effect the DPDP Act 2023 to strengthen privacy rights and data protection mechanisms.
- **CBFC launched a new Multilingual Module on the e-Cinepramaan portal**, enabling faster, region-friendly film certification across major Indian languages.
- **India's first AI Incubation Centre** was inaugurated at **DPS RK Puram, New Delhi**, promoting early-age innovation and AI-based learning for students.
- **PM Narendra Modi inaugurated development projects worth ₹9,700 crore in Gujarat**, focusing on infrastructure, tribal development, and public amenities.
- **10 new AMRIT pharmacies** were inaugurated across India on the scheme's 10th anniversary to provide low-cost quality medicines to citizens.
- The Government launched the **National Cyber Shield**, India's first AI-enabled cyber defence network integrating **50+ agencies** for real-time threat response.
- The **National Cybersecurity Helpline 1930** was launched for quick reporting of cyber frauds, phishing, and financial cybercrimes.
- **India's first Regional AI Innovation Hub** was inaugurated in Bengaluru under the IndiaAI Mission to support startups and AI research.
- GoI launched the **Offshore Wind Energy Policy 2025**, targeting a massive **37 GW offshore wind capacity** by 2030.
- PM launched the **TB-Mukt Bharat Mission 2026**, featuring AI-based chest X-ray diagnosis, free medicines, and nutrition support.
- India released the **EV Battery Recycling Policy 2025**, aiming for **85% metal recovery** from used EV batteries by 2030.
- **India Post opened its first Gen-Z themed post office at IIT Delhi**, designed for digital-savvy youth with tech-enabled services.
- PM Modi released a **₹100 commemorative coin and special postal stamps** in honour of Sri Sathya Sai Baba during the centenary celebrations.
- India launched **BIRSA 101**, the nation's first **indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy** for Sickle Cell Disease, marking a major scientific breakthrough.
- GoI established **four Quantum Fabrication & Central Facilities** under the National Quantum Mission at IIT Bombay, IISc Bengaluru, IIT Delhi, and IIT Kanpur to accelerate quantum research.
- India inaugurated its **first Liquid Helium Facility** at IIT Bombay and showcased advanced quantum instruments like **QMagPI and QDM**.
- **NCW launched a nationwide 24x7 women's emergency helpline '14490'** for safety, legal support, and cybercrime assistance.
- PM Modi inaugurated '**Panchjanya**', a monumental **5.5-tonne, 5-metre conch** at the Mahabharata Experience Centre in Kurukshetra.
- PM Modi inaugurated the **Mahabharata Anubhav Kendra**, built under the Swadesh Darshan scheme at a cost of **₹200 crore**, showcasing India's civilizational heritage.
- The Government released a **commemorative cover** honouring Dr. Ramdas Pai on his 90th birthday at the MAHE Convocation.
- Cabinet approved **Pune Metro Phase-2**, including Lines 4 and 4A, covering **31.636 km**, with a cost of **₹9,857.85 crore**.
- A new **Skill India Centre** was inaugurated in Baraut, Uttar Pradesh, to boost skill training and employability.
- **Commonwealth Games 2030** were officially awarded to **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**, making India the host city for the first time.
- MNRE Minister inaugurated a **240 TPD biomass pellet plant** and laid the foundation stone for a **bio-ethanol plant** in Rewari, Haryana.
- PM Modi inaugurated the **Safran Aircraft Engine Services India (SAESI) MRO facility** in Hyderabad worth **₹1,300 crore** to support aircraft engine servicing.

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

ALL EXAMS, ONE SUBSCRIPTION.



Important Festival

Miscellaneous National News

- **Swachh Survekshan 2025:** Madurai ranked India's *dirtiest* city; Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai retained top spots among cleanest cities.
- **Ayushman Bharat – PM-JAY** became the **world's largest health scheme**, covering **12 crore families**, ₹5 lakh coverage each; **42 crore Ayushman Cards** issued; ₹1.52 lakh crore saved.
- **UIDAI – Aadhaar Vision 2032** aims for AI, blockchain, and quantum-proof security.
- **UPI Transactions** hit ₹27.28 lakh crore in October 2025 with **20.7 billion transactions**; operational in **7 countries**.
- **8th Central Pay Commission (CPC)** headed by **Justice Ranjana Desai**; effective Jan 2026; expected fitment factor **1.8–2.57**; minimum pay likely **₹46,260**.
- **India–China Imports** resumed after lifting 5-year freeze with strategic checks on telecom & defence items.
- **EPFO–IPPB MoU** enables **digital life certificates** at doorstep for EPS-95 pensioners.
- **150 Years of “Vande Mataram”:** PM launched nationwide celebrations and released commemorative stamps & coins.
- **IIP Base Year Revised to 2020–21**, covering 400+ manufacturing items and 50 mining products.
- **India's Unemployment Rate** fell to **5.2%** in Q2 2025 due to service & construction sector growth; female labour participation improved.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Redevelopment** announced — to be developed into a modern **sports city**.
- India to host the **2nd WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2025** in New Delhi.
- **PM's Bhutan Visit:** Multiple MoUs on connectivity & digital payments; India announced **₹4,000 crore** support for Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan.
- **Bioeconomy Value** reached **\$150 billion** in 2024–25; target **\$300 billion by 2030** under BioE3 Policy.
- **India to receive 8 cheetahs from Botswana** under **Project Cheetah** to boost genetic diversity.
- **India leads globally with a 21% decline in TB incidence** since 2015, boosting **TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan**.
- The **e-Jagriti consumer grievance platform** under the Department of Consumer Affairs crossed **2.75 lakh registered users**, improving consumer protection services.
- India's **merchandise + services exports** touched **USD 491.8 billion (Apr–Oct 2025)**, registering a **4.84% growth** over the previous year.
- **17 new projects worth ₹7,172 crore** were approved under the **Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)** to boost domestic manufacturing.

- **Ambaji Marble from Gujarat** received the prestigious **GI Tag** for its unique texture and quality.
- Tata Memorial Centre announced a **global breakthrough** showing radiation significantly reduces recurrence in high-risk bladder cancer patients.
- India became the **world's 2nd-largest EV two-wheeler market** with **3.2 million sales** in FY 2024–25.
- India surpassed Japan to become the **world's 3rd-largest equity market**, crossing the **USD 5 trillion** mark.
- India signed its **first-ever LPG import agreement with the US**, securing **2.2 million tonnes per year** from 2026.
- India was re-elected to the **Codex Executive Committee (Asia) 2024–2027**, strengthening its global food safety role.
- The **56th IFFI** showcased UNICEF's special film package **“Five Films, One Universal Story”** from Nov 20–28.
- Courts in **New Zealand and Kenya** rejected **India's Basmati GI protection plea** under TRIPS.
- India reported a **21% reduction in TB cases** and a **25% fall in TB mortality** between 2015–2024.
- PM Modi visited **Puttaparthi** and paid tribute at the Mahasamadhi of **Sri Sathya Sai Baba** during the centenary celebrations.
- **GoI released a coffee-table book** on Guru Tegh Bahadur, published by the Haryana Government.
- MoAFW released **3rd advance horticulture estimates**, recording **369.05 million tonnes**, 4% higher than last year.
- CISF designated as the **nodal authority for safety and security** of nearly **250 seaports** across India.
- India Post issued a **commemorative postal cover** on Dr. Ramdas Pai during MAHE's 90th birthday celebrations.
- Indian Railways recorded **1,020 MT freight loading** in FY 2025–26, with coal contributing **505 MT**.
- India debuted at **WorldSkills Asia** with a **23-member team** across 21 skills.
- Tribal Affairs Ministry's budget increased to **₹15,000 crore**, expanding the **EMRS network to 728 schools**.
- Indian Army commemorated **1,171 martyrs of Operation Pawan** on November 26 after 38 years.
- Justice **Surya Kant** took oath as the **53rd Chief Justice of India**, with tenure till Feb 2027.
- Assam passed the **Prohibition of Polygamy Bill 2025**, banning polygamy except in ST & Sixth Schedule areas.
- Election Commission completed **99.07% enumeration** and **47.35% digitisation** of electoral rolls.
- India celebrated **National Milk Day**, recording **239.3 MT milk production** in 2023–24 (25% of global output).
- NCC observed its **78th Raising Day** with 20 lakh cadets and new modules on **drones & cybersecurity**.
- Cabinet approved a **₹7,280 crore scheme** for **Rare Earth Permanent Magnet (REPM) manufacturing**.



- CCEA approved ₹2,781 crore for multitracking projects including Okha–Kanalus doubling & Badlapur–Karjat.
- **Sardar@150 Unity March** began from Anand, covering 180 km to the Statue of Unity.
- EPFO formed a **Cadre Restructuring Committee** headed by BP Sharma (deadline: March 31, 2026).
- SEBI relaxed **IA/RA eligibility rules**, allowing graduates from any stream to apply.
- Tribal crafts from **705 communities** were showcased at **IITF 2025** under 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.
- WII tracked **three Amur Falcons** migrating **5,100–6,100 km non-stop** to Africa.
- The **India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2025** was held in New Delhi on the theme *"Inclusive & Sustainable Viksit Bharat"*.
- **Cyclone Ditwah** approached Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Andhra Pradesh coasts with orange alerts.
- India unveiled **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's bust at UNESCO HQ** on Constitution Day.
- IFFI 56 released a **commemorative stamp** honouring filmmaker **K. Vaikunth**.

National Current Affairs of October 2025

Indian Cricket Team Won 9th Asia Cup title 2025

In a match that lived up to the fierce rivalry, India clinched their ninth Asia Cup title with a thrilling five-wicket victory over Pakistan at the Dubai International Stadium on 28 September 2025. Chasing 147 in a tense final, India recovered from a shaky 20 for 3 to reach the target at 150 for 5, thanks to a match-winning knock from Tilak Varma. Varma's calm and calculated 69 not out, supported by Shivam Dube's 33 off 22 balls, ensured India lifted the trophy in a game that will be remembered as one of the most gripping India-Pakistan encounters in recent history.

Awards List of Asia Cup 2025

- **Man of the Match:** Tilak Verma
- **Most Valuable Player of Tournament:** Kuldeep Yadav
- **Player of the Tournament:** Abhisek Sharma

Atmosphere & Rivalry

- The clash was more than cricket, layered with political tension between India and Pakistan earlier this year.
- Gestures, crowd emotions, and coaching instructions all reflected the charged atmosphere.
- This was also the first India-Pakistan Asia Cup final in 41 years, adding historic weight to the contest.

Static GK Facts

- **Asia Cup founded:** 1984, governed by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).
- **Formats:** Played in ODI and T20I formats, alternating depending on the upcoming ICC tournament.
- **India's record:** With this win, India now has 9 Asia Cup titles—the most by any team.

- **Other winners:** Sri Lanka (6 titles), Pakistan (2 titles).
- **2025 final venue:** Dubai International Stadium, UAE.
- **Notable Indian performers:** Tilak Varma (final's hero), Kuldeep Yadav (4/30), Shivam Dube (all-round cameo).

RBI Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy 2025

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, under Governor **Sanjay Malhotra**, announced its **Monetary Policy 2025** on keeping the **repo rate unchanged at 5.5%** and maintaining the policy stance as **'Neutral'**. The decision was **unanimously** taken by all MPC members.

The RBI also revised its **FY26 GDP growth estimate upwards to 6.8%** (from 6.5% earlier) and **cut CPI inflation forecast to 2.6%** (from 3.1% earlier), signaling optimism on growth with controlled inflationary pressures.

Key Highlights of RBI Monetary Policy 2025

1. Policy Measures

- Repo Rate: **Unchanged at 5.50%**
- Stance: **Neutral**
- CRR (Cash Reserve Ratio): **3%**
- SDF (Standing Deposit Facility) Rate: **5.25%**
- MSF (Marginal Standing Facility) Rate: **5.75%**
- Bank Rate: **5.75%**
- MPC: **Unanimous decision to keep rates unchanged**

2. GDP Growth Projections

- **FY26 GDP growth estimate** revised to **6.8%** (from 6.5%).
- **Quarterly GDP growth estimates:**
 1. **Q1 FY26:** 6.5% (unchanged)
 2. **Q2 FY26:** 7.0% (raised from 6.7%)
 3. **Q3 FY26:** 6.4% (cut from 6.6%)
 4. **Q4 FY26:** 6.2% (cut from 6.3%)
- **Q1 FY27:** 6.4% (cut from 6.6%).

3. CPI Inflation Forecast

- **FY26 CPI inflation forecast:** Cut to **2.6%** (from 3.1%).
- **Quarterly estimates:**
 1. **Q2 FY26:** 2.1% (cut from 3.4%)
 2. **Q3 FY26:** 3.1% (cut from 3.9%)
 3. **Q4 FY26:** 4.4% (unchanged)
- **Q1 FY27:** 4.9%

This indicates an **improving inflation trajectory**, giving RBI more room to support growth.

4. Developmental and Regulatory Policies

- **Re-KYC Camps for Jan Dhan Accounts** – Focus on micro insurance and pension scheme enrolments.
- **Standardised Procedure for Claim Settlement** – For deposit accounts of deceased customers to improve transparency and efficiency.
- **RBI Retail Direct Enhancements** – Introduction of **Auto-bidding facility** for investments and reinvestments in T-bills.



Nobel Prize 2025 in Medicine

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded to Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaguchi for their pioneering discoveries on peripheral immune tolerance — a fundamental mechanism that keeps the human immune system from attacking its own tissues. Their work has not only transformed our understanding of how the immune system is regulated but also opened up new avenues for the treatment of autoimmune diseases, cancer, and transplant rejection.

Nobel Laureates Winner In Physiology Or Medicine 2025

- **Mary E. Brunkow** – Senior Program Manager, Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle, USA.
- **Fred Ramsdell** – Scientific Advisor, Sonoma Biotherapeutics, San Francisco, USA.
- **Shimon Sakaguchi** – Distinguished Professor, Immunology Frontier Research Center, Osaka University, Japan.

Award Citation: “For their discoveries concerning peripheral immune tolerance.”

Their collaborative research identified regulatory T cells (Tregs) — specialized immune cells that act as “security guards” to prevent immune cells from mistakenly attacking the body’s own tissues. This discovery has revolutionized immunology and disease treatment strategies.

Groundbreaking Discoveries in Immune Tolerance

Understanding Peripheral Immune Tolerance

- Our immune system defends the body against countless microbes daily.
- However, it must also distinguish between foreign invaders and the body’s own cells.
- If this balance is disturbed, it can lead to autoimmune diseases, where the immune system mistakenly attacks healthy tissues.
- The laureates’ research focused on how this balance is maintained outside the thymus, a mechanism now known as peripheral tolerance.

Nobel Prize in Physics 2025

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2025 has been awarded to John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, and John M. Martinis for their groundbreaking discovery of macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit. Their work proved that quantum phenomena can occur even in large-scale systems, bridging the gap between the quantum and classical worlds and paving the way for advanced technologies like quantum computing, cryptography, and sensors.

Nobel Laureates and Their Contribution

2025 Nobel Physics Winners

- **John Clarke** – University of California, Berkeley, USA
- **Michel H. Devoret** – Yale University, New Haven, CT / University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

- **John M. Martinis** – University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

Research Topic: “For the discovery of macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit”

Quantum Physics Made Visible: The Breakthrough

The Central Question: Size and Quantum Behavior

- One of the fundamental questions in modern physics is: How large can a system be and still exhibit quantum mechanical effects?
- Traditionally, quantum behavior is observable only at the atomic or subatomic scale.
- However, the 2025 Nobel laureates shattered this boundary by demonstrating quantum phenomena in a macroscopic electrical circuit, proving that the laws of quantum mechanics apply even to systems visible to the naked eye.

What is Quantum Physics?

- Quantum physics, also known as quantum mechanics, is a fundamental branch of physics that explains the behavior of matter and energy at the smallest scales — such as atoms, electrons, and photons.
- Unlike classical physics, which describes predictable and continuous behavior, quantum physics reveals a world where particles can exist in multiple states at once, move through barriers, and exchange energy in discrete packets (called quanta).

The Josephson Junction Experiment

- The laureates constructed an electronic circuit using superconductors, materials that allow current to flow without electrical resistance.
- These superconductors were separated by a thin non-conductive barrier, forming a Josephson junction — a device known for its quantum properties.
- By precisely controlling and measuring the properties of this circuit, they could observe quantum tunnelling and energy quantisation on a macroscopic scale.

Key Discoveries and Insights

1. Macroscopic Quantum Tunnelling

- In quantum mechanics, particles can “tunnel” through barriers that they classically shouldn’t be able to cross.
- In the laureates’ experiment, the entire superconducting system behaved like a single particle, initially trapped in a zero-voltage state.
- Through quantum tunnelling, it escaped this state — a shift detectable by the appearance of a voltage — proving that tunnelling is possible even in large, collective systems.

2. Energy Quantisation

- Quantum systems absorb or emit discrete amounts of energy, not continuous values.
- The team demonstrated that their macroscopic system followed this rule exactly, behaving in accordance with quantum predictions.





- This finding confirmed that quantum principles govern not just electrons and photons, but even collective states involving billions of particles.

Implications for Quantum Technology

This discovery goes beyond theoretical physics — it has practical implications for emerging technologies,

- **Quantum Computing** – Enables stable and controllable qubits for faster computation.
- **Quantum Cryptography** – Paves the way for unbreakable communication systems.
- **Quantum Sensors** – Offers unprecedented precision in measurement and detection.

“It is wonderful to celebrate how century-old quantum mechanics still offers new surprises,” said Olle Eriksson, Chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics. “This discovery opens doors to a future defined by quantum technology.”

Chemistry Nobel 2025

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2025 has been awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar M. Yaghi for their groundbreaking work in developing metal-organic frameworks (MOFs). These are advanced molecular structures with large cavities that can capture gases, store toxic chemicals, catalyze reactions, and even harvest water from desert air. Their discoveries have opened new possibilities in chemistry and environmental applications.

Nobel Laureates Winners In Chemistry 2025

Sr.No	Laureates Winner Name	Contribution	Affiliation
1	Susumu Kitagawa	Flexible and functional MOFs	Kyoto University, Japan
2	Richard Robson	First spacious molecular constructions	University of Melbourne, Australia
3	Omar M. Yaghi	Stable and customizable MOFs	University of California USA

Key Highlights of Winners

Susumu Kitagawa – Kyoto University, Japan

Research Contribution: Flexible and functional MOFs

- Born in 1951 in Kyoto, Japan.
- PhD from Kyoto University in 1979.
- Developed MOFs that allow gases to flow in and out.
- Predicted the flexibility of MOFs, enabling new chemical applications.

Richard Robson – University of Melbourne, Australia

Research Contribution: First spacious molecular constructions

- Born in 1937 in Glusburn, UK.
- PhD from University of Oxford in 1962.

- Created the first well-ordered MOF using copper ions and organic molecules.
- Demonstrated potential of molecular frameworks for chemical storage and separation.

Omar M. Yaghi – University of California, Berkeley, USA

Research Contribution: Stable and customizable MOFs

- Born in 1965 in Amman, Jordan.
- PhD from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1990.
- Developed very stable MOFs and introduced rational design for new properties.
- Enabled MOFs to be used for diverse applications like carbon capture and water harvesting.

Nobel Prize in Literature

The Nobel Prize in Literature 2025 has been awarded to László Krasznahorkai, the celebrated Hungarian novelist renowned for his dense, poetic, and apocalyptic prose. The Swedish Academy honored him “for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art.” Krasznahorkai’s works delve into the depths of human despair, chaos, and beauty, marking him as one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary world literature.

About László Krasznahorkai

- **Nationality:** Hungarian
- **Born:** 5 January 1954, Gyula, Hungary
- **Occupation:** Novelist and screenwriter
- **Writing Style:** Long, meditative sentences; apocalyptic imagery; deep philosophical reflection.

Frequent Themes: Isolation, moral collapse, human suffering, redemption through art.

Notable Works

- Satantango (1985)
- The Melancholy of Resistance (1989)
- War and War (1999)
- Seiobo There Below (2008)

Krasznahorkai’s writing is often characterized by long, flowing sentences, a bleak worldview, and an intricate philosophical depth. His collaboration with filmmaker Béla Tarr has also brought his vision to cinematic life, notably through the adaptation of Satantango.

The Nobel Citation and Its Meaning

- The Academy’s citation emphasizes how Krasznahorkai’s literature captures apocalyptic terror while celebrating art’s redemptive power.
- His works challenge readers to confront existential crises, moral decay, and the persistence of hope amid desolation — reaffirming art as a form of salvation.

Significance of the 2025 Nobel in Literature

- Recognizes Hungary’s literary contribution on the global stage.





- Highlights the enduring power of literature to address universal human fears and aspirations.
- Underscores the relevance of philosophical fiction in turbulent times.

Nobel Peace Prize 2025

The 2025 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Maria Corina Machado, a fearless advocate of democracy in Venezuela. Recognized by the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Machado has tirelessly fought for democratic rights, free elections, and a peaceful transition from authoritarian rule to democracy. Her dedication to civilian courage and nonviolent resistance has made her a symbol of hope for millions of Venezuelans living under oppression.

About Maria Corina Machado Nobel Peace Prize Winner

- Maria Corina Machado is a prominent Venezuelan politician and activist, renowned for her leadership in the country's democracy movement.
- She has spent decades opposing authoritarianism and defending fundamental democratic principles.

Reason for Award

The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded Machado the Peace Prize for,

- Her tireless work promoting democratic rights in Venezuela.
- Her leadership in achieving a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy.
- Courageous efforts to maintain civilian resistance and democratic values despite threats, harassment, and living in hiding.

Key Contributions

- Founder of Súmate, an organization devoted to democratic development.
- Advocated for free and fair elections for over 20 years.
- Promoted judicial independence, human rights, and popular representation.
- Played a unifying role in Venezuela's divided opposition.
- Acted as a presidential candidate in the 2024 elections, though blocked by the regime.

Significance

- Demonstrates that peace and democracy are intertwined.
- Inspires citizens globally to resist authoritarianism through nonviolent methods.
- Highlights the role of women leaders in defending freedom under repressive regimes.

Challenges Faced

- Venezuela's transition from a democratic to an authoritarian state.
- Deep humanitarian and economic crisis, with millions living in poverty.

- Opposition suppression via legal prosecution, imprisonment, and election rigging.
- Personal threats to life and freedom while continuing activism.

2025 Nobel Prize in Economics

The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025 has been awarded to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt for their groundbreaking contributions to understanding innovation-driven economic growth. Their work explains how technological progress and creative destruction have transformed economies from stagnation to sustained prosperity over the past two centuries.

Nobel Prize In Economics 2025 Winners

Sr.No	Name	Affiliation	Research Topic
1	Joel Mokyr	Northwestern University, USA	Prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress
2	Philippe Aghion	Collège de France, INSEAD (France), London School of Economics (UK)	Theory of sustained growth through creative destruction
3	Peter Howitt	Brown University, USA	Theory of sustained growth through creative destruction (jointly with Aghio)

Joel Mokyr's Insights On Historical Growth

- Mokyr used historical evidence to explain why innovation became self-sustaining after the Industrial Revolution.
- He emphasized the need for scientific understanding, cultural openness to new ideas, and societal acceptance of change as foundations for continual progress.
- His research highlighted that before the modern era, stagnation was the norm, as discoveries did not consistently lead to further innovation.

Aghion and Howitt's Theory of Creative Destruction

- In their landmark 1992 paper, Aghion and Howitt developed a mathematical model of creative destruction, showing how new innovations displace old technologies.
- This process fuels productivity and prosperity but also creates economic conflicts, as older firms and workers face displacement.
- They emphasized that societies must manage these transitions constructively to prevent innovation from being blocked by vested interests.

Broader Impact on Economic Thought

- The laureates' combined work has redefined how economists understand long-term growth mechanisms.



- Their findings underline the importance of innovation policy, education, and institutional support to maintain economic dynamism.
- Committee Chair John Hassler noted that “economic growth cannot be taken for granted; we must uphold the mechanisms of creative destruction to avoid stagnation.”

Prize Details

- **Announced by:** The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- **Date:** October 13, 2025
- **Prize Amount:** 11 million Swedish kronor
- **Distribution:** Half to Joel Mokyr; half jointly to Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt.

About the Laureates

- **Joel Mokyr:** Born 1946, Leiden, Netherlands; Ph.D., Yale University (1974).
- **Philippe Aghion:** Born 1956, Paris, France; Ph.D., Harvard University (1987).
- **Peter Howitt:** Born 1946, Canada; Ph.D., Northwestern University (1973).

Filmfare Awards 2025: Full Winners List, Highlights & Key Moments

The **70th Filmfare Awards 2025** celebrated the best of Hindi cinema at a glittering event held at **EKA Arena, Kankaria Lake, Ahmedabad**. The grand evening was hosted by **Shah Rukh Khan**, along with **Karan Johar** and **Maniesh Paul**.

The ceremony saw breathtaking performances by **Shah Rukh Khan, Kriti Sanon, and Kajol**, among others. The highlight of the night was **Kiran Rao's Laapataa Ladies**, which swept **13 awards**, equalling the record set by **Gully Boy** in 2020.

Full Winners List Filmfare Awards 2025

Category	Winner(s)	Film
Best Film	–	Laapataa Ladies
Best Director	Kiran Rao	Laapataa Ladies
Best Actor in Leading Role (Male)	Abhishek Bachchan, Kartik Aaryan	I Want To Talk, Chandu Champion
Best Actor in Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt	Jigra
Critics' Best Actor (Male)	Rajkummar Rao	Srikanth
Critics' Best Actor (Female)	Pratibha Rannta	Laapataa Ladies
Best Supporting Actor (Male)	Ravi Kishan	Laapataa Ladies

Category	Winner(s)	Film
Best Supporting Actor (Female)	Chhaya Kadam	Laapataa Ladies
Critics' Award for Best Film	Shoojit Sircar	I Want To Talk
Best Debut Actor (Male)	Lakshya	Kill
Best Debut Actor (Female)	Nitanshi Goel	Laapataa Ladies
Best Debut Director	Kunal Kemmu, Aditya Suhas Jambhale	Madgaon Express, Article 370
Best Story	Aditya Dhar, Monal Thakkar	Article 370
Best Screenplay	Sneha Desai	Laapataa Ladies
Best Dialogue	Sneha Desai	Laapataa Ladies
Best Music Album	Ram Sampath	Laapataa Ladies
Best Lyrics	Prashant Pandey	Laapataa Ladies
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh	Laapataa Ladies
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Madhubanti Bagchi	Stree 2
Best Adapted Screenplay	Ritesh Shah, Tushar Sheetal Jain	I Want To Talk
Best Sound Design	Subash Sahoo	Kill
Best Background Score	Ram Sampath	Laapataa Ladies
Best Action	Seayoung Oh, Parvez Shaikh	Kill
Best Editing	Shivkumar V. Panicker	Kill
Best Cinematography	Rafey Mehmood	Kill
Best Production Design	Mayur Sharma	Kill
Best Costume Design	Darshan Jalan	Laapataa Ladies
Best VFX	Redefine	Munjya
Best Choreography	Bosco–Caesar	Tauba Tauba (Bad Newz)
Lifetime Achievement Award	Zeenat Aman, Shyam Benegal (Posthumous)	–
RD Burman Award for Upcoming Music Talent	Achint Thakkar	Jigra, Mr & Mrs Mahi



Important Points of Filmfare Awards 2025

- **Laapataa Ladies** became the night's biggest winner with **13 awards**, including Best Film and Best Director.
- **Abhishek Bachchan's** emotional performance in I Want To Talk and **Kartik Aaryan's** inspiring portrayal in Chandu Champion earned them a shared **Best Actor (Male)** trophy.
- **Alia Bhatt** added another feather to her cap with Best Actress for Jigra.
- **Kill** impressed in the technical categories, winning awards for **Action, Editing, and Cinematography**.
- **Veteran icons Zeenat Aman and Shyam Benegal** were honoured with the **Lifetime Achievement Award**.

ICC Player of the Month October 2025

Indian cricket celebrated a proud moment in September 2025 as Abhishek Sharma and Smriti Mandhana were named ICC Players of the Month for their exceptional performances in international cricket. Both left-handed openers, they stood out with match-winning knocks and career milestones that resonated across global rankings and fan votes.

Abhishek Sharma: Dominating the Asia Cup

Performance Highlights

- Abhishek Sharma, 25, emerged as one of the brightest stars in the Asia Cup T20I tournament, scoring 314 runs in 7 matches at an average of 44.85 and a phenomenal strike rate of 200.
- His dynamic batting not only won him the Player of the Tournament title but also saw him reach a record-breaking 931 rating points in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings—the highest ever by any player in the format at the end of the Super Fours stage.

Competitors & Selection

- He edged out contenders like Kuldeep Yadav (India) and Brian Bennett (Zimbabwe) for the ICC monthly honour, winning both expert panel and fan votes.
- Abhishek's ability to perform under pressure has made him a rising figure in India's T20 setup.

Smriti Mandhana: Leading from the Front

ODI Brilliance vs Australia

- Vice-captain Smriti Mandhana showcased elite form in India's ODI series against Australia, scoring 58, 117, and 125 in three innings.
- She totaled 308 runs in four matches during the month, averaging 77 with a strike rate of 135.68.
- In the third ODI, Mandhana achieved the fastest century by an Indian batter in women's ODIs, reaching the milestone in just 50 balls, underlining her aggressive and impactful style at the top of the order.

Nominees & Voting

- Mandhana triumphed over Tazmin Brits (South Africa) and Sidra Amin (Pakistan) to win the ICC Women's Player of the Month award.
- Her contributions were pivotal during India's ongoing ICC Women's World Cup 2025 campaign.

Terms of Reference Approved: What's Next for the 8th Central Pay Commission?

On 28 October 2025, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the 8th Central Pay Commission (CPC). This decision marks a major administrative step toward revising the pay structure and service conditions of Central Government employees. The 8th CPC will assess the present emolument system and recommend changes keeping in view India's economic conditions and fiscal sustainability.

Composition and Tenure

The 8th Central Pay Commission will function as a temporary body with the following composition,

- Chairperson
- One Member (Part-Time)
- One Member-Secretary
- It is mandated to submit its recommendations within 18 months from the date of constitution.
- Additionally, the Commission may submit interim reports on specific issues whenever required.

Key Considerations for Recommendations

While formulating its recommendations, the Commission will take into account several vital aspects,

- **Economic Conditions and Fiscal Prudence** – Ensuring recommendations align with the nation's financial health.
- **Resource Allocation for Development** – Balancing employee welfare with funds needed for development and welfare programs.
- **Unfunded Pension Liabilities** – Evaluating the financial burden of non-contributory pension schemes.
- **Impact on State Finances** – Considering how recommendations affect State Governments, which often adopt similar pay structures.
- **Comparison with Other Sectors** – Assessing the emolument structure and benefits in Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and the private sector.

Background and Significance

- The Central Pay Commissions are periodically established to review and rationalize the salary structure, retirement benefits, and service conditions of Central Government employees.
- Traditionally, a Pay Commission is set up every ten years, with its recommendations implemented subsequently.



- The 7th Central Pay Commission recommendations were implemented in 2016.
- Following this trend, the 8th CPC's recommendations are expected to take effect from 1 January 2026.
- The Government announced the formation of the 8th CPC in January 2025 to ensure a smooth transition to the next pay revision cycle.

Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2025 Winners Announced

On October 26, 2025, the Indian government announced the recipients of the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2025, the nation's highest civilian honour for contributions to science, technology, and innovation. Instituted to celebrate excellence across diverse scientific fields, these awards aim to foster a culture of research and innovation in India.

Award Categories

The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar is conferred in four major categories,

- Vigyan Ratna – For lifetime achievements in science
 - Vigyan Shri – For exceptional individual contributions
 - Vigyan Yuva–Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar – For young scientists (under 45 years)
 - Vigyan Team Award – For collaborative research efforts
- 2025 Honourees

Vigyan Ratna (Posthumous)

- **Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar** – Awarded posthumously for his outstanding contribution to Physics.

Vigyan Shri Awardees

Recognised across multiple disciplines,

- Dr. Gyanendra Pratap Singh – Agricultural Science
- Dr. Yusuf Mohammad Seikh – Atomic Energy
- Dr. K. Thangaraj – Biological Sciences
- Prof. Pradeep Thalappil – Chemistry
- Prof. Aniruddha Bhalchandra Pandit – Engineering Sciences
- Dr. S. Venkata Mohan – Environmental Science
- Prof. Mahan Mj – Mathematics and Computer Science
- Shri Jayan N – Space Science and Technology

Vigyan Yuva–Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award

Awarded to young and emerging scientists,

- Dr. Jagdis Gupta Kapuganti, Dr. Satendra Kumar Mangrauthia, Shri Debarka Sengupta, Dr. Deepa Agashe, Dr. Dibyendu Das, Dr. Waliur Rahaman, Prof. Arkaprava Basu, Prof. Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Prof. Shweta Prem Agrawal, Dr. Suresh Kumar, Prof. Amit Kumar Agarwal, Prof. Surhud Shrikant More, Shri Ankur Garg, Prof. Mohanasankar Sivaprakasam

Vigyan Team Award

- CSIR Aroma Mission Team – Recognised for their exceptional work in agricultural science.

Award Scope and Significance

The awards span 13 scientific domains,

- Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences
- Mathematics & Computer Science
- Medicine, Engineering
- Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
- Atomic Energy, Space Science
- Technology and Innovation
- Nominations for the 2025 awards were accepted via the National Awards Portal from October 4 to November 17, 2024.

This recognition underscores India's commitment to encouraging scientific excellence and innovation-driven growth. The award ceremony details are to be announced soon.

Key Highlights from Mann Ki Baat – October 2025

On 26 October 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the 127th episode of his radio program Mann Ki Baat. This edition reflected on India's cultural vibrancy during festivals, environmental innovation, indigenous heritage, and the role of youth in reviving Sanskrit and national values. The PM also called for mass participation in the 150th anniversary celebrations of Vande Mataram.

Festivals, Unity, and Vocal for Local

The PM opened with greetings on Diwali and Chhath Puja, calling these celebrations a symbol of India's social unity. He commended women's dedication during Chhath Vrat and urged everyone, including those abroad, to experience the festival.

The PM also highlighted,

- Rising enthusiasm for indigenous products during the GST Bachat Utsav.
- Positive public response to his call for reducing edible oil consumption by 10%.
- These appeals support the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision and promote mindful consumption.

RANKERS A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025



Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm



Environment and Local Innovation

Plastic-Waste Meals in Ambikapur

- In Chhattisgarh's Ambikapur, Garbage Cafés exchange meals for plastic waste, 1 kg = lunch/dinner, 0.5 kg = breakfast — a civic initiative tackling pollution and hunger simultaneously.

Lake Revival in Bengaluru

- Engineer Kapil Sharma has rejuvenated 40 wells and 6 lakes, engaging citizens and corporates.
- His work in Bengaluru reflects effective community-driven conservation.

Mangroves in Gujarat

- The Gujarat Forest Department has planted mangroves over 3,500 hectares in Dholera, reviving biodiversity — including dolphins, crabs, and migratory birds.
- A Mangrove Learning Centre has also been established at Kori Creek, Kutch.
- The PM quoted ancient texts praising trees, reinforcing the importance of tree plantation and campaigns like Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam.

Indian Dog Breeds in National Security

The PM reviewed progress since his earlier appeal to promote indigenous dog breeds,

- BSF's Tekanpur Centre trains Rampur Hounds and Mudhol Hounds.
- CRPF's Bengaluru school trains Mongrels, Kombai, Mudhol, and Pandikona breeds.
- Ria, a Mudhol Hound, won top honours at the All India Police Duty Meet (Lucknow).
- CRPF dogs helped detect explosives in Maoist-affected Chhattisgarh.
- BSF now assigns Indian names to its dogs — symbolising pride in local breeds.

150 Years of "Vande Mataram"

- The PM highlighted the upcoming 150th year of the patriotic song "Vande Mataram", composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and first sung by Rabindranath Tagore in 1896.
- He urged citizens to participate in year-long programs and send ideas using #VandeMatram150. The song continues to inspire unity and national pride.

Sanskrit's Social Media Revival

Young content creators are giving Sanskrit a modern voice,

- Yash Salunke mixes cricket with Sanskrit in reels.
- Kamala and Janhavi share spiritual content.
- Sanskrit Chhatroham, Samashti, and Bhavesh Bhimnathani use Sanskrit for humour, music, and philosophy.
- This revival highlights how youth are modernising tradition and reconnecting with ancient culture.

Honouring Tribal Freedom Fighters

Komaram Bheem

- The PM narrated the heroic tale of Komaram Bheem, a 20th-century tribal rebel who defied the Nizam's tyranny and was martyred in 1940.
- His legacy continues to inspire resistance and justice.

Bhagwan Birsa Munda

- The PM paid tribute to Birsa Munda, ahead of Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15 November, marking his birth anniversary.
- He recalled his visit to Ulihatu village, Birsa's birthplace, symbolising deep respect for tribal heritage.

World's 10 Most Valuable Companies in 2025

Despite global economic uncertainty, trade tensions, and fluctuating markets, the world's leading technology giants have continued to grow in value. In October 2025, **NVIDIA, Microsoft, and Apple** emerged as the only companies to enter the **\$4 trillion market capitalisation club**, reaffirming the dominance of the U.S. tech sector.

Key Highlights

- NVIDIA**, led by CEO **Jensen Huang**, became the **first company** ever to cross the **\$4 trillion mark**, overtaking Microsoft and Apple earlier in the year.
- Microsoft** followed by reaching the same milestone in **July 2025**, while **Apple** joined the exclusive group after a sharp share-price rally in October 2025.
- Apple's market value surged following the **record-breaking launch of the iPhone 17 series** in September 2025.
- Over the past three months, **Apple's shares** have risen by **25%**, while **Microsoft's** have increased by **6%**.
- Other major players like **Alphabet (Google), Meta, Amazon, and Tesla** continue to remain close competitors in the trillion-dollar league.

Top 10 Most Valuable Companies in the World (as of October 2025)

Rank	Company	Market Cap (USD)	Country
1	NVIDIA	\$4.894 Trillion	USA
2	Microsoft	\$4.029 Trillion	USA
3	Apple	\$3.992 Trillion	USA
4	Alphabet (Google)	\$3.239 Trillion	USA
5	Amazon	\$2.444 Trillion	USA
6	Meta Platforms (Facebook)	\$1.887 Trillion	USA



Rank	Company	Market Cap (USD)	Country
7	Broadcom	\$1.761 Trillion	USA
8	Saudi Aramco	\$1.669 Trillion	Saudi Arabia
9	TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company)	\$1.563 Trillion	Taiwan
10	Tesla	\$1.531 Trillion	USA

India's Largest Company by Market Capitalisation

- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** continues to be **India's most valuable company**, ranking **69th globally** as of October 2025.
- **Current Market Cap:** \$230.69 billion (approx. ₹20.36 trillion)
- Reliance's global ranking slipped from **46th in 2024** due to market volatility and declining oil margins.

Global Firework Index 2025

The **Global Firepower Index 2025** ranks countries based on their military strength, defense capabilities, and global influence. It considers more than 60 factors, including manpower, equipment, technology, and defense budgets, to assess each nation's overall power. This annual ranking gives a clear picture of how nations compare in terms of military readiness and strategic strength.

Top-10 Most Powerful Militaries of the World by 2025

The Global Firepower Index 2025 ranks the top 10 most powerful militaries in the world based on strength, technology, manpower, and defense spending, showing how nations are modernizing and reshaping global military power.

Here is the list of top-10 most powerful militaries of the world by 2025:

Rank	Country	PwrIndx
1.	United States	0.0744
2.	Russia	0.0788
3.	China	0.0788
4.	India	0.1184
5.	South Korea	0.1656
6.	United Kingdom	0.1785
7.	France	0.1878
8.	Japan	0.1839
9.	Turkey	0.1902
10.	Italy	0.2164

Cabinet Approvals

- The **Union Cabinet** chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the **continuation of the Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP) Phase-III for 2025–26 to 2030–31**, extendable till **2037–38**, at a cost of **₹1,500 crore** — jointly funded by the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** with **₹1,000 crore** and the **Wellcome Trust (UK)** with **₹500 crore**. Implemented through the **DBT–Wellcome Trust India Alliance (SPV)**, the programme will support **early and intermediate research fellowships, collaborative grants, and research management training**, aiming to **train over 2,000 researchers**, enhance **women's participation by 10–15%**, and expand **biomedical research capacity** in Tier-2 and Tier-3 institutions, aligning with the **Viksit Bharat** vision for world-class science and innovation.
- The Cabinet approved the **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses**, a **six-year initiative (2025–26 to 2030–31)** with an outlay of **₹11,440 crore** to achieve **self-sufficiency in pulse production** and reduce imports. The mission will boost research, seed systems, area expansion, procurement, and value-chain infrastructure, targeting **350 lakh tonnes of production** and coverage of **310 lakh hectares by 2030–31**. It includes **distribution of 126 lakh quintals of certified seeds, 88 lakh free seed kits**, and setting up **1,000 processing units** with **₹25 lakh subsidy each**. **NAFED and NCCF** will ensure **100% procurement of tur, urad, and masoor** under **PM-AASHA**, while promoting **climate-resilient agriculture, soil health, and intercropping practices** for farmer welfare.
- The Cabinet approved a **3% increase in Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) for Central Government employees and pensioners**, effective from **July 1, 2025**, raising the rate from **55% to 58%** of basic pay/pension. The hike will benefit **49.19 lakh employees** and **68.72 lakh pensioners**, with an annual financial impact of **₹10,083.96 crore**. This revision follows the **7th Central Pay Commission's formula** and aims to offset inflation and rising living costs.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved **increases in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all Rabi crops for the Marketing Season 2026–27**, ensuring farmers earn at least **1.5 times their cost of production**. The **highest MSP hike** is for **Safflower (+₹600/quintal)**, followed by **Lentil (Masur) +₹300, Rapeseed & Mustard +₹250, Gram +₹225, Barley +₹170, and Wheat +₹160**. The **profit margins** are estimated at **109% for Wheat, 93% for Mustard, 89% for Lentil, 59% for Gram, 58% for Barley, and 50% for Safflower**. These measures aim to ensure **remunerative prices, crop diversification, and agricultural sustainability**.



- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved the **widening and improvement of the Kalibor–Numaligarh section (85.675 km) of NH-715 in Assam** to four lanes, including **wildlife-friendly elevated corridors** through the **Kaziranga National Park**, at a total cost of **₹6,957 crore**. The project includes a **34.45 km elevated corridor**, **30.22 km of at-grade widening**, and **21 km of greenfield bypasses** at **Jakhalabandha and Bokakhat**. It will connect **Guwahati, Nagaon, Golaghat, and Jorhat**, linking **three airports, three railway stations, and two major highways (NH-127 & NH-129)**, generating over **34 lakh man-days of employment**, and boosting **tourism, wildlife safety, and regional trade**.
- The Cabinet approved the **opening of 57 new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)** across India under the **civil sector**, at a total cost of **₹5,862.55 crore over nine years (2026–27 to 2034–35)** — including **₹2,585.52 crore** for infrastructure and **₹3,277.03 crore** for operations. These KVs will include **Balvatikas (pre-primary)** in line with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, benefiting around **86,640 students** and creating **4,617 permanent jobs**. The schools will be set up in **17 States/UTs**, including **14 Aspirational districts, 4 LWE districts, and 5 Northeastern/hilly regions**, ensuring **balanced educational access** and promoting **national integration**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** approved **four major railway multi-tracking projects** worth **₹24,634 crore**, covering **894 km** across **Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh**. The projects include the **Wardha–Bhusawal (314 km), Gondia–Dongargarh (84 km), Vadodara–Ratlam (259 km), and Itarsi–Bhopal–Bina (237 km)** sections. Together, they will benefit **18 districts**, improve connectivity for **3,633 villages**, and create **employment in Aspirational districts**. The projects will add **78 MTPA of freight capacity**, save **28 crore litres of fuel**, and reduce **139 crore kg of CO₂ emissions**, equivalent to planting **6 crore trees**, while enhancing **PM Gati Shakti multi-modal logistics and tourism connectivity**.
- The **National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC)** chaired by **Cabinet Secretary Dr. T.V. Somanathan** reviewed preparedness for a **cyclone forming in the Bay of Bengal** expected to make landfall between **Machilipatnam and Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh)** on **October 28, 2025**, with wind speeds of **90–100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph**. **IMD, NDRF, Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Puducherry** are on high alert. Over **900 fishing vessels** have returned to shore, and **evacuation centres** are ready. The Cabinet Secretary emphasized **zero casualties** and **rapid restoration of essential services** post-landfall.
- The Cabinet approved the **continuation of the National Pulses Mission**, reaffirming the goal of **Aatmanirbharta (self-reliance)** in pulses. The mission will boost production

from **24.2 million tonnes (2024–25)** to **35 million tonnes (2030–31)** across **416 districts**, focusing on **rice-fallow areas, seed infrastructure, irrigation, and procurement at MSP**. With a **budget of ₹11,440 crore**, it ensures **100% procurement of tur, urad, and masoor under PM-AASHA**, improving **food security, farmer income, and nutritional resilience** nationwide.

- The Cabinet approved the **increase in MSPs for Rabi crops (Marketing Season 2026–27)** with the highest hike for **safflower (+₹600/quintal)**, followed by **lentil (+₹300)**, **mustard (+₹250)**, **gram (+₹225)**, **barley (+₹170)**, and **wheat (+₹160)**. The returns range from **50% to 109%** over production cost, ensuring **fair compensation** and encouraging **crop diversification** in line with the **Budget 2018–19 formula**.
- The Cabinet approved **four-laning of NH-715 between Kalibor and Numaligarh**, including **wildlife-friendly elevated sections over Kaziranga National Park**, at a cost of **₹6,957 crore under EPC mode**, covering **85.675 km**. The project connects **major cities (Guwahati, Nagaon, Golaghat, Jorhat)**, **airports (Tezpur, Liabari, Jorhat)**, and **railway stations (Nagaon, Jakhalabandha, Vishwanath Chariali)**, generating **15.42 lakh direct and 19.19 lakh indirect jobs**, boosting **tourism, eco-safety, and trade growth** in Assam.

Parliament News

State-wise October Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- **Cyclone Montha Approaches Andhra Pradesh:** The **IMD** reported that **Severe Cyclonic Storm Montha** is expected to make **landfall between Kakinada and Kalingapatnam on 28 October 2025**, with **wind speeds of 90–100 km/h**, affecting six states including **Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha**.
- **CM Naidu Visits UAE:** Chief Minister **N. Chandrababu Naidu** visited the **UAE** to promote **green energy and digital infrastructure**, securing a **₹100 crore donation** for establishing a **public library** in Andhra Pradesh.

Arunachal Pradesh

- **First Commercial Coal Mine Inaugurated:** Union Minister **G. Kishan Reddy** and CM **Pema Khandu** inaugurated the **Namchik Namphuk coal mine** in **Changlang district**, with **1.5 crore tonnes of reserves**, marking a significant step toward **energy security and regional development**.

Assam

- **Bathou Religion Recognized:** The **Bathou religion** of Assam's **Bodo community** received a **separate code** in the upcoming **Census**, officially recognizing it as a **distinct faith** in India.





Bihar

- **Patna Metro's First Phase Inaugurated:** Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated a 3.6-km elevated Priority Corridor from ISBT to Bhootnath Station, marking Patna's first metro service with three-coach trains carrying up to 900 passengers.
- **Unmesha International Literature Festival:** Held in Patna from September 25–28, 2025, featuring writers from 15 countries and 100+ languages. Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan attended the closing ceremony celebrating Bihar's literary and cultural heritage.

Chhattisgarh

- **Balod Becomes Child Marriage-Free District:** Balod was declared India's first child marriage-free district, reporting zero cases in two years across 436 panchayats and 9 towns. The Chief Minister announced a statewide elimination goal by 2028–29.

Goa

- **Purple Fest 2025 Celebrates Inclusion:** The 3rd International Purple Fest was inaugurated by CM Dr. Pramod Sawant in Goa, showcasing India's commitment to empowering persons with disabilities through strong government–NGO collaboration.

Gujarat

- **Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference 2025:** Inaugurated on October 9, 2025, at Ganpat University, Mehsana by CM Bhupendra Patel, with 7,100+ MoUs signed for North Gujarat. The event launched the Regional Economic Master Plan targeting a USD 3.5 trillion economy and 28 million jobs by 2035.
- **Harsh Sanghavi Sworn in as Deputy CM:** Harsh Sanghavi took oath as Deputy Chief Minister in a major cabinet reshuffle by CM Bhupendra Patel, strengthening the BJP leadership in the state.

Haryana

- **Kurukshetra Museum Expansion Approved:** The Srikrishna Museum in Kurukshetra will add a fourth block with three new galleries showcasing Mahabharata sites, the 48-kos region, and the Krishna Bhakti movement, using modern technology to boost tourism.

Kerala

- **Museum Honoring Artist A. Ramachandran:** A museum dedicated to the renowned artist A. Ramachandran was inaugurated in Kollam on October 5, 2025, celebrating his contributions to Indian art and humanistic themes.
- **World Bank Approves Healthcare Loan:** The World Bank sanctioned a \$280 million loan under the Kerala Health System Improvement Programme, benefiting 11 million elderly citizens through digital health and climate-resilient infrastructure.

- **Kerala to be Declared Extreme Poverty-Free:** The state will be declared extreme poverty-free by November 1, 2025, due to effective poverty eradication measures and strong social welfare programs.
- **Kerala Plans First Underwater Tunnel:** Kerala will construct its first underwater tunnel between Vypin and Fort Kochi, reducing travel distance from 16 km to 3 km. The ₹2,672 crore twin-tube tunnel (2.75 km long, 35 meters below sea level) is expected to be completed by September 2027.

Madhya Pradesh

- **Gaj Rakshak App Launched:** Madhya Pradesh launched the Gaj Rakshak mobile app for Bandhavgarh National Park to monitor elephant movements and reduce human-elephant conflicts. The elephant population in the area has increased from 40 in 2018 to 65 in 2025.

Maharashtra

- **India's First Cooperative-Run CBG & Potash Project:** Amit Shah inaugurated the Compressed Bio-Gas and Potash Granule Project at Shankarrao Kolhe Sugar Factory, Kopergaon, to be replicated across 15 cooperative sugar factories.
- **PM Modi Inaugurates Navi Mumbai Airport:** The ₹19,650 crore greenfield airport project was inaugurated, set to become operational by December 2025, boosting trade, tourism, and UDAN Yojana connectivity.
- **Mumbai One App Launched:** PM Modi launched the 'Mumbai One' QR-based integrated ticketing app for metro, bus, and local trains, advancing the One Nation, One Mobility initiative.
- **Maharashtra Beaches Get Blue Flag Certification:** Five beaches — Shrivardhan, Nagaon, Parnaka, Guhagar, and Ladghar — received Blue Flag certification from Denmark's Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) for cleanliness, sustainability, and safety.

Manipur

- **Mera Hou Chongba Festival:** The annual Hill-Valley unity festival was celebrated at the Manipur Royal Palace, led by King Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba, with tribal chiefs, traditional rituals, and cultural performances.
- **Ningol Chakouba Festival:** Manipur celebrated Ningol Chakouba, emphasizing brother-sister bonds, with grand feasts, fish curry, and cultural events.

Odisha

- **Digital Archive for Jagannath Temple:** The state government will create a digital library 'Gyan Yagya Mandap' at Puri to preserve sacred records, including Madala Panji and palm-leaf manuscripts, for devotees and researchers.



Punjab

- **Punjab Gets Second International Chess Master:** *Jalandhar's Namitbir Singh Walia* earned the **International Master** title at the **3rd Annemasse International Masters Tournament** in France, becoming **Punjab's second IM** after *Dushyant Sharma (2022)*.

Rajasthan

- **First Namo Biodiversity Park Inaugurated:** Union Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** inaugurated Rajasthan's **first 'Namo Biodiversity Park'** at *Pratap Bandh, Alwar* on **5 October 2025**, promoting **environmental conservation** and **sustainable living**.

Tamil Nadu

- **Chennai Launches Real-Time Flood Forecasting System:** Tamil Nadu launched a **real-time flood forecasting system** for **major river basins in Chennai**, supported by the **World Bank**, to enhance **flood preparedness and response**.

Telangana

- **Eli Lilly Invests \$1 Billion in Telangana:** US pharma giant **Eli Lilly** announced a **\$1 billion investment** in *Hyderabad* to boost **manufacturing capacity** for **diabetes, obesity, Alzheimer's, cancer, and autoimmune treatments**.
- **India's First Semiconductor Innovation Museum:** Under the **T-Chip program**, India's first **Semiconductor Innovation Museum** was inaugurated in *Hyderabad* on **12 October 2025**, showcasing **AI chips, humanoid robots, and rocket prototypes**.
- **Telangana Leads UPI Transaction Intensity:** According to RBI's **September 2025 study**, Telangana ranked **first in per-capita UPI transaction intensity**, followed by **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Delhi**, driven by **urban centers and peer-to-merchant payments under ₹500**.
- **Telangana Tops in Recovering Lost Phones:** The state recovered **over 1 lakh lost or stolen phones** through the **CEIR portal**, with **Hyderabad Police** recovering nearly **15,000 devices**.

Uttar Pradesh

- **Ayodhya Creates Guinness World Records:** During **Deepotsav 2025**, Uttar Pradesh set **two Guinness Records** — lighting **26,17,215 oil lamps** along the *Saryu River* and gathering **2,128 priests and devotees** for a simultaneous **Maa Saryu Aarti**, accompanied by **laser shows, Ram Leela, and drone displays**.
- **UP Creates 76th District:** The **Uttar Pradesh government** announced **Kalyan Singh Nagar** as the **76th district**, carved out from *Aligarh and Bulandshahr*, in honor of **former Chief Minister Kalyan Singh**.

Uttarakhand

- **Green Tax on Out-of-State Vehicles:** The **Uttarakhand government** will implement an **environmental tax** from **December 2025**, charging **₹80 to ₹700** on vehicles entering the state. The tax will be collected via **ANPR cameras** at **37 entry points**, supporting the **Clean Uttarakhand Mission**.

Ladakh

- **Centre Proposes Article 371 for Ladakh:** The **Central Government** proposed applying **Article 371** to **Ladakh** to safeguard **local laws, land rights, and culture**, amid ongoing discussions on **statehood**.

October Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- **Swachh Shehar Jodi Initiative:** MoHUA pairs **72 mentor cities** with **200 mentee cities** to enhance urban sanitation through knowledge sharing.
- **Integrative Oncology Centre (IORCC):** Ministry of Ayush opens India's **first holistic cancer centre** at **AIIA Goa** blending **Ayurveda, Yoga & modern oncology**.
- **NIELIT Digital University Platform:** Launched by **Ashwini Vaishnaw** focusing on **AI, Cybersecurity, Data Science, and Semiconductors**.
- **MY Bharat Mobile App:** Launched by **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** with **1.81 crore youth registrations** for digital volunteering and career support.
- **World Food India 2025:** Attracted **₹1 lakh crore investment** commitments creating **64,000+ jobs** in the food processing sector.
- **Coal India's First All-Women Central Store:** Coal India inaugurated its first all-women Central Store Unit at **SECL Korba**, led by IIT-ISM alumna **Ms. Sapna Ikka**.
- **BRO World Record Road:** The **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** built the **world's highest motorable road** at **Mig La Pass (19,400 ft)**, breaking its **Umling La** record.
- **Five Species Conservation Projects:** Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** launched **Project Dolphin Phase II, Project Sloth Bear, Project Gharial**, and human-wildlife conflict initiatives during **Wildlife Week 2025**.
- **NAKSHA Programme:** The **Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)** launched the **NAKSHA initiative** for geospatial mapping of urban land using **GNSS and Web-GIS**.
- **e-NAM Expansion:** The **e-NAM platform** added **9 new commodities** (like **Green Tea, Mustard Oil**), raising the total to **247**, promoting **digital agriculture trading**.
- **NITI Aayog's Viksit Bharat Strategy Room:** Opened at **LBSNAA, Mussoorie**, serving as a **data-driven governance lab** for real-time development analytics.
- **National Red List Roadmap (Vision 2025–2030):** Launched by **MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh** at the **IUCN World Conservation Congress**, aiming for a **National Red List & Data Book** by 2030.





- **Green Hydrogen Hubs at Ports: Deendayal, Paradip, and V.O. Chidambaranar Ports** declared **Green Hydrogen Hubs** under the **National Green Hydrogen Mission**.
- **Sugamya Bharat App Relunched:** Accessibility app upgraded with **AI chatbot**, **10 Indian languages**, and centralized access to schemes for **persons with disabilities and elderly citizens**.
- **LIMBS Live Dashboard Launched:** The **Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS)** launched a **real-time litigation dashboard** tracking **7 lakh+ active cases** across 53 ministries.
- **Railways Door-to-Door Freight Services:** Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** launched **three new freight services**, including **Assured Transit Container** and **Door-to-Door Parcel** delivery, reducing costs and time.
- **Kapas Kranti Mission:** Government introduced a **₹600 crore mission** to boost **long-staple cotton cultivation** using **HDP techniques** and **Kapas Kisan App**.
- **'We Rise' Initiative:** **NITI Aayog's WEP** and **DP World** launched **'We Rise'** to mentor **100 women-led MSMEs** for export readiness.
- **AIIA's 9th Anniversary Milestone:** The **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** celebrated **9 years of excellence**, treating **30 lakh+ patients** and signing **73 MoUs** for global Ayurvedic collaboration.
- **PM Modi Inaugurates ₹13,430-Crore Projects:** Projects across **industry, power, defence, and roads** launched in **Kurnool**, with **Visakhapatnam** announced as an upcoming **AI & Connectivity Hub**.
- **India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025 Announced:** To be held **6–9 December in Chandigarh** with the theme **"Vigyan se Samruddhi: For Atma Nirbhar Bharat."**
- **UIDAI Aadhaar Mascot Contest:** **UIDAI** launched a **mascot design contest** with a **₹1 lakh prize**, open till **31 October 2025** on the **MyGov portal**.
- **National Drug Licensing System (ONDLS) Launched:** The **CDSCO** introduced the **Online National Drug Licensing System** to ensure **real-time digital tracking of pharmaceutical solvents**, preventing toxic contamination incidents such as **diethylene glycol poisoning**.
- **NHAI Deploys AI-Driven 3D Laser Vehicles:** **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** rolled out **AI-based 3D Laser Network Survey Vehicles (NSVs)** across **23 states** for advanced highway maintenance and defect detection.
- **Coal Analytics Dashboard Launch:** Ministry of Coal set to unveil **Koyla Shakti Smart Coal Analytics Dashboard** on **29 October 2025** for real-time monitoring of production and supply chain.

- **NSC Seed Processing Unit Inaugurated:** Agriculture Minister opened new seed processing facility at **Pusa Complex, New Delhi** with **1 tonne/hour capacity** plus five other plants across India.
- **PM Launches ₹150 Coin Honoring Sardar Patel:** Prime Minister inaugurated commemorative coin and stamp at **Kevadia, Gujarat** on **October 30, 2025**, along with **₹1,219 crore worth projects** marking **Patel's 150th birth anniversary**.

Important Festival

- **Bathukamma Festival Creates Two Guinness Records:** **Telangana's harvest festival** sets world records for **largest floral arrangement** and **most synchronized female dance participants**, celebrating **Goddess Gauri** during **Navratri**.

Miscellaneous National News

- **Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve:** Becomes **India's 13th UNESCO Biosphere Reserve**; two new **Bihar Ramsar sites** raise total to **93**.
- **India's First Dugong Reserve:** **Palk Bay, Tamil Nadu (448.34 sq. km)** receives **IUCN recognition** for protecting seagrass ecosystems.
- **Sacred Theatres of India:** **Kutiyattam, Mudi yettu, Ramman, and Ramlila** recognized as **UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage**, supported by **Sangeet Natak Akademi**.
- **Cheetah Milestone at Kuno:** **Mukhi** becomes first **India-born cheetah** to reach adulthood; **61% cub survival rate**, **27 cheetahs** now in total.
- **Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses:** Cabinet approves **₹11,440 crore mission (2025–31)** targeting **350 lakh tonnes** pulses with **100% MSP procurement**.
- **Rabi MSP Hike (2026–27):** Government raises **MSP** for all crops; **safflower** gets the **highest increase of ₹600 per quintal**.
- **UPSC Centenary:** **Union Public Service Commission** celebrates **100 years** of merit-based recruitment (1925–2025).
- **RSS Centenary:** **PM Modi** releases special **coin & stamp** marking **100 years of RSS** founded by **K.B. Hedgewar**.
- **QR Code Boards on Highways:** **NHAI** to install **QR codes** on highways for emergency info and project details.
- **Sound Alerts for EVs:** **MoRTH** mandates **Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System (AVAS)** for all **EVs from Oct 2027**, new models from **Oct 2026**.
- **Mann Ki Baat:** **PM Modi's radio show** completes **11 years** and **126 episodes**, fostering public participation.





- **Cyclone Shakti:** A severe cyclonic storm formed in the east-central Arabian Sea, threatening Maharashtra and Gujarat coasts.
- **UIDAI Aadhaar Fee Waiver:** UIDAI waived biometric update fees for 6 crore children (7–15 years) from 1 October 2025 for one year.
- **Cabinet Approves Vande Mataram 150th Anniversary:** Nationwide celebration announced for the 1882 patriotic song by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee.
- **UN Honors Indian Peacekeepers:** Over 5,000 Indian personnel serving with UNISFA in Abyei recognized for their contribution to peacekeeping.
- **₹24,634-Crore Railway Multitracking:** Government approved four multitrack railway projects across Maharashtra, MP, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh, adding 894 route km.
- **Record Renewable Energy Output:** In H1 2025, solar generation rose 25% (to 9.2%) and wind 29% (to 5.1%), reducing CO₂ emissions by 24 million tonnes.
- **India's First Bullet Train by 2027:** Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (508 km, 320 km/h) to be operational by August 2027, with Japan's support.
- **Buddha's Relics Sent to Russia:** Sacred relics to be displayed in Kalmykia, Russia (Oct 11–18, 2025), led by UP Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya.
- **Siddi Tribe Achieves 72% Literacy:** The Indo-African Siddi tribal community, a PVTG since 2003, reached 72% literacy, earning praise from the President of India.
- **India's \$77 Billion Hydropower Plan:** Government announced a ₹6.4 trillion plan to develop 208 hydro projects generating 76 GW from the Brahmaputra basin by 2047, addressing energy and strategic needs.
- **Mappls App Gains National Recognition:** Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw endorsed Mappls, India's homegrown navigation app, boosting downloads to 1 crore+, reflecting Atmanirbhar Bharat success.
- **India Post Resumes US Postal Services:** International postal operations to the US resumed on 15 October 2025, adopting Delivery Duty Paid (DDP) with a 50% flat duty for faster clearance.
- **Female Labour Force Participation Rises:** Women's labour participation surged from 23% (2017–18) to 42% (2023–24)—the highest growth among BRICS nations.
- **Finance Commission Extension:** The 16th Finance Commission, chaired by Arvind Panagariya, received an extension till 30 November 2025 for its fiscal recommendations (2026–31).
- **NHAI 100% Waste Utilization Target:** NHAI aims for 100% use of municipal waste in road projects by 2027, having already reused 80 lakh tonnes, including bio-bitumen.
- **India–FAO 80-Year Partnership:** India celebrated 80 years of collaboration with FAO, marking its journey from food deficiency to self-sufficiency.
- **Law Ministry Raises Notary Limits:** Under the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2025, the Law Ministry increased notary limits in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, and Nagaland, effective October 17, 2025, to meet rising legal service needs.
- **Finance Commission Grants Released:** The Union Government disbursed ₹730 crore to Gujarat (₹522.2 crore) and Haryana (₹195.13 crore) under the 15th Finance Commission for strengthening Rural Local Bodies, sanitation, and water supply systems.
- **India's Forest Growth Ranking:** According to GFRA 2025 (FAO), India ranks 9th globally in total forest area and 3rd in annual forest gain, credited to afforestation drives and initiatives like 'Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam'.
- **Sacred 'Jore Sahib' Yatra Begins:** The holy footwear (Jore Sahib) of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Sahib Kaur, preserved by Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri's family, commenced a Guru Charan Yatra (Oct 23 – Nov 1, 2025) from Delhi to Takht Sri Patna Sahib, covering Faridabad, Agra, Lucknow, and Varanasi before permanent enshrinement.
- **India's First Presidential Rafale Flight:** President Droupadi Murmu became the first Indian President to fly in a Rafale fighter jet during a 30-minute sortie from Ambala Air Force Station, demonstrating civil-military synergy as Supreme Commander.
- **India Pushes for Technological Sovereignty:** Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal announced ₹1 lakh crore Anusandhan Fund at TiEcon Delhi-NCR 2025, emphasizing deeptech innovation in AI, quantum computing, and semiconductors to reduce foreign tech dependence.



National Current Affairs of September 2025

Most Important News of the Month

Asia Cup 2025

In a match that lived up to the fierce rivalry, India clinched their ninth Asia Cup title with a thrilling five-wicket victory over Pakistan at the Dubai International Stadium on 28 September 2025. Chasing 147 in a tense final, India recovered from a shaky 20 for 3 to reach the target at 150 for 5, thanks to a match-winning knock from Tilak Varma. Varma's calm and calculated 69 not out, supported by Shivam Dube's 33 off 22 balls, ensured India lifted the trophy in a game that will be remembered as one of the most gripping India-Pakistan encounters in recent history.

Awards List of Asia Cup 2025

- **Man of the Match:** Tilak Verma
- **Most Valuable Player of Tournament:** Kuldeep Yadav
- **Player of the Tournament:** Abhisek Sharma

Atmosphere & Rivalry

- The clash was more than cricket, layered with political tension between India and Pakistan earlier this year.
- Gestures, crowd emotions, and coaching instructions all reflected the charged atmosphere.
- This was also the first India-Pakistan Asia Cup final in 41 years, adding historic weight to the contest.






Static GK Facts

- **Asia Cup founded:** 1984, governed by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).
- **Formats:** Played in ODI and T20I formats, alternating depending on the upcoming ICC tournament.
- **India's record:** With this win, India now has 9 Asia Cup titles—the most by any team.
- **Other winners:** Sri Lanka (6 titles), Pakistan (2 titles).
- **2025 final venue:** Dubai International Stadium, UAE.
- **Notable Indian performers:** Tilak Varma (final's hero), Kuldeep Yadav (4/30), Shivam Dube (all-round cameo).

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

**ALL EXAMS,
ONE SUBSCRIPTION.**

GST Rate Cuts 2025: What's Cheaper, What's Costlier for Consumers

The government has announced major **GST rate cuts in 2025**, making essentials, healthcare, education, and even automobiles more affordable. From daily-use goods to farming equipment and electronics, here's a quick look at **what's cheaper and what's costlier for consumers**.

Save Big on Daily Essentials

Items	From	To
Hair Oil, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toilet Soap Bar, Tooth Brushes, Shaving Cream	18%	5%
Butter, Ghee, Cheese & Dairy Spreads	12%	5%
Pre-packaged Namkeens, Bhujia & Mixtures	12%	5%
Utensils	12%	5%
Feeding Bottles, Napkins for Babies & Clinical Diapers	12%	5%
Sewing Machines & Parts	12%	5%

Uplifting Farmers & Agriculture

Items	From	To
Tractor Tyres & Parts	18%	5%
Tractors	12%	5%
Specified Bio-Pesticides, Micro-Nutrients	12%	5%
Drip Irrigation System & Sprinklers	12%	5%
Agricultural, Horticultural or Forestry Machines for Soil Preparation, Cultivation, Harvesting & Threshing	12%	5%

Relief in Healthcare Sector

Items	From	To
Individual Health & Life Insurance	18%	Nil
Thermometer	18%	5%
Medical Grade Oxygen	12%	5%
All Diagnostic Kits & Reagents	12%	5%
Glucometer & Test Strips	12%	5%
Corrective Spectacles	12%	5%

Automobiles made affordable

Items	From	To
Petrol & Petrol Hybrid, LPG, CNG Cars (not exceeding - 1200 CC & 4000mm)	28%	18%
Diesel & Diesel Hybrid Cars (not exceeding - 1500 CC & 4000mm)	28%	18%
3 Wheeled Vehicles	28%	18%
Motor Cycles (350 CC & below)	28%	18%
Motor Vehicles for transport of goods	28%	18%



Affordable Education

Items	From	To
Maps, Charts & Globes	12%	Nil
Pencils, Sharpeners, Crayons & Pastels	12%	Nil
Exercise Books & Notebooks	12%	Nil
Eraser	12%	Nil

Save on Electronic Appliances

Items	From	To
Air Conditioners	28%	18%
Television (above 32") (including LED & LCD TVs)	28%	18%
Monitors & Projectors	28%	18%
Dish Washing Machines	28%	18%

PROCESS REFORMS

Registration

- Automatic registration within 3 working days for applicants: identified by the system based on data analysis.
- Who determines that he would not pass Input Tax Credit exceeding ₹2.5 Lakh per month and opts for the Scheme.

Refund

- Sanction of Provisional Refunds by proper officer, through system based risk evaluation for:
- Zero Rated Supplies
- Supplies with Inverted Duty Structure

2025 Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025

On **August 31, 2025**, Educate Girls, officially known as the **Foundation to Educate Girls Globally**, achieved a historic feat by becoming the **first Indian organisation** to win the **Ramon Magsaysay Award**, one of Asia's most prestigious honours. The award recognises the NGO's relentless efforts in transforming the educational landscape for out-of-school girls in India's remotest regions.

This year's other awardees include **Shaahina Ali** from the Maldives for her work in environmental conservation and **Flaviano Antonio L Villanueva** of the Philippines for supporting marginalised communities.

About Educate Girls: Vision and Achievements

Founded in **2007** by **Safeena Husain**, a graduate of the London School of Economics, Educate Girls was born out of a mission to tackle **female illiteracy** in India. Husain left her corporate career in San Francisco and returned to India with a single-minded focus: to bring every girl child into school.

Impact at Scale

Starting in the desert villages of Rajasthan, Educate Girls identified communities most resistant to girls' education. The NGO's grassroots model led to:

- Enrolment and retention** of over **2 million girls**
- Expansion to **30,000+ villages** across India
- School retention rate exceeding 90%**

Innovation: Development Impact Bond (DIB)

In **2015**, the NGO pioneered the **world's first Development Impact Bond in education**, linking investor funds to measurable educational outcomes. This model attracted global attention and catalysed scalable interventions in India's rural education sector.

Pragati: Empowering Young Women

Recognising the educational gap among adolescent girls and young women, Educate Girls launched **Pragati**, an open-schooling programme aimed at learners aged 15–29. Starting with 300 participants, the programme now supports **over 31,500 learners**, helping them resume education and access better life opportunities.

Why the Organisation Was Awarded

According to the **Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF)**, Educate Girls was selected for its **"commitment to addressing cultural stereotyping through the education of girls and young women, liberating them from the bondage of illiteracy and infusing them with skills, courage, and agency to achieve their full human potential."**

This recognition reflects the power of grassroots movements and innovative education financing to enact long-lasting social change.

Understanding the Ramon Magsaysay Award

Origins and Prestige

Established in **1957** by the **Rockefeller Brothers Fund** and the **Philippine government**, the **Ramon Magsaysay Award** is often dubbed the **"Asian Nobel Prize."** It celebrates exemplary **leadership, integrity, and public service.**

Over the years, more than **300 individuals and organisations** across Asia have been honoured. Notable past Indian recipients include:

- Arvind Kejriwal** (former Delhi CM, 2006)
- Ravish Kumar** (journalist, 2019)
- Bezwada Wilson** (activist, 2016)
- Sonam Wangchuk** (environmentalist, 2018)

The Ceremony and Legacy

The award is formally presented each year on **November 7** at the **Metropolitan Theatre in Manila**, Philippines, and commemorates the birth of **Ramon del Fierro Magsaysay**, former President of the Philippines (born **August 31, 1907**). He was a WWII guerrilla leader, automobile mechanic, and a leader who rose from humble beginnings to become a symbol of people-centric governance.



His presidency was marked by anti-corruption reforms and a deep trust in the common citizen's dignity. His untimely death in a plane crash in **1957** gave rise to the award in his memory, celebrating "greatness of spirit" in public service.

CP Radhakrishnan Elected as India's 15th Vice President

On September 9, 2025, CP Radhakrishnan, the former Tamil Nadu BJP president and Maharashtra Governor, was elected as the 15th Vice President of India, defeating opposition candidate B Sudershan Reddy, a senior advocate and former Supreme Court judge. The election witnessed a high turnout of 98.3%, showcasing the unity and participation of parliamentarians.

Election Results and Turnout

Radhakrishnan secured 452 first preference votes, while Justice Reddy received 300 votes. Fifteen votes were declared invalid. Out of 781 eligible MPs, 767 cast their votes, marking an impressive 98.20% turnout. Thirteen MPs abstained, including members from the Biju Janata Dal, Bharat Rashtra Samithi, Shiromani Akali Dal, and one independent.

His victory margin of 152 votes not only affirmed NDA's legislative strength but also pointed to potential cross-voting within opposition ranks—an indication of internal dissent or strategic shifts among INDIA bloc constituents.

Background of the Vacancy

The Vice Presidential post had remained vacant since July 21, 2025, after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned due to health concerns. The early election ensured constitutional continuity and reinforced the NDA's emphasis on stabilizing key parliamentary roles.

Who is CP Radhakrishnan?

Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan was born on October 20, 1957, in Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and has had a long-standing association with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

His political career includes,

- Serving as a two-time Lok Sabha MP from Coimbatore (1998 and 1999)
- Becoming Tamil Nadu BJP president
- Holding positions on various parliamentary committees
- Chairing the Coir Board from 2016 to 2020, during which coir exports hit record highs
- Acting as BJP's Kerala in-charge from 2020 to 2022

Radhakrishnan also served as Governor of Jharkhand, and later held additional charge of Telangana and Puducherry. Most recently, he was appointed Governor of Maharashtra in July 2024 before being nominated for the Vice Presidency.

His Broader Contributions

Beyond politics, Radhakrishnan is known for his engagement in sports like table tennis, cricket, and volleyball. He has represented India in multiple international delegations across Asia, Europe, and North America, highlighting his diplomatic acumen.

His career reflects a mix of administrative efficiency and political loyalty, making him a strong fit for the Vice President's constitutional responsibilities, particularly as the Rajya Sabha's presiding officer.

Why This Election Matters

- **Strategic win for NDA:** The result demonstrated NDA's command in Parliament and the opposition's ongoing struggle to consolidate.
- **Stability and experience:** Radhakrishnan brings decades of administrative and political experience, a valuable asset for managing parliamentary proceedings.
- **Electoral insight:** The pattern of abstentions and invalid votes raises questions about alliance discipline and internal negotiations ahead of the next general elections.
- **Role continuity:** With this appointment, India ensures a seamless transition in one of its top constitutional posts amid an evolving political landscape.

Key Takeaways

- **Election Date:** September 9, 2025
- **Winner:** CP Radhakrishnan (452 votes)
- **Runner-up:** Justice B Sudershan Reddy (300 votes)
- **Invalid Votes:** 15
- **Total Turnout:** 767 out of 781 MPs (98.20%)

Bloomberg Billionaires Index 2025: Larry Ellison Briefly Surpasses Elon Musk as World's Richest

In a dramatic turn of events, Oracle co-founder and Chief Technology Officer Larry Ellison briefly overtook Tesla CEO Elon Musk to become the world's richest person, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index (September 11, 2025). Ellison's wealth skyrocketed by a record \$89 billion in a single day, driven by Oracle's stellar quarterly earnings report. Although Musk reclaimed the top spot the next morning by a slim margin, Ellison's meteoric rise has reshaped the billionaire rankings landscape.

Key Highlights of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index (September 2025)

Larry Ellison's Surge

- Net worth surged to \$383.2 billion after Oracle's stock price jumped on positive earnings.
- Achieved the largest single-day wealth gain ever recorded (\$89 billion).
- Momentarily surpassed Elon Musk to become the world's richest.



Elon Musk's Status

- Maintained his long-held position as world's richest person, with a net worth of \$384 billion.
- First crossed the \$400 billion mark last year.
- Has held the top spot for 16 consecutive months.

Other Top Contenders

- Mark Zuckerberg and Jeff Bezos trail at #3 and #4.
- Bernard Arnault, the top non-tech billionaire, is now #8.

Top 10 Richest People in the World (Bloomberg Billionaires Index — Sept 11, 2025)

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Last Daily Change	Country	Industry
1	Elon Musk	\$384B	+\$573M	USA	Technology
2	Larry Ellison	\$383B	+\$88.5B	USA	Technology
3	Mark Zuckerberg	\$264B	-\$4.68B	USA	Technology
4	Jeff Bezos	\$252B	-\$6.91B	USA	Technology
5	Larry Page	\$210B	-\$273M	USA	Technology
6	Sergey Brin	\$196B	-\$249M	USA	Technology
7	Steve Ballmer	\$172B	+\$651M	USA	Technology
8	Bernard Arnault	\$162B	-\$717M	France	Consumer
9	Jensen Huang	\$154B	+\$5.58B	USA	Technology

Indian Billionaires on the Global Stage

Mukesh Ambani (Reliance Industries)

- **Global Rank:** #18
- **Net Worth:** \$97.9 billion
- **Daily Change:** +\$143 million
- **Year-to-Date Gain:** +\$7.26 billion

Gautam Adani (Adani Group)

- **Global Rank:** #21
- **Net Worth:** \$80.9 billion
- **Daily Change:** +\$555 million
- **Year-to-Date Gain:** +\$2.19 billion

Both industrialists continue to be India's most prominent faces on the world billionaire map, strengthening their positions in energy, infrastructure, and telecom sectors.

Nepal Gets its First Woman Prime Minister as Sushila Karki as Interim Leader

In a historic political shift, **Sushila Karki, Nepal's first female Chief Justice**, is set to become the country's first woman Prime Minister after being chosen as the interim leader by Gen-Z protest groups. The decision follows a youth-led uprising that forced the resignation of former PM KP Sharma Oli and dismantled Nepal's entrenched political order.

Karki, 73, was sworn in on 12th September 2025, following an agreement between President Ran Chandra Paudel, the Nepali Army leadership, and Gen-Z representatives.

The Gen-Z Revolt

- The uprising, largely led by young Nepalis frustrated with corruption and governance failures, escalated after the government attempted to impose a ban on social media platforms.
- Protests turned violent, resulting in over 30 deaths and 1,000+ injuries.
- The revolt forced widespread resignations from older political leaders, marking a generational shift in Nepalese politics.
- Key alternative names considered for leadership included Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah (Balen) and Kulman Ghising, former chief of Nepal Electricity Authority.
- Ultimately, Sushila Karki emerged as a consensus choice due to her clean image, anti-corruption record, and public credibility.

Who is Sushila Karki?

Born: 7 June 1952, Biratnagar, Nepal.

Education

- BA, Mahendra Morang Campus, Nepal (1972)
- MA (Political Science), Banaras Hindu University, India (1975)
- LLB, Tribhuvan University, Nepal (1978)
- **Legal Career:** Began in 1979; became Senior Advocate in 2007.

Judiciary

- Appointed ad-hoc Supreme Court Judge in 2009, permanent judge in 2010.
- Served as Nepal's first female Chief Justice (July 2016 – June 2017).
- Known for zero-tolerance against corruption, which brought her into conflict with political elites.
- Faced impeachment attempts in 2017 but completed her tenure.
- Her fearless stance against corruption and reputation for judicial independence made her the ideal figure for Nepal's current transition.

RANKERS^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS
FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025



Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm



Her Role as Interim Prime Minister

Karki will primarily focus on,

- Stabilising Nepal after weeks of unrest.
- Conducting free and fair elections within the next 6–12 months.
- Restoring public trust in governance by prioritising transparency and accountability.
- She assumes office with broad popular support, though challenges remain in navigating Nepal's deep political divisions, economic slowdown, and fragile democratic institutions.

Regional and International Significance

- Nepal, located between India and China, holds a strategic geopolitical position in South Asia.
- Karki's leadership signals a generational and gender milestone, potentially inspiring greater women's political participation in South Asia.
- The shift may also affect India–Nepal relations, as Karki studied in India and maintains academic ties, which could strengthen bilateral cultural diplomacy.

Emmy Awards 2025: Full List of Winners and Highlights

Major Series Awards

Category	Winner
Drama Series	Severance
Comedy Series	The Studio
Limited Series	Adolescence
Television Movie	Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy
Talk Series	Last Week Tonight With John Oliver
Reality Competition Program	The Traitors
Scripted Variety Series	Last Week Tonight With John Oliver

Acting Awards

Category	Winner
Lead Actress – Drama	Britt Lower, Severance
Lead Actor – Drama	Sterling K. Brown, Paradise
Supporting Actress – Drama	Katherine LaNasa, The Pitt
Supporting Actor – Drama	Tramell Tillman, Severance
Lead Actress – Comedy	Jean Smart, Hacks
Lead Actor – Comedy	Seth Rogen, The Studio
Supporting Actress – Comedy	Hannah Einbinder, Hacks
Supporting Actor – Comedy	Jeff Hiller, Somebody Somewhere
Lead Actress – Limited Series	Cristin Milioti, The Penguin

Category	Winner
Lead Actor – Limited Series	Stephen Graham, Adolescence
Supporting Actress – Limited Series	Erin Doherty, Adolescence
Supporting Actor – Limited Series	Owen Cooper, Adolescence

Writing Awards

Category	Winner
Writing – Drama Series	Dan Gilroy, Andor
Writing – Comedy Series	Seth Rogen & Evan Goldberg, The Studio
Writing – Limited Series	Jack Thorne & Stephen Graham, Adolescence
Writing – Variety Series	Last Week Tonight With John Oliver

Directing Awards

Category	Winner
Directing – Drama Series	Adam Randall, Slow Horses
Directing – Comedy Series	Seth Rogen & Evan Goldberg, The Studio
Directing – Limited Series	Philip Barantini, Adolescence

Variety & Specials

Category	Winner
Variety Special (Live)	SNL50: The Anniversary Special

Ballon d'Or 2025: Full List of Winners, Awards & Key Takeaways

Winners List Category Wise

- **Men's Ballon d'Or:** Ousmane Dembélé (Paris Saint-Germain / France)
- **Women's Ballon d'Or:** Aitana Bonmatí (Barcelona / Spain) – Third consecutive win
- **Men's Kopa Trophy (Best Young Player):** Lamine Yamal (Barcelona / Spain)
- **Women's Kopa Trophy:** Vicky López (Barcelona / Spain)
- **Men's Yashin Trophy (Best Goalkeeper):** Gianluigi Donnarumma (Italy)
- **Women's Yashin Trophy:** Hannah Hampton (England)
- **Men's Gerd Müller Trophy (Top Scorer):** Viktor Gyökeres (Sweden)
- **Women's Gerd Müller Trophy:** Ewa Pajor (Poland / Barcelona)
- **Men's Club of the Year:** Paris Saint-Germain
- **Women's Club of the Year:** Arsenal
- **Men's Coach of the Year:** Luis Enrique (Paris Saint-Germain)
- **Women's Coach of the Year:** Sarina Wiegman (England)
- **Socrates Award:** Xana Foundation (for humanitarian efforts)



Static Facts

- The 69th Ballon d'Or Ceremony was held on 22 September 2025 in Paris.
- Awards were based on performances in the 2024–25 season, not calendar year.
- Nominees for Ballon d'Or, Kopa, Yashin, and Gerd Müller trophies were revealed on 7 August 2025.
- Lionel Messi remains the record-holder with 8 Ballon d'Or wins.
- For the first time, dedicated women-specific awards like the Women's Yashin and Women's Gerd Müller Trophies were presented.

Complete Men's Ballon d'Or Top Ten (2025)

- Ousmane Dembélé (France, PSG)
- Lamine Yamal (Spain, Barcelona)
- Vitinha (Portugal, PSG)
- Mohamed Salah (Egypt, Liverpool)
- Raphinha (Brazil, Barcelona)
- Achraf Hakimi (Morocco, PSG)
- Kylian Mbappé (France, Real Madrid)
- Cole Palmer (England, Chelsea)
- Gianluigi Donnarumma (Italy, PSG)
- Nuno Mendes (Portugal, PSG)

President Murmu Felicitates Winners at the 71st National Film Awards Ceremony

The 71st National Film Awards ceremony took place on September 23, 2025, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, with President Droupadi Murmu honouring the winners. The evening celebrated the finest achievements in Indian cinema for the year 2023, bringing together veteran legends and contemporary performers. The awards marked a special moment as Malayalam superstar Mohanlal received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, while films like 12th Fail, Jawan, Mrs. Chatterjee vs Norway, and Kathal – A Jackfruit Mystery secured major honours.

(Best Actor/Actress) Category Winner List

Category	Winner	Film
Best Actor (Leading Role)	Shah Rukh Khan	Jawan
	Rani Mukerji	Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway
	Vikrant Massey	12th Fail
Best Actress (Supporting Role)	Urvashi	Ullozhukku
	Janki Bodiwala	Vash
	Vijayaraghavan	Pookalam
	Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar	Parking

Regional Film Winner List

Category	Winner
Best Hindi Film	Kathal
Best Telugu Film	Bhagavanth Kesari
Best Tamil Film	Parking
Best Malayalam Film	Ullozhukku
Best Marathi Film	Shyamchi Aai
Best Kannada Film	Kandeelu
Best Punjabi Film	Godday Godday Chaa
Best Assamese Film	Rongatapu 1982
Best Bengali Film	Deep Fridge
Best Gujarati Film	Vash
Best Odia Film	Pushkara

Technical Awards Category Winners List

Category	Winner	Film
Best Action Direction	Nandu-Prudhvi	HanuMan
Best Choreography	Vaibhavi Merchant	Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani
Best Lyrics	Kasarla Shyam	Ooru Palleturu – Balagam
Best Music Direction	GV Prakash Kumar	Vaathi
	Harshavardhan Rameshwar	Animal
Best Makeup	Shrikanth Desai	Sam Bahadur
Best Costume Design	Sachin, Divya, Nidhhi	Sam Bahadur
Best Production Design	Mohandas	2018
Best Editing	Midhun Murali	Pookkaalam
Best Sound Design	Sachin Sudhakaran, Hariharan	Animal
Best Screenplay	Sai Rajesh	Baby
	Ramkumar Balakrishnan	Parking
Best Dialogue	Deepak Kingrani Sirf	Ek Bandha Kaafi Hai
Best Cinematography	Prasanthanu Mohapatra	The Kerala Story
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Shilpa Rao	Chaliya – Jawan
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Rohit	Premisthunna – Baby
Best Child Artist	Sukriti Bandireddi Gandhi	Thatha Chettu
	Kabir Khandare	Gypsy
	Treesha Toshar, Shrinivas Pokale, Bhargav	Naal 2
Best Direction	Sudipto Sen	The Kerala Story



Best Film Category Winners List

Category	Winner
Best Film in AVGC	HanuMan
Best Children's Film	Naal 2
Best Film Promoting National, Social Values	Sam Bahadur
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani
Best Debut Film	Aatmapamphlet
Best Film	12th Fail
Best Documentary Film	God Vulture and Human
Best Short Film	Giddh The Scavenger
Best Non-Fiction Film	Flowering Man

Non-Feature Film Awards

- The non-feature film category highlighted social, cultural, and environmental storytelling.
- **Best Documentary Film** went to God Vulture and Human.
- The Silent Epidemic was honored for Best Non-Feature Film Promoting Social and Environmental Values.
- Best Short Film went to Giddh The Scavenger.
- The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw was recognized as Best Debut Film in the non-feature section.

Cabinet Approvals

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** approved a **Rs.1,500 crore Incentive Scheme** to promote **critical mineral recycling** under the **National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)**. The scheme, with a tenure of six years (FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31), will support recycling of **e-waste, Lithium-ion battery scrap, and catalytic converters** from end-of-life vehicles. It offers **20% Capex subsidy** on plant & machinery and an **Opex subsidy** linked to incremental sales. Benefits are capped at **Rs.50 crore for large entities** and **Rs.25 crore for small units**, encouraging both **established players and start-ups**. The scheme aims to create **270 kilo ton annual recycling capacity**, yielding **40 kilo ton of critical minerals**, attracting **Rs.8,000 crore investment** and generating **70,000 jobs**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved the **doubling of the Bhagalpur–Dumka–Rampurhat railway line section** (177 km) in **Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal** at a cost of **Rs.3,169 crore**. The project will enhance **railway mobility, efficiency, and service reliability**, reduce congestion, and support **multi-modal connectivity under PM-Gati Shakti**. It will connect important destinations like **Deoghar (Baba Baidyanath Dham)** and **Tarapith (Shakti Peeth)**, benefitting **441 villages and 28.72 lakh people** including three **Aspirational Districts** (Banka, Godda, Dumka). The project will enable **15 MTPA additional freight traffic**, reduce **oil imports by 5 crore litres**, and cut **24 crore kg of CO2 emissions**, equivalent to planting **1 crore trees**.

- The **CCEA** approved the construction of the **Mokama–Munger 4-lane greenfield access-controlled section** (82.4 km) of the **Buxar–Bhagalpur High-Speed Corridor** in **Bihar** on **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)** with an outlay of **Rs.4,447.38 crore**. The corridor will connect **Mokama, Barahiya, Lakhisarai, Jamalpur, Munger, and Bhagalpur**, boosting regional industries such as **ordnance factories, locomotive workshops, food processing, logistics hubs, and Bhagalpuri silk textiles**. With design speeds of **100 km/h**, the project will reduce travel time to **1.5 hours**, while enhancing **safety and freight movement**. It is expected to generate **14.83 lakh man-days of direct employment** and **18.46 lakh man-days of indirect jobs**, further driving **economic growth** in Eastern Bihar.
- The **Union Cabinet** approved **Phase-III of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)** to add **5,000 PG seats** and **5,023 MBBS seats** in government medical institutions with a cost ceiling of **₹1.50 crore per seat**, involving a total outlay of **₹15,034.50 crore** (Centre: ₹10,303.20 crore, States: ₹4,731.30 crore). This move will **increase doctors and specialists**, improve **healthcare access in underserved areas**, generate **employment**, and enhance India's **health system resilience**.
- The **Cabinet** approved the **Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) / CSIR Scheme on Capacity Building and Human Resource Development** with an outlay of **₹2,277.397 crore** for 2021-26. The scheme will support **R&D institutions, universities, and national labs**, nurturing young researchers in **STEMM fields**. It strengthens India's **innovation ecosystem**, boosts **research publications**, and aids progress towards **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- The Cabinet approved **Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB)** equivalent to **78 days' wages** worth **₹1,865.68 crore** for **10.91 lakh non-gazetted railway employees** before **Durga Puja/Dussehra**. The bonus, with a **maximum amount of ₹17,951 per employee**, recognizes the **excellent performance of Railways**, which achieved record **1614.90 MT freight loading** and carried **7.3 billion passengers** in 2024-25.
- The Cabinet approved the **construction of a 78.94 km four-lane Sahebganj–Areraj–Bettiah section** of **NH-139W** in **Bihar** under the **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)** at a cost of **₹3,822.31 crore**. The project will improve **connectivity from Patna to Bettiah**, boost **cross-border trade with Nepal**, support **agriculture and tourism**, and reduce travel time from **2.5 hours to 1 hour**. It will generate **14.22 lakh direct** and **17.69 lakh indirect man-days** of employment.
- The Cabinet approved the **doubling of the 104 km Bakhtiyarpur–Rajgir–Tilaiya railway section** in **Bihar** at a cost of **₹2,192 crore**. Covering **four districts** and connecting **Rajgir, Nalanda, Pawapuri**, the project will enhance **passenger and freight capacity** (26 MTPA), benefit **13.46 lakh people across 1,434 villages**, and reduce **CO2 emissions by 24 crore kg**. It supports the **PM Gati Shakti Master Plan**, improving **multi-modal connectivity** and regional development.



State-wise September Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- State announced **₹3,400 crore investment**: ₹400 crore **Space City (Tirupati)** & ₹3,000 crore **Defence Hubs (Madakasira)**.

Arunachal Pradesh

- PM Modi launched ₹5,100 crore projects** incl. **hydropower & convention centre**, boosting Northeast development.

Assam

- India's first Vulture Portal** launched by Gauhati University students on Sept 2, 2025.
- PM Modi inaugurated Bioethanol Plant & Polypropylene Unit (₹18,000 crore)** in Golaghat.

Bihar

- Cabinet cleared **₹4,447 crore Mokama–Munger greenfield highway (82.4 km)**.
- APEDA office** inaugurated; first **GI-tagged Mithila Makhana consignment** flagged off.
- Royal Bhutan Buddhist Temple** inaugurated at Rajgir by Bhutan PM & Union Minister Kiren Rijju (Sept 4).
- PM Modi inaugurated Purnia Airport** and launched **₹36,000 crore projects** incl. thermal power & river-linking.
- Cabinet approved **₹3,822 crore NH-139W highway project** reducing travel time from 2.5 hrs to 1 hr.
- ₹2,192 crore railway doubling** approved for **Bakhtiyarpur–Rajgir–Tilaiya (104 km)** line.
- Justice P.B. Bajanthri** sworn in as Chief Justice of Patna High Court.

Goa

- First fixed-date Ayurveda Day** hosted on Sept 23, 2025; theme: *Ayurveda for People & Planet*.

Gujarat

- PM Modi inaugurated ₹34,200 crore maritime projects** at Bhavnagar (*Samudra se Samridhi* event).
- India's first MLFF toll system** launched at Choryasi, enabling barrier-free FASTag tolling.
- Dhordo village in Kutch** declared **India's 4th Solar Village** with 81 solarized homes (177 kW).

Himachal Pradesh

- State achieved **99.3% literacy rate**, announced at Ullas Mela 2025, Shimla.
- ₹1,500 crore flood relief package** announced by PM Modi (rehousing, highways, ex-gratia support).

Maharashtra

- Governor Acharya Devvrat** given additional charge after C.P. Radhakrishnan became Vice President.
- Cabinet approved **10–12 hr private sector shifts**, aligning with Karnataka & Tamil Nadu.
- Ahmednagar Railway Station** renamed '**Ahilyanagar**' to honor Queen Ahilyabai Holkar.
- Pimpri-Chinchwad hosted **largest Dhol-Tasha event** honoring 180-ft **Sambhaji Maharaj** statue.

Manipur

- Justice M. Sundar** sworn in as **10th Chief Justice** of Manipur High Court (Sept 15).
- Manipur Zoo** achieved **India's first artificial incubation of Asian Giant Tortoise** – 28 hatchlings.
- 14th Hathei Chilli Festival** celebrated with GI-tagged chilli promotion & plantation drive.

Madhya Pradesh

- PM Modi launched ₹1.22 lakh crore projects** in Banskara incl. nuclear, solar, irrigation, rail & road.
- PM Mitra Park** inaugurated in Dhar to boost textiles, exports & women empowerment.

Odisha

- Odisha ranked **5th with 450 e-buses**; CRUT to expand to **1,000+** with smart ticketing & QR/NCMC.

Tamil Nadu

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched **₹59 crore green hydrogen pilot plant** & port infra projects at **Tuticorin Port**.
- 5 lakh SHG women** issued **ID cards** ensuring loans & travel concessions.
- State launched '**Anbu Karangal**' scheme for orphaned children.

Tripura

- PM Modi inaugurated redeveloped Tripura Sundari Temple (₹7 crore)** featuring replicas of 51 Shaktipeethas.

Uttarakhand

- ₹1,200 crore flood relief package** announced by PM Modi.
- India & ADB signed \$126.4 million loan** for sustainable tourism in Tehri Garhwal (benefiting 87,000).

Punjab

- ₹1,600 crore relief package** announced for flood-hit Punjab by PM Modi (supplement to ₹12,000 crore earlier aid).

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

ALL EXAMS, ONE SUBSCRIPTION.









Jammu & Kashmir

- **NITI Aayog** announced ₹100 crore for **500 Atal Tinkering Labs** to boost student innovation.

Andhra Pradesh (extra)

- **India's first AI Command Centre** inaugurated at Tirumala by CM Chandrababu Naidu for pilgrim management.

North-East (Regional)

- **PM Modi** to inaugurate ₹8,000 crore **Aizawl rail line** connecting Mizoram to Indian Railways for the first time.

September Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- India's **first tempered glass facility** inaugurated in **Noida** (Optimus & Corning), ₹70 crore investment, 25 million units/year Phase 1 capacity.
- India's **first MLFF tolling system** launched at **Choryasi, Gujarat** for barrier-free FASTag tolling.
- **Adi Vaani AI Translator** launched for **Santali, Bhili, Mundari, Gondi** tribal languages.
- **NCERT** celebrated **65th Foundation Day** with **Bal Vatika TV Channel, DIKSHA 2.0, PRASHAST 2.0**.
- India unveiled **Vikram-3201**, its first indigenously developed **32-bit microprocessor** for space use.
- **PM Modi & Singapore PM** inaugurated **PSA Mumbai Terminal Phase-II**, India's **largest container terminal** with 4.8M TEU capacity.
- **Swacchotsav 2025**: Govt launched a fortnight-long cleanliness drive (Sept 17–Oct 2) focusing on clean festivities & SafaiMitra protection.
- **Power Testing Lab**: Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar inaugurated CPRI's Regional Testing Lab in Nashik.
- **Adi Sanskriti Platform**: Tribal Affairs Ministry launched digital learning platform with 45+ courses & 5,000+ cultural assets.
- **Atal Innovation Centre Abroad**: Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated India's first overseas Atal Innovation Centre at IIT Delhi–Abu Dhabi campus.
- **IIM Ahmedabad Global Campus**: IIMA opened its first international campus in Dubai with a 35-student MBA programme.
- **SAJEX 2025**: Saudi Arabia Jewellery Exposition launched in Jeddah with 200+ exhibitors targeting GCC markets.
- **Gyan Bharatam Portal**: PM Modi launched portal to digitize manuscripts & promote global research collaboration.
- **Shri Vivekanand Gupta** becomes first Indian in **World Bank-Milken PFAM Program 2025-26** at Bayes Business School, London.
- **India & Mauritius** to build **satellite tracking station** near **Diego Garcia** with ₹680 crore package.

- **IRCTC** reserves first **15 minutes** of ticket booking for **Aadhaar-verified users** from **Oct 1, 2025**.
- **Amit Shah** inaugurates **India's largest ₹825 crore sports complex** in **Ahmedabad**.
- **Yatri Sewa Diwas 2025** launched to improve **airport passenger experience**.
- **India & FAO** launch **Smart Blue Ports project** to modernize fishing harbours.
- **NaMo App** launches **Seva Parv 2025** campaign for **PM Modi's birthday**.
- **MNRE** unveils **India's first National Geothermal Policy** to tap **10 GW potential**.
- **IRDAI** to launch **Bima Sugam** (digital insurance platform) in **Dec 2025**.
- **GST Reforms 2025**: PM Modi announces simplified GST with only 5% & 18% slabs, essentials at 0–5%.
- **Industrial Park Rating System 3.0**: New benchmarks on sustainability, digitalization & logistics.
- **LEADS 2025**: Logistics benchmarking system to make India globally competitive by 2047.
- **LDB 2.0**: Advanced digital platform for real-time container tracking with high-seas monitoring.
- **Ocean Exploration Rights**: India secures 15-year contracts for Polymetallic Sulphides in Carlsberg Ridge.
- **Adi Karmayogi Chapters**: Tribal Affairs Ministry launches student leadership initiative at IITs, IIMs & AIIMS.
- **GST Appellate Tribunal**: GSTAT launched with Principal Bench in Delhi & 31 State Benches.
- **EV Truck Fleet at JNPA**: India's first electric heavy truck fleet with swappable batteries flagged off.
- **Ayurveda Food Portal**: FSSAI launches licensing window for 91 standardized Ayurvedic recipes.
- **Swachh Shehar Jodi Initiative**: MoHUA pairs **72 mentor cities** with **200 mentee cities** for structured sanitation mentorship.
- **India's First Integrative Oncology Centre**: Ministry of Ayush inaugurates **IORCC at AIHA Goa** on 10th National Ayurveda Day, blending Ayurveda, Yoga & modern oncology.
- **World Food India 2025**: Attracts **₹1 lakh crore investments** from 26 companies, creating **64,000+ jobs** in food processing sector.

Miscellaneous National News

- India-Japan signed a **Critical Minerals Pact** to boost exploration and supply chain resilience.
- **1,938 e-Government services** integrated across all states/UTs via **DigiLocker & e-District**.
- **IEPFA** launched **Niveshak Didi Phase II** in Hyderabad for rural women's financial literacy.
- **PM Modi** launched **Rajya Jeevika Nidhi** with ₹105 crore for women entrepreneurs in Bihar.





- **Kapas Kisan App** launched to streamline **MSP cotton procurement**.
- **Coconut Development Board** raised sapling aid from ₹4→₹45 and replanting aid from ₹40→₹350.
- **APEDA launched BHARATI Startup Initiative** to support 100 agri-food startups, target \$50B exports by 2030.
- Cabinet approved **₹1,500 crore Critical Mineral Recycling Scheme** targeting 270 KT capacity by 2030-31.
- **UPSC Centre of Excellence** announced as knowledge hub for UPSC & State PSCs.
- **SC Collegium** recommended **26 judges** for Allahabad High Court.
- India introduced **HUID-based silver hallmarking** from September 1, 2025, with new BIS standard.
- Centre notified **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** rules under NPS, reducing service to 20 years.
- President **Droupadi Murmu** conferred **National Awards to Teachers 2025**.
- Govt launched **Angikaar 2025 campaign** under **PMAY-U 2.0**, running till Oct 31 across 5,000+ cities.
- **NITI Aayog** set target to **double pulses production** to 51.57 MT by 2047.
- **Coal Imports:** Fell 16.4% to 21.08 MT in July 2025 due to monsoon slowdown & high stock availability.
- **Road Infrastructure Push:** India unveiled ₹11 lakh crore plan to expand expressways to 17,000 km by 2033.
- **Railway Project:** Cabinet approved ₹3,169 crore Bhagalpur–Dumka–Rampurhat rail line doubling.
- **Namo Bharat Train:** Delhi–Meerut RRTS became India's fastest train at 160 km/h, covering 55 km in under an hour.
- **Great Nicobar Project:** ₹72,000 crore plan to develop strategic maritime & aviation hub.
- **NE & Eastern Projects:** PM Modi launched ₹71,000 crore development projects in Northeast & eastern states.
- **NHPC Chief:** Bhupender Gupta appointed CMD of NHPC Limited.
- **Vice President:** CP Radhakrishnan sworn in as India's 15th Vice President on Sept 12, 2025.
- **Literacy Rate:** India's literacy rose to 80.9% in 2023-24 from 74% in 2011.
- **Army Flood Rescue:** Operation Rahat evacuated 6,000+ people & gave medical aid to 13,000+.
- **Army SAMBHAV System:** Indigenous 5G system with encryption replaced WhatsApp in Operation Sindoor.
- **India–Mauritius Ties:** 7 MoUs signed in Science, Tech, Oceanography & Space cooperation.
- **Immigration Fast Track:** FTI-TTP expanded to 13 airports enabling 30-second clearance.
- **Purple Fest 2025:** Celebrated disability inclusion on Sept 10–11 by ISLRTC & Amity University.
- **Renewable Milestone:** India achieved 250 GW non-fossil capacity; target 500 GW by 2030.
- **National Surveys:** NSO to conduct AIDIS & SAS surveys (July 2026–June 2027) on finance & agriculture.
- **Seven Indian sites** including **Deccan Traps, Tirumala Hills, Meghalayan Age Caves** added to **UNESCO Tentative List** (total 69).
- **Shankar**, India's **only African elephant**, dies after **13 years** of isolation.
- First **Hilsa consignment** from **Bangladesh** reaches India, **lowest since 2019**.
- India records **1% drop in CO₂ emissions** from **power sector** in **early 2025**.
- **EC updates EVM ballot** with **colour photos, uniform font, NOTA last**; rollout begins in **Bihar**.
- **Tirumala Hills & Erra Matti Dibbalu** enter **UNESCO Tentative List** for protection.
- **Prof. Pradeep Kumar Prajapati** appointed **Director of AIIA** (All India Institute of Ayurveda).
- **Centre** appoints **35 Joint Secretaries**; **Pawan Kumar Sharma** becomes **Deputy Election Commissioner**.
- **Vishakha Mulye** named **MD & CEO** of **Aditya Birla Capital** for **5 years** from **Sept 1, 2025**.
- **EC de-lists 474 political parties**, probes **359** for **non-compliance**.
- **India** commemorates **60 years of 1965 Indo-Pak War**, honouring **veterans**.
- **Neo-Middle Class Defined:** PM Modi identifies 25 crore citizens as aspirational “Neo-Middle Class.”
- **Core Industries Growth:** Eight core sectors grow 6.3% in Aug 2025, led by Steel & Coal.
- **PRAGATI Meeting:** PM reviews 8 infra projects worth ₹65,000 crore in 49th PRAGATI session.
- **Railway Bonus:** Cabinet approves 78-day PLB worth ₹1,865.68 crore for 10.91 lakh staff.
- **Silver Import Curbs:** Govt restricts silver & unstudded jewellery imports till March 2026.
- **Make in India @11:** Initiative completes 11 years since its 2014 launch, boosting self-reliance.
- **Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, Himachal Pradesh:** Joins **UNESCO World Network**, India's 13th Biosphere Reserve; Bihar adds **2 new Ramsar sites** (total 93).
- **Cheetah Milestone at Kuno:** Mukhi becomes first **India-born cheetah to reach adulthood**, with 61% cub survival; population expands to **27 cheetahs**.
- **UNESCO Recognition for Sacred Theatres:** Kutiyattam, Mudi yettu, Ramman & Ramlila inscribed as **Intangible Cultural Heritage** of Humanity.
- **EV Safety Regulation:** **Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System (AVAS)** mandatory for EVs from **Oct 1, 2027**; new models from Oct 2026.



National Current Affairs of August 2025

India's Top 10 Safest Cities 2025: Check If Your City Made the List

Safety is one of the most crucial factors in determining a city's livability, and in 2025, India's urban safety map has shown some interesting patterns. According to the mid-2025 Numbeo Safety Index, India ranked 67th globally with a safety score of 55.8. While the overall national ranking leaves room for improvement, some cities have emerged as beacons of safety, offering their residents a secure and peaceful environment.

The latest report places Mangalore at the top of the list as India's safest city, followed closely by Vadodara, Ahmedabad, and Surat—showcasing Gujarat's strong presence in safety rankings. On the flip side, cities in the National Capital Region (NCR) like Delhi, Noida, and Ghaziabad continue to face major safety challenges.

Top 10 Safest Cities in India 2025

The Numbeo Safety Index evaluates cities based on factors such as crime rates, law enforcement efficiency, and public perceptions of safety. A higher Safety Index indicates lower crime and better public security.

India Rank	City, State	Safety Index	Crime Index	Global Rank
1	Mangalore, Karnataka	74.2	25.8	49
2	Vadodara, Gujarat	69.2	30.8	85
3	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	68.2	31.8	93
4	Surat, Gujarat	66.6	33.4	106
5	Jaipur, Rajasthan	65.2	34.8	118
6	Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	63.5	36.8	126
7	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	61.1	38.9	149
8	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	60.3	37.9	158
9	Pune, Maharashtra	58.7	41.3	167
10	Chandigarh	57.4	42.6	175

Highlights

- Mangalore not only tops in India but ranks 49th globally for safety.
- Gujarat dominates the list with three entries—Vadodara, Ahmedabad, and Surat.
- Southern cities like Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, and Mangalore perform well, reflecting better urban governance and community discipline.

The Other Side of the Coin – Least Safe Cities

While the top cities shine in terms of safety, the National Capital Region continues to lag. Delhi, Noida, and Ghaziabad remain among India's least safe cities, with high crime rates and safety concerns impacting residents' quality of life.

How India Compares Globally

Globally, Abu Dhabi continues to hold the crown as the world's safest city for the ninth consecutive year, with a stellar safety index of 88.8. The list of the world's safest cities is dominated by the Middle East, with Doha, Dubai, and Sharjah also in the top five.

Top 5 Safest Cities in the World (2025)

1. Abu Dhabi, UAE – 88.8
2. Doha, Qatar – 84.3
3. Dubai, UAE – 83.9
4. Sharjah, UAE – 83.7
5. Taipei, Taiwan – 83.6

How the Safety Rankings Were Calculated

The Numbeo Safety Index is based on public perceptions of safety in daily life, both during the daytime and at night. Respondents rate their cities based on experiences and concerns related to,

- **Personal safety:** Risk of mugging, robbery, car theft, physical attacks by strangers, and harassment in public places.
- **Discrimination:** Based on factors like skin colour, ethnicity, gender, or religion.
- **Property crimes:** Including vandalism, burglary, and theft.
- **Violent crimes:** Such as assault and homicide.

These inputs are then converted into a Safety Index (higher scores mean safer cities) and a Crime Index (higher scores mean less safe).

Revised Income Tax Bill, 2025: What Taxpayers and Investors Need to Know

Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has formally withdrawn the old draft of the Income Tax Bill, 2025, from the Lok Sabha and introduced a revised version in Parliament. This new draft is the result of extensive feedback and scrutiny, including around **285 recommendations** from a Select Committee, aiming to modernize and simplify India's direct tax framework, replacing the existing Income Tax Act, 1961.

Why Was the Earlier Bill Withdrawn?

The original bill, introduced during the Parliament's Budget session in February 2025, was immediately referred to a Select Committee for thorough review. Major reasons for withdrawal:

- **Drafting inconsistencies** and technical errors needed correction.
- **Terminology clarifications** and improved legal language were necessary to convey the correct legislative intent.
- **Stakeholder and committee feedback** was extensive, demanding a consolidated, clearer bill that avoids confusion between multiple versions.

Structure and Key Features of the New Bill

- **Simplified Language:** The bill's legal terminology has been rewritten for clarity. Provisions that were ambiguous or contradictory have been removed to reduce disputes—a common issue under the old law.



- **Organized Provisions:** There are now **536 sections and 16 schedules** organized for easy navigation, compared to the older act's 298 sections.
- **Introduction of "Tax Year":** The new bill attempts to **eliminate the dual system** of "Previous Year" and "Assessment Year," introducing the concept of a single "Tax Year" for better clarity and administration.
- **Digital-first Approach:** The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) gets enhanced powers to make rules promoting digital administration and automation, including faceless processes to reduce the scope for corruption and unnecessary litigation.
- **No Immediate Tax Slab Changes:** The revised bill **does not change tax rates** or income categories at this stage but focuses on simplifying processes and paperwork.

Major Select Committee Recommendations

The Select Committee's detailed 4,500-page report suggested significant reforms. Key recommendations now likely included in the revised bill:

Taxpayer Benefits & Relief

- **Refunds on Late Returns:** Taxpayers can now claim refunds even if their returns are filed after the deadline, helping individuals who miss filing due to genuine reasons.
- **Dividend Deduction (Section 80M):** Reintroduction of inter-corporate dividend deductions, easing tax burden on companies receiving dividends from other domestic companies.
- **NIL-TDS Facility:** Taxpayers with no tax liability can obtain advance NIL-TDS (tax deducted at source) certificates, reducing compliance hassle.
- **Tax Relief for Vacant Property:** Additional tax burden based on deemed rent for vacant house properties is removed.
- **Clear 30% Deduction for House Property:** The deduction is now applicable only after subtracting municipal taxes; also, home-loan interest deduction is available for let-out (rented) properties.

Compliance & Procedural Changes

- **Simplified Advance Ruling Fees:** Making advance tax rulings more accessible by altering the fee structure.
- **Clarifications on Penal Powers and TDS:** Clear rules about when penalties apply, especially for provident fund withdrawal and other procedural aspects.
- **Definition Alignment:** MSME (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) definition is now linked directly to the MSME Act, reducing confusion.
- **Legal Drafting Improvements:** Numerous linguistic and technical errors have been corrected, including clause numbering and property terminology.
- **Expanded Pension Deduction:** Commuted pension deduction (previously only for employees) is now extended to non-employee individuals.

Top 10 Changes at a Glance

1. Refund claim possible even for late returns.
2. Reintroduction of Section 80M deduction for inter-corporate dividends.
3. Facility for NIL-TDS certificates to those with no liability.
4. Removal of 'deemed rent' tax for vacant properties.
5. Clear calculation of 30% deduction after municipal taxes for house property.
6. Extension of home-loan interest deduction to let-out properties.
7. Improved transparency and clarity in procedural rules.
8. Alignment of MSME definition with the MSME Act.
9. Correction of legal language and clause references.
10. Wider scope for commuted pension deduction to non-employee individuals.

What Does It Mean for Taxpayers and Investors?

- **Simplification and Transparency:** The bill aims to make tax compliance easier, with fewer technical hurdles and clearer rules. This helps taxpayers plan their finances with more certainty and reduces disputes with tax authorities.
- **Reduced Litigation:** Many ambiguous provisions that often led to legal battles have been removed, and the law is now organized to reduce opportunities for misinterpretation.
- **Support for Digital India:** The emphasis on digital processes and automation will make tax filing and refunds quicker, improve convenience, and support a faceless, corruption-free environment.
- **Investor Confidence:** By clearly aligning definitions (such as MSMEs and house property), the bill promotes investment by reducing uncertainties in tax rules affecting businesses and individuals.

Operation Sindoor: Gallantry Awards Announced for Armed Forces Heroes

On the eve of Independence Day 2025, the Government of India announced gallantry awards for officers of the Indian Armed Forces who played pivotal roles in Operation Sindoor—a tri-services mission targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The awards recognise exceptional bravery, operational excellence, and distinguished service during one of India's most decisive counter-terrorism missions.

Background: Operation Sindoor

Operation Sindoor was launched in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack, which killed 26 civilians. The attack was claimed by The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy for Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

The operation involved coordinated Army, Navy, and Air Force action,





- The Indian Army destroyed nine terrorist bases linked to Jaish-e-Mohammed, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Hizbul Mujahideen in Pakistan and PoK.
- The Indian Air Force executed precision strikes on four targets inside Pakistan and five in PoK.
- The Indian Navy provided operational support from Indian soil.

Major Awards Announced

1. Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal (SYSM) – Highest wartime distinguished service award

Awarded to four officers, including senior IAF leadership,

1. Air Marshal Narnadeshwar Tiwari – Air Staff
 2. Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra – Western Air Commander
 3. Air Marshal Awadhesh Bharti – DG Air Operations
 4. Vice Admiral SJ Singh – Former Western Naval Commander
- Additionally, two senior Indian Army officers were selected for SYSM.

2. Uttam Yudh Seva Medal (UYSM)

Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti – Deputy Chief of Naval Staff

3. Yudh Seva Medal (YSM) – For distinguished service during war

Thirteen IAF officers, including,

1. Air Vice Marshal Joseph Soares
2. Air Vice Marshal Prajwal Singh
3. Air Commodore Ashok Raj Thakur

4. Vayu Sena Medal (VM) – For exceptional courage in air operations

Awarded to 26 officers, such as,

1. Group Captain Ankur Hakim
2. Group Captain Varun Bhoj (Flying)
3. Wing Commander Mayank Paliwal (Flying)
4. Squadron Leader Kaustubh Nalawade (Flying)
5. Flight Lieutenant A. Naveen Chandar (Administration/Fighter Controller)

5. Veer Chakra – Gallantry award for acts of exceptional bravery

Awarded to officers including,

1. Group Captain Ranjeet Singh Sidhu
2. Group Captain Manish Arora
3. Squadron Leader Sarthak Kumar
4. Flight Lieutenant Arshweer Singh Thakur

Significance

These honours not only commend individual bravery and skill but also mark Operation Sindoor as a milestone in India's counter-terrorism operations. The mission showcased,

- Tri-services coordination
- Indigenous operational capability under Atmanirbhar Bharat
- Strategic precision strikes without crossing international borders

PM Modi's 79th Independence Day Whole Speech Key Points: Roadmap to a Viksit Bharat 2047

On August 15, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the longest Independence Day address in India's history—a 103-minute speech from the Red Fort—presenting a comprehensive vision for Viksit Bharat 2047. With a strong emphasis on self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat), technological innovation, and citizen empowerment, PM Modi detailed strategic reforms and flagship initiatives across defence, economy, agriculture, energy, and space, positioning India as a confident global leader.

Key Announcements & Policy Highlights

1. Strategic Autonomy and Security

- **Operation Sindoor:** Conducted after the Pahalgam attack using entirely Made-in-India weapons to dismantle Pakistan-based terror networks, sending a message that India will not accept nuclear blackmail.
- **Indus Waters Treaty Stand:** "Blood and water will not flow together" – signalling India's intent to safeguard its water resources for domestic use.
- **Mission Sudarshan Chakra:** Development of an advanced weapon system to ensure rapid, precise defence responses; a nationwide security shield by 2035.

2. Atmanirbhar Bharat & Technological Self-Reliance

- **Made-in-India Semiconductor:** First domestic chip to be rolled out in 2025.
- **Opening Nuclear Sector to Private Players** to boost innovation and energy generation.
- **Call to Innovate:** Youth urged to design indigenous jet engines, social media platforms, fertilisers, and other critical technologies.

3. Energy & Resource Independence

- **National Critical Minerals Mission:** Exploration of 1,200 sites for key industrial and defence minerals.
- **National Deepwater Exploration Mission:** Harnessing offshore energy to cut foreign fuel dependence.
- **Clean Energy Milestone:** India reached 50% clean energy target in 2025, five years ahead of schedule.
- **Nuclear Expansion:** Plan to increase nuclear capacity 10-fold by 2047 with 10 reactors under construction.

4. Economic & Governance Reforms

- **Next-Generation Economic Reforms Task Force:** Overhaul of laws and regulations.
- **Removal of 40,000+ compliances and 1,500 outdated laws.**
- **GST Reform by Diwali 2025: Lower taxes on essentials to benefit MSMEs and local vendors.**

5. Employment & Demographic Dividend

- **PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana:** ₹1 lakh crore scheme, ₹15,000 to newly employed youth, targeting 3 crore beneficiaries.
- **Focus on converting India's demographic potential into economic strength.**



6. Healthcare & Pharma Leadership

- Push for medicine self-reliance; India to develop its own vaccines and life-saving drugs.
- Encouragement for researchers to secure patents for pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

7. Agriculture & Rural Prosperity

- Recognition of farmers as “backbone of India’s prosperity”.
- PM Dhanya Dhanya Krishi Yojana for 100 backward farming districts.
- India ranks #1 in milk, pulses, jute; #2 in rice, wheat, cotton, fruits, vegetables.
- Agricultural exports have crossed ₹4 lakh crore.

8. Space & Innovation Leadership

- Indian Space Station preparations underway.
- Over 300 space startups innovating in satellite technology and deep space missions.

9. National Integrity & Border Security

- High-Powered Demography Mission to address illegal infiltration and protect border livelihoods.

Vision for Viksit Bharat 2047

PM Modi’s roadmap envisions,

- Technological dominance in critical sectors
- Complete energy self-reliance
- Globally competitive agriculture
- Citizen-led innovation
- Secure borders and internal stability

Ambanis Lead 2025 Hurun India Most Valuable Family Businesses List

India’s family-owned business dynasties continue to dominate the economic landscape, with the Ambani family topping the

2025 Barclays Private Clients Hurun India Most Valuable Family Businesses list for the second year in a row. With a staggering valuation of ₹28.2 lakh crore, nearly one-twelfth of India’s GDP, the Ambanis remain far ahead of their peers in both scale and influence.

The Birla and Jindal families followed in second and third positions, highlighting the enduring power of legacy-driven enterprises in India’s rapidly evolving economy.

Ambanis at the Helm with ₹28.2 Lakh Crore

Led by Mukesh Ambani, the Reliance Industries empire continues to dominate across energy, telecom, retail, and digital platforms. Founded in 1957, Reliance remains at the heart of India’s industrial might. The Ambanis’ wealth rose 10% year-on-year, underscoring consistent growth even amid global uncertainties. Birlas and Jindals Secure the Next Spots

Kumar Mangalam Birla Family – ₹6.5 Lakh Crore

Rising to second place, the Aditya Birla Group, a fourth-generation conglomerate, expanded its valuation by ₹1.1 lakh crore this year. With roots tracing back to the 1850s, the group’s legacy spans cement, telecom, aluminium, and financial services.

Jindal Family – ₹5.7 Lakh Crore

Spearheaded by Sajjan Jindal, JSW Steel helped the Jindals jump to the third spot. Their 21% growth this year reflects the booming metals and mining sector, essential to India’s infrastructure surge.

Top 10 Indian Family Businesses in 2025

The combined valuation of the top three families—Ambani, Birla, and Jindal—is ₹40.4 lakh crore, equivalent to the GDP of the Philippines.

Rank	Family Name	Company	Valuation (In Crore)	Leader	Sector
1	Ambani	Reliance Industries	28,23,100	Mukesh Ambani	Energy
2	Birla	Aditya Birla Group	6,47,700	Kumar Mangalam Birla	Cement
3	Jindal	JSW Steel	5,70,900	Sajjan Jindal	Metals
4	Bajaj	Bajaj Group	5,64,200	Sanjiv Bajaj	Financial Services
5	Mahindra	Mahindra & Mahindra	5,43,800	Anand Mahindra	Automobiles
6	Nadar	HCL Technologies	4,68,900	Roshni Nadar Malhotra	IT Services
7	Murugappa	Cholamandalam Finance	2,92,400	Vellayan Subbiah	Finance
8	Premji	Wipro	2,78,600	Rishad Premji	IT Services
9	Anil Agarwal	Hindustan Zinc	2,55,000	Anil Agarwal	Metals
10	Dani-Choksi-Vakil	Asian Paints	2,20,900	R. Seshasayee	Chemicals

Trends and Insights

- The threshold to enter the Top 10 jumped by ₹18,700 crore, signaling intense value creation
- The Anil Agarwal family (Hindustan Zinc) saw a 79% rise, marking the highest growth in 2025

- Energy, financial services, and software remain the dominant wealth engines
- Several families operate in multi-generational leadership structures, reflecting long-term governance stability



RBI's FREE-AI Framework: Shaping Ethical AI in the Indian Financial Sector

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rewiring financial services, from **fraud detection** to **credit underwriting**, but without clear guardrails, it can magnify risks. To steer this transition, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** set up a committee in **December 2024** to craft the **Framework for Responsible and Ethical Enablement of AI (FREE-AI)** for the financial sector. The goal is simple but ambitious: **enable innovation while protecting trust, fairness, and stability**.

Committee, Mandate, and Methodology

Chaired by **Dr. Pushpak Bhattacharyya (IIT Bombay)** with members spanning policy, industry and academia, the Committee was tasked to assess adoption, review global approaches, identify risks, and recommend a governance framework tailored to India. It used a **four-pronged method**: wide **stakeholder engagements**, two **national surveys** (DoS and FTD) across banks/NBFCs/FinTechs, a scan of **global standards and laws**, and a gap analysis of **existing RBI guidelines** (IT, cybersecurity, outsourcing, digital lending, and consumer protection).

The Opportunity: Where AI Adds Value

AI promises **productivity gains** via process automation, **personalised customer experience** (multilingual chat/voice), sharper **risk analytics**, and **financial inclusion** using alternative data. India's diversity argues for **multilingual, domain-tuned models** (including efficient **SLMs** and LTD "trinity" models), and a **GenAI innovation sandbox** to speed safe experimentation.

The Risk Landscape: What Can Go Wrong

The report flags model and operational risks—**bias, opacity, hallucinations, model drift, data poisoning**, adversarial prompts, and **third-party concentration**. It notes systemic concerns (herding, **procyclicality**) and cybersecurity threats (automated phishing, deepfakes). Liability in non-deterministic systems is complex, and **consumer protection** requires clear disclosures and contestability of AI-led decisions.

RANKERS

BATCH

FOR MAINS

FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025



Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm

Global Policy Context and India's Stance

Approaches vary: the **EU AI Act** uses horizontal, risk-tiered rules; **Singapore** blends toolkits (FEAT/Veritas) with guidance; **UK/US** lean principle-based; **China** regulates by AI type. India's line is **pro-innovation with safeguards**, backed by the **IndiaAI Mission (₹10,372 crore)** and the **AI Safety Institute (AISi)** to evaluate models and promote **safe, trusted AI**.

Seven Sutras (Core Principles) and Six Strategic Pillars

The Committee crystallises adoption around seven Sutras: **Trust, People First, Innovation over Restraint, Fairness & Equity, Accountability, Understandable by Design, and Safety, Resilience & Sustainability**. These are operationalised through six Pillars that pair **enablement** with **risk control**:

- **Infrastructure**: shared **data/compute**, **AI Innovation Sandbox**, sector models.
- **Policy**: proportional, risk-based guidance; clarity on outsourcing and vendor AI.
- **Capacity**: board to frontline **AI literacy**, Centers of Excellence, shared playbooks.
- **Governance**: board-approved **AI policy**, lifecycle controls, documentation.
- **Protection**: consumer **disclosures**, fairness testing, human-in-the-loop.
- **Assurance**: **cybersecurity** augmentation, incident reporting, independent audits.

Twenty-Six Recommendations: What RBI Wants Done (Essentials)

The report clusters actionable steps, notably: create **shared compute/data rails**; launch a **GenAI sandbox**; encourage **indigenous financial-grade models**; require **board-approved AI policies**; extend **product approval** and **audit** scopes to cover AI; strengthen **AI-specific cybersecurity** and **incident reporting**; ensure customers are **told when engaging with AI**; share sector **best practices**; and allow **lighter compliance** for clearly **low-risk** uses to spur inclusion.

Survey Insights: Current Adoption and Gaps

Adoption remains shallow: only **20.8%** (127/612) supervised entities use or are developing AI. **Tier-1 UCBs: 0%**; Tier-2/3 UCBs **<10%**; among **NBFCs**, **27%** report usage; **ARCs: 0%**. Typical production/POC use cases: **customer support (15.6%)**, **credit underwriting (13.7%)**, **sales/marketing (11.8%)**, **cybersecurity (10.6%)**. **35%** favour the **public cloud** for scalability. Governance maturity is low: only **~1/3** have **board-level oversight**; **~1/4** have formal **incident handling**. On tooling and controls: **SHAP/LIME 15%**, **audit logs 18%**, **bias validation 35%** (mostly pre-deployment), **periodic retraining 37%**, **drift monitoring 21%**, **real-time monitoring 14%**. Barriers cited: **talent gaps, costs/compute, data quality, and legal uncertainty**.

What these numbers mean: India risks a two-speed AI economy where large banks move ahead and smaller UCBs/NBFCs lag—precisely why **shared infra, clear guidance, and capacity building** are central to FREE-AI.



How FREE-AI Interlocks with Existing RBI Rules

The report clarifies fitment with **outsourcing** (vendor AI still needs RE accountability, with AI-specific clauses), **IT/cybersecurity** (extend controls to models, data pipelines, access/audit trails), **digital lending** (auditable, explainable credit models; **data minimisation/consent**), and **consumer protection** (disclosures, grievance redress against AI outcomes). It also proposes model registers, lineage, and traceability to aid supervision.

Way Forward (Exam-Ready Pointers)

Priorities include: operationalising the **AI Sandbox**; issuing a **board-policy template** and **incident reporting format**; promoting **multilingual inclusion models**; scaling **sector training** (boards, risk, audit, tech); and enabling **transparent, auditable** AI with **bias checks** and **human appeal** routes. For low-risk use (e.g., FAQ chat), a **proportional compliance** path can accelerate adoption without diluting safety.

Online Gaming Bill 2025 Passed: E-Sports Encouraged, Real Money Gaming Banned

Lok Sabha passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, marking a transformative moment for India's digital entertainment landscape. The Bill aims to promote e-sports and online social games, while prohibiting harmful online money gaming platforms that have been linked to addiction, financial ruin, and even suicides. This legislation establishes a central regulatory framework to guide the development of the sector while protecting vulnerable users, particularly the youth.

Key Features of the Online Gaming Bill

Three Broad Categories

- The Bill divides online gaming into three major segments:
- E-sports, which are skill-based, competitive digital games played professionally.
- Online social games, played for recreation without monetary rewards.
- Online money games, involving stakes or deposits promising financial returns.

Encouragement and Regulation

- E-sports and social gaming are actively promoted, with the Bill calling for the creation of an Online Gaming Authority.
- The authority will provide policy coordination, regulatory oversight, and strategic development, including support for game developers and infrastructure building.

Strict Ban on Online Money Games

- A complete ban is placed on offering, operating, or facilitating real money online games, including games like Rummy, Poker, and other card-based gambling apps.
- These platforms often manipulate users with promises of easy money and are now associated with growing instances of suicide, financial distress, and fraud.

Penalties and Enforcement Mechanism

Criminal Liability

- Violation of the online money gaming provisions can result in up to three years imprisonment, a fine of ₹1 crore, or both.
- Repeat offences will invite harsher penalties — including three to five years' imprisonment and fines up to ₹2 crores.

National-Level Legal Framework

- The Bill establishes a uniform national framework, ending the legal ambiguity that previously allowed such platforms to proliferate.
- It empowers the central government to regulate and restrict online money games in the public interest and in alignment with national security objectives.

Why This Bill Was Necessary

Explosive Growth with Little Regulation

- The past decade of digital expansion has seen a surge in online gaming platforms, many offering real money-based games under the guise of skill gaming.
- The lack of a legal framework led to unregulated growth, creating psychological and financial harm for users.

Social Consequences

- 32 suicides in the last 31 months have been directly linked to financial losses in real money games.
- Families across the country have reported bankruptcy, debt, and mental health disorders due to these platforms.

Economic and Security Risks

- Investigations revealed the use of online money gaming platforms in money laundering and even terror financing, triggering national security alarms.

Government's Vision and Support

- Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw emphasized that this Bill aligns with the vision of a Digital India that is safe, innovative, and responsible. He noted:
- The rise of start-ups in digital gaming must be supported with a robust regulatory environment.
- The Bill ensures that creativity and entrepreneurship in digital entertainment are encouraged without compromising public welfare.

Speaker's Endorsement

- Speaker Om Birla underlined the urgency of the law, highlighting public demands for action against online gaming abuse and urging cooperation from all parties to support this critical legislation.





List of Outcomes of PM Modi's Visit to Japan 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Japan (29–30 August 2025) marked a historic milestone in India-Japan bilateral ties. Participating in the 15th Annual India-Japan Summit, the leaders of both nations unveiled a comprehensive list of strategic agreements designed to power the next decade of cooperation. From defense and digital technology to space exploration and clean energy, the visit laid the foundation for security, prosperity, and sustainability for future generations.

Strategic Vision: The Blueprint for the Next Decade

A central highlight was the India-Japan Joint Vision for the Next Decade, which outlines cooperation in eight key sectors,

- Economy
- Economic security
- Green growth
- Technology and innovation
- Health
- Mobility
- People-to-people ties
- State-prefecture collaboration

This vision will serve as a roadmap until 2035, steering joint efforts in strategic, economic, and social development.

Strengthening Defense and Security

India and Japan adopted a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, upgrading defense ties to address modern threats. The move strengthens the ongoing alignment under the Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

Additionally, defense collaboration will extend through the India-Japan Human Resource Exchange Plan, aiming to facilitate the movement of 500,000 personnel, including 50,000 skilled workers from India over the next five years.

Technological Collaboration and Digital Future

A defining outcome was the India-Japan Digital Partnership 2.0, backed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that expands cooperation in,

- AI, semiconductors, IoT, and digital public infrastructure
- Talent development and startup incubation
- Research and joint innovation programs

Also launched was the India-Japan AI Initiative, which fosters cooperation on Large Language Models (LLMs) and supports the development of a trustworthy AI ecosystem.

Space and Science: Aiming for the Moon

The two countries finalized the Implementing Arrangement on the Chandrayaan-5 Lunar Polar Mission, deepening collaboration between ISRO and JAXA. Additional scientific engagements include,

- Joint Statement of Intent on Science and Technology
- Exchanges under the LOTUS Programme and Sakura Science
- Enhanced support for researchers and joint startups in quantum tech, biotech, and geospatial sciences

Economic Security and Critical Minerals

A key outcome was the India-Japan Economic Security Initiative, which focuses on,

- Supply chain resilience
- Cooperation in clean energy, semiconductors, telecom, critical minerals
- Development of joint stockpiles and processing technologies

The partnership is backed by a private investment goal of ¥10 trillion over the next decade.

Clean Energy and Sustainability

India and Japan are stepping up green cooperation through,

- The Joint Declaration on Clean Hydrogen and Ammonia
- A Memorandum on the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) for decarbonization
- A new Sustainable Fuel Initiative focused on biogas and biofuels
- MoUs on domestic wastewater management and environmental protection

Enhancing Connectivity and Mobility

- The launch of the Next-Generation Mobility Partnership promotes railways, aviation, shipping, and logistics under the Make in India banner.
- A focus on state-prefecture ties included plans for high-level bilateral exchanges and business forums in the Kansai and Kyushu regions.

Cultural and People-Centric Diplomacy

To nurture societal ties, India and Japan signed a Cultural Exchange MoU, promoting,

- Art exhibitions
- Museum partnerships
- Preservation practices

Education and foreign service ties will grow through an MoU between India's Sushma Swaraj Institute and Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

15th India-Japan Annual Summit Joint Statement

At a time of rising global uncertainty, India and Japan reaffirmed their deep-rooted friendship and unveiled a bold vision for a secure, innovative, and prosperous future. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official visit to Japan (August 29–30, 2025) for the 15th Annual India-Japan Summit, both nations strengthened their Special Strategic and Global Partnership with a sweeping array of agreements in defense, trade, technology, and people-to-people cooperation. Hosted by Japanese Prime Minister Ishiba Shigeru, the summit marked a defining moment in bilateral relations.

A Decade of Strategic Growth

Both leaders reflected on the decade-long expansion of India-Japan ties, rooted in shared democratic values, civilizational bonds, and a common strategic outlook. With over 70 ongoing dialogue mechanisms, the relationship has evolved into one of Asia's most dynamic bilateral partnerships, encompassing areas from maritime security to clean technology.



Three Pillars of Cooperation: Defense, Economy, and Exchange
The summit introduced three priority areas to shape cooperation over the next decade.

1. Defense and Security Cooperation

- Adoption of a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation to elevate defense ties.
- Military exchanges and joint exercises like Veer Guardian, Tarang Shakti, and MILAN enhanced interoperability.
- Renewed commitment to joint defense technology development and maritime security.

2. Economic and Technological Partnership

- Launch of the India-Japan Economic Security Initiative focusing on critical goods, supply chain resilience, and cooperation in areas like semiconductors, telecom, and pharmaceuticals.
- Signing of a Memorandum on Critical Minerals, boosting industrial collaboration.
- Target set for ¥10 trillion Japanese private investment in India, doubling the previous goal.
- Upgradation of the India-Japan CEPA to foster more dynamic trade ties.

3. People-to-People and Talent Mobility

- Launch of an Action Plan for Human Resource Exchange to facilitate the exchange of 500,000 individuals, including 50,000 skilled professionals from India to Japan in five years.
- Expanded Japanese language and manufacturing skill education initiatives.
- Opening of India's new Consulate in Fukuoka, deepening regional connections.

Digital & AI Innovation: A New Frontier

The summit heralded the beginning of India-Japan Digital Partnership 2.0, enhancing collaboration in,

- AI and Large Language Models (LLMs) via the new AI Cooperation Initiative.
- Joint R&D projects, startup incubation, and establishment of data centers in India.
- Enhanced digital talent exchange programs and industry-academia platforms.

Clean Energy and Infrastructure Collaboration

- Renewed commitment to Clean Energy Partnership, including a Joint Declaration on Clean Hydrogen and Ammonia.
- Japan to introduce Shinkansen E10 trains and signaling systems in India's Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail.
- Support for sustainable growth through the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM).

Global and Regional Cooperation

- The two countries reaffirmed their roles as key Indo-Pacific partners, supporting:
- ASEAN centrality, the Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) vision, and QUAD cooperation.

- Regional projects such as Act East Forum and development in Africa through the Japan-India Cooperation Initiative.

Stance on Global Issues

- Called for peace in Ukraine and Gaza, urging diplomacy and humanitarian assistance.
- Condemned North Korea's ballistic tests, and terrorist attacks including the April 2025 Pahalgam incident.
- Reiterated urgency for UN Security Council reforms, supporting each other's permanent membership bids.

Celebrating Milestones and Looking Ahead

As India and Japan approach the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties in 2027, both leaders agreed to commemorate the milestone with mutual collaborations in science, business, and culture. The India-Japan Year of Science, Technology, and Innovation Exchange (2025) marked the 40th anniversary of their S&T cooperation, including the LUPEX lunar mission and advanced academic programs.

Educate Girls Wins 2025 Ramon Magsaysay Award

On **August 31, 2025**, Educate Girls, officially known as the **Foundation to Educate Girls Globally**, achieved a historic feat by becoming the **first Indian organisation** to win the **Ramon Magsaysay Award**, one of Asia's most prestigious honours. The award recognises the NGO's relentless efforts in transforming the educational landscape for out-of-school girls in India's remotest regions.

This year's other awardees include **Shaahina Ali** from the Maldives for her work in environmental conservation and **Flaviano Antonio L Villanueva** of the Philippines for supporting marginalised communities.

About Educate Girls: Vision and Achievements

Founded in **2007** by **Safeena Husain**, a graduate of the London School of Economics, Educate Girls was born out of a mission to tackle **female illiteracy** in India. Husain left her corporate career in San Francisco and returned to India with a single-minded focus: to bring every girl child into school.

Impact at Scale

Starting in the desert villages of Rajasthan, Educate Girls identified communities most resistant to girls' education. The NGO's grassroots model led to:

- **Enrolment and retention** of over **2 million girls**
- Expansion to **30,000+ villages** across India
- **School retention rate exceeding 90%**

Innovation: Development Impact Bond (DIB)

In **2015**, the NGO pioneered the **world's first Development Impact Bond in education**, linking investor funds to measurable educational outcomes. This model attracted global attention and catalysed scalable interventions in India's rural education sector.





Pragati: Empowering Young Women

Recognising the educational gap among adolescent girls and young women, Educate Girls launched **Pragati**, an open-schooling programme aimed at learners aged 15–29. Starting with 300 participants, the programme now supports **over 31,500 learners**, helping them resume education and access better life opportunities.

Why the Organisation Was Awarded

According to the **Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF)**, Educate Girls was selected for its **"commitment to addressing cultural stereotyping through the education of girls and young women, liberating them from the bondage of illiteracy and infusing them with skills, courage, and agency to achieve their full human potential."**

This recognition reflects the power of grassroots movements and innovative education financing to enact long-lasting social change.

Understanding the Ramon Magsaysay Award

Origins and Prestige

Established in **1957** by the **Rockefeller Brothers Fund** and the **Philippine government**, the **Ramon Magsaysay Award** is often dubbed the **"Asian Nobel Prize."** It celebrates exemplary **leadership, integrity, and public service.**

Over the years, more than **300 individuals and organisations** across Asia have been honoured. Notable past Indian recipients include:

- **Arvind Kejriwal** (former Delhi CM, 2006)
- **Ravish Kumar** (journalist, 2019)
- **Bezwada Wilson** (activist, 2016)
- **Sonam Wangchuk** (environmentalist, 2018)

The Ceremony and Legacy

The award is formally presented each year on **November 7** at the **Metropolitan Theatre in Manila, Philippines**, and commemorates the birth of **Ramon del Fierro Magsaysay**, former President of the Philippines (born **August 31, 1907**). He was a WWII guerrilla leader, automobile mechanic, and a leader who rose from humble beginnings to become a symbol of people-centric governance.

His presidency was marked by anti-corruption reforms and a deep trust in the common citizen's dignity. His untimely death in a plane crash in **1957** gave rise to the award in his memory, celebrating "greatness of spirit" in public service.

Cabinet Approvals

- The **Union Cabinet** approved **four new components** under the **Central Sector Scheme of Special Development Packages (SDPs)** for **Assam and Tripura** with an outlay of **₹4,250 crore**, focusing on **Adivasi villages (₹500 crore)**, **Dimasa areas (₹500 crore)**, **ULFA groups (₹3,000 crore)** in Assam, and **tribal development in Tripura (₹250 crore)**, aimed at peace, infrastructure, employment, and socio-economic upliftment.

- The Cabinet approved the **MERITE Scheme (Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education)** with an outlay of **₹4,200 crore (2025-30)**, supported by a **₹2,100 crore World Bank loan**, to improve **technical education quality, equity, and governance** across **275 institutions**, benefitting **7.5 lakh students** and strengthening **research, innovation, and employability.**
- The Cabinet sanctioned **₹30,000 crore compensation** to **Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (IOCL, BPCL, HPCL)** for **domestic LPG under-recoveries**, incurred due to **high global LPG prices (2024-25)**, ensuring **affordable LPG supply**, financial stability of OMCs, and continued support for schemes like **PM Ujjwala Yojana.**
- The Cabinet approved **targeted subsidy of ₹300 per 14.2 kg LPG cylinder** (up to **9 refills per year**) for **PM Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** consumers in **FY 2025-26** with an outlay of **₹12,000 crore**, benefitting **10.33 crore households**, and improving **LPG usage** among poor households.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved the construction of the **4-lane Marakkanam–Puducherry (NH-332A)** stretch (46 km) on **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)** with a cost of **₹2,157 crore**, enhancing **connectivity** between Chennai, Puducherry, and Nagapattinam, boosting **tourism, trade, and employment (18 lakh man-days).**
- The Cabinet approved **Lucknow Metro Rail Project Phase-1B** (11.165 km, **12 stations**) with an outlay of **₹5,801 crore**, improving **connectivity in Old Lucknow**, linking **commercial hubs, King George's Medical University, and heritage sites**, reducing **traffic congestion**, cutting **carbon emissions**, and boosting **economic growth and tourism.**
- The Cabinet approved **semiconductor manufacturing projects** in **Odisha, Punjab, and Andhra Pradesh** worth **₹4,600 crore**, including **India's first commercial compound fab (SiCSem, Odisha)**, **3D advanced packaging unit (Odisha)**, **ASIP facility (Andhra Pradesh)**, and **CDIL expansion (Punjab)**, expected to generate **2,034 direct jobs** and strengthen **Atmanirbhar Bharat in electronics.**
- The CCEA approved the **700 MW Tato-II Hydro Electric Project** in **Shi Yomi, Arunachal Pradesh** with an outlay of **₹8,146.21 crore** and **72 months completion time**, producing **2,738 MU power annually**, with benefits including **12% free power for the state**, **local area development fund**, **infrastructure upgrades**, and **employment generation.**
- The CCEA sanctioned construction of a **6-lane Capital Region Ring Road (Bhubaneswar Bypass, 110.875 km, Odisha)** under **HAM mode** at **₹8,307.74 crore**, connecting **Khordha, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack**, integrating with **NH-55, NH-57, NH-655**, and generating over **1.67 crore man-days employment**, boosting **freight efficiency and regional growth.**





- The Cabinet approved development of a **Greenfield Airport at Kota-Bundi (Rajasthan)** at ₹1,507 crore, with facilities including a **20,000 sqm terminal (2 MPPA capacity)**, **3,200m runway**, and **7 aircraft bays**, addressing **traffic growth in Kota – the coaching hub and industrial capital of Rajasthan**, as the existing airport is inadequate.
- The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** also announced that the **Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport** will support **A-321 aircraft operations**, ensuring better **air connectivity** for the **education and industrial hub**, with Rajasthan providing **440.06 hectares of land**, making it a **critical infrastructure project** for the region.
- The **Ministry of Road Transport & Highways** reaffirmed the approval of the **6-lane Bhubaneswar Bypass (110.875 km, Odisha)** at ₹8,307.74 crore, highlighting its role in **decongesting Khordha, Bhubaneswar, and Cuttack**, reducing **logistics costs**, linking to **economic and social nodes**, and creating large-scale **employment opportunities**.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, approved India's bid to host the **Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2030** in Ahmedabad, with the Gujarat Government to receive grant-in-aid if the bid is accepted. The city offers world-class stadiums, including the **Narendra Modi Stadium** which hosted the 2023 ICC Cricket World Cup Final, and is expected to welcome athletes from **72 countries**, generating jobs, boosting tourism, and creating opportunities across sports, logistics, media, IT, and other sectors, while inspiring youth and fostering national pride.
- The Cabinet approved the **restructuring and extension of the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme** till **March 31, 2030**, with an outlay of ₹7,332 crore to benefit **1.15 crore vendors** including 50 lakh new ones. The scheme now offers higher loan amounts (₹15,000, ₹25,000, and ₹50,000), introduces **UPI-linked RuPay Credit Cards**, and provides digital cashback up to ₹1,600, while expanding to census and peri-urban areas, continuing its success since 2020 of disbursing ₹13,797 crore loans to 68 lakh vendors and promoting digital, financial, and entrepreneurial empowerment.
- The Cabinet cleared **four railway projects worth ₹12,328 crore**, including a **new 145 km rail line in Kutch, Gujarat** connecting the Rann of Kutch, Dholavira, Koteswar, and Narayan Sarovar, along with **multi-tracking projects**: Secunderabad–Wadi (₹5,012 crore), Bhagalpur–Jamalpur (₹1,156 crore), and Furkating–New Tinsukia (₹3,634 crore). Together these projects will add **565 km of new tracks**, benefit nearly **47 lakh people**, generate **2.5 crore employment days**, boost freight traffic by 68 MTPA, and reduce CO2 emissions, supporting the **PM Gati Shakti Plan** and enhancing logistics, tourism, and connectivity.

State-wise August Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- The **Andhra Pradesh government** announced a **₹1 crore life insurance cover** for regular municipal workers and **₹20 lakh** for outsourced workers, with the same amounts assured in cases of permanent disability. Additionally, **education support up to ₹8 lakh** will be provided for their children. Chief Minister **N. Chandrababu Naidu** made the announcement during the **SwarnAndhra-SwachhAndhra campaign** rally at Peddapuram, Kakinada district, emphasizing the government's commitment to **workers' welfare and cleanliness**.
- **Andhra Pradesh's State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB)** has approved **30 investment projects worth ₹53,922 crore**, with the potential to generate **83,437 jobs**; major approvals include **HFCL, Apollo Tyres, and Dhirubhai Ambani Green Tech Park**, as **CM Chandrababu Naidu** commits to **personally monitoring** project execution and boosting the state's **ease of doing business and industrial growth**.

Assam

- The **Lok Sabha** has passed the **Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025**, which seeks to establish a new **IIM at Guwahati, Assam** — a key educational hub in the **North-Eastern region**. **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** announced a **financial grant of ₹550 crore** for the institute, fulfilling a **long-standing regional demand**. He also highlighted that **21 IIMs** currently operate in India and are gaining international recognition, with an **IIM Dubai campus** set to launch next month. The bill was passed **without discussion** due to **opposition uproar over the SIR issue**.

Bihar

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth **₹12,000 crore** in **Gaya, Bihar** on **22 August 2025**, focusing on **connectivity, energy, healthcare, urban development, and tourism**. Major highlights include the **Aunta–Simaria Bridge** and **Bakhtiyarpur–Mokama highway upgrade**, the **₹6,880 crore Buxar Thermal Power Plant**, the **Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital** in Muzaffarpur, **Namami Gange projects**, and new **Amrit Bharat Express** and **Buddhist Circuit Trains**. Additionally, housing for over **16,000 PMAY beneficiaries** was delivered.

Chhattisgarh

- In a landmark discovery, **Deccan Gold Mining Limited** found a significant **Nickel–Copper–Platinum Group Elements (Ni–Cu–PGE) sulphide deposit** in the **Bhalukona–Jamnidi block, Chhattisgarh**, marking a major step toward securing **strategic minerals** vital for India's **clean energy and industrial future**. This discovery, part of a growing **critical mineral hub** alongside the adjacent Vedanta block, supports the government's push for **sustainable exploration** and aims to boost India's position in the **global strategic mineral supply chain**.





Gujarat

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched and dedicated development projects worth over **₹5,400 crore** in Gujarat, covering **railways, roads, power, housing, and urban infrastructure**. Key railway projects include doubling and gauge conversion of important rail lines to improve connectivity and freight movement. Modi flagged off new passenger and freight train services to boost local access and industrial logistics. Road projects like six-lane underpasses and overbridges aim to reduce congestion and support trade. Power initiatives under UGVCL focus on modernizing electricity distribution to enhance reliability.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated **green mobility initiatives** in **Hansalpur, Gujarat**, launching **Suzuki's first Made-in-India global Battery Electric Vehicle (e VITARA)** for export to **100 countries**, including **Japan and Europe**. He also announced the start of **Hybrid Battery Electrode Manufacturing** at the **TDSG plant**, a joint venture between **Toshiba, Denso, and Suzuki**, marking a major step toward **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India**.

Kerala

- Kerala's **Onam celebrations** began with the vibrant **Athachamayam procession** in **Tripunithura**, drawing thousands of spectators under sunny skies. The parade featured **59 traditional art forms** like **theyyam, kathakali, and pulikali**, alongside **floats on social themes, movie character imitations, and a stunning 60-foot Athapookkalam** made with **1,500 kg of flowers**. The event highlighted **religious and communal harmony, with tight security, lively performances, and enthusiastic participation** from artists, students, and tourists alike.

Maharashtra

- Mumbai is hosting the **largest-ever 18th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics**, with around **300 students** from **64 countries**—including **12 first-time participants**—competing in a **10-day event** organized by the **Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education**. The Olympiad promotes **global friendship and learning in astronomy**, featuring **exams, team challenges, and sky observations**, while welcoming **war-affected nations** and achieving a **record number of women participants**.
- Maharashtra has taken a significant step towards **inclusive education** by successfully implementing '**Disha Abhiyan**', an initiative aimed at providing **uniform and quality education** for students with **intellectual disabilities**. Developed by the **Jai Vakil Foundation** and approved by the **National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID)**, this innovative curriculum is currently being implemented in **453 special schools** across the state. Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** emphasized that Maharashtra is the **first state in India** to prioritize the needs of persons with disabilities through education.

Punjab

- Punjab is set to become the **first state in India** to formally empanel **sign language interpreters, translators, and special educators** under the **Juvenile Justice Act, 2015** and the **POCSO Act, 2012**. This initiative will **bridge communication gaps and strengthen access to justice and rights for children** by supporting court proceedings with trained professionals. These experts will be deployed district-wise and compensated as per legal provisions, ensuring **impartial and transparent outcomes**. The state has already pioneered broadcasting Punjab Vidhan Sabha proceedings in sign language.

Rajasthan

- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**, chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, has approved the development of a **Greenfield Airport at Kota-Bundi (Rajasthan)** at an estimated cost of **₹1507 crore**. The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** will develop the airport on **440.06 hectares** of land provided by the **Government of Rajasthan**, with facilities to support **A-321 aircraft, a 20,000 sqm terminal, and capacity for 2 million passengers per annum (MPPA)**.

Sikkim

- Sikkim has made history as the **first state in India** to implement a **Sabbatical Leave Scheme for government employees**, offering **365 to 1,080 days of leave with 50% basic pay**, while ensuring **seniority and service continuity**. The scheme covers **both regular and temporary employees** and now includes a **decentralized approval system** to speed up decisions, reflecting the state's commitment to **progressive governance and employee empowerment**.
- Sikkim Chief Minister **Prem Singh Tamang** launched the '**Nari Adalat**' on the occasion of the first **Amma Samman Diwas** at Rongpo. This **community-based forum** is run by women to provide **accessible, informal justice** for minor disputes like **family disagreements, domestic violence, and marital issues**, especially in **rural and semi-urban areas**. The initiative aims to **empower women** by offering a **supportive, non-intimidating environment** that resolves conflicts locally without the need for formal court procedures.

Tamil Nadu

- **Tamil Nadu** has unveiled its **State Education Policy (SEP)** as a direct counter to the Centre's **National Education Policy (NEP)**, retaining the **two-language system**, rejecting **public exams in Classes 3, 5, and 8**, and opposing **common entrance tests** for UG admissions. Released by **CM MK Stalin**, the SEP promotes **science, AI, and English**, urges education to be moved back to the **state list**, and emphasizes **investment in public institutions**.



Uttar Pradesh

- The **Centre has approved** the renaming of Uttar Pradesh's **Jalalabad** town to **Parashurampuri**, as announced by Union Minister **Jitin Prasada**. Locals viewed the old name as a symbol of "**slavery**" ("ghulami") and welcomed the change to reflect **Sanatan traditions**. The renaming is seen as part of a wider government effort to replace names associated with historical oppression. The official gazette notification for the change is expected soon.

West Bengal

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple **development projects worth over ₹5,200 crore** in **Kolkata**, focusing on **modern transport infrastructure** and **urban connectivity**. Key highlights included the launch of **13.61 km of new metro lines**, connecting areas like **Noapara**, **Jai Hind Airport**, **Sealdah**, and **Hemanta Mukhopadhyay**, as well as the **foundation stone** for the **6-lane elevated Kona Expressway**. These developments aim to enhance the **Ease of Living**, **port connectivity**, and **economic growth** in **West Bengal**.

Jammu and Kashmir

- The **Sawalkote Hydropower Project**, a **2,185 MW run-of-the-river plant** on the **Chenab River**, is being revived by **NHPC** and **JKSPDC** at a cost of **₹22,704 crore**. As **J&K's largest hydroelectric project**, it aims to generate **7,000 million units annually**, making the region **power-surplus** while also contributing to **flood control**. Its revival follows India's decision to pause the **Indus Waters Treaty**, marking a significant shift in regional water and energy policy.

Delhi

- The **Delhi Legislative Assembly** has become the **first in India** to run entirely on **solar power** after commissioning a **500-kilowatt rooftop solar plant**, cutting electricity costs by about **Rs 1.75 crore annually**. Alongside this, it launched the **National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)** under the Centre's "**One Nation, One Application**" initiative, marking a shift to **paperless, digital legislative functioning**. These steps reflect Delhi's move towards **sustainable governance** and **digital transformation**, with surplus power generation potential and advanced smart legislative tools set to be fully operational from the upcoming Monsoon Session.
- Delhi's economy has shown robust growth over the past decade, with an annual **GSDP growth rate of 5.8%** and a **7% increase in per capita income**. While Delhi's contribution to India's GDP slightly declined from 3.94% in 2011-12 to 3.79% in 2024-25, the overall economic activity has rebounded beyond pre-pandemic levels. Delhi's **per capita income in 2024-25 is Rs 4,93,024**, which is **2.4 times higher than the national average**, reflecting strong economic performance and recovery.

- Delhi Chief Minister **Rekha Gupta** flagged off the '**U-Special**' **buses** for college students, reviving the service after years of inactivity. The initiative, aimed at improving **connectivity between homes and Delhi University**, features **electric, air-conditioned buses** equipped with **CCTV cameras** and **panic buttons** to ensure student safety. Gupta highlighted the scheme's role in boosting the university's vibrancy and promoting cleaner air in Delhi's transport.

August Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- Deendayal Port Authority (DPA)** commissioned **India's first indigenous 1MW green hydrogen plant** at Kandla; plans to expand to 10MW.
- Western Railway** restarted heritage train services on the **Patalpani-Kalakund line** in Madhya Pradesh.
- Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** launched '**Apna Ghar**' initiative for truck drivers with hygienic resting spaces.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated **Kartavya Bhavan**, the first Common Central Secretariat (CCS) building under the Central Vista Project.
- Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** launched the **eSAKSHI portal** for MPLAD Scheme digital integration.
- Eight major cooperatives** launched '**Bharat**' Taxi, a cooperative-driven ride-hailing service.
- Indian Railways** conducted a trial run of Asia's longest freight train '**Rudrastra**' (4.5 km).
- Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy** launched the logo, brochure, and website of '**Bharat Steel**', an international steel conference.
- India achieved 100 GW solar PV module manufacturing capacity** under ALMM, boosted by PLI Scheme.
- Kargil apricots** made their **international debut in Saudi Arabia** under ODOP initiative.
- NHAI** launched the **FASTag Annual Pass** across 1,150 toll plazas nationwide.
- India's longest-route Vande Bharat Express** launched on the **Nagpur-Pune corridor**.
- India launched its first Drone-AI powered artificial rain experiment** at Ramgarh Dam, Jaipur.
- President Droupadi Murmu** inaugurated **Plumeria Garden, Banyan Grove, and Babbling Brook** at Amrit Udyan, Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The **Indian Tricolour** was hoisted for the first time at **Seattle's Space Needle** on **Independence Day**.
- PM Narendra Modi** inaugurated **Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II)** and the **Delhi section of Dwarka Expressway**, worth ₹11,000 crore.
- A **six-day Indian Cinema Festival** inaugurated at **Eastern University, Sri Lanka**, to showcase India's cinematic diversity.
- Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II)** project inaugurated to decongest **Delhi-NCR** and connect NH-44, NH-09, and Dwarka Expressway.
- NABL** launched a **Medical Application Portal** under **ISO 15189:2022** to improve lab accreditation.



- Centre launched the **Anna-Chakra Supply Chain Optimisation Tool** in 30 States/UTs, saving ₹250 crore annually.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan**, the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership programme.
- **Press Registrar General** launched the **Press Sewa Portal** for simplified newspaper registration.
- India passed the **Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill 2025** to liberalise mining of lithium and rare earths.
- **Election Commission of India (ECI)** launched **28 initiatives** including ECINET, 100% webcasting, and voter roll cleansing.
- **Indian Railways** launched India's first removable solar panel system and 2x25 kV Electric Traction System.
- **Union Cabinet** approved the **Online Gaming Bill** to regulate e-sports and ban online betting.
- **130th Constitution Amendment Bill** introduced to mandate removal of PM/CMS/Ministers detained for **30+ days**.
- **India Post** launched **IT 2.0 – Advanced Postal Technology (APT)** with DIGIPIN, QR-payments, OTP delivery.
- **NCERT** launched **Operation Sindoor** educational modules for schools to highlight courage, patriotism, and security.
- Govt launched **SabhaSaar**, an AI-powered tool to generate Gram Sabha minutes via BHASHINI platform.
- Centre set up **two high-powered committees** for Viksit Bharat 2047 and regulatory reforms.
- **Kerala** declared India's first fully digitally literate state, training **21.87 lakh** citizens under Digi Kerala.
- **Ujjain** to host “**रत्न मन्त्रि**” – PHDCCI's 2nd Global Spiritual Tourism Conclave on 27 Aug 2025, inaugurated by CM Mohan Yadav & Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat; keynote by Gauranga Das Prabhu.
- **NHAI** launches ‘**Project Aarohan**’ with Vertis Infrastructure Trust to support education of toll plaza employees' children, offering scholarships & mentorship (₹1 crore fund).
- **CG Power** inaugurates **OSAT Pilot Line Facility** at Sanand, Gujarat under India Semiconductor Mission; ₹7,600 crore investment, 5,000+ jobs expected.
- **Kabak Yano**, Arunachal mountaineer, scaled **Mount Kilimanjaro** as part of Seven Summits expedition.
- **Prime Minister Modi's 'Mann ki Baat'** generated **₹34.13 crore** revenue since 2014.
- Over **29,000 deaths** on national highways in first half of 2025; govt targets halving fatalities by 2030.
- **Indian Railways** introduced a **Round Trip Package** with 20% rebate on return tickets during festival rush.
- **Cabinet approved ₹8146.21 crore investment** for the **700 MW Tato-II Hydro Project** in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Union Health Ministry** launched **SHRESTH Index** for benchmarking state drug regulatory systems.
- **UPSC** to celebrate **Centenary Year (1925–2026)** with reforms and events.
- **Lok Sabha** passed **Indian Ports Bill, 2025**, modernizing the 1908 Act.
- **Parliament** passed **National Sports Governance Bill & National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill, 2025**.
- **India** sent **5 tonnes of cowpea seeds** to **Fiji** as humanitarian aid under Act East Policy.
- **President Droupadi Murmu** delivered her **79th Independence Day** address highlighting India's growth journey.
- **India** to establish global data standards, MoSPI to launch Service Production Index.
- **PM Modi** delivered **12th consecutive Independence Day speech**, breaking Indira Gandhi's record.
- **PM Modi** delivered longest-ever Independence Day speech (103 minutes).
- **Supreme Court** paused **Delhi-NCR old vehicle ban** pending review.
- **NCDRC** and **10 States** achieved **100%+ case disposal rates**; Tamil Nadu (277%), Rajasthan (214%), Telangana (158%) led.
- **EPFO** recorded its **highest-ever net addition** of **21.89 lakh members** in June 2025, led by the **18–25 age group**.
- **Indian Railways** flagged off its **first industrial salt rake** and expanded freight operations.
- **Western Railway** introduced **Scott Transformer technology** for efficient electrification.
- **PM Narendra Modi** to visit **Japan & China (Aug 29–Sept 1, 2025)** for India–Japan Annual Summit with PM Shigeru Ishiba and SCO Summit in Tianjin hosted by President Xi Jinping.
- **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** crosses **₹15 lakh crore GMV milestone**, empowering MSEs, startups, women-led & SHG businesses under Digital India.
- **India** issues **first national guidelines for veterinary blood transfusion services**, with regulated blood banks, donor rights, and digital tracking.
- **Centre** forms **three high-level committees**, chaired by PM Modi, to celebrate 150th birth anniversaries of Sardar Patel & Birsa Munda and centenary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- **Ministry of Minority Affairs** launches **UMEED Portal module** for widows, divorced women, and orphans to get maintenance from Waqf-alal-aulad properties via Aadhaar-based system.

Miscellaneous National News

- **India** ranks **2nd globally** in fish production, announced by Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh.
- **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** amended **Cosmetics Rules, 2020**, effective July 29, 2025.
- **Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC) 2025** set a Guinness World Record with **3.53 crore** registrations.
- **Ministry of Textiles** promoting **GI registration** of handloom and handicrafts.
- **SECI** conducted its **first auction for Green Ammonia procurement**, discovering record-low price of ₹55.75/kg.
- **US President Donald Trump** doubled tariffs on **Indian imports to 50%**, citing sanctions enforcement.
- **Parliament** passed the **Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2025**, replacing the 1925 Act.



National Current Affairs of July 2025

Most Important Current Affairs Articles

UN Sustainable Development Goals Index 2025: Top 10 Best and Worst Performing Countries

Global Ranking: A Tale of Two Worlds

Top 10 Countries in SDG Index 2025

Europe, particularly the **Nordic countries**, continues to lead global efforts toward sustainable development. **Finland** has retained the top position, followed closely by **Sweden** and **Denmark**.

Rank	Country	Score (2025)
1	Finland	87.0
2	Sweden	85.7
3	Denmark	85.3
4	Germany	83.7
5	France	83.1
6	Austria	83.0
7	Norway	82.7
8	Croatia	82.4
9	Poland	82.1
10	Czechia	81.9

These countries have demonstrated high performance in areas such as **quality education**, **gender equality**, **climate action**, and **peace and justice**.

Bottom 10 Countries in SDG Index 2025

At the other end of the spectrum, countries facing **conflict**, **political instability**, and **economic challenges** rank lowest in the index.

Rank	Country	Score (2025)
167	South Sudan	41.6
166	Central African Republic	45.2
165	Chad	46.0
164	Somalia	46.1
163	Yemen, Republic	47.7
162	Congo, Dem. Rep.	48.2
161	Sudan	49.1
160	Afghanistan	49.1
159	Niger	50.3
158	Madagascar	51.0

India's Historic Rise in SDG Ranking

India Breaks into Top 100

In a remarkable improvement, **India has ranked 99th in the 2025 SDG Index**, with a score of **67.0**. This marks **India's first time entering the top 100**, a significant milestone considering its past positions:

- **109th** in 2024
- **112th** in 2023
- **121st** in 2022
- **120th** in 2021

This steady climb reflects India's growing focus on **sustainable development**, particularly in **clean energy**, **digital public infrastructure**, and **financial inclusion**.

India in Regional Comparison

Despite entering the top 100 globally, India still **lags behind several South Asian peers**, indicating both progress and challenges.

Country	Rank (2025)	Score
Maldives	53	Not provided
Bhutan	74	70.5
Nepal	85	68.6
India	99	67.0
Sri Lanka	93	Not provided
Bangladesh	114	Not provided
Pakistan	140	Not provided

PM Modi Honoured in Ghana with 'Order of the Star'

In a historic diplomatic gesture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with Ghana's highest civilian award, the "Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana", during his landmark visit to the country. The honour, bestowed by President John Dramani Mahama, recognizes PM Modi's global statesmanship, commitment to South-South cooperation, and his role in elevating India-Ghana bilateral ties. The Indian Prime Minister dedicated the award to India's youth, its diverse cultural legacy, and the shared democratic values between the two nations.

Why in News?

PM Modi received Ghana's top civilian honour on July 3, 2025, during his first state visit to Ghana. The honour celebrates his leadership and strengthens diplomatic engagement between India and Ghana, especially in sectors like trade, healthcare, education, and digital connectivity.

About the Honour

- **Name of the Award:** Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana
- **Conferred by:** President John Dramani Mahama
- **Reason:** In recognition of PM Modi's distinguished global leadership, diplomatic outreach, and efforts to build South-South cooperation.

Key Agreements & Announcements

During the joint press conference in Accra, the two leaders unveiled a range of strategic initiatives to strengthen bilateral cooperation.



Education & Youth Development

- Doubling of ITEC and ICCR scholarships for Ghanaian students
- Establishment of a Skill Development Centre in Ghana to offer vocational education and training for youth

Agriculture & Food Security

- India pledged support to Ghana's 'Feed Ghana' programme, sharing expertise and resources to boost agricultural productivity

Healthcare

- Proposal to set up Jan Aushadhi Kendras in Ghana, providing affordable generic medicines
- Discussions on vaccine production cooperation

Digital & Financial Integration

- India to offer its Bharat UPI digital payment platform to Ghana, enhancing financial inclusion and digital public infrastructure

Trade Relations

- Agreement to double bilateral trade volume in the next five years through new business and investment avenues

Significance of the Visit

- First Indian PM to visit Ghana in over 30 years.
- Reinforces India's strategic outreach to Africa and the Global South.
- Builds upon historical bonds initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru and Kwame Nkrumah.
- Deepens cooperation based on shared democratic ideals and mutual development goals.

PM Modi Receives Trinidad and Tobago's Highest Civilian Award

On July 4, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the country's highest civilian award. The ceremony took place during his two-day visit to the Caribbean nation. This award was given for his global leadership and strong connection with the Indian diaspora. It is an important moment in strengthening India's ties with Trinidad and Tobago.

A Historic First Visit

This is PM Modi's first official visit to Trinidad and Tobago as Prime Minister. It is also the first Indian Prime Ministerial-level visit to the country since 1999. The visit is part of Mr. Modi's five-nation tour, and it highlights the long-standing bond between India and the island nation.

Reason for the Honour

The Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago was given to Mr. Modi to recognize his global leadership, his work in supporting the Indian community abroad, and his help during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar of Trinidad and Tobago announced the award and said Mr. Modi's visit marks a moment of pride and connection between the two nations.

PM Modi's Response and Gifts

PM Modi said he was honoured to receive the award and accepted it on behalf of 140 crore Indians. As part of the visit, he also gave holy water from the Mahakumbh and a replica of the Ram Mandir to the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, symbolizing cultural and spiritual unity.

Visit to Ghana Beforehand

Before arriving in Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Modi visited Ghana, where he received another top honour – the Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said this honour was given for his strong leadership and contribution to global cooperation.

India and Trinidad & Tobago Sign Six New Agreements to Boost Ties

On July 4, 2025, India and Trinidad & Tobago signed six key agreements in Port of Spain to improve their partnership in many areas. These include work in infrastructure, medicine, culture, and sports. The deals were signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country. This visit is seen as a big step toward building stronger ties between the two nations.

First Prime Ministerial Visit in Over 25 Years

This is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Trinidad & Tobago since 1999. PM Narendra Modi met with Trinidad & Tobago's Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and held important talks to improve cooperation. The two leaders discussed future work in agriculture, education, digital payments, and healthcare. They also shared views on major global issues like climate change, cyber security, and disaster response.

Both leaders showed great warmth and respect during the visit. PM Bissessar said that Mr. Modi's visit was a "landmark moment" that will give new energy to the friendship between the two countries.

Six Agreements Signed

The two nations signed six Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs). These deals cover cooperation in,

1. Pharmaceutical standards
2. Quick development projects
3. Cultural exchange
4. Sports promotion
5. Diplomatic training
6. Sharing of official documents and research

The aim of these agreements is to create more jobs, better services, and stronger people-to-people connections between India and Trinidad & Tobago.

PM Modi also announced that people of Indian origin living in Trinidad & Tobago can now apply for OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India) cards, even if they are from the sixth generation. This will help families stay connected with their roots in India.





Meetings with National Leaders

PM Modi also met President Christine Carla Kangaloo, who recently received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award for her service to the Indian community. Their meeting was friendly and respectful. PM Modi praised her for her public service and leadership. Both leaders also agreed to work together on issues that affect the Global South, such as climate problems and fair international cooperation.

PM Modi also thanked Trinidad & Tobago for its support to India after the Pahalgam terror attack and said both countries stand united against terrorism.

PM Modi Gets Namibia's Top Civilian Honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was given Namibia's highest civilian award during his one-day state visit to the African nation on Wednesday. The award, called 'The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis', was presented by Namibia's President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. This honour shows the strong and growing relationship between India and Namibia.

Modi Receives Top Honour in Namibia

During his visit to Namibia on Wednesday, PM Modi was honoured with the country's top civilian award – The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis. The ceremony took place in the capital and was led by Namibia's President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. The award is named after a rare desert plant found only in Namibia, which stands for strength, long life, and resilience.

Modi is the first Indian leader to receive this special award. In his acceptance speech, he said, "I accept this honour with deep gratitude and dedicate it to the 1.4 billion people of India and the strong friendship between India and Namibia."

Meaning and History of the Award

The Welwitschia Mirabilis Award was started in 1995. It is given to people who show great leadership and work to build strong ties between nations. The plant it is named after survives in the desert for many years, which is why it is used as a symbol of endurance and unity.

This is PM Modi's 27th international award and the fourth during his current five-nation trip. Interestingly, it is also his second award within 24 hours, showing the global appreciation he is receiving on this tour.

A New Chapter in India-Namibia Relations

This honour marks a new milestone in the bond between India and Namibia. India and Namibia have worked together in areas like education, healthcare, defence, and technology. The award is a symbol of Namibia's respect for India's support and its interest in building even stronger ties in the future.

With this honour, both countries are expected to deepen their cooperation further in the coming months, especially in trade, green energy, and digital innovation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Honoured with Brazil's Highest Civilian Award

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been honoured with Brazil's highest civilian award, the **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross**. This recognition was presented by **Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** as a mark of respect for the growing diplomatic, economic, and cultural ties between **India and Brazil**.

This honour represents not just an individual achievement for the Prime Minister, but also reflects the **international recognition of India's leadership** and its growing influence on the global stage.

About the Award: Brazil's Top Civilian Honour

The **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross** is the most prestigious civilian honour in Brazil. It is awarded to heads of state and government leaders who have made **outstanding contributions to strengthening Brazil's relations with other countries**.

By conferring this honour upon Prime Minister Modi, Brazil has acknowledged his efforts in enhancing **India-Brazil strategic partnership**, as well as his role in advancing cooperation through **international platforms** like BRICS, G20, and the **United Nations**.

A Symbol of Strong India-Brazil Relations

This honour is a powerful reflection of the deepening ties between the two democracies. India and Brazil share common values, such as respect for sovereignty, sustainable development, and a multipolar world order. Over the years, the two countries have collaborated in areas such as:

- **Trade and investment**
- **Renewable energy**
- **Agricultural technology**
- **Space research**
- **Global governance**

Prime Minister Modi's leadership has helped in building stronger bridges between the two nations, especially through multilateral forums and regional dialogues.

Pride for India on the International Stage

This is the **26th international award or honour** given to **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** by a foreign nation since he assumed office in **May 2014**. These recognitions highlight India's **diplomatic strength, growing economic power**, and the **global trust** in its leadership.

By honouring Prime Minister Modi, Brazil has also shown respect for **India's growing role in shaping global policies**, especially in the Global South.

Widespread Appreciation from Indian Leaders

The announcement of this award has been widely celebrated in India. Leaders from across the country have expressed their appreciation for the honour, calling it a proud moment for all Indians. Many have acknowledged that this award is not only a recognition of Modi's diplomacy but also a sign of India's **growing stature in international affairs**.





India's Maratha Forts Added to UNESCO World Heritage List

Maratha Military Landscapes of India were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List during the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee in Paris. This important recognition covers 12 historic forts built by the Maratha rulers between the 17th and 19th centuries. The listing highlights their unique military design and the rich history of India's fort architecture.

What Is the Maratha Military Landscapes?

The Maratha Military Landscapes are a group of 12 forts that show the smart planning and strength of the Maratha Empire. These forts were built across different terrains — hills, coasts, and plains — to protect the kingdom and control trade routes. They include Salher Fort, Shivneri Fort, Lohgad, Khanderi Fort, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijay Durg, Sindhudurg (all in Maharashtra) and Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.

These forts were known for their clever use of nature, water storage systems, and strong walls. Built mostly between the 1600s and 1800s, they show how Marathas used military skills to build powerful defense structures.

UNESCO's Decision and the Committee Meeting

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee took this decision during its 47th session in Paris. On X (formerly Twitter), UNESCO posted:

"New inscription on the @UNESCO #WorldHeritage List: Maratha Military Landscapes of India, #India."

This nomination was part of the 2024–25 UNESCO World Heritage cycle, and Indian officials had worked hard to present the historical and cultural importance of these forts to the world. The recognition gives international importance to India's fort heritage and adds value to future conservation efforts.

India's Pride and Historical Significance

The Maratha forts were not just buildings — they were symbols of resistance, planning, and unity. Leaders like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj used them to build and protect the Maratha Empire. Some of these forts, like Raigad and Pratapgad, are especially famous in Indian history.

For example, Pratapgad Fort, located about 22 km from Mahabaleshwar, played a key role in many battles and still stands strong today.

Indian historians, heritage experts, and government officials have welcomed this decision, saying it will help promote tourism, boost local pride, and ensure better care of these monuments.

PM Modi Honored With 'Key to the City of Buenos Aires'

On July 6, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the 'Key to the City of Buenos Aires' during his official two-day visit to Argentina. This symbolic award was given in recognition of his efforts to strengthen the relationship between India and Argentina. The visit was historic, as it was the first by an Indian Prime Minister in 57 years.

Symbolic Honour for PM Modi

PM Modi was presented with the 'Key to the City' by Jorge Macri, the Chief of the City Government of Buenos Aires. This is a ceremonial gesture of trust and friendship. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the honour reflects PM Modi's role in building closer ties between India and Argentina. PM Modi expressed gratitude for the warm welcome and shared photos and messages on his official X (formerly Twitter) account.

Tributes to Icons and Cultural Connections

During his visit, PM Modi paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore by visiting their statues in Buenos Aires. He said Gandhi's message of peace and non-violence continues to inspire the world. Modi also honoured General Jose de San Martin, Argentina's national hero, at Plaza San Martin. He praised his leadership in the fight for freedom in South America. The visit focused on cultural respect and shared values.

Strengthening India-Argentina Ties

PM Modi met President Javier Milei and held high-level talks. Both leaders celebrated 75 years of diplomatic relations and agreed to expand ties in defence, energy, agriculture, mining, and trade. Argentina will supply lithium and shale gas to help India's energy needs. Modi also requested easier entry for Indian medicines into Argentina. They discussed collaboration in sports and education, and Modi invited President Milei to visit India.

Warm Welcome from Indian Diaspora

PM Modi received a grand welcome from the Indian community in Buenos Aires. People gathered outside his hotel, waving Indian flags, singing songs, and dancing. PM Modi interacted warmly with them and said that distance can never break cultural bonds. He appreciated their love and said their presence added special joy to the visit.

Union Government Notifies Transfer & Repatriation of 18 High Court Judges

To maintain the balance, efficiency, and impartiality of the judiciary in India, the Union Government on July 14, 2025, issued official orders transferring and repatriating 18 High Court judges across various states. This development follows recommendations made by the Supreme Court Collegium on May 26, 2025. These strategic appointments aim to enhance judicial functioning, promote uniformity in case disposal, and address regional imbalances in judicial staffing.

Background

The transfer and repatriation of High Court judges in India are governed by Article 222 of the Constitution, which empowers the President to transfer a judge from one High Court to another after consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI). The Supreme Court Collegium, headed by the CJI, plays a crucial role in suggesting such movements. The current transfer notifications are part of this long-standing administrative mechanism and reflect an effort to uphold the independence and integrity of the judiciary by rotating judges across states.





Significance of the Transfers

These judicial reshuffles are not merely administrative—they serve multiple significant purposes,

- **Impartiality:** By relocating judges to states other than their parent High Courts, potential local pressures and regional biases are minimized.
- **Efficiency:** High Courts with a heavier caseload can benefit from additional or experienced judges from other jurisdictions.
- **Expertise Sharing:** Transferred judges bring their diverse legal experience and judicial perspectives to the host High Court, enriching its jurisprudence.
- **National Integration:** These transfers foster a pan-Indian judicial culture, ensuring that judges are familiar with diverse legal interpretations across the country.

List of Transfers

1. Justice Tadakamalla Vinod Kumar transferred from Telangana HC to Madras HC.
2. Justice Jayant Banerji moved from Allahabad HC to Karnataka HC.
3. Justice Arun Monga (Punjab & Haryana cadre) transferred from Rajasthan HC to Delhi HC.
4. Justice Anil Kshetarpal shifted from Punjab & Haryana HC to Delhi HC.
5. Justice Sudhir Singh (Patna cadre) transferred from Punjab & Haryana HC to Patna HC.
6. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar (Jharkhand cadre) moved from Rajasthan HC to Bombay HC.
7. Justice Om Prakash Shukla transferred from Allahabad HC to Delhi HC.
8. Justice Battu Devanand (Andhra Pradesh cadre) repatriated from Madras HC to Andhra Pradesh HC.
9. Justice Vivek Kumar Singh (Allahabad cadre) moved from Madras HC to Madhya Pradesh HC.
10. Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh (Allahabad cadre) transferred from Kerala HC to Karnataka HC.
11. Justice Vivek Chaudhary moved from Allahabad HC to Delhi HC.
12. Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma (Rajasthan cadre) returned from Punjab & Haryana HC to Rajasthan HC.
13. Justice Suman Shyam transferred from Gauhati HC to Bombay HC.
14. Justice Ashwani Kumar Mishra moved from Allahabad HC to Punjab & Haryana HC.
15. Justice Nitin Wasudeo Sambre transferred from Bombay HC to Delhi HC.
16. Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak moved from Gauhati HC to Orissa HC.
17. Justice Lanusungkum Jamir transferred from Gauhati HC to Calcutta HC.
18. Justice V Kameswar Rao (Delhi cadre) transferred from Karnataka HC to Delhi HC.

Objectives of the Transfers

The core objectives behind these transfers include,

- Promoting national judicial coherence
- Decongesting overburdened courts
- Ensuring transparency and integrity through regular reshuffling
- Balancing judge strength across High Courts
- Facilitating fair trial environments free from local interference

These actions support the larger goal of judicial reform and strengthen public trust in the judiciary.

Ahmedabad Declared Cleanest City In Swachh Survekshan 2024–25:

The Swachh Survekshan 2024–25, India's largest cleanliness survey conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), has declared Ahmedabad as the cleanest city in the category of cities with a population of over 10 lakh. The annual ranking, which has evolved significantly since its launch in 2016, now includes special recognitions such as the Super Swachh League Cities, and it saw participation from 4,589 cities. This year's results showcase a renewed thrust on sustainable sanitation practices and citizen-centric cleanliness initiatives across urban India.

Background of Swachh Survekshan

- Launched in 2016 with 73 cities.
- Conducted by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U).
- Aims to foster competitive spirit among cities to improve urban sanitation.
- Annual survey with independent third-party assessment based on citizen feedback, waste processing, and service-level progress.

Highlights of Swachh Survekshan 2024–25

- Ahmedabad ranked 1st in the category of cities with population over 10 lakh.
- Indore, Surat, and Navi Mumbai inducted into Super Swachh League Cities, a new category for consistent top performers over the past 3 years.





- 4,589 cities covered in the survey (April 2024 – March 2025).
- Cities classified in 5 population-based categories for the first time.
- **Focused categories:** Ganga Towns, Cantonment Boards, Safai Mitra Suraksha, Mahakumbh, and state-level awards.

Significance of Super Swachh League

- Introduced in 2024–25 to recognize cities with sustained top-three performances in their categories over the past 3 years.
- A move to create a benchmark league of model cities.
- Promotes long-term commitment over one-time wins.

Objectives of the Survey

- Promote healthy competition among cities for urban cleanliness.
- Encourage citizen participation in sanitation efforts.
- Measure outcomes in terms of waste segregation, scientific waste processing, and behavioral change.
- Foster innovation through categories like Safai Mitra Suraksha.

Special Initiatives

- Launch of one-year campaign from August 15 to tackle legacy landfill remediation.
- Classification of cities into population-based categories for fairer assessments.
- Emphasis on sustainability and inclusion of Ganga towns and religious centers.

A. Super Swachh League Cities Winners

Sr. No	Population Category	State	City
1	>10 Lakh	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
2	>10 Lakh	Gujarat	Surat
3	>10 Lakh	Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai
4	>10 Lakh	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
5	3–10 Lakh	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
6	3–10 Lakh	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
7	3–10 Lakh	Karnataka	Mysuru
8	3–10 Lakh	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain
9	3–10 Lakh	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
10	3–10 Lakh	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
11	50,000–3 Lakh	Delhi NDMC	New Delhi
12	50,000–3 Lakh	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupati
13	50,000–3 Lakh	Chhattisgarh	Ambikapur
14	50,000–3 Lakh	Maharashtra	Lonavala
15	20,000–50,000	Maharashtra	Vita
16	20,000–50,000	Maharashtra	Saswad

Sr. No	Population Category	State	City
17	20,000–50,000	Maharashtra	Deolali Pravara
18	20,000–50,000	Rajasthan	Dungarpur
19	<20,000	Maharashtra	Panchgani
20	<20,000	Chhattisgarh	Patan
21	<20,000	Maharashtra	Panhala
22	<20,000	Chhattisgarh	Bishrampur
23	<20,000	Madhya Pradesh	Budni

B. Presidential Awardees: Swachh Shehar by Population Category

Sr. No	Population Category	State	City
1	>10 Lakh	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
2	>10 Lakh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
3	>10 Lakh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
4	3–10 Lakh	Maharashtra	Mira-Bhayandar
5	3–10 Lakh	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur
6	3–10 Lakh	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur
7	50,000–3 Lakh	Madhya Pradesh	Dewas
8	50,000–3 Lakh	Maharashtra	Karhad
9	50,000–3 Lakh	Haryana	Karnal
10	20,000–50,000	Goa	Panaji
11	20,000–50,000	Odisha	Aska
12	20,000–50,000	Chhattisgarh	Kumhari
13	<20,000	Chhattisgarh	Bilha
14	<20,000	Odisha	Chikiti
15	<20,000	Madhya Pradesh	Shahganj

C. Ministerial Awardees: Special Category

Sr. No	Special Initiative Recognized	State	City
1	Swachh Mahakumbh 2025 Recognition	—	—
2	Ganga Town	Andhra Pradesh	GVMC Visakhapatnam
3	Ganga Town	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
4	Ganga Town	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur
5	Cantonment Board	Telangana	Secunderabad Cantt.
6	Ganga Town	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj



D. Promising Swachh Shehar of States/UTs

Sr. No.	State/UT	City
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Sri Vijaya Puram
2	Andhra Pradesh	Rajahmundry
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Jairampur
4	Assam	North Lakhimpur`
5	Assam	Guwahati
6	Bihar	Patna“
7	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman	Diu Daman
9	Goa	Sanquelim
10	Gujarat	Vadodara
11	Haryana	Sonipat
12	Himachal Pradesh	Theog
13	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
14	Jharkhand	Bundu
15	Karnataka	Davanagere
16	Kerala	Mattannur
17	Ladakh	Kargil
18	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior
19	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad
20	Manipur	Jiribam
21	Meghalaya	Shillong
22	Mizoram	Lunglei
23	Nagaland	Jalukie
24	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
25	Puducherry	Oulgaret–Ozhukarai
26	Punjab	Bathinda
27	Rajasthan	Jaipur Greater
28	Sikkim	Mangan
29	Tamil Nadu	Namakkal
30	Telangana	Greater Hyderabad
31	Tripura	Khowai
32	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
33	Uttarakhand	Lalkuan
34	West Bengal	Baidyabati

Historic Day! India-UK FTA Signed: ₹ Trillions to Be Gained – Here's What It Means

On July 24, 2025, India and the United Kingdom signed a landmark Free Trade Agreement (FTA) during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official visit to the UK. This deal marks the culmination of over three years of negotiations, and is expected to significantly boost trade, create jobs, and deepen strategic ties across multiple sectors. As India's most comprehensive FTA to date and the UK's most important since Brexit, it signals a new era in bilateral relations.

Background

Talks for the India-UK FTA began in January 2022, following the announcement of the UK-India Enhanced Trade Partnership. After 14 rounds of negotiations and a political change in the UK, the deal finally materialized under the leadership of PM Keir Starmer and PM Modi. It comes amid growing geopolitical shifts, post-pandemic recovery efforts, and both nations' search for robust global trade partners.

Significance

This agreement is strategically important for both countries,

- For India, it opens access to high-tech UK goods like medical devices and aerospace components at affordable prices.
- For the UK, it unlocks new markets in India's massive consumer base.
- It reflects a rules-based, democratic partnership that aims to set a model for future global cooperation.

Objectives

- Eliminate or reduce tariffs on a wide range of goods and services.
- Promote investment, innovation, and technology exchange.
- Strengthen cooperation on security, climate change, defence, and education.
- Push bilateral trade towards the \$120 billion target by 2030.

Key Features

- India's average tariffs on UK goods will drop from 15% to 3%.
- Key beneficiary sectors in India: textiles, leather, footwear, marine products, engineering goods, gems and jewellery, auto parts, and organic chemicals.
- UK products like medical equipment and aerospace parts will become more affordable in India.

A new strategic partnership – India-UK Vision 2035 – has been unveiled to expand cooperation beyond trade, including,

- Defence Industrial Roadmap
- Technology Security Initiative
- Climate Change Action
- Educational Collaborations

Economic & Strategic Impact

- £25.5 billion boost to bilateral trade annually.
- Thousands of new jobs expected in both countries.
- British companies such as Airbus and Rolls-Royce will begin aircraft deliveries to Indian airlines.
- Enhanced intelligence sharing and cooperation on fraud, crime, and migration issues.
- Both nations condemned terrorism and extremism, affirming shared values of security and democracy.



UK-India FTA Signed: Who Wins, What's Cheaper, and How It Impacts You!

The recently signed India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on 24 July 2025 marks a transformative moment in bilateral economic ties. With this deal, tariffs on a wide range of products will be reduced or eliminated, making numerous imported goods cheaper for Indian consumers, while simultaneously boosting Indian exports. Key items such as Scotch whisky, British luxury cars, chocolates, and cosmetics will see significant price drops over time. The agreement is expected to benefit both nations' consumers, industries, and employment landscape.

Background

Negotiations for the FTA began in January 2022, and after over three years of talks and several rounds of diplomacy, it was officially signed during PM Narendra Modi's visit to the UK in July 2025. This FTA is being hailed as India's most comprehensive trade pact and the UK's most important bilateral trade deal post-Brexit.

Significance of the Agreement

- It eliminates duties on 99% of Indian exports to the UK.
- For Indians, high-end imports like whisky, cars, chocolates, and medical devices will become more accessible.
- The agreement is forecasted to boost UK's GDP by £4.8 billion (\$6.5 billion) annually.
- Aims to double Indian exports to the UK by 2030.

Objectives

- Promote affordable and wider access to goods and services.
- Encourage investment and innovation.
- Support MSMEs and exporters in both nations.
- Facilitate temporary movement of skilled professionals.
- Reduce non-tariff barriers and improve market access.

What Will Become Cheaper for Indians?

- Scotch Whisky & Gin**
 - Tariffs on Scotch whisky and gin will be reduced from 150% to 75% initially, and to 40% over the next 10 years.
 - Major boost for premium liquor brands like Diageo.
- British Luxury Cars**
 - Import duties on UK-made cars, currently above 100%, will reduce to 10% under a quota-based system.
 - This benefits carmakers like Jaguar Land Rover and Aston Martin.
- Chocolates, Biscuits & Salmon**
 - Lower duties on British-made chocolates, biscuits, and salmon, bringing them to supermarket shelves at better prices.
- Cosmetics & Personal Care**
 - Reduced tariffs on cosmetics and skincare products, especially from leading British brands.
- Medical Devices**
 - Easier access to UK-manufactured medical devices and diagnostic equipment at reduced costs.

Who Benefits in India?

- Textile & Leather Exporters**
 - Removal of UK duties (up to 12%) on garments, home textiles, and leather goods will boost exports and create jobs.
- Gems & Jewellery Sector**
 - Zero tariffs on gold, diamonds, and jewellery will benefit Indian exporters and promote Indian craftsmanship.
- Agro, Pharma & Processed Foods**
 - Sectors like rice, spices, shrimp, tea, and processed food will see tariff reductions.
 - Indian pharma companies gain easier entry into the UK market.
- Electric & Hybrid Vehicles**
 - Preferential access for EV and hybrid vehicle makers under a quota system.
 - Companies like Tata Motors, Mahindra Electric, and Bharat Forge stand to gain.
- Professionals & Skilled Workers**
 - UK will streamline visa and work permits for Indian professionals including chefs, yoga instructors, musicians, and more.
 - Social security exemption for Indian workers in the UK for up to 3 years, saving approx. ₹4,000 crore annually.

Cabinet Approvals

- The Union Cabinet chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has approved the **National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025**, replacing the **2001 policy** to transform India into a **global sporting powerhouse** with a vision toward the **2036 Olympic Games**. The policy is based on **five pillars** – Excellence on the Global Stage, Sports for Economic Development, Sports for Social Development, Sports as a People's Movement, and Integration with Education (NEP 2020) – and focuses on **grassroots to elite training, sports science & technology, sports tourism, indigenous games, mass participation, and school-level sports integration**. A **strategic framework** with KPIs, PPP models, and a **national monitoring system** will guide implementation, serving as a **model for States and UTs**.
- The Cabinet has approved the **Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme** with a **₹1 lakh crore corpus** to promote **private sector investment** in sunrise and strategic sectors. Managed by the **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)**, the scheme offers **long-term concessional loans, equity support, and a Deep-Tech Fund of Funds** to boost **R&D, technology acquisition, and commercialisation** of innovations. It aims to enhance **global competitiveness, self-reliance, and adoption of emerging technologies**, with governance oversight by the **Prime Minister-led ANRF Board** and implementation by the **Department of Science & Technology**.



- The Cabinet has cleared the **Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme** with an outlay of **₹99,446 crore** to create over **3.5 crore jobs in two years** (Aug 2025 – Jul 2027), focusing on the **manufacturing sector** and **first-time employees**. Under **Part A**, first-time employees will get **one month's wage up to ₹15,000** in two instalments, while under **Part B**, employers will receive **₹1,000–₹3,000 per month** for each **additional employee** maintained for at least six months (extended to four years for manufacturing). All payments will be via **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**, aiming to **formalise the workforce**, **boost job creation**, and **strengthen social security coverage**.
- The **Union Cabinet** has approved the **construction of a 4-lane Paramakudi–Ramanathapuram Section of NH-87** in **Tamil Nadu** at a cost of **₹1,853 crore** under the **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)**. Covering **46.7 km**, this project will **decongest the existing 2-lane highway**, **improve traffic safety**, and **connect major routes** such as **NH-38, NH-85, NH-36, NH-536, NH-32 and SH-47, SH-29, SH-34**. It will **enhance multi-modal connectivity** to **Madurai Airport, Rameshwaram & Pamban ports**, and **key towns like Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Rameshwaram**. The project is expected to **boost regional economic growth**, **promote tourism** to **Rameshwaram and Dhanushkodi**, and generate around **8.4 lakh person-days** of direct and **10.45 lakh person-days** of indirect employment.
- The **Union Cabinet** has approved the **Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana** for **six years (2025–31)**, targeting **100 districts** to **boost agriculture and allied sectors**. The scheme, inspired by **NITI Aayog's Aspirational District Programme**, focuses on **crop diversification, sustainable farming, better irrigation, enhanced post-harvest storage, and improved credit access**. It will be implemented through the convergence of **36 schemes across 11 departments**, in partnership with **state governments** and the **private sector**. Districts will be selected based on **low productivity, low cropping intensity, and low credit disbursement**, with a minimum of **one district per state**. Monitoring will be done using **117 performance indicators** via a digital dashboard. The scheme aims to **increase agricultural productivity, create local livelihoods, promote organic and natural farming, and contribute to self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat)**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has granted **NLC India Limited (NLCIL)** a **special exemption** from investment limits applicable to **Navratna CPSEs**, allowing it to invest **₹7,000 crore** in its subsidiary **NLC India Renewables Limited (NIRL)** for **renewable energy projects** without prior approvals. This supports NLCIL's goal to develop **10.11 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030** and **32 GW by 2047**, aligning with India's **COP26 commitments** to achieve **Net Zero emissions by 2070**. The move will **accelerate India's shift to clean energy, reduce coal imports, ensure 24x7 power supply, and strengthen its position as a green energy leader**. Currently, **NLCIL operates 2 GW of renewable capacity**, which will be transferred to

NIRL. This investment will also generate significant **direct and indirect employment**, supporting **sustainable economic growth** and **climate action goals**.

- **Cabinet Approves Enhanced Delegation of Power to NTPC for Renewable Energy Expansion** – The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has approved an **enhanced delegation of investment powers** to **NTPC Limited** from the earlier limit of **₹7,500 crore** to **₹20,000 crore** for its subsidiary **NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL)** to invest in **NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NREL)** and other **joint ventures/subsidiaries**. This will **accelerate renewable energy (RE) capacity addition** towards NTPC's target of **60 GW RE capacity by 2032**, helping India move towards its **500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity goal by 2030** and **Net Zero by 2070**. The initiative will **strengthen power infrastructure, ensure 24x7 reliable electricity access, and create employment opportunities** during both **construction and operation & maintenance stages**, benefiting **local suppliers, MSMEs, and entrepreneurs**. NGEL currently holds a portfolio of around **32 GW RE capacity** including **6 GW operational, 17 GW contracted/awarded, and 9 GW pipeline projects**.
- **Cabinet Approves 'Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana'** – The **Union Cabinet** has approved the **Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana** aimed at **improving agricultural productivity in low-yield districts** by converging schemes from **11 central departments, state governments, and other partners**. Around **100 districts** will be identified, with at least **one district from each state**, focusing on those with **low productivity or limited use of Agri Credit Cards (ACC)**. Each district will have a **nodal officer**, and **NITI Aayog** will track **progress via a dashboard**. The campaign will launch in **Rabi season (October 2025)** and will involve **district-level committees** led by **Gram Panchayats/District Collectors**, with state- and central-level teams ensuring **effective scheme convergence**. The focus will be on **crops, fruit cultivation, fisheries, beekeeping, animal husbandry, and agroforestry** with the goal of **raising productivity to national or top-level benchmarks** while promoting **socio-economic development** in rural areas.

Parliament News

State-wise July Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- **BITS Pilani** will set up **India's first 'AI Plus Campus'** in **Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh**, announced on **July 14, 2025**. The project will cost **Rs 1,000 crore**, and **admissions will begin in 2027**. The new campus will teach **AI, Data Science, Robotics, and more**, with a focus on **green energy and global exposure**. **CM Chandrababu Naidu** and **BITS Chancellor Kumar Mangalam Birla** praised the project, calling it a **key step in advanced education**. The **campus design will blend heritage and modern features**, while **Project Vistar** will further expand BITS' existing campuses.





- The **Machilipatnam Greenfield Port** in **Andhra Pradesh** is under fast construction, with **48% work completed** and plans to start operations by the **end of 2026**. Built by **MEIL**, the port will boost exports and jobs in the region. The **₹5,155 crore** project has faced delays since **2007** but is now back on track under the **Machilipatnam Port Development Corporation Ltd.** Both **Andhra Pradesh** and **Telangana** are investing in related infrastructure, like dry ports and freight corridors. Locals are hopeful about better **land prices** and **employment**. The port is expected to handle **36 million tonnes** of cargo every year and support **large ships**, becoming a key trade hub on the **east coast**.

Assam

- CM Himanta Biswa Sarma** inaugurated **India's first Aqua Tech Park** in **Sonapur**, near **Guwahati, Assam**. Developed by **Kolong Kopili NGO** with support from **NABARD, ICAR-CIFA**, and others, the park features new technologies like **biofloc, aquaponics**, and **ornamental fish breeding**. The park aims to **empower fish farmers, boost production**, and **create jobs**. Assam has already **doubled its fish output** between 2019 and 2024 and is now the **fourth-largest** fish producer in India. The government has also launched **10 fishery clusters** worth **₹8 crore** to support this growth.

Bihar

- The **Bihar Cabinet**, chaired by **CM Nitish Kumar**, approved major schemes including the **Mukhya Mantri Pratigya Yojana** for internship support, offering up to **₹6,000/month**, and the **Kalakar Pension Yojana** granting **₹3,000/month** to senior artists. Additionally, **₹882.87 crore** was sanctioned for the **integrated development** of the **Punaura Dham** temple in Sitamarhi. The Cabinet also amended the **Bihar Factory Rules** to enable **women's participation** in hazardous industries. These moves aim to boost **employment**, support **cultural heritage**, and enhance **religious tourism** ahead of the **2025 Assembly elections**.
- On **July 8, 2025**, the **Nitish Kumar-led Bihar government** approved a significant **policy shift**, granting **35% reservation in government jobs exclusively for women domiciled in Bihar**. Earlier available to **all women**, the **new domicile-based policy**—proposed by the **General Administration Department (GAD)**—restricts this **horizontal reservation to native women only**, across **all state government cadres**. **Women from other states** will now be considered under the **general category**, aiming to **empower local women** and boost their **participation in governance and administration**.
- Bihar CM **Nitish Kumar** has announced **free electricity** for domestic users up to **125 units/month**, effective **August 1, 2025**, benefiting **16.7 million families**. Under the **Kutir Jyoti** scheme, the **state will install solar panels** for poor households, aiming for **10,000 MW solar capacity** in 3 years. The move offers **economic relief, boosts clean energy**, and aligns with **inclusive governance** and **poll strategy**.
- PM **Modi inaugurated ₹7,200 crore** worth of **infrastructure projects** in **Motihari, Bihar**, under the **Viksit Bharat Mission**. These developments aim to make **Bihar a growth hub**,

ensure **urban parity**, and provide **housing and infrastructure support**. The move highlights **increased central funding, NDA-led development focus**, and Bihar's inclusion in India's long-term growth vision.

Gujarat

- Gujarat Chief Minister **Bhupendra Patel** launched the **Jan Suraksha Santrupti Abhiyan** to **expand the reach** of key **government welfare schemes** such as **PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY**, and **Jan Dhan Yojana**. Running from **July 1 to September 30, 2025**, the campaign targets **100% coverage** of eligible individuals, with added focus on **KYC updates, digital fraud awareness**, and **financial inclusion**. With **1.93 crore Jan Dhan accounts** and over **₹21,000 crore disbursed** in Gujarat alone, the campaign underscores a robust effort to ensure **equity in public service delivery**, making it a cornerstone in India's **social welfare architecture**.
- Gujarat has become the **third state** in India, after **Maharashtra** and **Uttar Pradesh**, to cross **one crore stock market investors**, as per **NSE data**. Together, these states account for **36% of India's investor base**, showing rising **financial participation**. As of **May 2025**, India has nearly **11.5 crore investors**, with **11 lakh** new additions in May alone, reflecting renewed growth after a **slowdown**. **North India** leads regionally with **4.2 crore investors**, followed by **West, South, and East India**.
- Gujarat has become the **first state** in India to officially align with the **Cruise Bharat Mission**, launched on **September 30, 2024**, by **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal**. The mission aims to boost **cruise tourism tenfold by 2029**. Gujarat plans to create multiple **coastal cruise circuits**, linking destinations like **Diu, Porbandar, Dwarka, and Padala Island**. This move not only supports India's tourism goals but also helps **develop Gujarat's maritime economy**.

Goa

- Goa launched **India's first RoRo ferry service** on the **Mandovi River**, with two high-tech ferries, **Gangotri** and **Dwarka**. These vessels, built by **Vijai Marine Shipyards**, cut travel time between **Chorao** and **Ribandar** to just **12–13 minutes** and can carry **passengers and vehicles**. Launched by **CM Pramod Sawant**, the project comes at **no cost to the government** and promises to improve water transport and support **tourism and local travel**. The ferries have **modern features** like **AC cabins, vehicle lanes**, and **emergency kits**, offering a **safe and fast journey** for all.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh** has launched **India's first Aadhaar-based Face Authentication (FaceAuth)** system for **ration distribution** under the **Public Distribution System (PDS)** in **July 2025**. The system uses a **smartphone camera** to verify a person's face instead of **OTP or fingerprints**. This new method, led by the **Department of Digital Technologies and Governance (DDTG)** and supported by **Gokul Butail**, aims to fix past issues and ensure smoother and faster service. **Himachal's initiative** marks a big move toward **digital and inclusive governance**.





- **Himachal Pradesh government**, led by **CM Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu**, launched the '**My Deed**' **NGDRS (National Generic Document Registration System)** pilot project to **digitize land registration** and promote **paperless, presence-less, and cashless governance**. The system allows citizens to apply for land registration **online**, requiring only a **single visit** to the tehsil office. Initially rolled out in **10 tehsils across 10 districts**, the project is supported by complementary **digital revenue reforms**, including a **new Jamabandi format** in Hindi, **e-Roznamcha Vakyati** (digital diary), and **Kaarguzari** (online attendance).

Jharkhand

- **Jharkhand** will soon launch **India's first Mining Tourism Project**, with support from **Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)** and oversight by **Jharkhand Tourism Development Corporation (JTDC)**. The **pilot phase** includes tours to the **North Urimari (Birsar) coal mine** via two routes—**Rajrappa** and **Patratu**—covering **mines, temples, and valleys**. The initiative aims to promote **alternative tourism**, create **employment**, and preserve **industrial heritage**, with further plans for **Eco-Mining Circuits** and a **Religious Circuit**.

Karnataka

- The **Karnataka Cabinet** has decided to rename **Bengaluru City University** after former Prime Minister **Dr. Manmohan Singh**, acknowledging his significant role in the city's **infrastructure development**. From laying foundations for the **Bengaluru Metro** and **Elevated Highway** to inaugurating the **Kempegowda International Airport**, Singh's contributions to the city are deeply embedded in its progress.
- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated the **2.44 km long Sigandur bridge** in **Shivamogga, Karnataka**, built over the **Sharavathi backwaters** at a cost of over **₹470 crore**. Named after **Goddess Chowdeshwari Devi**, the bridge connects **Sagara** and **Marakutika**, restoring links lost due to the **Linganamakki dam**. Gadkari also highlighted that **National Highway length in Karnataka** has increased significantly, with major upcoming road projects worth **₹5 lakh crore**.
- In **Swachh Survekshan 2024–25**, **Bengaluru** rose to **36th among Million-Plus Cities**, improving from last year's **125th**, but lagged in **toilet cleanliness** and **landfill remediation**. **Mysuru**, meanwhile, made headlines by joining the **Super Swachh League**, highlighting its **long-term cleanliness, community participation, and sanitation excellence**. These outcomes reflect Karnataka's progress and gaps in implementing effective **urban waste management, public hygiene**, and the overarching goals of **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban**.

Kerala

- Kerala's **first skin bank** is opening on **July 15, 2025**, at the **Thiruvananthapuram Government Medical College Hospital**. The facility, approved by **K-SOTTO** and costing **Rs 6.75 crore**, will collect **donated skin** to treat **burn victims**. **Health Minister Veena George** also announced future plans to open a similar bank in **Kottayam**. **Burn centres** and **plastic surgery units** have already been launched in **Alappuzha, Kollam, and Kannur**. This new step will improve **burn care services** and provide **relief to patients across Kerala**.

- **Arthunkal Police Station** in **Alappuzha, Kerala**, became the **first police station in India** to receive the **IS/ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System certification** from the **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**. The award acknowledges the station's excellent service in **crime control, law and order, public response, and grievance redressal**. The certification is part of the **Modernised Cherthala Police Programme**, led by **ASP Harish Jain**, which aims to upgrade policing standards. Senior police officers, including **State Police Chief Ravada Azad Chandrashekhar**, attended the event, highlighting the importance of quality standards in public safety.
- The **ambrosia beetle (*Euplatypus parallelus*)**, first reported in **India in 2012**, is now threatening **Kerala's rubber plantations**. It carries **Fusarium fungi**, which degrade wood and reduce **latex yield**. Symptoms include **leaf fall, trunk drying**, and **latex loss**. Current **control methods**—like traps and antifungals—have **limited success**. The pest also endangers other **broadleaf crops** like **cashew, teak, and coconut**. Experts recommend **localized strategies**, use of **antagonistic fungi**, and **policy-level intervention** for sustainable management.

Maharashtra

- **Mumbai's Carnac Bridge**, originally built in **1868**, has been **rebuilt and renamed as Sindoor Bridge** to honour **Operation Sindoor**, a **military strike on terror camps in Pakistan**. The new name also reflects an effort to erase the colonial legacy of **Governor Carnac**, who was linked to **atrocities against Indians**. The **new 328-metre-long bridge**, inaugurated on **July 10, 2025**, by **Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis**, will improve traffic in **South Mumbai**.
- **Maharashtra** has become the **first Indian state** to grant **agricultural status to livestock and poultry farming**, allowing over **37 million farmers** to access **subsidised electricity, agricultural credit, tax relief, and solar equipment subsidies**. This decision will benefit the **poultry, dairy, fisheries, and small ruminant sectors**, potentially adding over **₹7,000 crore annually** to the rural economy, while aligning with national goals for **scientific livestock development**.
- **Maharashtra** has unveiled **Vidarbha's first integrated steel plant** by **LMEL in Gadchiroli**, featuring a **4.5 MnTPA steel facility**, a **5 MnTPA iron ore grinding plant**, and the **state's inaugural 10 MnTPA slurry pipeline**. This initiative promises major advancements in **industrial growth, green logistics, job generation**, and puts **Vidarbha** on the map as a rising **manufacturing and infrastructure hub** in India.
- The launch of the **Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT)** in **Mumbai** by **Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw** and **Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis** signals a transformative shift in India's **creative tech economy**. The institute will provide **industry-aligned education** in **VFX, XR, animation, and gaming**, in partnership with global leaders like **Google, Meta, Microsoft, and Apple**. Aimed at nurturing **skilled professionals**, IICT is expected to catalyze growth in the **AVGC-XR sector**, positioning India as a **global digital content hub**.





Madhya Pradesh

- The **Central Government** has announced that a new **Akashvani Kendra** will be set up in **Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh**, under the **BIND** scheme. The decision was made during a meeting on **July 8, 2025**, between **Union Minister L. Murugan** and **Chief Minister Mohan Yadav**. The goal is to improve **regional broadcasting**, reach more people with reliable information, and boost **media infrastructure** in the state. **Akashvani Ujjain** will help share **news, education, culture, and government messages** more effectively with the public.
- The **Madhya Pradesh government** has introduced a new **monthly stipend scheme** offering **₹6,000 to unemployed women** and **₹5,000 to men**, tied to **internships in registered industries**. It builds upon the **Ladli Behna Yojana**, aims to **enhance skill development**, and supports **local job creation** via **industrial expansion in areas like Acharpura**. Over **1,600 jobs** are expected initially. This initiative blends **social welfare** with **industrial growth**, with a focus on **gender inclusion, economic self-reliance, and youth empowerment**.

Odisha

- Puri** will become the **sixth municipal corporation** in **Odisha**, as announced by **Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi** on **July 5, 2025**, ahead of the **Bahuda Yatra**. The decision is aimed at providing better services in the city, which welcomes **lakhs of visitors** every year. Areas around **Puri city** will be added to the corporation, and the **government** has also planned a **Jagannath Museum, Library, and Research Centre** to promote **Odia culture**. This move supports the state's **vision to make Puri a major tourist and spiritual centre by 2036**.

Tamil Nadu

- The **Union Cabinet's approval** of the **₹1,853 crore** project to upgrade the **Paramakudi–Ramanathapuram road** in **Tamil Nadu** marks a significant step toward **infrastructure modernization**. Developed under the **Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)**, the project will convert **46.7 km of NH-87** into a **four-lane corridor**, improving connectivity between key towns and religious destinations like **Rameshwaram**. This initiative is expected to **decongest traffic, boost tourism, enhance road safety, and generate over 18 lakh employment person-days**, making it a cornerstone for **regional development and economic integration** in the state.
- The **PM MITRA Textile Park** in **Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu**, is a landmark initiative under India's textile growth strategy. With a **₹1,900 crore** investment from the **Central Government**, this **1,052-acre** facility will offer advanced infrastructure, including **ZLD effluent treatment, worker dormitories, and industrial workspaces**. Expected to attract **₹10,000 crore** in private investments and generate **over one lakh jobs by 2026**, the park will significantly enhance **export-oriented and sustainable textile manufacturing** in the region.

- Gingee Fort**, located in **Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu**, was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** on **July 11, 2025**, as part of the **Maratha Military Landscapes**. The decision was made during the **47th session of the World Heritage Committee** in **Paris**. Known as the "**Troy of the East**", the fort stands out for its unique architecture, strong military design, and deep historical roots. The recognition brings global attention, expected tourism boost, and preservation support to one of **India's iconic heritage sites**.
- The **Tamil Nadu government** has approved a **Centre of Excellence for Hornbill Conservation** at the **Anamalai Tiger Reserve** with **₹1 crore funding** from the **Endangered Species Conservation Corpus Fund**. The project targets four hornbill species and includes **population monitoring, habitat restoration, community-based nest adoption, and collaborative research**. It also introduces **citizen science tools** and **educational support** to promote conservation awareness. This initiative addresses key issues like **habitat loss, climate change, and biodiversity decline** in the **Western Ghats**.

Uttarakhand

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami** announced the launch of '**Operation Kalanemi**', a police campaign to catch **fake saints and religious impersonators** in the state. The operation is named after **Kalanemi**, a demon from **Hindu mythology** who disguised himself as a saint to mislead others. **Dhami said** these individuals cheat people, especially **women**, and harm the image of **Sanatana Dharma**.

Uttar Pradesh

- President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu**, visited **Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh**, to **inaugurate and lay foundation stones** for several major projects at **Mahayogi Gorakhnath University**. She opened a new **Auditorium, Academic Block, and Panchkarma Kendra**, and laid the foundation stone for a **Girls' Hostel**, aimed at boosting **women's education**. Praising the University's efforts to integrate **modern Allopathy and traditional Ayurveda**, she highlighted its role in **holistic medical education**.
- The **75th Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendra (PMDK)** will be **inaugurated on July 15, 2025**, at **Badaun, Uttar Pradesh**, by **Union Minister Shri B.L. Verma**. This **centre will help persons with disabilities and senior citizens** by giving them **free aids like wheelchairs, tricycles, and hearing aids** under the **ADIP Scheme and Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)**. With this new centre, **75 PMDKs are now working across India**, having already supported **over 1.40 lakh people**. This move shows the government's strong focus on **inclusive growth and last-mile service delivery**.





Union Territories

- The **Government of India** is poised to transform **Jammu and Kashmir's** fisheries and livestock sectors with a proposed **₹100-crore Integrated Aqua Park** under **PMMSY Phase-II**. Union Minister **Rajiv Ranjan Singh** also inaugurated a **50,000-litre UHT Milk Plant** in Jammu, underscoring the focus on **rural income generation, cold-water aquaculture, and dairy productivity**. The region has seen **800% growth in trout production** and substantial increases in **milk output**, aided by strategic investments and seed imports from **Denmark**.
- The **Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC)** will soon replace its **pink ticket system** with a new **'Saheli Smart Card'** for **free bus travel**. Only **women and transgender persons living in Delhi** will be able to get the card, using **Aadhaar and address proof**. The card aims to stop misuse, ensure the benefit goes to the right people, and support a **modern, cashless, and connected transport system**. The **Saheli Card**, along with **Zero KYC and Full KYC Cards**, is part of a **larger digital plan** that includes **QR-based tickets, NCMC integration, and mobile apps** for smoother travel across **Delhi's public transport network**.
- NeVA Seva Centre** was inaugurated by **Speaker Vijender Gupta** at the **Delhi Legislative Assembly** to promote **paperless governance**. The first phase of the **NeVA project** was completed, offering **digital tools, training, and smartphones** to MLAs. The initiative supports **Digital India**, aims for **transparency**, and enhances **legislative efficiency** through **technology-driven solutions**.
- Puducherry's One-Time Regularisation Scheme 2025** aims to **legalise unauthorised constructions** made between **May 1, 1987 – July 16, 2025**. Applications are accepted **online via OBPS**, with **fixed fees and scrutiny charges**. **Government buildings are exempt**, while **aided schools receive 50% fee relief**. **Encroachments and plots without legal ownership are excluded**. This move will **improve urban planning compliance** and offer **legal protection** to existing property owners.
- The **Delhi Government** has hiked cash rewards for **Olympic and Paralympic medalists** under the **Mukhyamantri Khel Protsahan Yojana**, offering **₹7 crore for Gold, ₹5 crore for Silver, and ₹3 crore for Bronze**, along with **Grade A jobs** for top Olympic winners. The scheme also includes **₹3 crore for Asian Games Gold**, and introduces the **Mukhyamantri Digital Education Scheme** to provide **laptops to 1,200 meritorious students** and upgrade **computer labs** in government schools.

July Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** inaugurated the **National Turmeric Board Headquarters** in **Nizamabad, Telangana**, on **June 30, 2025**. This move fulfills a **long-pending demand** of turmeric farmers and aligns with the Centre's ambitious goal of reaching **\$1 billion in turmeric exports by 2030**. The board will focus on **research, branding, marketing, and ensuring fair prices for farmers**. Backed by **₹200 crore in funding**, it holds significant value for **agriculture, exports, and rural livelihoods**.

- The **Government of India** has introduced **Model Rules for Felling of Trees in Agricultural Lands** to promote **agroforestry**, streamline **tree harvesting permissions**, and support **sustainable agricultural practices**. The upcoming **National Timber Management System (NTMS) Portal** will facilitate online registration of plantations using **geo-tagged data** and enable **ease of doing business** in rural areas. This initiative, guided by **State Level Committees** and monitored by **Divisional Forest Officers**, will enhance **timber production**, empower **farmers**, and support **climate resilience**.
- The **C-FLOOD Unified Inundation Forecasting System**, launched by Union Jal Shakti Minister **C.R. Patil**, is a **web-based platform** offering **advanced flood predictions** up to the **village level**. Developed jointly by **C-DAC, CWC, and NRSC**, the system integrates **hydrodynamic modelling, HPC simulations, and satellite data** under the **National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)**. It currently covers three major **river basins—Mahanadi, Godavari, and Tapi**—with plans for wider rollout. The initiative enhances **disaster management capabilities**, enabling **timely evacuations** and reducing risks from **flood disasters** through **scientific forecasting and inter-agency coordination**.
- The Ministry of Coal will launch the **RECLAIM Framework** to promote inclusive and sustainable mine closures in India. Designed with field-tested tools and methodologies, the framework emphasizes **community engagement, gender equity, and representation of vulnerable groups**. It aligns with **Panchayati Raj Institutions** to ensure **local relevance** and foster long-term **livelihood security and repurposing of mining lands**. With this, India takes a progressive step toward **just transitions** in the mining sector.
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** and **Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary** inaugurated the **Uttar Pradesh Agritech Innovation Hub and Agritech Startup & Technology Showcase** at **SVPuat, Meerut**, marking a major step in **digitally transforming agriculture**. The initiative connects **farmers, startups, technologists, and academia** to develop **sustainable, region-specific solutions**. Equipped with **IoT-enabled sensors, smart irrigation, automation tools, and real-time analytics**, the **Agritech Hub** promotes **precision farming and climate-resilient agriculture**.
- The **Indian Army** has launched **Operation SHIVA 2025** to ensure the **safe conduct of the Amarnath Yatra** in **Jammu and Kashmir**. The operation began on **July 12, 2025**, and includes the deployment of **8,500+ troops, anti-drone systems, medical facilities, and engineering support**. With coordination from **CAPFs and civil administration**, the operation addresses **security threats from Pakistan-backed groups**. The Army's efforts include **surveillance, disaster readiness, and emergency response**, reflecting its **dedication to the safety of pilgrims** during this sacred journey.
- The **Mahila Aarogyam Kaksh**, inaugurated by **Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal** in **July 2025**, is a **women-exclusive wellness space** launched by the **Department of Legal Affairs**. Located at **Shastri Bhawan**, it includes a **gym and lactation room**, promoting **fitness, mental well-being, and inclusive workplace culture** under the **Fit India Movement and Viksit Bharat vision**.





Important Festival

- Ladakh recently concluded its **first Astro Tourism Festival**, held in **Leh** and organized by the **Tourism Department** in collaboration with the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics**. The two-day event featured **night sky observations**, **expert-led sessions**, and educational outreach programs, aiming to transform Ladakh into a hub for **astro tourism**. With ideal conditions like **clear skies**, **high altitude**, and **low light pollution**, this initiative not only promotes **scientific awareness** but also aligns with sustainable tourism development.
- The **Maharashtra government**, on **July 10, 2025**, declared **Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav** as a **state festival**, as announced by **Cultural Affairs Minister Ashish Shelar** in the **Legislative Assembly**. The festival, started by **Lokmanya Tilak in 1893**, is a symbol of **unity, culture, and pride** in **Maharashtra**. The government will now **fund and promote** the grand celebrations across the state. This step aims to support traditional **community spirit**, enhance **cultural heritage**, and involve more people in the joyful occasion.
- The **Behdeinkhlam Festival** was celebrated with energy and joy in **Jowai, Meghalaya**, in **July 2025**. The festival is important to the **Phars**, a sub-tribe of the **Jaintia** community, and is a prayer for **health** and a **good harvest**. Rituals include carrying the **Symbud Khnong**, dancing, food offerings by women, and playing the unique game **Dad-lawakor**. It also spreads messages on **drug-free living**, **climate awareness**, and **tradition preservation**. The festival plays a big role in keeping the **Niamtre faith** alive and in uniting the community.
- The **Saara Vizha 2025**, held in **Courtallam, Tamil Nadu**, is a vibrant **monsoon festival** that celebrates **culture, tradition, and community welfare**. Inaugurated by **Revenue Minister K.K.S.R. Ramachandran**, the event featured **cultural performances**, a **flower exhibition**, and **public competitions**, blending nature with heritage. With strong **government support**, participation from **local officials**, and engagement through **traditional arts** and youth events, the festival underscores Tamil Nadu's focus on **inclusive cultural development**.
- The **Aadi Thiruvathirai Festival (23–27 July 2025)** at **Gangaikonda Cholapuram** honors **Rajendra Chola I's birth anniversary**, marking **1,000 years** of his **maritime expedition** and **temple construction**. The event includes **Bharatanatyam**, **Devaram chanting**, **ASI exhibitions**, and a performance by **Ilaiyaraaja**, with **PM Modi** as Chief Guest. The festival promotes **Shaiva Siddhanta**, **Tamil Bhakti tradition**, and **Chola heritage**, highlighting the ruler's visionary **cultural and political impact**.
- Uttarakhand** will celebrate the **Harela festival** on **July 16, 2025**, by planting **over 5 lakh saplings** across the **Garhwal** and **Kumaon regions**. The event, guided by **Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami**, will focus on the themes **"Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam"** and **"Harela Ka Tyohar Manao, Dharti Maa Ka Rin Chukao."** The plantation drive will involve **students**,

villagers, and government bodies. This green initiative aims to **break the previous record** and highlight the state's commitment to **environmental protection** and **community participation**.

Miscellaneous National News

- In a significant step toward digital transformation in railway services, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the 'RailOne' mobile application on July 2, 2025. Developed as a comprehensive, one-stop platform, the app provides passengers with unified access to services such as ticket booking, PNR enquiry, journey planning, meal booking, and freight enquiries, enhancing the convenience and digital experience for millions of users.
- From **August 2025**, all **post offices in India** will begin accepting **digital payments** using **dynamic QR codes** linked to the **UPI system**, as part of the **Department of Posts' IT 2.0 upgrade**. The move follows a successful pilot in **Karnataka** and aims to promote **financial inclusion**, especially in **rural and semi-urban areas**. Replacing static QR codes, the new real-time dynamic system ensures **secure, seamless, and cashless transactions** at postal counters, aligning with the goals of **Digital India** and a **cashless economy**.
- On **Statistics Day 2025**, the **National Sample Survey Office (NSO)** under **MoSPI** launched the **GoStats mobile app**, a digital tool offering **real-time, on-the-go access** to **official government statistics** like **GDP, inflation, and employment**. With features such as **interactive dashboards, infographics, CSV downloads**, and a **user-friendly design**, the app promotes **data transparency, citizen empowerment**, and supports **Digital India** and **Viksit Bharat** missions.
- In a sweeping reform move, the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** is de-listing **345 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)** that have not contested elections since 2019 and are untraceable. While registered under **Section 29A of the RP Act, 1951**, many RUPPs exploit benefits like **tax exemptions, common symbols, and star campaigners** despite being inactive. The ECI lacks explicit **de-registration powers**, but parties are being removed for **non-compliance** and **non-existence**. Legal and electoral reform bodies like the **Law Commission** and the **ECI's 2016 Memorandum** have recommended amending the RP Act to empower de-registration. This clean-up drive supports electoral transparency and curbs misuse of public provisions.
- India's **first wooden Gurdwara, Sri Nanak Niwas**, constructed in **Fazilka, Punjab**, is a remarkable fusion of **spirituality, architectural brilliance, and personal devotion**. Made from **Finnish Deodhar wood**, it was conceptualized and built by **SSP Bhupinder Singh Sidhu** in just **three months**, making it a **beacon of faith** and an example of **inclusive, sustainable religious architecture**. With its **daily rituals, global devotees, and community role**, the shrine stands as a **testament to seva, resilience, and unity**.





- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** has officially renamed **NIPCCD** as the *Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development*, paying tribute to the legendary reformer. Along with this, a new **Regional Centre in Ranchi** will be launched on **July 4, 2025**, aimed at strengthening training and outreach for key schemes like **Mission Shakti**, **Mission Vatsalya**, and **Poshan 2.0** in **Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal**.
- The **Digital House Address Project** by the **Indore Municipal Corporation** marks a major step in India's **smart city evolution**. By using **QR codes** linked to **GPS** and integrating with the **Digipin system**, Indore has created a **modern, efficient, and scalable** address solution. This **digital transformation** ensures **real-time service access**, **enhances emergency responses**, and lays the groundwork for **data-driven urban planning**. With **low-cost digital plates** and **user-friendly systems**, this initiative holds the potential to be replicated across Indian cities, supporting the vision of **Digital India** and **urban inclusivity**.
- With rising **life expectancy** but increasing **age-related diseases** like **Parkinson's** and **dementia**, the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, Bengaluru launched **BHARAT** in **2023** — a research project under the **Longevity India Program**. **BHARAT** (Biomarkers of Healthy Aging, Resilience, Adversity, and Transitions) aims to build a **scientific health baseline** specific to **Indians**, addressing the problem of **misdiagnosis** caused by using **Western biomarkers**. The project collects extensive data, including **genomic, proteomic, metabolic, environmental, and socio-economic** indicators, to understand **how Indians age** and why **some age healthier** than others. The ultimate goal is to establish the **Bharat Baseline**, enabling **personalized healthcare** and **early disease detection** tailored to India's diverse population.
- On **July 2, 2025**, the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** revised its toll rule to **cut charges by up to 50%** on **National Highway** sections with **tunnels, bridges, flyovers, and elevated roads**. The new formula bases toll on the **lesser of two values**, easing the cost for drivers. A **senior NHAI official** confirmed that this will help both the **public** and the **infrastructure system**. The change is set to **lower travel costs** and **promote the use of highways** with **big structures**.
- The **Haryana government** will build **Asia's largest jungle safari** in the **Aravalli Hills**, as announced on **July 6, 2025**. The safari will be spread over **10,000 acres** and will focus on **wildlife protection, green tourism, and job creation**. **Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini** and other top leaders are working hard to make this project a success. The plan will not only bring **tourists** but also help in **saving nature**. The safari is expected to be a **model of eco-friendly tourism and conservation** in India.
- On **July 8, 2025**, **NTPC Simhadri** celebrated its **28th Raising Day** at its **Parawada campus** in **Anakapalli district, Andhra Pradesh**, marking **nearly three decades** of service, innovation, and **community development**. **Executive Director Sameer Sharma** led the celebrations by hoisting the **NTPC flag** and highlighting **Simhadri's journey** since its **establishment in 1997** as **NTPC's first coastal-based power station**. Beyond power generation, the plant has achieved **100% ash utilization**, showcasing its commitment to **sustainability, environmental conservation, and social responsibility** through **green initiatives** and **community outreach programs**.
- **PM Narendra Modi**, during his **state visit to Brazil**, set a target to raise **India–Brazil trade** to **\$20 billion by 2030**. He proposed expanding the **Mercosur trade agreement** and announced Brazil's adoption of **India's UPI digital payment system**. Modi received Brazil's **highest civilian honour**, the **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross**. Key deals included cooperation in **biofuels, renewable energy, intelligence sharing, pharmaceuticals, and rare earth minerals**, marking a stronger **strategic partnership** between the two **Global South** nations.
- A **commemorative postage stamp** was released on **July 9, 2025**, by the **Department of Posts** to mark the **125th Birth Anniversary of Syama Prasad Mookerjee**. The event was held at **Siri Fort Auditorium, Delhi**, and featured **cultural performances, an exhibition, and a short documentary**. The stamp, **designed by Smt. Nenu Gupta**, reflects Mookerjee's work in **education, national unity, and constitutional development**. The launch was attended by **Union Ministers** and other top officials.
- Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** announced at **India Energy Storage Week (IESW)** in **New Delhi** that **India's solar capacity has grown by 4,000%**, with total **renewable energy capacity now at 227 GW**. He spoke about major schemes like **PM Surya Ghar Yojana** and **PM Kusum Yojana**, and introduced a **₹1 lakh crore Innovation Fund** to support **next-generation battery technologies**. The government also stressed the need for **strong supply chains** and **energy storage systems** to support India's clean energy goals.
- **National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS)** and **UNICEF India** launched **TALASH**, a digital program aimed at helping **tribal students** in **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)** across **28 states and 8 union territories**. **TALASH** includes **aptitude tests, career counselling, life skills training, and support for teachers**. Over **1.38 lakh students** are expected to benefit. The program supports the goals of **NEP 2020** and will be fully rolled out by the **end of 2025**, making it a big step towards **inclusive and holistic education** for tribal youth.
- **President Droupadi Murmu** has **nominated four new members—Ujjwal Nikam, C. Sadanandan Master, Harsh Vardhan Shringla, and Dr. Meenakshi Jain—to the Rajya Sabha** on **July 12, 2025**, based on the **Council of Ministers' advice**. The announcement was made under **Article 80** of the Constitution. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** congratulated them and praised their contributions in fields such as **law, education, foreign policy, and history**. These nominations aim to ensure that the **Rajya Sabha** includes experts from **diverse fields** who can offer unique and informed viewpoints during discussions.





- **Yakten village** in **Sikkim** became **India's first digital nomad village** under the '**Nomad Sikkim**' project. With strong internet, power backup, and homestays run by locals, it gives remote workers a peaceful and connected place to live and work. This move supports **rural income**, promotes **sustainable tourism**, and shows how India's villages can grow with the **digital economy**.
- **Gujarat** has emerged as the **top state in India for processed potato production**, with **Banaskantha** leading the way, followed by **Sabarkantha** and **Aravalli**. The state produced **48.59 lakh tonnes** of potatoes in **2024–25**, with more than **25%** used for processing. With strong government support, high-quality varieties, and cold storage systems, Gujarat is now meeting domestic needs and entering global markets. The success shows how modern farming and smart policies can help rural economies grow.
- **Health Ministry of India** started a new **Snack Nutrition Awareness Campaign** at **AIIMS Nagpur**. The campaign includes **posters beside food stalls** showing how much **sugar, fat, and trans fat** is in common snacks like **samosas and biscuits**. It warns about **health risks** and promotes **moderation**. The **Health Secretary** asked all **government offices** to join by sharing health messages and offering healthier food. A **The Lancet** study says **India may have 450 million obese people by 2050**. This campaign is part of a larger plan to fight **obesity and lifestyle diseases** by helping people make **informed food choices**.
- India is set to be the **first country outside Japan** to launch the latest **E10 Shinkansen bullet trains**, beginning with the **Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR)** in the **early 2030s**. Until then, two **E5 trains**, arriving in **2026**, will be used for **trial runs** and testing under **Indian conditions**. The **E10**, also called **Alfa-X**, is capable of **400 kmph** and offers **advanced safety and comfort**. The **₹1.1-lakh-crore** MAHSR project has made strong construction progress, with **310 km of viaducts, 15 bridges, and 5 stations** completed so far. This major step highlights **India-Japan collaboration** in building **world-class railway infrastructure**.
- **Gujarat** launches **India's first Tribal Genome Sequencing Project**, sequencing **2,000 individuals** across **17 districts** to detect **genetic diseases** like **sickle cell anaemia**. Led by **GBRC**, the project creates a **reference genome database**, enabling **personalised healthcare**. Approved under the **2025–26 budget**, it bridges **science and tribal welfare**, setting a national example in **genomic medicine**.
- **NSCSTI 2.0**, launched on **July 18, 2025** by **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, is a revamped framework developed by the **Capacity Building Commission** under **Mission Karmayogi**. It simplifies **evaluation metrics**, incorporates **digital tools and AI**, and aligns with models like **KCM** and **AGK**. Adaptable across all **government levels**, the framework supports **outcome-based assessments, cross-learning, and institutional excellence**, positioning India as a **leader in civil services reform**.
- At the **International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2025**, India ranked **7th globally** out of **110 countries**, winning **three golds, two silvers, and one bronze**, while setting a **national score record of 193/252**. With strong support from **HBCSE**, and under the guidance of expert leaders like **Prof. Shanta Laishram**, India's performance highlights the **growing success** of its **Olympiad ecosystem**, and the country's **consistent rise** in **global mathematics competitions**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will undertake a **two-nation tour** to the **United Kingdom** and the **Maldives** from **July 23–26, 2025**, focusing on strengthening the **India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** and advancing the **India-Maldives Maritime Security Partnership**. In the UK, Modi will hold talks with **PM Keir Starmer** and meet **King Charles III**, covering areas such as **trade, technology, defence, and climate action**. In the Maldives, he will be the **Guest of Honour** at the **60th Independence Day celebrations** and review bilateral progress under **Vision MAHASAGAR**. The visit reflects India's emphasis on **Neighbourhood First, strategic engagement, and regional leadership**.
- Vice President **Jagdeep Dhankhar's** resignation on **July 21, 2025**, has temporarily transferred the **Rajya Sabha chairmanship** to **Deputy Chairperson Harivansh** under **Article 91**. The **Vice Presidential election**, mandated under **Articles 63–71** and the **Vice-President (Election) Rules, 1974**, must occur within **60 days**, involving **788 MPs** as the electoral college. The next Vice President must be an **Indian citizen, 35+ years old, and Rajya Sabha eligible**. Dhankhar's resignation not only initiates a crucial election but also reflects the evolving dynamics within the **executive-legislature framework**.
- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has asserted that **Aadhaar, voter ID, and ration cards** are *not valid standalone documents* for establishing **voter eligibility** during the **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** in **Bihar**. Citing powers under **Article 324**, the ECI emphasized its authority to manage elections independently. The exercise aims to **purify electoral rolls**, and as of **July 18**, over **7.11 crore** electors had submitted forms. The Commission stated that **citizenship, not mere possession of ID, is the key eligibility criterion, and denial of registration** does not affect one's **citizenship status**.
- India's **IP filings rose by 44%**, led by major reforms in **patent laws, fee concessions** for **startups/MSMEs, digitized IP offices**, and awareness through **NIPAM**. The **380% growth** in **GI applications, AI tools, IP Dashboard, and SIPP scheme** reflect a modern and inclusive IP ecosystem aimed at encouraging **innovation, ease of filing, and economic value creation**.





- **Article 67(a)** of the Indian Constitution enables the **Vice President** to **resign** by writing to the **President**. Along with clauses (b) and (c), it ensures a **well-defined exit mechanism** for the office. If the Vice President resigns or is removed, **Article 68(2)** mandates an election within **60 days**. The Vice President is elected by an **electoral college** of both **Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha** members. The recent resignation of **Jagdeep Dhankhar** highlights the working of these provisions in practice.
- The **Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has warned **ICAR scientists and senior officials** over the **rampant sale of fake biostimulants** in India. These **unregulated products**, which claim to improve **plant productivity**, have come under scrutiny due to **numerous farmer complaints**. The minister called for **tougher regulations, scientific review, and accountability**, stating that **farmers must not be misled** by corporate interests. The issue gained prominence after his **Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan** tour, where he personally engaged with affected farmers.
- The **World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector** focuses on creating **agri-infrastructure at PACS level**, such as **godowns, processing units, and Fair Price Shops**, with support from **NABARD** and governments. Over **500 PACS** have been identified under this scheme, aiming for **universal coverage** across villages. With a financial outlay of **₹2,925 crore for computerization**, the plan enhances **grain storage, farmer empowerment, and supply chain resilience** in India.
- Under the **National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission**, **6 crore individuals** have been screened using **POCT kits**, with **2.15 lakh diagnosed**, and **2.6 crore health cards** distributed. The mission, launched in **July 2023**, aims to **eliminate sickle cell anemia by 2047** through **universal screening, awareness, and counselling**. States like **Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Odisha** are leading the initiative. A **digital portal** consolidates nationwide data and tracks mission progress.
- The **National Cooperation Policy – 2025** aims to **triple GDP contribution**, bring in **50 crore active members**, and promote **grassroots-led development** through at least **one cooperative per village** and **five model villages per tehsil**. It prioritizes **technology-enabled, transparent, and youth-driven cooperatives** in new sectors like **insurance, tourism, taxi services, and green energy**. With **White Revolution 2.0, Sahkar Taxi**, and a dedicated **cooperative university**, the policy seeks to build an **inclusive, self-reliant, and future-ready cooperative ecosystem**.
- The **India-UK Vision 2035** is a strategic blueprint to transform India-UK ties through enhanced cooperation in **trade (CETA, BIT), defence (10-year roadmap, joint R&D), technology (AI, biotech, semiconductors), climate (green finance, clean energy, SMRs), and education (transnational degrees, youth exchange)**. It supports **people-to-people links**, reinforces a **rules-based international order**, and promotes **multilateral reform**. The partnership is guided by annual reviews and high-level dialogues, ensuring dynamic, inclusive, and future-ready collaboration.
- India has **achieved 20% ethanol blending in petrol in 2025**, five years ahead of the **2030 target**, marking a major step in its **clean energy transition**. The blending level rose from **1.5% in 2014 to 20% in 2025**, saving **₹1.36 lakh crore in foreign exchange**, reducing **CO₂ emissions by 698 lakh tonnes**, and providing **₹1.18 lakh crore to farmers**. Derived mainly from **sugarcane**, ethanol production has boosted the **biofuel industry**, rural incomes, and supported India's **climate goals and energy security**.
- **Narendra Modi** has officially become **India's second-longest serving Prime Minister**, completing **4,078 consecutive days** in office on **July 25, 2025**, surpassing **Indira Gandhi's record**. He is the **first non-Congress PM** to serve **two full terms**, the **longest-serving leader from a non-Hindi-speaking state**, and the **first post-independence born PM** to achieve this feat, marking a **historic moment** in Indian political history.
- India has **successfully tested its first hydrogen-powered train coach at ICF Chennai**, marking its entry into the group of nations using **hydrogen rail technology**. Under the **Hydrogen for Heritage initiative**, Indian Railways plans to run **35 hydrogen trains**, each costing **₹80 crore**, with **₹70 crore** for supporting infrastructure. A **pilot project** on the **Jind–Sonipat section** is also underway. The **1,200 HP hydrogen train** in development reinforces India's vision of **net-zero emissions and green transport innovation**.
- The **60th anniversary of India-Maldives diplomatic ties** was marked by the **release of commemorative stamps** by **PM Modi and President Muizzu**. The stamps showcased the **Indian Uru boat and Maldivian Vadhu Dhoni**, representing the **shared maritime culture**, historical Indian Ocean trade, and the **deep bilateral relationship** established since **1965**. India was one of the first nations to recognize Maldives' independence. These stamps symbolize the **mutual heritage, regional cooperation, and strengthening of people-to-people ties**.
- **PM Modi** gifted a **Sonoma dove tree sapling** to **King Charles III** at **Sandringham Estate** under the initiative '**Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam**', promoting **environmental awareness and India-UK green diplomacy**. The tree, known for its **early and beautiful flowering**, will be planted in **autumn**. This initiative aims to **encourage tree plantation, honour mothers, and strengthen bilateral ties** on shared **ecological values**. Other key topics discussed included **CETA, Yoga, Ayurveda, and people-to-people connections** through sports.





National Current Affairs of June 2025

Important Current Affairs of June

India to Conduct Population Census 2027 in Two Phases with Caste Enumeration

After a 16-year gap since the last official population count, the Government of India has announced the Population Census 2027, to be conducted in two phases along with caste enumeration. The reference date for most regions will be 00:00 hours on March 1, 2027, while for the Union Territory of Ladakh, and snow-bound areas of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, the reference date will be October 1, 2026. This marks a significant step in reviving the decadal census process, which was postponed in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Why in News?

The Ministry of Home Affairs recently announced that the Population Census 2027 will include caste enumeration and will be conducted in two phases, reaffirming the government's intent to modernize and update demographic data crucial for governance, planning, and social welfare schemes. The notification of the census will be published in the Official Gazette on June 16, 2025, under Section 3 of the Census Act, 1948.

Background of Census in India

- The Census of India is governed by the Census Act, 1948 and Census Rules, 1990.
- The last full population census was conducted in 2011, with over 1.2 billion people enumerated.
- The 2021 Census was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite all preparatory work being completed.

Key Features of Census 2027

Conducted in Two Phases

- **Phase I:** House Listing Operations
- **Phase II:** Population Enumeration

Reference Date

- March 1, 2027 for most of India.
- October 1, 2026 for Ladakh and snow-bound areas of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

Inclusion of Caste Enumeration

- For the first time in decades, caste enumeration will be officially conducted alongside the population count.
- Aimed at gathering granular socio-economic data for evidence-based policy making and social justice programs.

Objectives and Importance

- Update population figures to reflect the current demographic trends.
- Aid in planning public infrastructure, allocating welfare schemes, and electoral management.
- Caste data will help in evaluating the effectiveness of reservation policies and identifying marginalized communities.

Static and Legal Facts

- **Legal basis:** Section 3 of Census Act, 1948
- **Notification Date:** 16 June 2025

Last census phases

- **2011:** House Listing (Apr–Sep 2010), Enumeration (Feb 2011)
- **2021 (Postponed):** Planned for Apr 2020 and Feb 2021

PM Modi Inaugurates Chenab Rail Bridge, Completing Kashmir's Rail Link to India

On **June 6, 2025**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Chenab Rail Bridge** in Jammu & Kashmir — now the **world's highest railway arch bridge at 359 metres**, taller than the Eiffel Tower. This marks the completion of the **Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL)**, a **272-km fully electrified** project, launched over **42 years ago** to integrate Kashmir with the national railway network.

Why in News?

The bridge, part of the USBRL, enables **seamless, all-weather electrified connectivity** to the Kashmir Valley for the first time. It will boost **trade, tourism, employment**, and strengthen **national integration**.

Project Timeline

- **Qazigund–Baramulla (118 km):** Oct 2009
- **Qazigund–Banihal (18 km):** Jun 2013
- **Udhampur–Katra (25 km):** Jul 2014
- **Banihal–Sangaldan (48.1 km):** Feb 2024
- **Chenab Bridge inaugurated:** Jun 2025

Chenab Bridge Highlights

- **Height:** 359 m (world's highest railway arch)
- **Length:** 1,315 m
- **Arch Span:** 467 m
- **Design:** Steel-concrete arch; earthquake and high-wind resistant
- **Built in:** Challenging Himalayan terrain with **36 tunnels & 943 bridges**

Other Key Infrastructure

- **Anji Bridge:** India's first cable-stayed railway bridge, linking Katra to Kashmir Valley.
- **Vande Bharat Trains:** New Katra–Srinagar service; travel time cut to **~3 hours**.



- **Healthcare Boost:** ₹350 crore **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence**, Katra — first medical college in the region.

Significance

The USBRL and Chenab Bridge will:

- Reduce travel time & improve freight movement
- Support **security logistics** and disaster management
- Promote **sustainable tourism** and **green transport**
- Serve as a **symbol of engineering excellence** and **national unity**

11 Years of Digital India: A Tech Revolution Empowering the Poorest

As India marks 11 years of the Digital India initiative, the country reflects on a technological revolution that has redefined governance, transparency, and service delivery. Launched in 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Digital India aimed to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Over the past decade, it has become the backbone of many public welfare schemes, ensuring that the benefits of development reach even the remotest corners of the country.

Why in News?

June 2025 marks the 11th anniversary of the Digital India mission. PM Modi highlighted its transformative impact, especially in empowering the poor and promoting transparency. The initiative is now deeply embedded in policy-making and public welfare delivery across sectors.

1. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): Speed & Transparency

- 322+ schemes under 56 ministries integrated.
- ₹44 lakh crore transferred directly to beneficiary accounts.
- ₹3.48 lakh crore saved by eliminating leakages and middlemen.
- 90x increase in DBT volumes over the past decade.

RANKERS

BATCH

FOR MAINS

FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025

Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm

2. Aadhaar: World's Largest Digital Identity

- Over 140 crore citizens have a 12-digit Aadhaar number.
- Aadhaar authentication transactions have crossed 150 billion.
- Critical for DBT, digital signatures, banking KYC, and more.

3. DigiLocker: Making Governance Paperless

- 52+ crore users.
- 852+ crore documents issued.
- Enables secure access to certificates (e.g., PAN, driving licenses, education).

4. Jeevan Pramaan: Easing Pensioner Lives

- Digital Life Certificates eliminate the need for in-person bank visits.
- Over 10 crore pensioners registered.
- 143 lakh Digital Life Certificates submitted since Nov 2024.

5. UMANG App: One Nation, One Digital Gateway

- Offers 2,000+ services across departments on a single app.
- 8.21 crore users, 597+ crore transactions.

6. Rural Digital Empowerment

- Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA):
- Aims to make 6 crore rural Indians digitally literate.
- Reduces the digital divide and boosts digital awareness at the grassroots.

Nine years of Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan

Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) – Key Facts

- **Launched:** June 2016 by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- **Objective:** Reduce **Maternal and Neonatal Mortality** by providing **free, quality ANC services** to pregnant women in their **2nd and 3rd trimesters**
- **ANC Day:** 9th of every month
- **Coverage (till June 2025):** Over **6.19 crore** pregnant women examined

Major Features

- **Free check-ups**, diagnostics, counselling, nutritional support
- **High-Risk Pregnancy (HRP) identification & referral**
- **Public-Private Partnership:** 6,813 private specialists voluntarily involved
- **Facilities Offering Services:** 20,752

Extended PMSMA (E-PMSMA) – Launched Jan 2022

- **Tracks HRP cases till delivery + 45 days postnatal**
- **HRPs identified:** Over **78.27 lakh** (as of Dec 2024)
- **Name-based tracking**, SMS alerts, 4 sessions/month for HRPs



Impact on Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)

- **MMR 2014–16:** 130 per 1 lakh live births
- **MMR 2021–23:** 80 per 1 lakh live births

Related Schemes

- **JSY:** Institutional deliveries via cash benefits – 11.07 crore beneficiaries
- **JSSK:** Free delivery & newborn care – 16.60 crore served
- **LaQshya:** Improves labour room & ICU quality
- **SUMAN:** Respectful maternity care – 90,015 facilities (as of Mar 2025)
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan:** Malnutrition reduction – 6.97 crore Poshan Pakhwadas
- **PMMVY:** ₹5,000 cash support for maternal health

Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025 Winners Announced

The **Sahitya Akademi**, India's premier literary institution and an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has made a significant announcement regarding children's literature in the country. Under the distinguished chairmanship of **Sri Madhav Kaushik**, the Executive Board convened in its recent meeting to finalize the recipients of the prestigious **Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025**.

Complete List of Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025 Winners

Language-Wise Award Recipients

The following table presents the complete list of **24 distinguished winners** of the **Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025**, organized by language with their respective works and authors:

Language	Title and Genre	Author
Assamese	Mahabharathar Padya (Poetry)	Surendra Mohan Das
Bengali	Echhara Gaye Katha Daye (Stories)	Tridib Kumar Chattopadhyay
Bodo	Khanthi Boronn Ang Abhu Duhui (Stories)	Binay Kumar Brahma
Dogri	Nachi Tor (Poetry)	P.L.Parihar "Shaad"
English	Dibakar Sinha Indian Myths and Fables Retold (Stories)	Nitin Kushalappa MP
Gujarati	Trivak (Poetry)	Kirtida Brahmbhatt
Hindi	Ek Kaley Bara (Short Stories)	Sushil Shukla
Kannada	Notebook (Short Stories)	K. Shivalingappa Harisdhal

Language	Title and Genre	Author
Kashmiri	Shure Ta Toturu Gyash (Short Stories)	Ishar Mubaashir
Konkani	Betekaddo Shankar Aani Haar Karyo (Stories)	Nayima Adankar
Maithili	Oudika (Short Stories)	Murari Kanaik
Malayalam	Rangamandalache Yaadravadi (Novel)	Sreejith Moolkudan
Manipuri	Anganganginage Shamahungsida (Play)	Shanta M.
Marathi	Aathamanga (Poetry)	Sudish Sawant
Nepali	Shanti Van (Novel)	Sangmu Lepcha
Odia	Kete Phula Phutachi (Poetry)	Rajkishore Parhi
Punjabi	Jadoo Patka (Novel)	Pal Khadim, Bhagwant Singh, Daryopal Kailash
Rajasthani	Panahravansh Ni Pira (Drama)	Jitendra Sharma
Sanskrit	Balviyaam (Poetry)	Preeti Pujara
Santali	Sona Mou-ag Sandesh (Poetry)	Hansda Murmu
Sindhi	Asman Hari (Poetry)	Heena Agranis "Veer"
Tamil	Ottrai Sirago Orva (Novel)	Vishuguram Sarvanain
Telugu	Kakurla Devatha (Story)	Ganjarotti Sivakumar
Urdu	Quami Sitare (Articles)	Ghazanfar Iqbal

Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2025 Winners

The **Sahitya Akademi**, India's national academy of letters and an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has made a landmark announcement recognizing the extraordinary contributions of young writers to Indian literature. Under the esteemed leadership of **Sri Madhav Kaushik**, President of the Sahitya Akademi, the Executive Board convened to finalize the recipients of the prestigious **Yuva Puraskar 2025**.

Complete List of Yuva Puraskar 2025 Recipients

Comprehensive Winner's Table

The following table presents the complete list of **23 distinguished winners** of the **Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2025**, organized by language with their respective works and authors:



S.No	Language	Name of the Book (Genre)	Awardee's Name
1	Assamese	Kushiyarama (Short Stories)	Supraksam Bhuyan
2	Bengali	Ekadha Chinish Toliامي (Poetry)	Sudeshna Moitra
3	Bodo	Ang Aisu (Poetry)	Amar Khungur Boro
4	English	Siddhartha – The Boy Who Became the Buddha (Novel)	Advait Kolarkar
5	Gujarati	Naranch Tekari (Essays)	Mayur Kharadi
6	Hindi	Phir Uzna (Poetry)	Parvati Tirkey
7	Kannada	Paccheya Jagat (Criticism)	R. Deepkumar
8	Kashmiri	Harfas Harfas Zaagi (Criticism)	Saiba Sehar
9	Konkani	Gaavgaamhas (Short Stories)	Glynis Dias
10	Maithili	Banaras Aa Hum (Poetry)	Neha Jha Maini
11	Malayalam	Ram Oru Anandhi (Novel)	Akhil P. Dharmajan
12	Manipuri	Khoyum Nongdan Coy (Epic)	A. K. Jiten
13	Marathi	Khel Khel Dukhana Dele (Novel)	Pradeep Kokane
14	Nepali	Junko Aansu (Poetry)	Subash Thakuri
15	Odia	Kademsabana (Short Stories)	Subrat Kumar Senapati
16	Punjabi	Girka Hostel (Poetry)	Mandeep Aulakh
17	Rajasthani	Ankhs ni sangmat (Poetry)	Poonam Chand Godara
18	Sanskrit	Panchbhautikshahol - swavasyam (vedant darshanhsaravisesathe) (Criticism)	Dhiresna Kumar Pandey
19	Santali	Ara Sajo te (Poetry)	Fagui Baaskey
20	Sindhi	Pandhyado (Poetry)	Manjham Bachani
21	Tamil	Kuttaaru Kuthuvi (Short Stories)	Latarhinhar
22	Telugu	Maralawatha (Novel)	Prasad Suri
23	Urdu	Maulard Haqeqat, Thereek-e-Azadi, or Hindi Jihad Ka Farmonsuti Kardah Qasaid (Novel)	Neetu Rubabi

QS World Rankings 2026: Top 10 & Best Indian Universities

The **QS World University Rankings 2026**, one of the most respected global indicators of academic excellence, has been officially released. With over **1,500 universities** featured across more than **100 countries**, the rankings reflect the growing competitiveness and evolution of the global higher education landscape.

For the **14th consecutive year**, the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** has secured the **#1 position globally**, affirming its reputation for academic rigor, research excellence, and innovation leadership. MIT continues to lead across indicators such as **academic reputation, faculty/student ratio, and employer reputation**.

In a press release, **QS (Quacquarelli Symonds)** confirmed that nearly **500 institutions** have **improved their positions** compared to the previous year. This improvement is based on metrics like **citations per faculty, international student ratio, and sustainability**.

Among the fastest-rising institutions, **Sunway University** from **Malaysia** stood out, **jumping over 120 places** from its previous ranking. This significant rise underscores Asia's growing prominence in global education, driven by investment in **research infrastructure, international collaborations, and a diverse academic ecosystem**.

The 2026 edition includes institutions from more than **100 regions**, offering insights into the best universities across **North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, Latin America, and Africa**. It continues to serve as a valuable tool for **students, researchers, and policy-makers** alike.

Top 10 Universities in QS World University Rankings 2026

According to the latest rankings, the **top 10 global institutions** are as follows:

Institutions	Overall Rank in 2026	Overall Rank in 2025
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	1	1
Imperial College London	2	2
Stanford University	3	6
University of Oxford	4	3
Harvard University	5	4
University of Cambridge	6	5
ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology)	7	7
National University of Singapore (NUS)	8	8
UCL (University College London)	9	9
California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	10	10



Top Indian varsities in the global list

Institutions	Overall Rank in 2026	Overall Rank in 2025
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)	123	150
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)	129	118
Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)	180	227
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP)	215	222
Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore	219	211
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)	222	263
University of Delhi	328	328
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG)	334	344
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR)	339	335
Anna University	465	383

PM Modi Conferred with Cyprus' Highest Civilian Honour — Order of Makarios III

In a significant diplomatic gesture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III, Cyprus' highest civilian honour, on June 16, 2025, by President Nikos Christodoulides. The award is named after Archbishop Makarios III, the first President of Cyprus, and is reserved for global leaders and dignitaries who have made outstanding contributions to international relations and peace.

Why in News?

PM Narendra Modi received Cyprus' top civilian award during his first-ever official visit to the Mediterranean nation. The award, Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III, recognizes his efforts in strengthening India-Cyprus relations and promoting global cooperation. Modi's visit marks a historic milestone, as he is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Cyprus.

About the Award

- **Name:** Order of Makarios III
- **Country:** Republic of Cyprus
- **Named after:** Archbishop Makarios III, first President of Cyprus.
- **Purpose:** Awarded for meritorious service to the nation and strengthening diplomatic ties.

Categories of distinction

- Grand Collar
- Grand Cross (awarded to PM Modi)
- Grand Commander
- Commander
- Officer
- Knight

PM Modi's Response

"Humbled to receive the 'Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III' of Cyprus. I dedicate it to the friendship between our nations." Shared this on X.

Strengthening Bilateral Ties

PM Modi and President Christodoulides held high-level discussions on,

- Innovation
- Energy cooperation
- Technology collaboration
- Trade and strategic partnerships
- Roundtable with CEOs: PM Modi engaged with top Cypriot and Indian business leaders to boost commercial linkages.
- Discussed India's economic reforms and ease of doing business.

Both nations expressed intent to,

- Expand strategic and economic ties
- Collaborate on sustainable development, innovation, and digital transformation

Historic Visit Highlights

- Modi's arrival marks the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Cyprus.
- Received by President Christodoulides at Larnaca International Airport.
- Received a warm welcome from the Indian diaspora in Limassol.

India to Launch First All-India Household Income Survey in 2026

In a landmark step towards strengthening data-driven policymaking, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has announced that it will conduct the first-ever All-India Household Income Survey in 2026. This move will help understand income distribution, assess technological impacts on wages, and fill existing gaps in welfare and economic inequality data. The survey will be guided by a Technical Expert Group (TEG) chaired by Surjit Bhalla, former Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).



Why in News?

The Ministry of Statistics has confirmed the launch of a nationwide household income survey in 2026, a first-of-its-kind effort to capture accurate income data from Indian households. It seeks to address longstanding data gaps, particularly in income, wage patterns, and technology's influence on earnings, which are crucial for welfare and economic policies.

Objectives and Aims

- To capture income distribution patterns across Indian households.
- To assess the impact of technology adoption on household wages and earnings.
- To enable better targeting of welfare schemes through accurate income data.
- To align with international best practices in income data collection.

Technical Oversight

- Technical Expert Group (TEG) set up under the leadership of Surjit Bhalla.

The TEG will provide guidance on,

- Survey concepts and definitions
- Sampling design
- Estimation methods
- Incorporating global best practices from countries like the US, Canada, South Africa, and Australia.

Implementation and Strategy

- Survey to be executed by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- Expected to include diverse income sources – wages, self-employment, remittances, and digital earnings.
- Will improve upon earlier efforts that faced field-level data reliability issues.
- Efforts will be made to ensure transparency, accuracy, and granular regional insights.

Significance

- First dedicated income-centric survey in independent India.
- Will help bridge gaps in existing economic surveys, which primarily focus on consumption or employment.
- Useful for policymakers, economists, and planners to tackle income inequality and improve social safety nets.
- Could lead to restructuring of income-based welfare schemes like PM-KISAN, subsidy targeting, or DBT frameworks.

Global Peace Index 2025: A Deep Dive into Global Stability and Rising Tensions

The **Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025**, now in its **19th edition**, remains the world's leading measure of **national and regional peacefulness**. Developed by the **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)**, the index offers invaluable insight into the **peacefulness of 163 countries**, covering **99.7% of the global population**. In a world experiencing an uptick in geopolitical instability, the GPI serves as a crucial indicator of current global trends in **conflict, safety, and militarisation**.

What is the Global Peace Index?

The **Global Peace Index** is an **annual quantitative analysis** that evaluates peace based on **23 indicators** across **three main domains**:

- **Societal Safety and Security**
- **Ongoing Domestic and International Conflict**
- **Degree of Militarisation**

Published by the **Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP)**—a non-partisan, independent think tank based in Sydney—the GPI has become a widely respected benchmark for governments, researchers, and institutions working towards **sustainable peace and security reforms**.

Top 10 Most Peaceful Countries in 2025

Despite widespread unrest, some nations maintain high levels of peace:

Rank	Country	GPI Score	Region
1	Iceland	1.095	Europe
2	Ireland	1.260	Europe
3	New Zealand	1.282	Oceania
4	Austria	1.294	Europe
5	Switzerland	1.294	Europe
6	Singapore	1.357	Asia
7	Portugal	1.371	Europe
8	Denmark	1.393	Europe
9	Slovenia	1.409	Europe
10	Finland	1.420	Europe

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

ALL EXAMS, ONE SUBSCRIPTION.

IBPS, SSC, RRB, PO, Mains, Pre, Mains, Pre, Mains, Pre



Most Peaceful Nation: Iceland

Iceland has retained its position as the world's most peaceful country since 2008, credited to its **low crime rates, stable politics, and lack of military forces.**

Least Peaceful Countries in 2025

The bottom of the GPI ranking highlights ongoing crises:

Rank	Country	GPI Score	Region
163	Russia	3.441	Eurasia
162	Ukraine	3.434	Europe
161	Sudan	3.323	Africa
160	DRC	3.292	Africa
159	Yemen	3.262	Middle East

Least Peaceful Nation: Russia

Due to the prolonged war in Ukraine, sanctions, and internal political repression, **Russia ranks last**, followed by Ukraine.

India's Performance in Global Peace Index 2025

India ranks **115th out of 163** nations, with a GPI score of **2.229**, reflecting a **0.58% improvement** over the previous year. India's trajectory has shown gradual improvement over recent years:

- 2025: Rank 115
- 2024: Rank 116
- 2023: Rank 126
- 2020: Rank 139
- 2019: Rank 141

Despite **internal unrest, cross-border tensions, and militarisation**, India has seen improvements in **crime perception, political stability, and terrorist impact** indicators.

India vs South Asia

While South Asia remains the **least peaceful region**, India has outperformed several regional neighbours:

Country	GPI Rank
India	115
Bangladesh	123
Pakistan	144
Afghanistan	158

Shubhanshu Shukla Pilots Axiom-4 on SpaceX Falcon 9 to ISS

On **25 June 2025 at 12:01 pm IST**, **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla** began his ascent to the International Space Station on board **SpaceX's Falcon 9 Block 5** from **Launch Complex 39A, Kennedy Space Center**. This marks the **second time an Indian** has ventured into space and the **first Indian to live and work onboard the ISS.**

Who Is Shubhanshu Shukla? A Pilot Turned Astronaut

Born on **10 October 1985** in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**, Shukla graduated from the **National Defence Academy** in 2005 and was commissioned into the IAF's Fighter Stream in **June 2006**. By **March 2024**, he had risen to the rank of **Group Captain**, accruing over **2,000 hours of flight time** in combat aircraft like Su-30 MKI, MiG-21/29, Jaguar, and Hawk. He joined **ISRO's Gaganyaan astronaut cadre in 2019**, trained in Russia and Bengaluru, and was named to the **Ax-4 mission crew** in early 2024.

Falcon 9 Block 5 & Crew Dragon: A Trusted Pair

The **Falcon 9 Block 5**, certified by NASA in November 2020, is a reusable, medium-lift rocket noted for its **100% crewed mission success rate** and redundant systems. The mission uses a **new Crew Dragon capsule**, piloted autonomously, ferrying a **four-member international crew** to the ISS.

A Global Crew and Mission Objectives

Axiom-4's command structure includes former NASA astronaut **Peggy Whitson** and mission specialists from **Poland and Hungary**, alongside pilot Shukla. Over **14 days**, the crew will conduct **around 60 scientific experiments**, seven of which are **Indian-designed**, spanning microgravity, biology, and materials science.

A Milestone for India's Space Odyssey

This mission represents India's **first government-backed presence on the ISS** and the nation's long-awaited return to human spaceflight since **Rakesh Sharma's 1984 mission**. It also complements the **Gaganyaan programme**, positioning India alongside global spacefaring nations.

Technical Delays and Final Countdown

The launch was postponed multiple times due to **weather, technical, and safety checks** including a **liquid oxygen leak in early June**. Ultimately, the team resolved all issues, and the **final launch window opened on 25 June**.

10 Years of AMRUT: Transforming Urban India

India celebrates 10 years of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), launched on June 25, 2015, as a flagship scheme to improve urban living standards by ensuring water supply, sewerage, green spaces, and urban mobility. With more than 2 crore tap connections, 1.5 crore sewer links, and ₹2.73 lakh crore worth of projects sanctioned, AMRUT has become a cornerstone of India's urban transformation story.

Why in News?

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) marked a decade of AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0 on June 25, 2025, showcasing key milestones and outcomes in improving water supply, sanitation, stormwater drainage, and urban mobility across Indian cities. The scheme's success demonstrates India's progress towards sustainable and inclusive urban development.



Objectives of AMRUT

- Provide tap water and sewerage connections to every urban household.
- Create green spaces and parks to enhance livability.
- Promote non-motorized transport and reduce urban pollution.
- Empower Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) through reforms and capacity building.

Achievements (2015–2025)

Water Supply

- **2.03 crore** tap connections provided.
- 3,568 projects worth ₹1.14 lakh crore approved under AMRUT 2.0.
- 10,647 MLD Water Treatment Plant (WTP) capacity sanctioned.
- SCADA technology adopted in 1,487 projects for real-time monitoring.

Sewerage & Septage Management

- 1.50 crore sewer connections achieved.
- 592 projects worth ₹67,607 crore approved under AMRUT 2.0.
- 6,739 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) capacity approved.
- Use of Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) and decentralized networks promoted.

Energy Efficiency

- 99 lakh LED streetlights installed.
- Annual savings: 666 crore kWh and reduction of 46 lakh tonnes of CO₂ emissions.

Green Spaces

- Parks with child- and elderly-friendly features in cities.
- 544 water bodies rejuvenated under AMRUT, covering 9,511 acres.
- Additional 3,032 water bodies approved under AMRUT 2.0 for rejuvenation.

Urban Mobility

- Facilities for non-motorized transport (walkways, cycle paths, BRTS).
- Focus on ferry vessels, footbridges, and multi-level parking.

Financing & Capacity Building

- ₹4,984 crore raised by 13 ULBs via municipal bonds.
- Over 90,000 personnel trained including plumbers, plant operators, and officials.
- Introduction of Technology Sub-Mission and support to 120 start-ups for urban innovation.

AMRUT 2.0 Highlights (Launched October 1, 2021):

- Covers all ULBs, aims for universal water and sewerage coverage.
- Outlay: ₹2.99 lakh crore (₹76,760 crore Central share).
- Promotes water reuse, recycling, and sustainable resource use via initiatives like “Jal Hi AMRIT”.

Kerala Sahitya Akademi Announces 2024 Literary Award Winners

The Kerala Sahitya Akademi, the premier literary body of the state, has announced the recipients of its 2024 literary awards, celebrating both emerging talents and veteran writers in Malayalam literature. The awards honour excellence in genres ranging from novels and poetry to drama, biography, and translation, reinforcing the Akademi's commitment to fostering literary culture in Kerala.

Why in News?

The 2024 Kerala Sahitya Akademi Awards were officially declared on June 26, 2025, in Thrissur, recognizing a wide array of Malayalam literary contributions. The awards hold great cultural significance and are considered among the most prestigious recognitions for Malayalam writers.

Key Awardees and Categories

- **Best Novel:** G R Indugopan for Aano
- **Poetry:** Anitha Thampi for Muringa Vazha Kariveppu
- **Short Story:** V Shinilal for Garisappa Aruvi Athava Oru Jalayathra
- **Essay (Sibi Kumar Endowment Award):** M Swaraj for Pookkalude Pusthakam

Akademi Fellowship & Lifetime Contribution Awards

- **Fellowship:** K V Ramakrishnan
- **Lifetime Contribution:** Ezhacheri Ramachandran

Additionally, six authors were honoured with Lifetime Contribution Awards,

- P K N Panicker
- Payyannur Kunhiraman
- M M Narayanan
- T K Gangadharan
- K E N
- Mallika Yunis

Other Categories

- **Drama:** Sashidharan Naduvil
- **Literary Criticism:** G Dileep
- **Scientific Literature:** Deepak V
- **Biography/Autobiography:** Dr K Rajashekharan Nair
- **Travel Writing:** K R Ajayan
- **Translation:** Chinthu Prakash
- **Children's Literature:** E N Sheeja
- **Humour:** Niranjan

Awards Details

- **Regular Awards:** ₹25,000 cash prize, plaque, and certificate.
- **Fellowship & Major Lifetime Awards:** ₹50,000, a two-sovereign gold medal, shawl, citation, and plaque.
- **Other Lifetime Awards:** ₹30,000, plaque, shawl, and certificate.
- Notably, no winner was selected for the Vilasini Award this year.





India's Strategic Autonomy on Display at SCO 2025

At the 2025 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Qingdao, China, India's Defence Minister made headlines by refusing to sign the joint statement at the Defence Ministers' meeting. The draft omitted any reference to the Pahalgam terror attack, despite highlighting the Jaffar Express hijacking in Pakistan, prompting India to reject the final statement. This firm stance underscored India's unwavering commitment to fighting terrorism and maintaining strategic autonomy, sending a strong signal to the international community.

Why in News?

India's refusal to sign the SCO joint statement in June 2025 marks a significant diplomatic shift. The action spotlights India's consistent zero-tolerance stance on terrorism and its readiness to stand alone within multilateral frameworks when core security concerns are diluted or ignored.

Understanding the SCO: Static & Background Facts

- **Founded:** 2001 (evolved from Shanghai Five, 1996)
- **Members (2025):** India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Belarus
- **Headquarters:** Secretariat – Beijing, RATS (Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure) – Tashkent

Key Focus Areas

- Counter-terrorism
- Regional security
- Economic cooperation

India's Strategic Calculations

- Refusal to sign reflects zero-tolerance for selective treatment of terror incidents.
- Strong message: Peace and terrorism cannot coexist.
- Contextually significant as it was the first Indian ministerial visit to China post the 2020 LAC standoff.
- India took a principled stand despite diplomatic pressure from dominant SCO players.

Implications for Regional Security

RATS has a record of effective coordination,

- Prevented 20 attacks (2011–2015)
- Facilitated arrests of extremist elements
- India's move raises concerns about the credibility of SCO's counter-terror commitments.
- Highlights fault lines in multilateral cooperation when national interests diverge.

China's Influence & India's Response

- China leveraged its position as 2025 SCO chair, excluded Pahalgam attack.
- Most SCO members back China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), unlike India.

India also resisted,

- BRI endorsements (SCO 2023)
- BRICS currency basket (2023)
- India's approach emphasizes issue-based engagement.

Strategic Autonomy in Action

- India engages in SCO, BRICS, Quad, G20 without being bound by any alliance.
- Strategy: Maximum engagement, minimum entanglement.

SCO is key for,

- Access to Central Asian energy and markets
- Security cooperation, especially against terrorism

Lessons for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation

True collaboration requires,

- Unified definitions of terrorism
- Honest acknowledgement of all terror acts
- Bilateral rivalries (India-Pakistan) often disrupt multilateral actions.
- Consensus model of SCO may hinder decisive action in critical areas.

Future Outlook

India likely to pursue,

- Selective engagement within SCO
- Active participation in functional areas (e.g., RATS)
- Continued stand on principled foreign policy
- Despite political challenges, SCO remains useful for India's regional interests.

Cabinet Approvals

- **Cabinet Approves Two Railway Multitracking Projects:** The Cabinet has approved two multitracking railway projects costing ₹6,405 crore—Koderma–Barkakana (133 km) in Jharkhand and Ballari–Chikjajur (185 km) in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh—adding 318 km to the rail network. These will ease travel, lower logistics cost, reduce CO₂ emissions (264 crore kg), and oil imports (52 crore litres). The projects cover 7 districts, benefit 1,408 villages (population ~28.19 lakh), and generate 108 lakh human-days of employment. These strategic projects are aligned with the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan.
- **Cabinet Observes 50 Years Since Emergency:** To mark 50 years of the Emergency (1975–77), the Union Cabinet paid tribute to those who resisted the curtailment of democratic rights, observing a two-minute silence. The resolution reaffirmed India's commitment to constitutional values and democratic resilience, calling for renewed efforts to protect the Constitution and federal spirit.



- **Cabinet Approves International Potato Centre in Agra:** A South Asia Regional Centre of the International Potato Centre (CIP) will be set up in Singna, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, to boost food security, farmer income, and employment. It will develop high-yielding, climate-resilient potato and sweetpotato varieties and improve post-harvest and value chain systems across India and South Asia.
- **Pune Metro Rail Phase-2 Approved:** The Cabinet has cleared Pune Metro Phase-2—Corridor 2A (Vanaz—Chandani Chowk) and 2B (Ramwadi—Wagholi)—covering 12.75 km with 13 stations at a cost of ₹3,626.24 crore. These extensions will connect major IT hubs and suburbs, ease traffic on key roads, integrate with other metro lines, and boost ridership to 3.49 lakh daily by 2057.
- **Revised Jharia Master Plan Cleared:** A revised plan worth ₹5,940.47 crore has been approved to tackle fire, subsidence, and rehabilitation in Jharia Coalfield. It includes relocation from vulnerable sites, livelihood grants of ₹1 lakh, credit up to ₹3 lakh, and development of roads, electricity, water, schools, and hospitals. A dedicated fund and skill training will ensure sustainable livelihood for affected families.

Parliament News

State-wise October Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- **Google inaugurated its first Asia-Pacific Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) in Hyderabad on June 18, 2025**, solidifying India's role in global **cybersecurity and responsible AI development**. Inaugurated by **CM A Revanth Reddy**, the centre will combat **online fraud**, ensure **infrastructure safety**, and develop **AI-driven security solutions** like **real-time scam alerts** and **SynthID watermarking**. With its Hyderabad operations since 2007, Google reaffirmed its commitment to **user safety, job creation, and skilling**. The launch aligns with India's AI transformation strategy and Telangana's vision of becoming a **\$1 trillion economy by 2035**.

Assam

- **Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** has announced two **landmark reforms** aimed at **gender inclusion and grassroots empowerment**. The **transgender community** will now be classified under the **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** category, enabling access to **education, jobs, and welfare benefits**. Additionally, **Anganwadi workers** will receive **50% reservation in supervisor-level positions** within the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)**, recognizing their contributions in **nutrition and child care**. These initiatives, unveiled during a ceremonial event in Guwahati, mark a **progressive shift** in Assam's welfare and recruitment policy.

Bihar

- On **June 10, 2025**, **Bihar CM Nitish Kumar** inaugurated the **Bikram Lock Canal Solar Project**, a **2 MW green energy plant** built at **no cost to the state**. Developed under the **Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Abhiyan**, the project utilizes canal-side land to produce clean energy at ₹3.10 per unit for 25 years. It not only boosts **renewable energy generation**, but also reduces **carbon emissions**, ensures **affordable rural electrification**, and strengthens **sustainable development** in the state.
- In a **historic move**, **Bihar** becomes the **first Indian state** to implement **mobile-based e-voting**, set to launch during the **28th June municipal elections**. Developed by **C-DAC** and the **Bihar State Election Commission**, the **Android-based system** aims to boost **inclusive voting** by enabling **migrant workers, senior citizens, pregnant women, and Divyang voters** to vote remotely. With features like **blockchain technology, live face scan, biometric verification, and audit trails**, the system ensures **digital security, transparency, and tamper-proof voting**, revolutionizing India's democratic process.
- In a **pre-election welfare boost**, **Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar** has raised **social security pensions** from ₹400 to **₹1,100 per month**, benefiting over **1 crore elderly, widows, and disabled citizens** starting **July 2025**. The hike, the first since 2005, coincides with **Assembly elections** later this year and is aimed at strengthening **NDA's political positioning** amid **Opposition welfare promises**. Additional decisions, such as **higher allowances for panchayat leaders** and **enhanced financial powers**, further demonstrate Nitish's strategy to secure support in **rural Bihar**.
- In a **landmark move**, Union Power Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** announced that **Bihar** will get its **first nuclear power plant**, based on **Small Modular Reactor (SMR)** technology, making it one of six states selected under India's **₹20,000 crore Nuclear Energy Mission**. Aimed at tackling Bihar's **power deficit**, this **cost-effective, compact, and scalable SMR system** will boost **energy security, industrial growth, and sustainability**. Complementing this, a **1,000 MW battery storage** project has been approved, alongside praise for Bihar's reforms like **8 million smart meters** and a sharp drop in power losses.
- In a bold blend of **politics and infrastructure**, **Bihar CM Nitish Kumar** inaugurated a **4.57 km six-lane bridge** over the **Ganges**, linking **Patna to Raghapur**—the political bastion of his rival **Lalu Prasad** and his son **Tejashwi Yadav**. The move, just ahead of elections, signals Kumar's strategic outreach into **opposition territory**, where he was warmly received, highlighting his confidence and the bridge's potential to boost **connectivity, regional development, and his political narrative** of progress and inclusion.





- The **Bihar government** has constituted a **nine-member trust** named **Shree Janaki Janm Bhumi Punaura Dham Mandir Nyas Samiti** to oversee the **construction** of a **grand Maa Janaki temple** at **Punaura Dham, Sitamarhi**, believed to be the **birthplace of Goddess Sita**. Chaired by the **Chief Secretary**, the trust includes top officials and religious representatives. Announced after **Chief Minister Nitish Kumar** unveiled the temple's **final design** on June 22, the project aims to boost **religious tourism**, enhance **infrastructure**, and position Sitamarhi as a major **spiritual destination** modeled on the **Ram temple in Ayodhya**.

Gujarat

- Justice Neranahalli Srinivasan Sanjay Gowda** officially took charge as a **judge of the Gujarat High Court** on **June 9, 2025**, after his **transfer from the Karnataka High Court**. The oath was administered by **Chief Justice Sunita Agrawal** during a ceremony in Vadodara. At **58 years old**, Justice Gowda has had a distinguished legal career since **1989**, and was appointed a **permanent judge in Karnataka in 2021**. His transfer is part of a **Supreme Court Collegium** initiative to promote **diversity** and **judicial efficiency** by redistributing experienced judges across High Courts.

Himachal Pradesh

- The **Government of India** has approved a **₹2,006.40 crore relief package** for **Himachal Pradesh** under the **National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)** to support **recovery and reconstruction** following the **2023 monsoon disasters**. Over **550 people died** during the floods and landslides. The decision, made by a **high-level committee led by Union Home Minister Amit Shah**, includes **₹1,504.80 crore** as the **Centre's share**. The state had earlier sought **₹9,042 crore** under PDNA. This move reflects a **national commitment to disaster resilience** and follows similar packages to **Uttarakhand and Sikkim**.

Karnataka

- Karnataka has tightened its **tobacco regulations** by enacting the **COTPA (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 2024**, which raises the legal age for purchasing tobacco to **21**, imposes a **statewide ban on hookah bars**, prohibits the sale of **loose cigarettes**, and increases the **fine for public smoking** to **₹1,000**. The **High Court upheld** the ban, citing **Article 47** of the Constitution. These reforms are intended to reduce tobacco addiction and improve **public health** standards across the state.

- The **Karnataka Cabinet** has approved a **15% housing reservation for religious minorities**, increasing it from the earlier **10%**, as part of state housing schemes. **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah** and **DCM DK Shivakumar** defended the move as a **social welfare measure** aimed at addressing **minority housing shortages** and reducing the number of **vacant homes**. However, the **BJP criticized** the decision as **vote-bank politics** and termed it **unconstitutional**. The Cabinet also made decisions regarding **mango farmer compensation**, scheduling a **cabinet meet at Nandi Hills**, and declaring **Apsarakonda-Mughali** a new **marine wildlife sanctuary**.

Kerala

- In a landmark conservation effort, **Kerala** has inaugurated **India's first butterfly sanctuary** by officially renaming the **Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary**. Located in the **Western Ghats**, the sanctuary now harbours over **266 species of butterflies**, including several **rare, endemic, and endangered** varieties. This initiative follows 25 years of **persistent efforts by forest officials, researchers, and nature lovers**. Featuring **seasonal butterfly migrations**, active **research partnerships**, and ongoing species discoveries, the **Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary** is poised to become a cornerstone of **biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism** in India.
- Kerala** has secured the top rank in the **Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) 2020–2025**, becoming the only state rated **"Very Good"** with a score of **76.22%**. **Eravikulam National Park** emerged as the **best-managed protected area** in India with a **92.97%** score, followed closely by **Mathikettan Shola NP**. The evaluation covered **438 National Parks and Sanctuaries**, assessing their **biodiversity conservation, management performance, and ecological sustainability**. The recognition underscores Kerala's leadership in **wildlife protection, habitat management, and community-led conservation** efforts.

Maharashtra

- The **Government of Maharashtra** has rolled out a new digital initiative assigning a **geo-tagged 13-digit unique ID** to all **infrastructure projects** in the state. Launched through the **Infra ID portal**, the system will enhance **transparency**, facilitate **inter-departmental coordination**, and prevent **project duplication**. Beginning with **Wardha district** and key development departments, the full rollout will start **October 1, 2025**, with registration of projects from the **last five years** to be completed by **March 2026**. This move leverages the **MRSAC platform** for real-time tracking and ensures each public asset has a **traceable digital identity**.





- The Maharashtra government's new directive under the **State Curriculum Framework 2024** declares **Hindi as the default third language** from **Classes 1 to 5** in **Marathi and English medium schools**, with the option to study another **Indian language** if **20 students per class** request it. While aligned with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, the move has been criticized by the **opposition and language activists** as a veiled attempt to **reimpose Hindi** despite earlier assurances that it wouldn't be mandatory.

Mizoram

- Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi** has become the **first female Aide-De-Camp (ADC)** in Indian history to be appointed to a **Governor**, marking a significant moment in the **Indian Armed Forces**. Appointed to serve the **Governor of Mizoram**, this landmark posting reflects India's **growing commitment to gender inclusivity** in military ceremonial roles. With prior experience across **multiple Air Force stations**, **Padhi's achievement** sets a new precedent for **women officers** aspiring to serve at high-ranking, prestigious posts.
- In a **historic stride towards educational equity**, **Tripura** has been declared **fully literate** under the **ULLAS – Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram**, joining **Mizoram** and **Goa** in achieving over **95% literacy** among individuals aged **15 and above**. The success is attributed to robust **community participation**, widespread **door-to-door mobilization**, and digital tools like the **ULLAS app**. Launched in **2022**, the **ULLAS** scheme aligns with **NEP 2020** and supports **Viksit Bharat @2047** by empowering youth and adults with **foundational skills** and **lifelong learning** opportunities.

Meghalaya

- The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) is establishing its **first regional campus** in **Shillong, Meghalaya**, with funding under the **PM-DevINE** scheme. The **₹100.95 crore** investment aims to transform the region into a **policy and training hub**, promoting **corporate governance**, **entrepreneurship**, and **capacity building**. Situated within the **Knowledge City cluster**, the new campus will support national missions like **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Vikshit Bharat @2047**, while fulfilling the government's vision of **inclusive and decentralized development** in the **North East region**.

Madhya Pradesh

- The Madhya Pradesh government has made **digital attendance mandatory** for all government school teachers starting **1 July 2025** via the '**Humare Shikshak**' platform. Integrated with the **Education 3.0 portal**, the system

ensures **real-time tracking**, with penalties such as **casual leave deductions** for non-compliance. Aimed at improving **transparency**, **record-keeping**, and **administrative efficiency**, this move impacts lakhs of education department employees across the state.

Odisha

- On **June 20, 2025**, **PM Modi** launched multiple **rail projects worth ₹2,750 crore** in **Odisha**, marking a significant push toward **regional connectivity and development**. The **inauguration of the Sonepur–Purunakatak rail line** connected **Boudh district** to India's rail network for the first time. Other highlights include **freight facilities**, **road over bridges**, and new **weekly train services**.

Punjab

- Punjab has recorded a **20% surge in cotton cultivation** in 2025, expanding to **2.98 lakh acres** across the state. This increase aligns with the government's **crop diversification agenda** aimed at reducing reliance on **water-guzzling paddy**. The state is offering a **33% subsidy on cotton seeds**, and over **49,000 farmers** have registered under the initiative. With **Fazilka, Mansa, Bathinda, and Sri Muktsar Sahib** leading in cultivation, Punjab's focus on **sustainable agriculture** and **digital farmer outreach** is showing tangible results.

Tamil Nadu

- An **ancient Shiva temple**, dating back to the **later Pandya period**, was recently discovered in **Udampatti village, Tamil Nadu**. The **foundation and inscriptions from 1217-1218 CE** confirm the site's historical significance. The temple, named **Thennavanisvaram**, was once financially self-sustained and located in a village then known as **Attur**. The detailed **sale deeds** on the stone base shed light on **land ownership**, **water resource management**, and **temple endowments** during **Pandya rule**. This archaeological finding is a critical window into **medieval Tamil heritage**, **Pandya dynasty administration**, and **temple economy systems**.
- Tamil Nadu government** declared **Dhanushkodi** as a **Greater Flamingo Sanctuary** to protect migratory birds, particularly **Greater and Lesser Flamingos**, along the **Central Asian Flyway**. Covering **524.7 hectares**, the sanctuary includes **mangroves**, **mudflats**, and **marshes**, forming a rich ecosystem within the **Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve**. With over **10,700 birds from 128 species** recorded, the sanctuary plays a crucial role in **wetland conservation**, **ecotourism**, and **climate resilience**. The move was inaugurated by **Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** during the **World Environment Day** celebration.





- The **Prayoga Institute of Education Research**, in collaboration with the **SBI Foundation** and **SBI Funds Management**, launched the **Kriya programme** in **12 government schools** of **Raichur district** on **June 17, 2025**. Aligned with **NEP 2020**, the initiative aims to provide **experiential science learning** for students from **Classes 6 to 10**, encouraging **critical thinking** and **inquiry-based education**. Having already impacted over **11,000 students** in **Karnataka**, the programme marks a key milestone in Prayoga's mission to **transform rural STEM education** through scalable, **research-backed methods**.

Uttar Pradesh

- The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet**, led by **CM Yogi Adityanath**, has approved **20% horizontal reservation** for **former Agniveers** in various **police recruitment posts** including Constables and Firemen. The move aligns with the **Agneepath scheme**, offering **age relaxation** and inclusive benefits across categories like **SC, ST, OBC, and General**. Starting in **2026**, this policy ensures continued **employment and recognition** for Agniveers, promoting both **security** and **youth welfare**.
- Uttar Pradesh has topped the nation in **digital public procurement**, registering a cumulative **₹65,227.68 crore** worth of orders on the **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** between FY 2020 and FY 2025. In FY 2024–25 alone, the state processed **72 lakh orders worth ₹5.43 lakh crore**, showcasing its commitment to **e-governance, transparency, and efficient public service delivery**. The **November 2024 reforms**, aligning with **GFR 2017**, enabled **100% GeM adoption**, setting an example for other states under the **Digital India initiative**.
- On **June 20, 2025**, U.P. Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** inaugurated the **91.35 km Gorakhpur Link Expressway**, built at a cost of **₹7,283 crore**, highlighting the state's transformation from **BIMARU status** to an '**Expressway State**'. Connecting **Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, and Ambedkar Nagar**, the expressway strengthens **infrastructure, boosts trade**, and paves the way for **investment and regional upliftment**. The initiative reflects the **double-engine government's** focus on **inclusive development**, positioning U.P. as a **national growth engine**.
- Salkhan Fossils Park** in **Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh**, has been added to **UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites**, recognizing its **1.4 billion-year-old stromatolite and algae fossils**—some of the **oldest known evidence of life on Earth**. The park's nomination was backed by a scientific study conducted by the **Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences** and is supported by the **UP eco-tourism board** under **CM Yogi Adityanath**. This move is expected to significantly enhance the state's **eco-tourism potential**, bring **international recognition**, and contribute to **scientific research**.

West Bengal

- The **Calcutta High Court** has permitted a **15-year-old** boy to adopt his **stepfather's surname**, upholding the rights of **custodial parents** and recognizing **modern family dynamics**. Though the **Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC)** opposed the change, the court ruled that **surname** falls within the scope of **Section 454** of the **Kolkata Municipal Corporation Act**, which allows for name alterations. However, the court denied the plea to change the **biological father's name** due to the lack of a **legal adoption order**. **Justice Kaushik Chanda** emphasized that statutory time limits can be interpreted **flexibly** when justified by circumstances.
- In a landmark decision, the **Calcutta High Court** has ordered the **Centre** to **resume MGNREGA operations in West Bengal** starting **August 1, 2025**, after a **three-year suspension** due to alleged irregularities. The court stressed the need to separate **past misconduct** from the **future right to livelihood**, restoring work opportunities to over **25 million rural workers**. The scheme's revival is seen as a **victory for civil rights**, with advocates hailing it as a turning point for **rural employment, economic justice, and public accountability** in India's flagship **social welfare** programme.

Union Territories:

- In a **historic decision**, **President Droupadi Murmu** promulgated three major regulations for **Ladakh** on **June 3, 2025**. The **Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation** ensures **85% reservation** in public jobs for locals. The **Ladakh Official Languages Regulation** recognizes **English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti, and Purgi** as **official languages**, while promoting native tongues like **Shina, Brokskat, and Balti**. Additionally, the **Hill Councils Amendment** mandates **33% reservation for women** in **Leh and Kargil**. These steps enhance **local empowerment**, promote **linguistic and cultural heritage**, and boost **women's representation** in governance.
- On **June 9, 2025**, **Puducherry** became the **19th legislature** in India to adopt the **National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)**, a digital platform for **paperless legislative functioning**, inaugurated by **Union Minister Dr. L. Murugan**. The initiative supports the **Digital India** vision, enabling **real-time legislative transparency, livestreaming**, and saving paper, with **100% central funding**. NeVA represents a step toward "**One Nation, One Application**", furthering **eco-friendly governance, citizen access, and institutional efficiency**.





- The **Delhi Government** is set to begin **cloud-seeding trials** by late June 2025, marking a significant move in **weather modification** technology to potentially combat **pollution** and **water scarcity**. The ₹3.21 crore pilot project, involving **five aerial trials** with seeding agents like **silver iodide and salts**, is being conducted with support from **IIT Kanpur, IMD, and multiple national agencies**. The trials will assess **rainfall induction** efficiency, and environmental safety, while avoiding restricted air zones in the city.

June Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- The Government of India has launched the **SPMEPCI scheme** to accelerate the growth of the **domestic electric vehicle industry** by offering import duty concessions and supporting local manufacturing. By allowing **brownfield investments** and capping imports with rollover provisions, the government aims to attract major global players and bolster India's **clean mobility agenda**. However, Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy confirmed that **Tesla is not planning** to manufacture cars in India, underlining the challenge of securing foreign investment in the EV space.
- The **DHRUVA policy**, launched by India's **Department of Posts**, introduces a **nationwide, geo-coded digital address system** designed to modernize how address data is used, stored, and shared. Recognising address information as foundational public infrastructure, DHRUVA ensures **secure, standardised, and consent-based address management**. It leverages the **Address-as-a-Service (AaaS)** model to benefit sectors ranging from governance to logistics. By integrating this digital approach, India strengthens its **digital public infrastructure** to support **inclusive growth, user privacy, and service innovation**.
- On **June 6, 2025**, **Amit Shah** inaugurated the **Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag (BBA)** to integrate **Indian languages into administrative and governance processes**, minimizing the dominance of English. Backed by ₹56 crore in funding and supported by **C-DAC**, this platform will ensure real-time translation and allow communication in **mother tongues**, especially with **Region C States**. The initiative resonates with the **NEP 2020 vision** and strengthens **linguistic inclusivity and national unity**.
- The **Election Commission of India** has introduced a **technology-based system** to automate the creation of **Index Cards and Statistical Reports**, replacing earlier manual methods. This change, under the guidance of **CEC Gyanesh Kumar**, will significantly **accelerate post-poll data dissemination**, offering detailed insights into **electoral demographics, voting patterns, and party performance**. Aimed at researchers and policymakers, this initiative
- reinforces **transparency, data accessibility, and academic engagement** with India's democratic processes.
- On **World Environment Day 2025**, **PM Narendra Modi** launched the '**Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0**' campaign in **Delhi**, aiming to plant **10 crore trees** across India by **September 30**. The initiative, blending **environmental consciousness** with **cultural values**, encourages individuals to **plant a tree in their mother's name**. Additionally, the Prime Minister flagged off **200 electric buses** in the capital to promote **clean urban transport** and tackle **air pollution**. These actions reflect India's strengthened commitment to **sustainable development, climate action, and green mobility**.
- The **Delhi government** has announced India's **first electronic waste (e-waste) eco park** in **Holambi Kalan, North Delhi**, aiming to promote a **circular economy** and **sustainable urban living**, with **Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa** confirming plans to issue a **global tender** for advanced **green technology partnerships**.
- The **Government of India** has launched the **Ayush Nivesh Saarthi Portal**, a digital platform developed by the **Ministry of Ayush** and **Invest India** to attract and assist **domestic and international investors** in the **Ayush sector**—covering **Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy**. The portal provides **investment policies, project listings, benefits, and real-time support**, aiming to boost **FDI**, support **startups**, and capitalize on the sector's **17% annual growth** between 2014 and 2020.
- The **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** has introduced a **cap of 10 projects per Engineer** for consultancy firms working on **national highway construction and maintenance projects**. This move aims to improve **supervision quality**, prevent overburdening of engineers, and ensure **contract compliance** under project modes like **HAM and EPC**. Effective after **60 days**, the rule mandates monthly site visits and inputs into **progress reports**, significantly boosting the quality and safety of India's highway infrastructure.
- The **DhartiAaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan**, launched by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**, is India's **largest tribal empowerment campaign**, covering over **549 tribal districts, 2,900+ blocks, and 1 lakh villages**. The campaign ensures **benefit saturation** by delivering key services such as **Aadhaar enrolment, Ayushman Bharat cards, PM-Kisan registration, Jan Dhan accounts, pensions, and skill development** at the doorstep of tribal households. Implemented as part of **Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh**, and supported by programs like **PM-JANMAN** and **DAJGUA**, the initiative marks a major step in **inclusive governance and last-mile delivery**.





- Maruti Suzuki India has inaugurated **India's largest automobile in-plant railway siding** at its **Manesar plant**, marking a major step towards **green logistics**. Aligned with the **PM Gati Shakti Master Plan**, the ₹452 crore facility is part of the **126 km Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor**. It will **dispatch 4.5 lakh vehicles annually**, cut **1.75 lakh tonnes of CO₂ emissions**, and **save 60 million litres of fuel** per year. With this, MSIL aims to **increase rail-based dispatches to 35% by FY2030–31**, supporting India's vision of a **net-zero emission economy by 2070**.
- The **Government of India** has introduced a **₹3,000 FASTag Annual Pass**, starting **August 15, 2025**, for **private vehicles** like cars, jeeps, and vans. Valid for **one year or 200 trips**, this initiative aims to **reduce toll-related disputes**, especially where plazas are closely spaced, and encourage a **digital-first tolling system**. The pass can be activated through the **Rajmarg Yatra App** or official **NHAI/MoRTH platforms**, offering an **affordable, hassle-free travel experience** across **National Highways**.
- On **June 18, 2025**, the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** unveiled a **new SOP** to deliver **Elector Photo Identity Cards (EPICs)** within **15 days** of any electoral roll update. Powered by the **ECINet platform** and integrated with the **Department of Posts**, the system provides **real-time tracking** and **SMS notifications** to voters. This tech-driven step aims to improve **voter convenience**, ensure **timely delivery**, and bolster **digital transparency** in India's electoral services.
- To mark **World Sickle Cell Day** on **June 19, 2025**, **AIIMS Mangalagiri** organized an **awareness rally** in collaboration with the **Departments of Health and Tribal Welfare**. The event featured participation from **students, tribal members, and medical professionals**, aiming to boost awareness about **sickle cell disease**, a **hereditary blood disorder** that disproportionately affects **tribal populations** in India.
- The **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** has launched "**Pratibha Setu**", a revamped platform that allows employers to access details of **non-recommended candidates** who cleared all stages of UPSC exams but were not on the final merit list. This move provides **career alternatives to top-tier aspirants** and strengthens the interface between **government-selected talent and private sector demand**. With secure login access for verified recruiters and opt-in participation from candidates, **Pratibha Setu** represents a **forward-looking employment reform** initiative.
- During his visit to **Bhubaneswar on June 20, 2025**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated **₹18,600 crore worth of development projects**, flagged off new **rail and bus services**, and launched the **Odisha Vision Document**, aiming for a **\$1.5 trillion economy by 2047**. Emphasizing **cultural revival, women empowerment, and infrastructure growth**, the PM also rolled out the **Baraputra Aithya Gram Yojana** and **felicitated Lakhpati Didis** under the SHG initiative. The event signaled the government's commitment to holistic, inclusive progress in Odisha.
- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development**, under **Annpurna Devi**, launched the **Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub** on **June 20, 2025**, during a **national consultation in New Delhi**. The platform will act as a **digital repository** for **gender budgeting resources**, aiding ministries, states, and policymakers in integrating **gender equality** in planning and budgeting. The Centre's allocation for **FY 2025–26** stands at **₹4.49 lakh crore**, a **4.5x increase** from 2014–15. The consultation reviewed **20 years of gender budgeting** in India and proposed **training manuals and sector-specific strategies** to further strengthen **inclusive fiscal governance**.
- **Yoga Sangam 2025**, an initiative by the **Ministry of Ayush**, marks a transformative celebration of the **11th International Day of Yoga (IDY)** with the theme "**Unity Through Breath**". This nationwide event will mobilize participation at **over one lakh locations**, including **schools, offices, villages, and metros**, symbolizing a **collective movement for health and harmony**. Emphasizing **synchronized breathing and community connection**, it redefines yoga as both a **wellness practice** and a **national unifier**.
- In a **historic move** to promote **educational equity**, **IIT-Delhi** has introduced a **special PhD admission drive** for **Scheduled Caste (SC)** and **Scheduled Tribe (ST)** candidates. This initiative, which runs until **June 30, 2025**, addresses a persistent **shortfall in reserved seat intake** at the **doctoral level**, as revealed to a **parliamentary committee**. Despite relaxed eligibility norms, the institute has received **fewer applications**, prompting **department-wide changes** to encourage supernumerary admissions.
- The **Government of India** launched **Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan (DAJA)** on **June 15, 2025**, marking the **largest tribal empowerment campaign** in India's history, aiming to reach over **5.5 crore tribal citizens** across **31 states/UTs**. Named after **Birsa Munda**, this initiative honors tribal heritage while delivering on **PM Modi's vision of inclusive governance**. In just nine days, DAJA enabled **1.68 lakh Ayushman cards**, **1.38 lakh Aadhaar enrolments**, and **22,000+ Ujjwala Yojana** connections.





Important Festival

- **The Bonalu festival 2025** began with great fervour and tradition at Golconda Fort in Hyderabad, where devotees gathered at the Sri Jagadamba Mahankali temple to offer Bonams and participate in age-old rituals. The Telangana government actively supported the event with a ₹20 crore fund for 2,783 temples, while prominent political leaders and thousands of devotees celebrated the region's folk heritage. The festival will continue across Secunderabad and Old City in the coming weeks, reflecting Telangana's deep-rooted cultural pride.
- **The Ambubachi Mela 2025**, held at Kamakhya Temple in Assam, commemorated the menstrual cycle of Goddess Kamakhya from June 22 to June 25, with temple doors reopening on June 26. This unique festival challenges menstrual taboos by celebrating womanhood and promoting menstrual hygiene awareness. Considered one of the 51 Shakti Peethas, the temple has deep mythological roots, and its rituals reflect Assam's progressive approach to menstruation. With massive turnout and government support, the event strengthens both spiritual devotion and social messaging around feminine power and dignity.
- **The 3rd Lavender Festival at Bhaderwah, Jammu & Kashmir**, showcased the growing success of the CSIR-Aroma Mission. Held from June 1–2, 2025, and attended by over 1,200 participants, the event featured field visits, live distillation demonstrations, and success stories of farmers and startups. With over ₹10.5 crore in turnover from lavender-based products and more than 9,000 trained individuals, the festival underscored the socio-economic upliftment, women entrepreneurship, and industrial development spurred by lavender farming.
- **Sri Lanka** is celebrating the revered Poson Poya festival, marking over 2,000 years since the arrival of Buddhism with Arahat Mahinda's first sermon to King Devanampiyatissa. Devotees have gathered at Mihintale and Anuradhapura, where the festivities are marked with lanterns, almsgiving, and cultural programs. President Anura Kumara Disanayake emphasized national unity and moral revival, while the Indian High Commission joined the occasion with an exhibition on Buddhist heritage. Free and special train services are also aiding pilgrim movement during the sacred week.
- **The Kataragama Esala Festival 2025** began in Sri Lanka with a flag hoisting ceremony, welcoming devotees from various faiths and regions. Celebrated around the Maha Devala temple dedicated to Lord Skanda, the festival honors

interfaith traditions, drawing Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims alike. A central aspect of the festival is the Pada Yatra, a 500-km pilgrimage on foot. Key events include the fire-walking ceremony on July 7 and the grand Maha Perahera procession on July 10, highlighting the festival's spiritual intensity and cultural richness.

Miscellaneous National News

- The Government of India commemorated **60 years of Integral Humanism**, a philosophy by **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya**, with a national symposium addressed by **Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan**. The Minister emphasized agriculture as the backbone of the Indian economy, advocated for environmental consciousness through a **tree plantation drive**, and promoted **women's empowerment** via schemes like **Lakshpati Didi Yojana**. He reiterated that Deendayal Ji's ideology offers a uniquely Indian framework for development grounded in **cultural ethos, balanced economics, and social harmony**.
- The **Government of India** has permitted **Central Government employees** who retired under the **National Pension System (NPS)** with a minimum of **10 years of service** to claim **additional pension benefits** under the **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)**. The scheme, introduced in **January 2025**, offers a **50% assured pension**, a **lump sum payout**, and **monthly top-ups** to bridge the gap between UPS and NPS returns. The last date to apply is **June 30, 2025**. This move benefits nearly **23 lakh employees** and enhances **social security** for NPS retirees.
- The **Ministry of Coal**, under the leadership of **Shri G. Kishan Reddy**, launched **C CARES Version 2.0**, a **digital platform** by **CMPFO** for **coal workers' Provident Fund and pension services**. Developed by **C-DAC** in collaboration with **SBI**, it includes **real-time tracking**, **direct benefit transfers**, and a **mobile app** for member access. Initially deployed in **five regional offices**, it will expand **nationwide from July 2025**. The portal advances **transparency, efficiency**, and aligns with **Digital India** and **worker welfare goals**.
- At **Urban Adda 2025**, held in **New Delhi**, a powerful collective of **policymakers, activists, and urban planners** advocated for **gender-inclusive urban design**. The event illuminated the daily challenges women face in Indian cities — from **unsafe commutes to infrastructure exclusion** — and highlighted success stories like the **training of women as ferry pilots and public bus drivers**. Speakers emphasized that **urban mobility systems** must intentionally include women, and that only a **structural shift from intent to action** will ensure **equity in city design** and **livelihood access** for all.





- The **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** successfully observed **Swachhata Pakhwada 2025** between **May 1–15**, conducting **188 activities** across its headquarters and affiliated organizations. The campaign emphasized **cleanliness, health awareness, waste management, and community participation**, aligning with the **Swachh Bharat Mission**. Key activities included the installation of **e-waste and sanitary facilities, CPR training, cleanliness drives, and Nukkad Natak**s.
- India's **water management system** is under immense strain from **pollution, climate change, and governance gaps**, necessitating a transition to the **Source to Sea (S2S) approach**. In 2025, the UN spotlighted **glacier preservation and ocean science**, emphasizing integrated water policies that consider the full water continuum from **mountains to oceans**. Despite early global momentum, **India has not fully embraced S2S**, although some pilot initiatives are emerging. Experts urge alignment of **SDG Goals 6.5 and 14.1**, stakeholder participation, and nested governance to ensure **sustainable and climate-resilient water futures**.
- The long-awaited **Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL)** project, envisioned nearly **three decades ago**, has reached completion with the operationalisation of its final segment — the **Sangaldan to Katra stretch**. This milestone marks the **full integration of the Kashmir Valley into India's rail network**, highlighted by **iconic engineering feats** like the **Chenab and Anji bridges** and the **longest railway tunnel in the country**.
- India has pledged **\$20 billion** to advance its **maritime infrastructure**, with a focus on building **three Green Hydrogen Hub Ports**, enhancing **global trade corridor connectivity**, and promoting **multimodal logistics**. Union Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal** made the announcement at the **Nor-Shipping Conference**, highlighting India's commitment to a **green maritime future**, stronger **seafarer partnerships**, and **sustainable port development**.
- India's **digital public infrastructure** continues to expand as **UIDAI** reported over **211 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions in May 2025**, with **15.49 crore** via **face authentication** and **37 crore** e-KYC verifications. These figures underscore Aadhaar's central role in **government welfare, financial services, and citizen-centric governance**. Leveraging **AI/ML technologies**, Aadhaar's authentication capabilities are enabling **seamless, secure, and real-time identity verification**, driving forward the goals of **Digital India and inclusive development**.
- A new climate study warns that **India's urban centres** are on track to face **twice as many heatwave days by 2030**, especially in **Mumbai, Delhi, and Chennai**. Released during a key **climate symposium in New Delhi**, the study links these projections to **climate change, urban heat islands, and land-use changes**. It highlights a **43% surge in extreme rainfall intensity**, affecting nearly **80% of Indian districts**. Experts urge the formation of **Climate Risk Observatories (CROs)**, **risk financing tools**, and **district-level climate champions** to combat the worsening climate crisis.
- The **Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD)** and **Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)** signed an **MoU in New Delhi** to integrate **multilingual AI solutions** into Indian Railways' digital services, using **BHASHINI's language technologies** like **ASR, TTS, Text Translation, and OCR** to make platforms like **NTES and RailMadad** accessible in **22 Indian languages**, enhancing **linguistic inclusion** and **AI-driven public service transformation**.
- **Bengaluru** has been officially recognized as the '**Leopard Capital**' of India, with an **estimated 80–85 wild leopards** found across **Bannerghatta National Park** and surrounding zones, surpassing **Mumbai's 54**. A **year-long camera trap survey** by **Holématti Nature Foundation**, led by **Dr. Sanjay Gubbi**, also recorded **34 mammal species**, many listed as **Endangered or Schedule I** under Indian law. The study recommends **expanding conservation reserves, safeguarding wildlife corridors**, and minimizing human-wildlife conflict. This highlights Bengaluru's **unique position as an urban wildlife haven** and calls for proactive ecological stewardship.
- The **ESIC Sanath Nagar Campus in Hyderabad** has evolved into a **national Centre of Excellence**, offering **advanced medical services, super-specialty care, and medical education** under the **Modi government's eleven-year governance**. Accredited by **NABH, NABL, and ISO**, the campus delivers **digital diagnostics, cutting-edge surgeries, and innovative IT-enabled patient services**. With over **1,000 beds**, including **ICU and dialysis units**, and robust **educational infrastructure**, it stands as a **beacon of accessible, high-quality public healthcare in India**.

RANKERS ^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

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- India has initiated a **strategic shift** in its **rare earth export policy** by asking IREL to suspend a 2012 export agreement with **Japan**, aiming to **develop domestic processing** and **reduce dependence on China**. With rising demand for **neodymium** in **electric vehicles** and China's tightening grip on the market, India is investing in **local capacity building, infrastructure, and incentives** to create a **self-reliant rare earth ecosystem**. The move is also crucial for safeguarding national interests in **defence, renewable energy, and critical technology sectors**.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved **two strategic multitracking projects** under Indian Railways, totaling **₹6,405 crore**, to enhance connectivity and freight movement across **Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh**. Spanning **318 km**, the Koderma–Barkakana and Ballari–Chikjajur doubling lines will improve **logistics efficiency**, benefit over **28 lakh people**, and cut **carbon emissions**, aligning with India's **sustainability goals and economic self-reliance vision**.
- India took a major step toward strengthening its textile exports with the **first meeting of the Task Force on Textiles Exports**, chaired by Commerce Secretary **Sunil Barthwal** on **June 10, 2025**. The meeting addressed issues across the textile value chain, from **ESG infrastructure and e-commerce expansion to fibre innovation and regulatory simplification**. Stakeholders unanimously supported forming **issue-specific sub-task forces** to craft actionable strategies. The initiative is a cornerstone of India's **export and sustainability goals** under the **Viksit Bharat 2047 roadmap**.
- Visakhapatnam will host the **11th International Day of Yoga (IDY 2025)** on **June 21**, celebrating **10 years** of this global wellness event. Senior officials from the **Ministry of Ayush** and the **Andhra Pradesh Government** recently reviewed preparations at key venues. The state's ambitious **"Yogandhra" initiative** targets yoga outreach to **2 crore people** and aims to train **20 lakh certified practitioners**. With more than **1 lakh locations** participating across the state and **5 lakh attendees** expected in Visakhapatnam alone, IDY 2025 promises to exemplify India's commitment to **"Yoga for One Earth, One Health."**
- At the **Institutional Arbitration Conference** held in **New Delhi** on **June 14, 2025**, Law Minister **Arjun Ram Meghwal** emphasized India's ambition to become a **global arbitration hub**. Highlighting the need for **alternative dispute resolution (ADR)** methods such as **arbitration, mediation, and conciliation**, the Minister stressed reduced court burden and investor convenience. **ONGC Chairman** **Arun Kumar Singh** and other stakeholders underlined the importance of **time-bound, corporate-style arbitration**.
- PM Narendra Modi's visit to Cyprus in June 2025 marks a strategic recalibration in India's foreign policy**. As Turkey strengthens its alliance with Pakistan, India's outreach to Cyprus — a nation that has consistently backed India on the global stage — is both symbolic and strategic. Cyprus' role in the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), its geographical proximity to West Asia, and its upcoming presidency of the EU Council in 2026 amplify its significance. The visit underscores India's commitment to counter-terror diplomacy, multilateral engagement, and trade connectivity in a rapidly evolving global order.
- India has initiated **Operation Sindhu** to evacuate its nationals from Iran amid the growing threat of conflict with Israel. Over 100 Indian students have already been safely evacuated via Armenia, reflecting the government's swift and well-coordinated response. The operation emphasizes India's commitment to the **safety of its citizens abroad**, effective diplomacy, and robust crisis management strategies.
- Anantha Chandrakasan**, a Chennai-born academic and **MIT's School of Engineering Dean**, has been appointed as the **first Indian-born Provost** of the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**. Taking office on **July 1, 2025**, he will oversee MIT's **academic and financial strategy**. A **renowned engineer and researcher**, Chandrakasan leads MIT's **Energy-Efficient Circuits and Systems Group**, and has been instrumental in promoting **innovation, entrepreneurship, and inclusion** through programs like **SuperUROP** and **Rising Stars**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit to Croatia** signals a strategic shift in India's foreign policy, emphasizing deeper **connectivity with Central and Eastern Europe**. With its **Adriatic Sea access, membership in EU and NATO**, and involvement in initiatives like **3SI** and **IMEC**, **Croatia offers India key trade and geopolitical advantages**. The visit also revived **historic cultural ties**, notably through the **Sanskrit grammar work of Croatian scholar Filip Vezdin**. This outreach reinforces India's presence in the region and counters rival global influences like the **BRI**, while enhancing prospects for **UNSC support**.
- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has rolled out transformative reforms during the **June 2025 bye-polls**, introducing innovations like **mobile deposit facilities, real-time VTR updates, and 100% webcasting**. These initiatives, implemented across five **Assembly Constituencies**, enhance **voter convenience, transparency, and polling efficiency**. With the **Special Summary Revision** of electoral rolls also carried out for the first time in two decades, these reforms set a precedent for **future state elections**, especially the upcoming **Bihar Assembly Elections**.





- India is set to export its **first-ever locally manufactured locomotive** to **Guinea**, with **PM Narendra Modi** inaugurating the flag-off ceremony from **Marhowrah, Bihar**, on **June 20, 2025**. The deal includes **150 high-tech locomotives worth ₹3,000 crore**, made for Guinea's **SimFer Simandou mining project**. Manufactured under the **Make in India** initiative, these locomotives feature **world-class safety, comfort, and performance**. The project, awarded through **global competitive bidding**, highlights India's rising capabilities in **railway manufacturing**, its diplomatic outreach to Africa, and the realization of the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** vision.
- The Government of India is set to notify the **Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2025**, mandating the use of **Indian Standard Time (IST)** across all legal, commercial, and digital activities. This initiative, backed by the **Department of Consumer Affairs, CSIR-NPL, and ISRO**, aims to enhance **digital security, traceability, and operational efficiency** by eliminating reliance on foreign time sources. It includes setting up **five Regional Reference Standard Laboratories (RRSLs)** with atomic clocks and secure synchronization protocols. The move is a major leap towards **One Nation, One Time**, securing national digital infrastructure under a **trusted, standardized ecosystem**.
- In a major step towards uniting the world through the ancient practice of yoga, the **Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY)** launched '**Yoga Bandhan**', a flagship international program under the Ministry of Ayush. As a Signature Event leading up to the International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2025, the initiative brought together yoga ambassadors from 15 countries to strengthen global partnerships in yoga education, diplomacy, and wellness, reflecting India's continued leadership in promoting cultural unity and holistic health worldwide.
- The Centre has notified the schedule for the 2027 decennial census, which will include caste enumeration. This will be India's first caste-based census in 16 years, since the last socio-economic caste data was gathered in 2011. The announcement follows a high-level review chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- In a major step toward **mitigating human-wildlife conflict**, Union Minister **Bhupendra Yadav** announced the creation of a **Centre of Excellence** at **WII-SACON**, focusing on the use of **AI-driven solutions, public sensitisation, and rapid response mechanisms**. Backed by previous advisories (2021) and detailed guidelines (2022), the initiative comes amid rising **fatalities due to tiger and elephant attacks**, particularly in states like **Maharashtra, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh**.
- India is set to **integrate its Rare Donor Registry** with the **e-Rakt Kosh** national blood platform to ensure quicker, safer, and more cost-effective access to **rare blood groups** like **Bombay, Rh-null, and P-null**. Developed by **ICMR-NIIH**, the registry contains **over 4,000 rare donors**, screened using **advanced DNA testing kits**. The integration will benefit patients with **thalassemia, hemophilia, and sickle cell disease**, while upgraded **point-of-care tests** have significantly reduced diagnosis costs. The move marks a milestone in India's goal toward a **digitally connected, self-reliant blood management system**.
- In a landmark move to boost the **circular economy**, **CSIR-NIIST** and **NECTAR** have signed an MoU to establish **vegan leather manufacturing units** in **Meghalaya** and the **Northeast region**, utilizing **agro-waste** such as rice straw and fruit residues. This initiative aligns with **Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and Swachh Bharat**, focusing on **sustainable production, women empowerment, and MSME support**. Additionally, CSIR-NIIST's partnership with **GIZ India** will launch a **Centre of Excellence for Building Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV)**, accelerating India's clean energy transformation.
- In a **landmark move** to enhance the **Rath Yatra 2025** experience, **East Coast Railway (ECOR)** launched the '**ECOR Yatra**' mobile app, offering **real-time train info, special Rath Yatra train schedules, accommodation details, and ticket booking options**. Available on the **Google Play Store**, the app—featuring **multilingual support** and linked to **NTES** and **IRCTC**—caters to lakhs of **Puri-bound pilgrims**, ensuring smooth **navigation, live updates, and access to passenger amenities**, marking a significant leap in **digital railway services** during mass events.
- In a significant reform aligning with **NEP 2020**, the **CBSE** will allow **Class 10 students** to take **board exams twice a year** starting from **2026-27**. The **first exam is mandatory**, while the **second is optional** for those wishing to **improve scores** in up to **three academic subjects**. This move aims to **reduce exam stress, offer flexibility, and facilitate smoother Class 11 admissions**. New provisions also cover **compartment students, sports quota, and snow-bound areas**, making the system more inclusive and progressive.
- The **National e-Governance Division (NeGD)** has rolled out a **2-day 'AI in Governance' training programme** at **IIT Delhi**, aiming to boost the **digital capacity** of **59 government officials**. Conducted under **CB Phase III of Digital India**, the programme includes **interactive sessions, policy discussions, and group exercises** to foster **responsible AI adoption** in governance. The initiative reflects India's strategic push for **tech-driven governance reforms and AI integration** in public administration.





- The **Union Environment Ministry** held a review of **Project Elephant**, confirming the **completion of Phase-I elephant census** in **Northeast India**, where over **16,500 dung samples** were collected. In efforts to reduce **elephant deaths due to railway accidents**, **3,452 km of tracks** were surveyed and **77 high-risk areas** identified. The meeting also highlighted progress in **DNA profiling of captive elephants** and announced the inclusion of **sloth bear** and **gharial** in the **Species Recovery Programme**, showing a broader commitment to **wildlife conservation and conflict mitigation**.
- India has successfully integrated **wildlife conservation** into infrastructure through the construction of its **first animal overpass corridor** on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. Built by the **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)**, the corridor features multiple **overpasses and underpasses** tailored to the natural terrain, enabling the safe movement of species like **tigers and leopards**. The project sets a national precedent in **eco-sensitive development**, with other states like **Punjab and Maharashtra** adopting similar models.
- In an effort to close the gap between tribal welfare policies and their on-ground implementation, the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** has launched the **Adi Karmyogi programme**. Announced during the **Adi Anveshan conference**, the

initiative aims to **train over 20 lakh stakeholders** and build a **motivated cadre of officials** across India. The move addresses the key insight that the **real obstacle in tribal development lies in poor implementation**, not the absence of schemes.

- The Indian government has approved the setting up of the **CIP-South Asia Regional Center** in Agra to advance research and innovation in **potato and sweet potato cultivation**. With India being the world's **second-largest producer and consumer of potatoes**, the center will focus on improving yields, developing **climate-resilient varieties**, reducing import dependence on seeds, and **boosting exports**.
- The **Emergency** was imposed exactly **50 years ago on June 25, 1975**, marking the beginning of what historians consider **one of the darkest chapters in the history of the Indian republic**. This **21-month period** witnessed the unprecedented suspension of democratic institutions, fundamental rights, and constitutional governance that had defined India since independence. **Indira Gandhi** had initially risen to power on an **electoral landslide in 1971**, but her administration soon faced mounting challenges that would ultimately lead to the constitutional crisis. The convergence of economic hardship, political opposition, and judicial scrutiny created a perfect storm that pushed Gandhi toward authoritarian measures.

International Current Affairs

International Current Affairs of November 2025

- **Russia**: Launched nuclear submarine "**Khabarovsk**" (Nov 1–2); capable of carrying **Poseidon nuclear-powered underwater drones**.
- **Maldives**: Became **first country** to impose a **generational smoking ban** (for citizens born after Jan 1, 2007).
- **China**: Achieved breakthrough in **Thorium Molten Salt Reactor** technology; converted thorium into uranium.
- **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**: Warned global **debt-to-GDP ratio** could reach **102.3% by 2030**; India's debt at **81.4%**.
- **World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2025**: India ranked **86th out of 143 countries**; Denmark topped the list.
- **Kazakhstan**: Announced decision to join the **Abraham Accords** (Nov 6, 2025).
- **United Nations (UN) Climate Summit 2025**: Held in **Belém, Brazil**; marked **30 years of climate negotiations**.
- **Ghazala Hashmi**: Elected **Virginia's first Muslim and South Asian Lieutenant Governor (USA)**.
- **FIFA**: Introduced the "**FIFA Peace Prize – Football Unites the World**" to be awarded on **Dec 5, 2025**.
- **G20 Inequality Report**: India's **top 1% own 27% of national wealth**; wealth share increased by **62% (2000–2023)**.

- **Afghanistan**: To appoint its **first Taliban diplomat** to India since 2021.
- **China** launches its **third aircraft carrier – Fujian**, featuring **EMALS tech and electric propulsion**, boosting its **naval strength in Asia-Pacific**.
- The **US** conducted a **Minuteman III ICBM test** to verify **reliability and readiness**, reaffirming its **nuclear deterrence** amid global tensions.
- **Pakistan's Constitutional Crisis**: The 27th Constitutional Amendment proposed on November 8, 2025, centralizes power under Army Chief Gen. Asim Munir by creating a Field Marshal post with executive control over judiciary appointments and reduced provincial autonomy.
- **Egypt's Western Desert Gas Discovery**: New natural gas field discovered in **Badr-15 area** with initial production capacity of **16 million cubic feet per day** and estimated reserves of **15 billion cubic feet**, enhancing domestic energy security.
- **India Joins Tropical Forests Facility**: The country entered as observer during **COP30 Summit in Belém, Brazil**, joining initiative aimed at mobilizing **\$125 billion** for tropical forest conservation while emphasizing equity and climate adaptation.



- **India–Angola Sign MoUs to Boost Trade:** India and Angola exchanged MoUs on fisheries, aquaculture, and marine resource management during the President of India's historic first-ever state visit to Angola in 2025, aiming to expand bilateral trade and cooperation in the blue economy.
- **Bangladesh Joins UN Water Convention:** Bangladesh became the first South Asian country to join the UNECE Water Convention in 2025, promoting cooperation on shared rivers and transboundary water management, particularly significant for the Ganga–Brahmaputra–Meghna river system.
- **President Droupadi Murmu's Historic Visit to Angola:** India's President made the first-ever state visit by an Indian President to Angola in 2025, focusing on cooperation in blue economy, energy, and capacity building while strengthening South–South partnerships and marking a milestone in India's diplomatic outre.
- **New US Ambassador to India:** Sergio Gor officially took charge as United States Ambassador to India, succeeding Eric Garcetti, with focus on strategic cooperation in defense, technology, and clean energy.
- **Bharat-Sri Lanka Cultural Ties:** The first-ever Sanskrit Mahotsav jointly organized by India and Sri Lanka inaugurated at University of Colombo with participation from 20+ universities, supported by ICCR.
- **UAE completes first Digital Dirham transaction under 2 minutes,** using **mBridge platform**, moving toward **fully digital economy**.
- **US President Trump** signs temporary funding, ending **42-day shutdown**, affecting **federal operations** and **national services**.
- **USA** approved supply of **100 FGM-148 Javelin ATGMs** worth **USD 45.7 mn** and **216 Excalibur M982A1 artillery rounds** worth **USD 47.1 mn** to India, boosting **precision-strike** and **anti-armor** capability.
- **GCC** approved a **Unified Travel System**, a one-stop mobility platform across **six member nations**, with phased rollout from **2026**.
- **Shah Rukh Khan Tower** announced in **Dubai**, named “**Shahrukhz by Danube**”, to be completed by **2029**.
- **UNESCO** declared the **Sundarbans** a **Climate Heritage Site**, recognizing its role as a **natural climate buffer** jointly conserved by **India & Bangladesh**.
- **UIDAI** launched the new **Aadhaar App** with features like **masked Aadhaar**, **biometric lock**, and **5-profile storage**.
- India signed its first structured **India–US LPG Agreement** to import **2.2 million tonnes/year** from **2026**, covering **10% of India's LPG demand**.
- India re-elected to the **Codex Executive Committee (Asia)** for **2024–2027** during the **48th CAC session**.
- Government released the **Offshore Wind Energy Policy 2025** targeting **37 GW** capacity by **2030**.
- **RBI** enabled **Digital Rupee (₹)**–**UPI interoperability** for seamless QR-based payments.
- **PM** launched **TB-Mukt Bharat Mission 2026** using **AI X-rays**, free treatment & **Nikshay Poshan Yojana** support.
- India opened its first **Regional AI Innovation Hub** in **Bengaluru** under the **IndiaAI Mission** to train **1 lakh AI developers**.
- **World Bank** approved **USD 1.2 bn** for **Climate-Resilient Agriculture Program** across **10 states**, benefiting **8 million farmers**.
- India released the **EV Battery Recycling Policy 2025** targeting **85% recovery** of lithium, cobalt & nickel by **2030**.
- India became world's **3rd largest solar power producer** with **88 GW** installed capacity and **22% share** in electricity mix (2025).
- Government launched the **National Cybersecurity Helpline 1930** for UPI fraud, phishing, and identity theft.
- India and Japan signed the **Indo-Japan Digital Trade & Innovation Agreement 2025** to boost digital trade by **40%** in 3 years.
- **US** designated **Saudi Arabia** a **Major Non-NATO Ally**, approving **F-35 sales**, **300 tanks**, and cooperation in **civil nuclear**, **AI & critical minerals**.
- **India & Israel** signed **ToR** to begin negotiations for a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** focusing on **investment & tech transfer**.
- **China** developed a **Deep-Sea All-Weather Floating Facility** for **238 personnel**, nuclear-resistant, operational by **2028**.
- **Larry Page** overtook **Jeff Bezos** with a net worth of **USD 246 bn**, driven by **Alphabet Q3 earnings** and **Gemini 3 AI** success.
- **UAE** contributed **USD 1.46 bn** (7.2%) to global **UN aid**, praised for its **speed & long-term impact**.
- India resumed **tourist visas** for **Chinese citizens** from **July 2025**, boosting tourism & hospitality sectors.
- **US President Donald Trump** designated **Saudi Arabia** as a **Major Non-NATO Ally**, making it the **20th country** to receive **MNNA** status.
- **WHO** declared **Indonesia** free from **Type-2 cVDPV poliovirus**, with no cases reported since June 2024.
- India championed climate justice at **COP30** in **Brazil**, demanding stronger finance commitments and opposing unilateral carbon border taxes.
- **India, Australia, and Canada** launched the **ACITI Partnership**, focusing on **AI**, **clean energy**, and **critical minerals**, with roadmap talks planned for early 2026.
- **G20 Johannesburg Summit** adopted a **39-page consensus declaration** on climate action, multilateralism, debt relief, and digital inclusion, with **AU** participating as a full member.
- **PM Modi** unveiled **six global initiatives** at **G20**, including the **Traditional Knowledge Repository**, **Africa Skills Program**, **Global Health Response Team**, and **satellite data sharing** for development.
- **Dormant Hayli Gubbi volcano** in **Ethiopia** erupted after **12,000 years**, sending ash **14 km** high, leading **DGCA** to advise Indian airlines to modify routes.



- **Gavi and UNICEF secured malaria vaccine R21/Matrix-M price at USD 2.99 per dose**, saving USD 90 million and enabling 30 million extra doses.
- **USA celebrated Thanksgiving on November 27, 2025**, continuing the tradition based on the 1621 Pilgrims-Wampanoag harvest feast.
- **Antarctic ozone hole recorded its fifth-smallest size**, averaging 7.23 million sq miles, with peak 8.83 million sq miles on September 9, 2025.
- **Jakarta surpassed Tokyo with 42 million people**, becoming the world's most populous city amid rapid Asian urbanisation.

International Current Affairs of October 2025

- **India-Bhutan Approve First Rail Projects**: India and Bhutan have approved historic rail connectivity projects worth ₹4,033 crore—Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse lines—to boost bilateral trade and enhance Bhutan's access to Indian ports under India's ₹10,000 crore support commitment.
- **India's EFTA Free Trade Agreement Effective October 1**: Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the FTA with EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) will be operational from October 1, 2025, as India continues negotiations with US, EU, and other nations while rising as the 4th largest economy.
- **India Re-Elected to ICAO Council Part II**: India secures re-election during 42nd ICAO Assembly in Montreal, recognizing its major contribution to international civil aviation safety, security, and sustainability.
- **India-EFTA TEPA Takes Effect**: Trade partnership with Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein comes into force at Prosperity Summit, pledging USD 100 billion investment over 15 years and creating 1 million direct jobs.
- **India and China will resume direct flights by late October 2025**, aiming to normalize ties and enhance exchanges.
- **Bitcoin Reaches Record High Above \$125,000**: Bitcoin surged to all-time high of \$125,245.57, marking eighth consecutive session of gains driven by institutional demand and favorable U.S. regulations under Trump administration.
- **Navratri 2025 Sales Hit Decade-High Record**: Navratri 2025 sales reached decade-high driven by GST reforms, with Maruti Suzuki delivering 165,000 vehicles in first eight days including record 30,000 on Day 1, marking 100% growth.
- **France's PM Sebastien Lecornu Resigns Within 14 Hours**: New Prime Minister steps down just hours after cabinet formation amid widespread opposition, triggering sharp drop in French stocks and euro as political crisis deepens in fragmented parliament.
- **Philippines Launches Southeast Asia's First Coral Cryobank**: Pioneering coral larvae preservation facility uses liquid nitrogen cryopreservation at -196°C to safeguard genetic diversity in Coral Triangle, combating climate-induced bleaching and 14% global coral loss.

- **Iran Approves Currency Redenomination Plan**: Parliament approves removal of four zeros from rial to simplify transactions after hyperinflation over 35%, with two-year preparation period followed by three-year transition phase.
- **Madagascar Appoints Army General as PM**: President Andry Rajoelina named General Ruphin Fortunat Zafisambo as Prime Minister amid escalating youth-led protests over water shortages and corruption.
- **WHO Reports 15 Million Teen Vapers Globally**: World Health Organization flags alarming trend with youths vaping nine times more than adults, driving new wave of nicotine addiction despite declining traditional tobacco use.
- **WTO Slashes 2026 Trade Growth Forecast**: Global goods trade projection cut to 0.5% from 1.8% due to U.S. tariff impacts, while 2025 outlook raised to 2.4% citing stronger macroeconomic conditions.
- **Ancient Human-Faced Pillar Discovered in Türkiye**: 12,000-year-old Neolithic artifact unearthed at Karahantepe site reveals early artistic expression and spiritual beliefs of ancient civilizations.
- **California Declares Diwali State Holiday**: Third US state to officially recognize Diwali, honoring Indian-American community contributions and cultural significance.
- **Israel-Hamas Ceasefire Agreement Announced**: U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled the first phase of Gaza ceasefire on October 9, 2025, featuring hostage release, partial troop withdrawal, humanitarian corridors, and prisoner exchange mediated by Egypt, Qatar, and the U.S.
- **UK PM Keir Starmer's Historic India Visit**: British Prime Minister strengthened India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with 12 major outcomes including Joint AI Centre, Connectivity & Innovation Centre, UK university campuses in Bengaluru and GIFT City, and enhanced clean energy cooperation.
- **India-UK Joint Statement 2025**: Issued on October 9, 2025, focusing on CETA ratification, defence collaboration, clean tech innovation, UK's support for India's UN Security Council seat, and joint initiatives on AI, 6G, and climate finance.
- **India-UK Launch £24 Million Tech Centre**: India and UK jointly established the Connectivity & Innovation Centre with £24 million investment focusing on AI-driven telecom, 6G technologies, and cybersecurity under the Technology Security Initiative.
- **Palau President Conducts World's First Live Underwater Interview**: President Surangel Whipps Jr. made history using Li-Fi technology beneath the Pacific Ocean with marine activist Merle Liivand, highlighting ocean conservation, coral bleaching, and climate threats facing small island nations.
- **IMF Revises India Growth Forecast**: International Monetary Fund raised India's 2025–26 GDP growth forecast to 6.6% from 6.4% due to strong early-quarter activity but trimmed 2026–27 projection to 6.2%, citing U.S. tariff headwinds while maintaining global growth at 3.2% for 2025 and 3.1% for 2026.



- Uruguay becomes the first **Latin American country** to legalize **euthanasia**, allowing terminally ill patients to seek medically assisted death under strict conditions.
- India elected as **Co-Chair of UN Global Geospatial Information Management (Asia-Pacific)** for three years, highlighting its leadership in **geospatial technology**.
- The U.S. and Australia signed an **\$8.5 billion critical minerals deal** to reduce dependence on China and strengthen supply chains, focusing on lithium, nickel, and rare earths.
- India and Brazil formed a **strategic trade and technology alliance**, aiming to boost bilateral cooperation and economic growth.
- Sanae Takaichi became **Japan's first female Prime Minister**, pledging to revive Abenomics-style economic reforms and strengthen Japan's global standing.
- India upgraded its **Technical Mission in Kabul** to a full **Embassy**, showing commitment to **Afghanistan's development**. **EAM Jaishankar** pledged support in **healthcare, terrorism cooperation, and development projects**.
- **Rodrigo Paz** won the **Bolivian presidential election** with **54.5% votes**, ending **20 years of socialist rule**. He promotes **market reforms, tax cuts, and economic stabilization** amid a **deep economic crisis**.
- To counter **rising crime**, **President Jose Jeri** declared a **30-day emergency** in **Lima and Callao**, allowing **armed forces** to assist police in restoring **public order**.
- Saudi Arabia ended the exploitative **Kafala system**, granting migrant workers **job freedom** and improved **legal rights**.
- New Zealand plans to ban social media for **under-16s**, requiring **age verification** to protect youth from **mental health risks**.
- **Tuvalu Joins IUCN as 90th Member**: Tuvalu became the 90th State Member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), gaining access to a global network to combat climate change, sea-level rise, and biodiversity loss while strengthening conservation efforts in its vast marine-rich Exclusive Economic Zone.
- **East Timor Becomes ASEAN's 11th Member**: Timor-Leste officially joined ASEAN on 26 October 2025 at Kuala Lumpur Summit, marking the end of a 14-year membership process with population of 1.4 million and GDP of \$2 billion.
- **China's CR450 Train Breaks World Speed Record**: High-speed train achieved 453 km/h during testing for Shanghai-Chengdu corridor, featuring 15-metre aerodynamic nose and advanced braking systems with commercial launch expected in 2026.
- **Catherine Connolly Elected Ireland's President**: Independent politician Catherine Connolly wins Ireland's 10th presidency with 63% votes, becoming the country's third woman president with campaign focused on social justice and neutrality.

- **Russia Tests Nuclear-Powered Cruise Missile**: President Putin announces successful test of Burevestnik missile with 14,000 km range and 15-hour flight duration, marking major advancement in strategic weapon systems with near-unlimited range capability.
- **Japan Launches Yen-Pegged Stablecoin**: Tokyo-based JPYC Inc. launches world's first yen-backed stablecoin on 27 October, planning to issue up to 10 trillion yen (\$66 billion) within three years to reduce transaction costs globally.
- **Cameroon's Biya Wins Eighth Term**: 92-year-old Paul Biya, Africa's longest-serving leader, secured his eighth presidential term with 53.66% votes amid protests and fraud allegations, extending his 43-year authoritarian rule since 1982.
- **Russia Tests Poseidon Nuclear Drone**: President Putin announced successful testing of Poseidon, a nuclear-powered underwater drone designed to evade defense systems and create radioactive tsunamis, representing a new paradigm in strategic deterrence.
- **U.S. Federal Reserve Cuts Rates Again**: The Fed implemented its second rate cut of 2025, lowering rates to 3.75%-4.00% range to support the cooling labor market, though internal splits signal policy uncertainty.
- **AmazonFACE Project Studies Climate Impact**: Scientists near Manaus, Brazil simulate 2050 CO₂ levels using six massive steel rings in world's first tropical forest climate experiment, with findings to inform COP30 Summit in Belem.

International Current Affairs of September 2025

- **China Pledges \$2 Billion at SCO Summit**: At 2025 SCO Summit, China announced \$2 billion in grants and loans, 100 local projects, expanded scholarships, and Tianjin Declaration on responsible AI development.
- **PM Modi Outlines India's Vision at SCO Summit**: At 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin, PM Modi emphasized three pillars - Security, Connectivity, and Opportunity - while proposing Civilizational Dialogue Forum and supporting global governance reforms.
- **SCO Declaration Condemns Pahalgam Terror Attack**: Tianjin Declaration strongly condemned April 22, 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, reaffirming united stance against terrorism and calling for enhanced intelligence sharing.
- **Afghan Student Scholarships**: India announces 1,000 e-scholarships for Afghan students aged 18-35 for academic year 2025-26 through ICCR's e-VidyaBharati portal covering nine Indian universities.
- **WHO Suicide Warning**: World Health Organization reports suicide accounts for 1 in 100 deaths globally with 7.27 lakh cases in 2021, calling for urgent action to protect young people.





- **India-Singapore Defence Cooperation:** During Singapore PM Lawrence Wong's first official visit, both nations agree to deepen defence cooperation focusing on technology co-development while celebrating 60 years of diplomatic ties.
- **Nepal Social Media Ban:** Nepal bans 26 unregistered social media platforms including Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, X, YouTube, and Viber following Supreme Court directive requiring formal registration.
- **Singapore backs India's plan** to patrol the **Malacca Strait**, strengthening **maritime security** under the **Act East policy**.
- **Anutin Charnvirakul** won **Thailand's PM election** with **63% votes**, defeating the ruling party amid political unrest.
- **26 countries**, including **France, US, and UK**, pledged **postwar security** to **Ukraine** during the **Kyiv Allies Summit** in Paris.
- After **Angela Rayner's resignation**, **David Lammy** became **UK Deputy PM**, Justice Secretary, and Lord Chancellor in a major **cabinet reshuffle**.
- **102-Year-Old Conquers Mount Fuji:** Kokichi Akuzawa becomes oldest man to summit Japan's tallest mountain at 3,776 meters, confirmed by Guinness World Records.
- **Japanese PM Resigns After Electoral Defeat:** Shigeru Ishiba stepped down on September 7, 2025, following LDP's historic defeat, triggering leadership contest.
- **India-Israel Sign Bilateral Investment Pact:** Finance Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Bezalel Smotrich sign agreement in New Delhi to boost investments and ensure investor protection with current bilateral investments at \$800 million.
- **Nepal Lifts Social Media Ban After Deadly Protests:** Government reverses nationwide social media ban following violent Gen Z-led protests that resulted in 19 deaths and hundreds injured across major cities.
- **François Bayrou Ousted as French PM:** Prime Minister loses confidence vote 364-194 on September 8, 2025, marking the second PM resignation in less than a year under Macron's minority government.
- **Nepal PM KP Sharma Oli Resigns:** Prime Minister quits on September 9, 2025, after massive Gen Z protests against social media ban turn violent, leaving 20 dead and 250+ injured with Parliament set ablaze.
- **HIRE Act 2025 Threatens India's IT Exports:** Proposed US Senate bill seeks 25% excise tax on outsourcing payments to foreign providers, potentially impacting India's \$100 billion IT export sector with compliance burdens.
- **Irfaan Ali Wins Second Term as Guyana President:** People's Progressive Party secures 36 out of 65 National Assembly seats in September 1 election, granting stronger mandate amid oil-driven economic growth.
- **Macron Names Lecornu as New French Prime Minister:** 39-year-old loyalist and former Defence Minister replaces Francois Bayrou, signaling continuation of pro-business agenda despite parliamentary challenges.
- **Norway PM Secures Second Term:** Jonas Gahr Stoere's Labour Party wins majority with 87 seats despite Progress Party achieving record 48 seats amid rising cost concerns.
- **Larry Ellison Becomes World's Richest:** Oracle co-founder surpasses Elon Musk with \$395.7 billion net worth following 41% surge in Oracle shares driven by AI technology growth.
- **Fitch Upgrades India's Growth Forecast:** Rating agency raises India's FY25 economic growth projection from 6.5% to 6.9% citing strong domestic demand and consumer spending.
- **India-Mauritius Special Economic Package Worth \$680 Million:** During Mauritian PM's visit, India announced comprehensive economic package including grant-based projects and Line of Credit for infrastructure development.
- India supported the UN resolution endorsing a two-state solution for Israel-Palestine; US opposed the move.
- **US-Korea-Japan Military Exercise Begins:** Freedom Edge joint air and naval exercise launched near Jeju Island on September 15 to counter North Korean nuclear threats.
- **Albania Appoints AI Cabinet Minister:** Country becomes first globally to unveil "Diella", an AI-powered virtual minister overseeing public procurement and digital services.
- **US Fed cuts interest rate by 25 bps, signaling start of easing cycle.**
- **Saudi Arabia and Pakistan sign mutual defence pact amid West Asia tensions.**
- **Australia raises emissions reduction target to 62% by 2035.**
- **South Korea and the US commit to a three-stage denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula** despite North Korea's resistance.
- **India-Norway Maritime Security Dialogue:** First-ever Maritime Security, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation Dialogue held in Oslo focusing on secure maritime environment and economic growth.
- India and Canada agreed to **resume trade talks** and **enhance cooperation** in areas like **defence, energy, and critical minerals**.
- **US Introduces India Shrimp Tariff Act:** American Senators Bill Cassidy and Cindy Hyde-Smith propose tariffs on Indian shrimp imports on September 20, 2025, to protect Louisiana's seafood industry from alleged dumping practices.
- **India Re-elected to UN Postal Councils:** Country secures positions in Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council at 28th Universal Postal Congress in Dubai, reflecting global confidence in India Post's leadership.





International Current Affairs of August 2025

- **India-Brazil Launch Agricultural Innovation Partnership:** Maitri 2.0 cross-incubation programme launched to strengthen agritech cooperation and sustainable agriculture development between both nations.
- **India Gains Strategic Position in Interpol:** India elected to Interpol Asian Committee during 25th Asian Regional Conference in Singapore, enhancing regional security cooperation against organized crime and terrorism.
- **Historic Ocean Conservation Treaty Takes Effect:** BBNJ treaty reaches 60 ratifications and will enter force January 17, 2026, aiming to protect marine biodiversity beyond 200 nautical miles from coastal countries.
- **China Launches K Visa to Attract Global Talent:** New K visa launching October 1, 2025, targets young STEM professionals amid US H-1B restrictions, offering flexible entry and participation in academic activities.
- **India-Australia Organic MRA:** India and Australia signed Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Organic Products on September 24, 2025, strengthening strategic partnership under ECTA.
- **Super Typhoon Devastates Asia:** Super Typhoon Ragasa, 2025's strongest storm, causes 17 deaths in Taiwan, 4 in Philippines with nearly 2 million evacuated in southern China.
- **IIT-Madras Nominated for UN AI Centre:** India nominates IIT-Madras as UN Centre of Excellence for AI capacity building under ODET initiative, aiming to skill 10 million people annually through India AI Mission.
- **US-Turkey Nuclear Deal:** United States and Turkey sign comprehensive nuclear cooperation agreement for building large power plants and small modular reactors.
- **Dubai's Driverless Transport Revolution:** Dubai launches 15-kilometer autonomous transport corridor featuring RoboTaxis, buses and bots, targeting 25% autonomous trips by 2030.
- **India-Bhutan Approve First Rail Projects:** India and Bhutan have approved historic rail connectivity projects worth ₹4,033 crore—Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse lines—to boost bilateral trade and enhance Bhutan's access to Indian ports under India's ₹10,000 crore support commitment.
- **India's EFTA Free Trade Agreement Effective October 1:** Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the FTA with EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) will be operational from October 1, 2025, as India continues negotiations with US, EU, and other nations while rising as the 4th largest economy.

- The **Krasheninnikov Volcano** in Russia's **Kamchatka Peninsula** erupted today for the first time in **600 years**, sending an **ash plume 4 km high**. Authorities issued an **orange aviation warning**, citing risks to aircraft. The eruption is believed to be linked to a recent **8.7 magnitude earthquake** and subsequent aftershocks in the region. Though **no populated areas are at risk**, officials have urged **residents and tourists** to avoid traveling near active volcanoes. The eruption, last seen around **1463**, is being closely monitored as a **historic geological event**.
- **Hong Kong** has launched a **stablecoin regulatory framework** requiring **full reserves and selective licensing**, reinforcing its ambition to become a **leader in digital finance**. The move ensures **stability, transparency, and innovation**, while aligning with global standards like the **U.S. GENIUS Act** and **EU's MiCA**, marking a new era for **programmable finance and asset tokenization**.
- A **high-level delegation from the Philippines**, led by **Secretary of Agriculture Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr.**, met with **Indian trade bodies** including **APEDA** and the **Indian Rice Exporters Federation (IREF)** to boost **food imports from India**. The Philippines agreed to import more **rice, buffalo meat, vegetables, fruits, and peanuts**, while also committing to **remove restrictions on Basmati rice imports**. This move aims to **reduce reliance on Chinese products, diversify supply chains, and strengthen Indo-Philippine relations**, promoting **food security and economic growth**.
- **Moldova** has become the **107th member** of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, a global initiative launched by India and France in 2015 at COP21. The ISA aims to **boost solar energy investments by 2030** and reduce technology and financing costs. It promotes solar use across sectors like agriculture, health, transport, and power generation. Moldova's ratification was formalized in a meeting between its ambassador to India and ISA officials, highlighting ongoing global cooperation to advance renewable energy.
- **India and Russia** signed a key **protocol to boost industrial cooperation** during the **11th Working Group session** held at Vanija Bhawan, New Delhi. Co-chaired by DPIIT Secretary **Amardeep Singh Bhatia** and Russian Deputy Minister **Alexey Gruzdev**, the meeting focused on collaboration in **aluminium, fertilizers, railways, mining**, and emerging areas like **aerospace, carbon fibre, 3D printing, and critical minerals**. Discussions included **joint development of small aircraft engines, a wind tunnel facility, and underground coal gasification**, reaffirming both countries' commitment to **strategic industrial ties and technology transfer**.



- In a **landmark move**, **Illinois** has become the first U.S. state to **ban AI platforms** like ChatGPT from providing **therapy services without human oversight**, under the **Wellness and Oversight for Psychological Resources Act**. Signed by **Governor JB Pritzker**, the law prohibits AI from performing core **therapeutic functions** like diagnosis, treatment planning, or emotional assessments unless supervised by a **licensed professional**. This comes amid rising concerns over AI's misuse in **mental health**, echoing warnings from the **American Psychological Association**.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has officially classified **Hepatitis D (HDV)** as a **cancer-causing virus**, citing its strong link to **liver cancer** when co-infected with **Hepatitis B (HBV)**. Since HDV requires HBV to replicate, the **Hepatitis B vaccine** becomes the most effective shield against this dangerous coinfection. HDV significantly accelerates **liver cirrhosis**, increases cancer risk by up to six times, and is spreading through **blood, sexual contact, and childbirth**. With **vaccine coverage in India** still around 50%, experts urge stronger **prevention, screening, and public awareness** to curb HDV transmission and protect vulnerable populations.
- In a **historic peace deal** brokered at the **White House**, **Azerbaijan** and **Armenia** officially agreed to end decades of **conflict** over **Nagorno-Karabakh**, with **President Donald Trump** hosting the summit. The agreement includes reopening **transport routes**, establishing **diplomatic and business ties**, and constructing a new **Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity** linking **Azerbaijan** to its **Nakhchivan exclave**.
- **Aadhaar face authentication** recorded a historic **19.36 crore transactions** in **July 2025**, up from **5.77 crore** in July 2024, showing rapid adoption across **banking, telecom, oil, and government services**. The month saw a **22% increase** over June and a **record 1.22 crore transactions** on **1 July** alone. Over **150 entities** now use the **AI-driven** technology for secure, **contactless verification**, including integration with **NSAP, NMC medical colleges**, and recruitment bodies like **SSC and RRB**.
- The **Government e Marketplace (GeM)** celebrated its **9th anniversary** in 2025, achieving a remarkable **Rs 5.4 trillion Gross Merchandise Value (GMV)** in FY 2024–25. Since its launch in 2016, GeM has onboarded **1.5 lakh women-led enterprises, startups, self-help groups (SHGs), artisans, and micro and small enterprises (MSEs)**, promoting **transparent, inclusive, and efficient public procurement**. Recent reforms include the removal of **caution money, rationalization of vendor fees, and transaction charge reductions**, benefiting **97% of orders**.
- **Cambodia and Thailand** have reached a **consensus on ceasefire details** and signed an agreement during the General Border Committee meeting in **Kuala Lumpur**, with **third-party observers from the US, China, and Malaysia**. Both countries pledged to cease all types of firing, maintain current troop levels without reinforcements along the border, and ensure humane treatment of captured soldiers as per **international humanitarian law**.
- **Australia** will formally **recognise the State of Palestine** at the **UN General Assembly in September**, Prime Minister **Anthony Albanese** announced, aiming to support a **two-state solution**, promote a **ceasefire in Gaza**, and isolate **Hamas**. The decision follows similar moves by **France, Britain, and Canada**, and responds to Israel's actions in Gaza and expansion of **illegal settlements**. Albanese emphasized that recognition depends on **Palestinian Authority reforms** and Hamas's exclusion from future governance, signaling growing **international pressure** on Israel for a **political resolution**.
- **Nepal** is offering climbers the chance to scale **97 Himalayan peaks free of charge** for the next two years to boost tourism in its **lesser-known and underdeveloped regions** of **Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces**. These peaks, ranging from **5,970 to 7,132 meters**, aim to attract visitors and promote the country's **unexplored mountain destinations**, supporting local economies through mountaineering tourism.
- **India and Singapore** held the **3rd India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR)** in **New Delhi**, led by senior ministers including **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** and **Singapore's Deputy PM Gan Kim Yong**, to deepen their **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**. The discussions focused on six key pillars: **Digitalization, Skill Development, Sustainability, Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, and Connectivity**. Emphasizing synergy between **government and industry**, the Roundtable also engaged with the **India-Singapore Business Roundtable (ISBR)** to explore next-phase opportunities in trade, investment, and regional cooperation in line with India's **Act East and Indo-Pacific Vision**.
- The U.S. national debt has surged past a historic **\$37 trillion**, reaching this milestone years earlier than expected, driven by pandemic-related borrowing and recent government spending. The **Treasury Department's** latest report highlights the growing fiscal burden on taxpayers. Earlier this year, former President **Donald Trump** signed a Republican tax cut and spending bill projected to add **\$4.1 trillion** to the debt over the next decade, according to the **Congressional Budget Office**.





- The **Putin-Trump summit in Alaska** ended without a deal on the **Ukraine conflict** after nearly three hours of talks at the Elmendorf-Richardson military base. While both leaders called the meeting **productive** and expressed hope for future progress, no agreement was reached. **Putin** emphasized ending the conflict by addressing its root causes and warned against sabotage, while **Trump** highlighted the potential for dialogue and said final agreements depend on Ukraine and NATO. The brief joint press conference signaled cautious optimism but no immediate resolution.
- The **WHO has declared Kenya free of sleeping sickness** (human African trypanosomiasis), making it the **10th country** to eliminate this neglected tropical disease. This achievement follows Kenya's earlier success in eradicating Guinea worm disease in 2018, marking significant progress toward a **Africa free of neglected tropical diseases**. Sleeping sickness, caused by parasites transmitted by tsetse flies, affects neurological health in advanced stages.
- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has issued a warning that **extreme heat is impacting millions globally**, stressing the urgent need for early warning systems and heat-health action plans. Key points include Frequent heatwaves and record-high temperatures are being recorded worldwide. July saw prolonged heatwave conditions in Europe, notably Sweden and Finland with temperatures above 30°C. Maximum temperatures exceeded 42°C in regions like West Asia, southern Central Asia, North Africa, southern Pakistan, and southwestern USA. Extreme heat has contributed to devastating wildfires, causing casualties and deteriorating air quality.
- In August, India's **Russian oil imports surged to 2 million barrels per day (bpd)**, making up **38% of its total crude oil imports** of 5.2 million bpd. This marks an increase from 1.6 million bpd in July, as Indian refiners prioritized **economic factors** in sourcing. Meanwhile, imports from **Iraq and Saudi Arabia declined**, with Iraq falling to 730,000 bpd from 907,000 bpd and Saudi Arabia dropping to 526,000 bpd from 700,000 bpd in July.
- Dubai has launched the **"One Freezone Passport,"** a unified business licensing system allowing companies to operate across all Dubai free zones with a **single license**, eliminating the need for multiple permits. This initiative, announced by the Dubai Free Zones Council, reduces costs and simplifies operations, supporting the **Dubai Economic Agenda D33** to double GDP by 2033. It offers benefits like **tax exemptions**, **full foreign ownership**, and faster market entry, attracting global firms and startups while boosting Dubai's position as a competitive **global business hub**.
- India and Saudi Arabia have agreed to **deepen maritime relations** by forming a **Joint Working Group (JWG)** focused on cooperation in **shipping and logistics**. This strategic partnership builds on their strong **economic and socio-cultural ties** and aligns with India's **Maritime India Vision 2030**, Saudi Arabia's **Vision 2030**, and India's **Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**. The collaboration aims to boost investment in India's **port and shipping ecosystem**, including projects like **Vadhavan Port** and the **Outer Harbour Project** at VO Chidambaranar Port, leveraging a **USD 3 billion Maritime Development Fund**.
- **India** and the **Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)** — comprising **Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Russia** — signed the **Terms of Reference (ToR)** in **Moscow** to initiate **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** negotiations. The ToR, signed by officials from both sides, aims to **boost exports**, support **MSMEs**, and **diversify market access**. In **2024**, **India-EAEU trade** reached **\$69 billion**, a **7% increase** over 2023. The agreement is expected to unlock **untapped trade potential**, attract investments, and create a **long-term trade partnership**.
- Fiji Prime Minister **Sitiveni Rabuka** will visit **India** from **August 24–26, 2025**, accompanied by his wife and key officials, including **Health Minister Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu**. During the visit, he will hold **bilateral talks** with **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, who will also host an **official lunch** in his honour, and call on **President Droupadi Murmu**. Rabuka is also scheduled to deliver a lecture titled '**Ocean of Peace**' at the **Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)**. The visit aims to **strengthen bilateral cooperation** and expand **people-to-people ties** between **India and Fiji**.
- **Iran** has launched a two-day missile drill titled **"Sustainable Power 1404"** in the **Gulf of Oman** and **northern Indian Ocean**, marking its **first major military exercise** since the **12-day war in June**. The drills showcased **cruise missiles** like **Nasir** and **Qadir**, and involved **surface/subsurface warships**, **air units**, and **electronic warfare brigades**. Iran's **IRIS Sabalan** and **IRIS Ganaveh** warships successfully hit sea targets.

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- Over **500 humanoid robots** from **16 countries** competed at the **World Humanoid Robot Games** in **Beijing**. The four-day event featured **26 competitions** including **track and field, soccer, dancing, and kickboxing**. Highlights included a robot completing the **100-meter sprint in 21.5 seconds** and impressive agility in kickboxing. However, some challenges surfaced, such as robots collapsing during soccer and relay races, highlighting both the **progress and limitations** in humanoid robotics.
- Dubai International Airport (DXB) has launched an **AI-powered passenger corridor** that enables travelers to clear immigration in seconds without showing documents, using **facial recognition** and **pre-registered biometric data**. Part of the **"Travel Without Borders"** initiative, this system can process up to **10 passengers simultaneously** in just **14 seconds**, eliminating traditional passport controls. Initially deployed in **Terminal 3's First and Business Class lounges**, it builds on Dubai's 2020 **"smart tunnel"** and aims to create a **frictionless, secure travel experience**.
- Due to the **U.S. Executive Order No. 14324**, which ends the **duty-free exemption** for goods under **USD 800** from **29th August 2025**, the **Department of Posts** has announced a **temporary suspension of postal services to the USA** from **25th August 2025**, except for **letters/documents** and **gift items under USD 100**. The decision follows **operational issues** and lack of clarity from **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)** on duty collection procedures, affecting **U.S.-bound air carriers' ability** to process shipments. Customers can claim **refunds** for undeliverable items. The department is working to **restore services** as soon as possible.
- During Fijian Prime Minister **Sitiveni Rabuka's visit to India**, both nations signed multiple **bilateral agreements** including a pact to build a **super-specialty hospital** in Fiji and supply of **Janaushadhi medicines**. Key announcements included Fiji joining the **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)**, establishment of a **Cyber Security Training Cell**, gifting of **ambulances**, and support for **agriculture** through **drones** and **soil testing labs**. Cultural, educational, and people-to-people ties were strengthened with the deputation of a **Hindi-Sanskrit teacher**, training for **Fijian Pundits**, and a second **Jaipur Foot Camp**.
- India and Japan have reinforced their energy partnership through a **Ministerial-level India-Japan Energy Dialogue** focused on **energy security, clean energy transition, and climate change**. Co-chaired by India's **Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs** and Japan's **Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry**, the dialogue highlighted progress in **energy efficiency, clean hydrogen, ammonia, renewable energy**, and agreed to expand cooperation in **carbon capture, biofuels, green chemicals**, and other advanced energy technologies, strengthening their commitment to sustainable and inclusive growth.
- Oman** has set an ambitious goal to attract **one million Indian tourists annually**, up from **700,000 in 2024**, as part of its broader **economic diversification** and tourism expansion strategy. Targeting **high-value segments** like **luxury travel, destination weddings, MICE events, and adventure tourism**, the country is leveraging its **cultural ties with India, diverse landscapes, and enhanced air connectivity**. Campaigns like the **'Focus Oman' roadshow** in Jaipur aim to engage Indian travelers, while **visitor-friendly visa policies** support the initiative. India remains a **priority market**, reflecting strong bilateral relations and tourism growth potential.
- Russia is set to welcome **1 million Indian workers** by the end of 2025 to address a severe **workforce shortage** in sectors like **construction, machinery, electronics, and textiles**, especially in industrial hubs like **Sverdlovsk**. The Indian ambassador confirmed rising **consular demand** as more Indians take up these opportunities. Russia plans to increase its **foreign worker quota** by 1.5 times in 2025 to tackle a projected **3.1 million worker deficit** by 2030, making it a new major destination for Indian skilled labor beyond traditional countries.
- The **Lithuanian parliament** has approved **Inga Ruginiene**, current **Minister of Social Security and Labour**, as the country's new **Prime Minister**. A member of the **Social Democrats**, Ruginiene must now present a proposed **cabinet list** within **15 days** for parliamentary approval. She will formally assume office after the **President's decree**. Elected to **parliament in 2024**, she previously served as **chair of the Lithuanian Trade Union Confederation**.
- South Korea has passed a bill to **ban mobile phones and digital devices in school classrooms** starting March 2026, aiming to tackle **social media addiction** among youth. With **99% internet penetration** and **98% smartphone ownership**, the ban reflects growing concerns about students' mental health and focus. The law, supported across parties, exempts use for **students with disabilities** and **educational purposes**. Critics warn it may infringe on **children's rights**.
- India-Africa trade has surpassed **USD 100 billion in 2024-25**, marking significant growth from USD 56 billion in 2019-20, with India emerging as one of the **top-five investors in Africa**. India has extended over **USD 12 billion in concessional loans** and **USD 700 million in grants** for African projects, along with offering **50,000 scholarships** to African youth. The partnership theme has evolved to **"Co-creating a Shared Future"**, emphasizing mutual trust and collaboration.





International Current Affairs of July 2025

- India has restricted **jute imports from Bangladesh** through all land and sea ports except Nhava Sheva to protect its domestic industry from **subsidized and dumped products**. The move follows growing concerns over **rural unemployment, depressed prices, and underutilized jute mills**. India also blocked any **re-export routes** via Nepal or Bhutan, ensuring that unfair trade practices cannot harm Indian economic interests. This is the second such action after similar apparel restrictions in May 2025.
- The **G7's decision to exempt U.S. multinational companies** from the **global minimum tax** marks a pivotal shift in international tax diplomacy. This **"side-by-side" taxation model**, driven by **President Trump's legislative push**, allows American corporations to be taxed solely by the **U.S.**, insulating them from external levies. While this benefits domestic businesses, it raises **concerns over OECD consensus, potential retaliatory taxes, and uneven competition** in the global economy. The deal's final acceptance now hinges on OECD's approval, making it a key development in **international economic governance**.
- The **QUAD nations—India, Japan, the US, and Australia—have launched their first-ever 'At Sea Observer Mission'**, marking a strategic leap in **maritime cooperation** under the **Wilmington Declaration**. The mission, carried out aboard the **USCGC Stratton**, features **cross-deck participation** of officers, including women, from each country. It aims to enhance **interoperability**, promote a **rules-based Indo-Pacific**, and align with India's **SAGAR vision and Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative**. As maritime challenges intensify, this initiative strengthens collective readiness, fosters mutual trust, and sets a blueprint for future **QUAD coast guard collaborations**.
- India and the **UAE have initiated strategic cooperation** in the production of **green steel and high-grade aluminium** under the **India-UAE CEPA** framework. The meeting between **Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy** and **UAE Economy Minister Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri** highlighted joint goals in **sustainable manufacturing, resource security, and expanding trade in automotive and strategic sectors**. Key Indian **CPSEs like SAIL, NMDC, and MECON** are set to anchor this partnership, with plans for a **joint working group** to streamline collaboration and contribute to India's **\$5 trillion economic vision**.
- Pakistan has assumed the Presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for July 2025** as part of its **non-permanent membership**. Ambassador **Asim Iftikhar Ahmad** and Foreign Minister **Ishaq Dar** will lead key **debates** focused on **multilateralism, peaceful dispute resolution, and OIC cooperation**. The presidency aligns with Pakistan's additional leadership of the **Taliban Sanctions Committee** and comes at a crucial time of **global instability**, positioning Pakistan to play a central role in fostering **peace, dialogue, and inclusive diplomacy**.
- Zohran Mamdani's victory in the NYC Democratic Mayoral Primary** marks a **major political upset**, defeating former Governor **Andrew Cuomo** by a **12-point margin** after a **ranked choice vote**. His **progressive platform**, including **free public services, rent freeze, and higher taxation on the wealthy**, resonated with working-class voters.
- On **Tuesday, July 1, 2025, Pakistan** assumed the role of **President of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** for the month of **July**. This rotating presidency is a key responsibility, as the **UNSC** is the **primary body** for maintaining **global peace and security**. Pakistan stated it will lead with **"purpose, humility, and conviction"**, focusing on fairness and cooperation. As a **non-permanent member** of the Council since **January 2025**, Pakistan was elected with strong support—**182 out of 193 votes**.
- In a **major diplomatic shift**, **Russia** has become the **first country** to officially **recognise the Taliban government** in **Afghanistan** since it took power in **August 2021**. On **July 3, 2025**, Russia removed the **Taliban** from its **list of banned organisations** and accepted the credentials of **Afghan Ambassador Gul Hassan Hassan**. The move aims to boost **bilateral cooperation**. The **Taliban** hailed the recognition as a **historic step** and urged **other nations** to follow Russia's example.
- The **European Union (EU)** on **July 2, 2025**, shared its **2040 climate goal** to cut **greenhouse gas emissions by 90%**, aiming for **carbon neutrality by 2050**. To gain wider support, the plan allows using **international carbon credits** from **2036**, up to **3%**. This has raised concerns among **climate groups** about weakening the effort. Key EU leaders like **Wopke Hoekstra** and **Ursula von der Leyen** defended the plan as **ambitious yet flexible**. The final decision will come after **discussions in July** and a **vote in September**, with hopes of passing it before **COP30 in Brazil**.
- On **July 6, 2025, Jennifer Geerlings-Simons** was elected as **Suriname's first female President**. She will take office on **July 16** and faces the **huge task** of fixing the country's **troubled economy**. The previous government had taken help from the **IMF** and reduced subsidies, which caused **protests**. Simons plans to improve **tax collection** and manage the country's **debt**. Suriname is also waiting for its **offshore oil production** to begin in **2028**, which could bring **economic relief**. The country hopes her leadership will bring **stability and progress**.
- The **Mauna Loa Observatory** in Hawaii, which has been **measuring atmospheric CO₂ for over 65 years**, may soon shut down due to a **lack of U.S. government funding**. Known for producing the iconic **Keeling Curve**, this observatory has provided crucial evidence of **human-caused climate change** by showing a steady rise in **carbon dioxide levels**—mainly from **burning fossil fuels**. Its long-term data is vital for **tracking global warming** and guiding climate action worldwide.





- **Elon Musk** has announced the formation of a new US political group called the **America Party**, aiming to change the country's traditional **two-party system**. This move comes after a major public argument with **former President Donald Trump**, where Musk criticized Trump's financial plans and left his role in the government. Musk wants the **America Party** to fight waste and give people more power. So far, the party has not been officially registered, and it's not clear who will lead it.
- **United Nations General Assembly** passed a **resolution** with **116 votes** urging **Afghanistan's Taliban rulers** to stop their **oppression of women and girls** and to remove **terrorist groups** from the country. While **Germany** led the effort, the **United States** and **Israel** voted against it, and **12 countries** including **India, China, and Iran** abstained. The resolution also asked for more **economic support** for Afghanistan and suggested that **UN Secretary-General António Guterres** appoint a **coordinator** to lead global actions. The resolution is **not legally binding**, but it shows strong **world opinion** and concern about **human rights and terrorism** in **Afghanistan**.
- **Colombia** and **Uzbekistan** have joined the **New Development Bank (NDB)**, taking the total number of members to **11**. This announcement comes ahead of the **17th BRICS Summit**. The **NDB**, led by **Dilma Rousseff** and based in **Shanghai**, funds projects in **infrastructure, clean energy, and digital development**. The bank aims to support the **Global South** and help countries keep pace with modern technology.
- On **July 7, 2025**, **Trinidad and Tobago** became the **eighth country** and the **first in the Caribbean** to adopt **UPI (Unified Payments Interface)** for Indian travelers. The move was announced during **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's** visit, and it allows Indian visitors to **pay in rupees** by **scanning QR codes** at partner stores using UPI-enabled apps. Other countries with **UPI access** include **UAE, Singapore, France, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Mauritius**. To use UPI abroad, travelers need a **linked UPI app, international roaming, and UPI Global access**. The **conversion fees are minimal**, making UPI a **low-cost and simple way** to pay while traveling.
- **EU finance ministers** approved **Bulgaria's adoption of the euro**, making it the **21st member of the eurozone** starting **January 1, 2026**. Bulgaria will shift from the **lev to the euro** at a **fixed rate of 1.95583 lev per euro**. Prime Minister **Rossen Jeliakov** called it a "**landmark moment**", while top EU leaders like **Ursula von der Leyen, Christine Lagarde, and Valdis Dombrovskis** praised the move. Though **economic criteria** have been met, the transition faces **domestic opposition**, with **protests in Sofia** over **inflation and loss of purchasing power**.
- The **United States** has imposed sanctions on **Francesca Albanese**, the **UN Special Rapporteur** on human rights in the **occupied Palestinian territories**, accusing her of **anti-Israel bias** and links to **extremism**, which she denies. The move, announced amid the **Gaza conflict**, has drawn condemnation from the **UN, NGOs, and legal experts** for threatening the **independence of UN investigators**. Albanese, a seasoned **international human rights lawyer**, has accused Israel of **genocide and apartheid** and supported **ICC arrest warrants** against Israeli leaders.
- On **July 9, 2025**, during the **47th session** in **Paris**, **UNESCO** removed three African sites—the **Rainforests of Atsinanana** in **Madagascar**, **Abu Mena** in **Egypt**, and the **Old Town of Ghadames** in **Libya**—from the **World Heritage in Danger List**. These sites had faced **serious threats** such as illegal logging, rising water levels, and war damage. **UNESCO's Director-General Audrey Azoulay** praised the countries for restoring their sites and noted that Africa is receiving special support. This success shows the positive results of ongoing global efforts to protect **cultural and natural heritage**.
- **UNESCO** added **three sites in Cambodia**—**Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, M-13 prison, and Choeung Ek Killing Fields**—to its **World Heritage List** on **July 11, 2025** during its **47th committee session in Paris**. These places were once used by the **Khmer Rouge regime (1975–1979)** for torture and executions. The move comes on the **50th anniversary** of the regime's rise to power. **Prime Minister Hun Manet** and several leaders welcomed the recognition. This marks **Cambodia's first modern historical nomination** and aims to **educate youth, honor victims, and promote peace**.
- **India** became the **first country** to launch the **Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)**, earning praise from the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. The platform uses **AI** to protect and expand **India's traditional medicine** systems like **Ayurveda and Unani**. The WHO's report highlighted India's success in merging **ancient knowledge with modern technology**, mentioning innovations like **Ayurgenomics, AI diagnostics, and digital health platforms**. These efforts support **PM Modi's vision of AI for all** and make India a leader in **digital health and traditional medicine integration**.
- **France** announced a new agreement with **New Caledonia** that would make the territory a **state within the French Republic**, giving it more freedom while staying under French control. The plan must be approved by both the **French Parliament** and **New Caledonian voters**. The move comes after **2024 protests** over voting rights and aims to ease tensions between **Indigenous Kanak people** and French authorities. The agreement introduces **New Caledonian nationality, dual citizenship**, and plans for a new **referendum**. It highlights **President Emmanuel Macron's** effort to balance unity and respect for local identity.





- **US Department of Defense (DoD)** gave **\$200 million** contracts to **OpenAI, Google, Anthropic, and xAI** to boost **national security with advanced AI systems**. These companies will develop **autonomous software tools** for military use, guided by the **Pentagon's Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office (CDAO)**. The goal is to stay ahead in global defence by using **safe, smart, and mission-ready AI**. This move also follows recent **White House guidance** to build a strong and innovative **AI ecosystem** in the United States.
- In **2024, South Asia** reached a **record high in childhood immunisation**, as reported by **UNICEF** and **WHO**. The region saw **92% DTP3 vaccine coverage**, a **27% drop in zero-dose children**, and a **39% decline in measles cases**. **India and Nepal** showed significant progress, while **Bangladesh and Sri Lanka** expanded **HPV vaccinations**. This success is driven by **government leadership, community health workers, and global partnerships**. However, with over **2.9 million children** still un- or under-vaccinated, continued efforts are needed to ensure **universal vaccine access** across South Asia.
- **Yuliia Svyrydenko**, a seasoned **economist** and **diplomatic negotiator**, has been appointed the **Prime Minister of Ukraine**, replacing **Denys Shmyhal**, who now serves as **Defence Minister**. Her appointment amid the ongoing **Russia-Ukraine war** marks a critical moment in Ukraine's political landscape, reflecting President **Volodymyr Zelenskyy's** strategy to reinforce **trusted leadership, economic recovery, and international partnerships**. Known for her role in securing a **mineral deal with the US**, Svyrydenko brings both competence and loyalty to one of Ukraine's most challenging leadership roles during wartime.
- India's **UN Voting Pattern** has experienced a significant transformation, with **abstentions** hitting a record **44% in 2025**, reflecting a shift towards **strategic autonomy** amid a **polarised global order**. This change underscores India's role as a **middle power**, opting for **nuanced diplomacy** over alignment. By abstaining on contentious resolutions involving issues like **Russia-Ukraine, Myanmar, and Israel-Palestine**, India maintains **bilateral relations** and avoids global power blocs, thereby strengthening its **non-aligned yet assertive foreign policy**.
- **Gita Gopinath**, the **First Deputy Managing Director of the IMF**, will step down in **August 2025** to return to **Harvard University** as an economics professor. Known for her role during the **pandemic** and global economic disruptions, she advanced the IMF's work in **fiscal policy, international trade, and debt analysis**. Her resignation offers the **U.S. Treasury** a chance to name a successor amid changing **global economic dynamics**. Gopinath leaves a lasting legacy of **intellectual leadership**, with her next chapter focused on research and training future **economists**.
- A replica of the **Ashoka Pillar** was unveiled at **Waskaduwa Sri Subhuthi Viharaya, Sri Lanka**. Sponsored by **Kyabje Ling Rinpoche** and supported by the **Government of India**, the project honors **Emperor Ashoka's** role in spreading **Buddhism** to Sri Lanka. This act reinforces **India-Sri Lanka Buddhist ties**, complementing India's other initiatives such as **Pali language promotion, solar support for temples, and preservation of Buddha relics**. The temple's housing of **Kapilavastu relics** further enhances its spiritual value, making it a symbol of **bilateral cultural unity**.
- The **India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) 2025**, formally called **CETA**, aims to **boost trade to USD 120 billion by 2030** by **removing tariffs** on key exports like **textiles, leather, and reducing import duties** on UK goods. It includes provisions on **services, innovation, social security, and IPR**, with ratification pending from the **UK Parliament**. The **Double Contribution Convention Agreement** further supports **Indian professionals abroad**. This deal reinforces India's global economic engagement and sets the stage for future FTAs with major economies.
- The **United States**, under **President Donald Trump**, has withdrawn from **UNESCO** for the second time, citing **"woke" and anti-Israel biases**. This aligns with the **America First** policy and mirrors the 2017 decision, later reversed by **Joe Biden**. UNESCO's recognition of **Palestine**, alleged **politicization, and ideological conflicts** were key reasons. The move has been welcomed by **Israel**, criticized by **UNESCO officials**, and may **reduce US influence** in global education and heritage policy while enhancing **China's role** within the agency.
- A series of **earthquakes** hit Russia's **Kamchatka Peninsula**, the strongest at **7.4 magnitude**, highlighting the region's location along the **Pacific Ring of Fire**. The peninsula is a **tectonic meeting point** between the **Pacific and North American plates**, prone to frequent **seismic activity**. Despite an initial **tsunami alert**, no major wave threat emerged. Kamchatka's unique geography, with its **UNESCO-listed volcanoes and mountain ranges**, makes it both scientifically significant and disaster-prone.
- China has started building the **Motuo Hydropower Station** on the **Yarlung Tsangpo River**, aiming to create the **world's largest dam**, triggering **geopolitical and environmental concerns** in **India and Bangladesh**. The project, costing **\$167 billion**, involves diverting river flow through tunnels to power **five cascading stations**. While it aligns with China's **energy strategy**, it raises fears over **river control, livelihood impacts, biodiversity loss, and seismic vulnerability**, making it a key **geo-environmental issue** in the region.
- India has **resumed tourist visas for Chinese citizens** after a **five-year suspension** caused by COVID-19 and diplomatic tensions. Chinese nationals can apply online and visit Indian consulates in **Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou** for processing. The move comes soon after the **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra** resumed, reflecting efforts to boost **people-to-people ties, improve bilateral relations, and revitalize India's tourism sector**.





- **France** will formally recognise the **State of Palestine** in **September 2025**, becoming the **first G7 nation** to do so. This move aims to push for a **ceasefire**, **rebuild Gaza**, and promote a **two-state solution**. It has been **welcomed by Palestine**, condemned by **Israel**, and **rejected by the US**. The recognition carries **symbolic and diplomatic weight** but faces several **geopolitical challenges**.
- India extended a **₹4,850 crore Line of Credit** to the **Maldives** during **PM Modi's state visit** in July 2025, reinforcing the **Neighbourhood First** and **MAHASAGAR** vision. Talks for a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** and **Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)** were launched. A key development was the restructuring of earlier credit terms, reducing the Maldives' **debt repayment burden by 40%**. This outreach reflects India's role as a **development partner**, aiding **infrastructure** and **regional security** in the face of geopolitical competition with **China**.
- **Karol Nawrocki**, backed by **Donald Trump**, won Poland's **presidential election** with **50.89% of the vote**, narrowly defeating **Rafal Trzaskowski**. A conservative nationalist and former head of the **Institute of National Remembrance**, he symbolizes the **Law and Justice party's** political comeback. Nawrocki's stance is shaped by **patriotism**, **anti-communism**, and **traditional values**, with potential friction ahead in **EU relations**.
- **Nicaragua** has become the **101st nation** to accept the **WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies**, bringing the pact closer to enforcement. The deal aims to eliminate subsidies promoting **illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing** and promotes **marine sustainability**. It includes the creation of a **Fish Fund** for developing countries and was adopted at the **MC12 meeting in Geneva**.
- **Bangladesh's interim government** introduced new **Taka banknotes** excluding the image of **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**, replacing it with visuals of **natural and cultural heritage** sites. The redesigned **Taka 1000, 50, and 20 notes** aim to **depoliticize currency** amidst ongoing political tension and legal actions against **Sheikh Hasina**. The new notes will circulate alongside the existing ones, promoting an **inclusive national identity**.

International Current Affairs of June 2025

- **Luís Montenegro** has been reappointed as Portugal's **Prime Minister** following the final general election results. His **centre-right alliance** will form a **minority government**. Despite the **rise of the far-right Chega party**, Montenegro ruled out any immediate **constitutional reforms**. His priorities include **economic growth**, **healthcare transformation**, and **enhancing public services**. This development marks a **notable shift** in Portugal's political landscape toward **pragmatic governance**.
- In **2024**, **Germany** surpassed **Japan** to become the **world's largest creditor**, ending Japan's **34-year reign**. Although Japan hit a record in external assets, Germany's **strong trade surplus**, **robust euro**, and effective **investment strategies** gave it the edge. Japan's decline is linked to an **ageing population**, **weaker yen**, and **conservative foreign investments**. However, **wage growth**, the **NISA investment scheme**, and **gradual rate hikes** may help Japan recover.
- **Annalena Baerbock** was elected President of the **80th United Nations General Assembly** on **June 2, 2025**, with **167 votes**. A former German Foreign Minister, she becomes the **first woman from the Western European group** and the **fifth woman overall** to hold the post. She aims to serve as an **"honest broker"**, focusing on **UN efficiency**, the **2030 Agenda**, and **global inclusivity**, especially under the framework of the **2022 Veto Initiative**.
- **Lee Jae-myung**, a liberal opposition figure, was elected **President of South Korea** on **June 4, 2025**, after the **removal of Yoon Suk Yeol**. Lee, known for **reformist and populist policies**, promised **economic reform**, **pragmatic diplomacy**, and **peaceful engagement with North Korea**. Despite concerns over his **alleged pro-China stance**, he reaffirmed ties with the **U.S.–South Korea alliance**. His leadership follows a phase of **political instability**.
- On **June 3, 2025**, the **UN General Assembly** elected **Bahrain, Colombia, DRC, Liberia, and Latvia** as **non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for 2026–2027**. **Latvia** entered the Council for the **first time ever**, while **Colombia** secured its **seventh term**. The elections showcased a commitment to **regional balance** and **global peacekeeping inclusivity**.
- The **Bangladesh interim regime** dropped the title **"Father of the Nation"** for **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman** in the revised **Liberation War Act 2025**, announced on **June 3**. The law also excludes the **Mujib Bahini** from official freedom fighter status. A new category called **"Associates of Liberation War"** has been introduced to recognize broader support during the **1971 independence movement**.
- On **June 9, 2025**, **U.S. President Donald Trump** announced a **new travel ban** targeting **12 countries** like **Afghanistan, Iran, and Libya**, with **partial restrictions** on 8 more, including **Cuba and Venezuela**. This followed a **visa overstay-related attack** and was justified on **national security grounds**, citing inadequate **background verification systems**.



- Iran confirmed that Russia will build **eight nuclear power plants**, including **four in Bushehr**, under a pre-existing deal. The agreement supports Iran's goal to **triple its nuclear capacity**, reinforcing **energy cooperation with Russia** and the aim of **clean energy self-reliance**.
- Israel launched the **second phase of Operation Rising Lion**, striking Iran's **Natanz uranium enrichment site**, escalating **Middle East tensions**. While **PM Netanyahu** vowed continued action, the **U.S. distanced itself**, labeling it a **unilateral move**. The attack raises serious concerns about **nuclear diplomacy** and **regional stability**.
- The **UK government** named **Blaise Metreweli** as the first-ever **female chief of MI6**, announced during the **G7 Summit**. With **25 years in intelligence**, she leads MI6's **technology and innovation** wing. Her appointment comes amid growing **cybersecurity threats** and rising tensions with countries like **Russia and China**.
- **OpenAI** secured a **\$200 million contract** from the **U.S. Department of Defense** to develop **AI tools for national security**, with a completion target of **July 2026**. The deal focuses on **frontier AI prototypes** for **military and enterprise applications**, reflecting AI's growing defense role.
- The **UN** has declared **2026** as the **International Year of the Woman Farmer** to recognize the crucial role women play in **global agriculture**. Despite contributing significantly, women face issues like **land insecurity**, **lack of credit**, and **climate vulnerability**. Indian programs like **Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana** and **ENACT** are seen as model initiatives.
- In retaliation to Israeli attacks, **Iran launched Operation True Promise 3**, using **AI-guided missiles**, **decoy saturation**, and tactics to **disrupt Israel's Iron Dome**. This marks a shift toward **cyber-kinetic warfare** and exposes the vulnerabilities of **urban defense systems**.
- On **June 18, 2025**, **India and Ukraine** held their **first Joint Working Group meeting on agriculture** to enhance cooperation in **digital farming**, **food processing**, and **climate-resilient agriculture**. India presented platforms like **e-NAM** and the **National Mission on Edible Oils**, while Ukraine sought **technology transfer** and **market access**.
- **Pakistan** finalized a **\$1 billion syndicated finance deal**, supported by the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**. Signed on **June 18, 2025**, it blends **Islamic and conventional finance** and represents Pakistan's **return to Middle East financial markets**, signaling trust in its **economic reforms**.
- In a **major cybersecurity breach**, **16 billion credentials** were leaked from **30 datasets**, impacting platforms like **Apple**, **Google**, and **Telegram**. This is **not a recycled breach** and increases risks of **phishing**, **BEC**, and **account takeovers**. **Google** urged a shift to **passkeys** for stronger protection.
- **Gold** has become the **second-largest global reserve asset** after the **U.S. dollar**, with a **19% share** in 2024, overtaking the **euro (16%)**, according to the **ECB**. Central banks, especially in **emerging markets**, increased gold reserves due to **inflation fears**, **geopolitical risks**, and **currency sanctions**.
- In a historic move, **South Korea's President Lee Jae Myung** appointed **Ahn Gyu-back** as the country's **first civilian Defence Minister** in **64 years**, amid a sweeping **Cabinet overhaul** following the **impeachment of Yoon Suk Yeol** for attempting **martial law**.
- Starting **June 24, 2025**, the **IAEA** and **Romania** launched **ConvEx-3**, the largest-ever **international nuclear emergency drill**, simulating a disaster at **Cernavodă Nuclear Plant**. With **75+ countries** and agencies like **WHO** and **INTERPOL**, the 36-hour exercise tested **emergency protocols** and **global coordination**.
- In response to **U.S. airstrikes**, **Iran's Parliament** suspended cooperation with the **IAEA**, despite Iran's membership in the **NPT**. The **Iranian Embassy in India** thanked **Indian civil society** for their support during the **12-day war with Israel**, marking a turning point in **Iran's nuclear diplomacy**.

New Appointments: National & International

New Appointments: National & International of November 2025

A) APPOINTMENTS – NATIONAL (TABLE)

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Ministry	Key Notes / Details
Rohit Shetty	Fit India Icon	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Recognised for promoting fitness & wellness culture.
Harbhajan Singh	Fit India Icon	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Honoured for sports excellence & fitness advocacy.
Saina Nehwal	Fit India Icon	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Olympic medallist; inspires youth fitness.
Sanjay Garg (IAS)	Director General (DG)	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	1994-batch IAS officer; appointed w.e.f. 1 Nov 2025.
S. Sankarasubramaniam	Chairman	Fertilizer Association of India (FAI)	MD & CEO of Coromandel International; elected Oct 2025.



Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Ministry	Key Notes / Details
Mallika Srinivasan	Chairperson (Extended Term)	Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)	Second consecutive term approved by MoPP&P.
Keerthy Suresh	Celebrity Advocate	UNICEF India	Promotes children's rights, education, mental health & gender equality.
Sandhip Pradhan (IRS)	Whole-Time Member (WTM)	SEBI	Appointed for a 3-year term.
S. Krishnan	Part-time Chairman	J&K Bank	Tenure: 13 Nov 2025 – March 2028.
Amit Agrawal	Telecom Secretary	Government of India	Neeraj Mittal transferred to Petroleum Ministry.
Sunil Paliwal	Chairman	Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)	To strengthen cargo movement & multimodal logistics.
Chitra Talwar	Part-time Chairperson	Jana Small Finance Bank	Term effective from 8 Feb 2026.
Rohit Sharma	Tournament Ambassador	ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026	Announced by Jay Shah; global cricket icon.
Justice Vikram Nath	Executive Chairman	NALSA	Appointed by President Murmu; effective 24 Nov 2025.

B) APPOINTMENTS – INTERNATIONAL

Person Name	Appointed As	Country / Organisation	Key Notes
Samia Suluhu Hassan	President (2nd Term)	Tanzania	Sworn in at Dodoma after winning national elections.
John Furner	Global CEO (Designate)	Walmart	Takes charge Jan 2026; succeeds Doug McMillon.

C) BRAND & CAMPAIGN AMBASSADORS

Person Name	Brand / Campaign	Key Notes
Shafali Verma	Brand Ambassador	Promotes women empowerment; T20 World Cup champion.
Rohit Shetty	Fit India Icon	Recognised for fitness advocacy.
Harbhajan Singh	Fit India Icon	Promotes active & healthy lifestyle.
Saina Nehwal	Fit India Icon	Motivates youth towards sports & fitness.
Rahul Dravid	Brand Ambassador – Paradeep Phosphates Ltd	Supports fertiliser sector brand outreach.

D) OTHER APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Designation / Post	Who is Appointed	Replacing Whom	Key Notes / Details
Global CEO, Walmart	John Furner	Doug McMillon	To take charge Jan 2026.
Chairman, FAI	S. Sankarasubramaniam	—	MD & CEO of Coromandel International.
Director General, BIS	Sanjay Garg	—	Appointed from 1 Nov 2025.
Chairperson, PESB (Extended)	Mallika Srinivasan	—	Second consecutive term.
Celebrity Advocate, UNICEF India	Keerthy Suresh	—	Focus on children's rights & mental health.
Part-time Chairman, J&K Bank	S. Krishnan	—	Tenure up to March 2028.
Telecom Secretary	Amit Agrawal	Neeraj Mittal	Mittal moved to Petroleum Ministry.
Chairman, IWAI	Sunil Paliwal	—	Strengthens inland waterways logistics.
Part-time Chairperson, Jana SFB	Chitra Talwar	—	Term begins Feb 2026.
Tournament Ambassador, ICC T20 WC 2026	Rohit Sharma	—	Announced by BCCI Secretary Jay Shah.
Executive Chairman, NALSA	Justice Vikram Nath	—	Appointed by President Murmu, effective 24 Nov 2025.



New Appointments: National & International of October 2025

KEY APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS

S. No.	Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
1	Rajeev Verma	Chief Secretary	Delhi	1992-batch IAS officer (AGMUT cadre); previously Finance & Revenue Secretary and Principal Commissioner, Housing & Urban Affairs; succeeded Dharmendra; appointment effective October 1, 2025
2	Gaurav Banerjee	MD & CEO	Sony Pictures Networks India (Culver Max Entertainment)	Five-year term till August 2029; oversees 28 TV channels and SonyLIV OTT; company revenue ₹6,511 crore and net profit ₹840 crore (FY24)
3	Shirish Chandra Murmu	Deputy Governor	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Former Executive Director; appointed for three-year term starting October 9, 2025; replaces Rajeshwar Rao; to strengthen RBI leadership
4	Shailesh Chandra	MD & CEO	Tata Motors Ltd.	Appointment effective October 1, 2025; continues as MD of Tata Passenger Electric Mobility; part of major restructuring at Tata Motors
5	Praveer Ranjan	Director General (DG)	Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)	AGMUT cadre IPS officer; takes over to lead CISF managing industrial and airport security across India
6	Praveen Kumar	Director General (DG)	Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	1993-batch IPS officer; to oversee operations along the Indo-China border; succeeds incumbent DG
7	Major General G. Srinivas	Commandant	College of Defence Management (CDM), Secunderabad	Recognized for logistics planning in Operation Sindoor under Western Command; brings expertise in defence management education
8	Asheesh Pandey	MD & CEO	Union Bank of India	Appointed for three-year term by Government of India; focus on strengthening public sector banking efficiency
9	Kalyan Kumar	MD & CEO	Central Bank of India	New three-year appointment; expected to drive modernization and credit expansion in PSB operations
10	Conor Hillery & Matthieu Wiltz	Co-CEOs	JPMorgan (EMEA Region)	Targeting 20% revenue boost by 2030 with combined 50 years of experience in Europe, Middle East, and Africa
11	Sanju Samson	EPL Ambassador	English Premier League India	Indian cricketer and Liverpool FC fan appointed to bridge cricket and football cultures, particularly in Kerala
12	Shubhanshu Shukla	Buildathon 2025 Ambassador	Ministry of Education	First Indian to reach ISS; to inspire 1 crore students across 1.5 lakh schools for innovation initiative focused on self-reliance
13	Khaled El-Enany	Director-General (proposed)	UNESCO	Egypt's former Tourism Minister backed by UNESCO Executive Board on October 6, 2025; first Arab Director-General pending November General Conference confirmation
14	Apurva Shah	India Credit Head	Blackstone	Appointed to drive private credit expansion and growth strategy across Asia-Pacific region
15	Tarun Garg	COO/Head	Hyundai Motor India Ltd	First Indian to lead Hyundai Motor India Ltd, effective January 1, 2026
16	Nirmal Kumar Minda	President	Assocham	Axis Bank CEO Amitabh Chaudhry appointed as Senior Vice-President
17	Dan Katz	First Deputy MD	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Confirmed effective October 6, 2025; brings experience from U.S. Treasury, Manhattan Institute, and Goldman Sachs to handle multilateral economic strategy
18	Anant Goenka	President-Elect	FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry)	Vice Chairperson of RPG Group; appointed for 2025–26 term; marks key leadership transition
19	Akkai Padmashali	Member	Supreme Court Panel on Transgender Rights	Activist appointed to enhance LGBTQIA+ representation at national level



S. No.	Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
20	Karthik Narain	Chief Product and Business Officer	Google Cloud	Former Accenture CTO appointed to drive AI and cloud growth
21	Neeraj Chopra	Lieutenant Colonel (Honorary)	Territorial Army	Olympic medallist conferred honorary rank
22	Justice Prathiba Singh	Chair	WIPO Advisory Board of Judges	Delhi High Court Judge appointed for 2025-27 term
23	Justice Surya Kant	53rd Chief Justice of India	Supreme Court of India	First CJ from Haryana; will succeed CJ Bhushan R. Gavai on November 23, 2025 with 14-month tenure till February 2027
24	Sonali Sen Gupta	Executive Director	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Over 30 years experience with MBA in Banking and Finance; to lead Consumer Education and Protection, Financial Inclusion and Development, and Inspection departments effective October 9, 2025
25	C. S. Rajan	Part-Time Chairman (Reappointed)	Kotak Mahindra Bank	RBI extended tenure till October 21, 2027; ensures leadership continuity with 46 years of governance experience

New Appointments: National & International of September 2025

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Dr. Deepak Mittal (1998-batch IFS)	Ambassador	India's Ambassador to UAE	Succeeds Sunjay Sudhir ; experienced diplomat with prior postings in key missions.
Shri Rajit Punhani (1991-batch IAS, Bihar cadre)	CEO	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)	Took charge from Sept 1, 2025 ; will oversee food safety regulations and standards nationwide.
Piyush Goyal (1994-batch IAS, Nagaland cadre)	Secretary	Ministry of Mines	Former NATGRID CEO ; assumed charge Sept 4, 2025 , succeeding V.L. Kantha Rao .
Justice Shree Chandrashekhar	Chief Justice	Bombay High Court	Took oath, replacing Justice Alok Aradhe .
Mohammed Siraj	Brand Ambassador	Skechers India	Endorses cricket footwear line; strengthens brand's entry into Indian cricket market.
Alia Bhatt	Global Brand Ambassador	Levi's	To connect with style-forward new generation consumers .
Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam	Director	CSIR-NIScPR	Focus on agile STI policies, future-ready science communication, and global collaborations in AI & digital challenges.
Srinivas Injeti	Chairperson	NSE Governing Board	Retired IAS officer with 40+ years' experience ; expertise in insolvency & corporate governance reforms ; approved by SEBI.
Ravi Ranjan	(Recommended) MD	State Bank of India (SBI)	Recommended by FSIB ; final approval pending with Appointments Committee .
Justice M. Sundar	10th Chief Justice	Manipur High Court	Sworn in on Sept 15, 2025 by Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla .
Acharya Devvrat	Governor (Additional Charge)	Maharashtra	Former Gujarat Governor ; succeeds C.P. Radhakrishnan after he became Vice-President .



Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Amit Khare	Secretary to Vice-President	Vice-President's Office	Retired IAS officer & former PM advisor; appointed for 3-year contract under VP C.P. Radhakrishnan.
Carlos Felipe Jaramillo	Vice President	World Bank – East Asia & Pacific (EAP)	Oversees US\$32 billion portfolio from Singapore hub.
Dr. Sima Bahous	Executive Director (2nd Term)	UN Women	Begins new term; focuses on gender equality & Strategic Plan 2026–2029 .
Shashank Srowthy	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	P&G Health	Effective Oct 1, 2025 ; brings 14 years of global finance experience .
Daniel Katz (Proposed)	First Deputy Managing Director	IMF	Proposed by IMF Chief Kristalina Georgieva; known for US Treasury expertise .
Dr. Kanad Das	13th Director	Botanical Survey of India (BSI)	First mycologist to head BSI; discovered 165 new mushroom species ; aims to digitize herbarium data & document fungi diversity.
Sudhanshu Vats	President (2025)	Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)	MD of Pidilite Industries; ASCI to launch AdWise literacy program for 1M students; expand operations to Delhi & Bengaluru.
S Subramanyeswar	Vice Chairman	ASCI	Part of new leadership team announced in Sept 2025.
Paritosh Joshi	Treasurer	ASCI	To support AdWise program & governance expansion.
Anand Piramal	Chairman	Piramal Finance	Took charge after NCLT merger approval ; Ajay Piramal stepped down ; new board includes Shikha Sharma (former Axis Bank MD).
Jairam Sridharan	MD & CEO	Piramal Finance	Part of the new leadership team after merger.
Vandana Gupta	Controller General of Communication Accounts (CGCA)	Department of Telecommunications (DoT)	1990 batch IP&TAFS officer; 30+ years' experience across DoT, DoP, MoWCD, NCW, and GASAB (CAG) .
Kanwar Singh Tanwar	Member	Rehabilitation Council of India	Appointed for two-year tenure (2025–27) .
Dr. Jashvantsinh Parmar	Member	Rehabilitation Council of India	Appointed for two-year tenure (2025–27) .
Rajeev Verma	Chief Secretary	Delhi	1992-batch IAS (AGMUT cadre); effective Oct 1, 2025 ; succeeds Dharmendra; earlier Finance & Revenue Secy, Principal Commissioner of Housing & Urban Affairs.
Gaurav Banerjee	MD & CEO	Sony Pictures Networks India (Culver Max Entertainment)	Five-year term till Aug 2029 ; company runs 28 TV channels + SonyLIV; FY24 revenue ₹6,511 cr, profit ₹840 cr.
Shirish Chandra Murmu	Deputy Governor	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Currently Executive Director; succeeds Rajeshwar Rao; 3-year term from Oct 9, 2025 ; strengthens RBI leadership.
Shailesh Chandra	MD & CEO	Tata Motors Limited	3-year appointment from Oct 1, 2025 ; continues as MD of Tata Passenger Electric Mobility; part of TML leadership restructuring.



New Appointments: National & International of August 2025

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
PB Balaji	CEO (effective 17 November 2025)	Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)	Succeeds Adrian Mardell; currently Group CFO of Tata Motors; will lead Reimagine strategy for luxury and sustainability
Rajiv Anand	MD & CEO (Aug 25, 2025 – Aug 24, 2028, pending approval)	IndusInd Bank	Former Deputy MD at Axis Bank; extensive leadership in retail and wholesale banking
S. Radha Chauhan	Chairperson	Capacity Building Commission, New Delhi	Retired IAS officer; former Secretary, DoPT; will advance Mission Karmayogi implementation
Jürgen Westermeier	President & MD for India and South Asia (from Sep 1, 2025)	Airbus	Will lead sales and operations; oversee Airbus-Tata ventures and strengthen Make in India collaborations
Rajiv Pratap Rudy	General Secretary (Administration)	Constitution Club of India	Retained post for 25 years, defeated Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, received cross-party support
Ravi Narayanan	CEO	SMFG India Credit	First leadership change post-SMFG acquisition, signals new strategic direction for the NBFC
Shah Rukh Khan	Brand Ambassador	Zomato	Leads “Fuel Your Hustle” campaign, highlights hustle culture, appears across media platforms
Ajay Kumar Bhalla	Additional Charge as Governor	Nagaland	Governor of Manipur given additional charge after demise of La Ganesan (80), who passed away in Chennai
Noel N Tata	Director	Tata Sons	Appointed after Ratan Tata’s passing; approved at AGM; Shapoorji Pallonji Group supported resolutions
Satish Golcha (IPS, 1992 batch, AGMUT cadre)	Commissioner of Police	Delhi	Replaces Shashi Bhushan Kumar Singh (interim); earlier DG (Prisons), ex-CBI, DGP Arunachal Pradesh
Srinivasan K Swamy	President (2025-26)	Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI)	Fourth term; coincides with AAAI’s 80th anniversary; Jaideep Gandhi elected Vice-President
Indranil Bhattacharyya	Ex-Officio Member	RBI Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)	Executive Director, Monetary Policy Dept.; replaces Rajiv Ranjan; 28+ years of central banking experience
Anish Dayal Singh	Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA)	PMO / India	1988-batch IPS (Manipur cadre), ex-CRPF & ITBP chief, known for anti-Naxal ops & troop welfare initiatives, will report to NSA Ajit Doval.
Justice Alok Aradhe	Judge (recommended)	Supreme Court of India	Currently CJ of Bombay HC; career began in MP HC; served in J&K & Karnataka; SC will reach full strength of 34 judges.
Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi	Judge (recommended)	Supreme Court of India	CJ of Patna HC; originally from Gujarat HC; in line to become CJI in 2031.
Rajiv Ranjan	Vice-President & Chief Risk Officer	New Development Bank (NDB)	Veteran RBI banker with 35+ years’ experience; MPC member; appointed for 5 years (from Aug 2025).
Teymur Abasgulyev	CEO	Nayara Energy	CFO of SOCAR Turkiye; replaces Alessandro Des Dorides (resigned due to EU sanctions); Nayara runs Vadinar refinery & 6,750+ petrol pumps.
Arjun Chowdhry	MD & CEO	Grihum Housing Finance	Ex-Citibanker & Axis Bank leader in retail lending/credit cards; succeeds Manish Jaiswal (stays advisor till Dec 2025).
Girish Kousgi	CEO (expected)	IIFL Home Finance	Outgoing MD of PNB Housing Finance; will succeed Monu Ratra.



Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
S Krishnan	Non-Executive Chairman (till Mar 2028)	J&K Bank	Ex-MD & CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank & Tamilnad Mercantile Bank; 40+ years of banking experience.
Dinesh K Patnaik	High Commissioner of India	Canada	Senior diplomat, currently Ambassador to Spain; appointment signals thaw in Indo-Canada ties.
Christopher Cooter	High Commissioner of Canada	India	Appointed by new Canadian PM Mark Carney; reflects effort to reset ties after strained relations.
Raghav Gupta	Education Head (India & APAC)	OpenAI	Former Coursera APAC MD; to lead AI-driven education initiatives, India AI Mission partnerships.
Urjit Patel	Executive Director (3-year term)	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Former RBI Governor (2016–2018); will represent India & constituency at IMF, effective Aug 28, 2025.

New Appointments: National & International of July 2025

APPOINTMENTS NATIONAL

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Ravi Agrawal	Chairman	Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)	Reappointed till June 2026; 1988-batch IRS officer; took over in June 2024 after Nitin Gupta's retirement; key in tax policy, administration, and Finance Ministry.
Parag Jain	Chief	Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)	Appointed after Ravi Sinha's retirement on June 30, 2025; played crucial role in Operation Sindoor following April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack.
Kesavan Ramachandran	Executive Director (ED)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Assumed role on July 1, 2025; over 30 years of experience; oversees Prudential Regulation Division under the Department of Regulation.
Air Marshal S. Sivakumar	Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)	Indian Air Force Headquarters, New Delhi	Joined IAF in June 1990; 35+ years of service; expert in air traffic control and base operations; served on UN missions in Congo.
Sunil Kadam	Executive Director (ED)	Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	Nearly 30 years at SEBI; strengthens efforts in market integrity and investor protection.
Amitabh Kant	Non-Executive Director	IndiGo Airlines	Former NITI Aayog CEO, G20 Sherpa; known for Make in India, Startup India; aims to support IndiGo's global growth and innovation.
Sahil Kini	CEO	Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), Bengaluru	IIT Madras alumnus, co-founder of Setu; brings experience with IndiaStack, Aadhaar, and UPI to enhance fintech innovation.
Sukanya Sonowal	Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassador (2025–2027)	Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network	IIT Guwahati student; Lead - Communications & PR at CYPAN; co-founder of STEMvibe; known for youth leadership and peacebuilding.
Sanjog Gupta	CEO	International Cricket Council (ICC)	Former head at Star India and JioStar; selected from 2,500+ applicants; focus on Olympics 2028, women's cricket, and tech innovation.
Aditya Mangla	CEO - Food Ordering & Delivery Division	Eternal (Zomato)	Internal leader since 2021; replaces Rakesh Ranjan; will lead amid antitrust case; praised for customer and partner-focused leadership.
Hardeep Singh Brar	President and CEO	BMW Group India	30+ years in auto industry; succeeds Vikram Pawah; reflects BMW's focus on Indian market growth.
Sabih Khan	Chief Operating Officer (COO)	Apple Inc.	Apple veteran since 1995; expertise in supply chain and operations; succeeds Jeff Williams.
Priya Nair	CEO and Managing Director	Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)	Current President of Beauty & Wellbeing at Unilever; succeeds Rohit Jawa; with the company since 1995.



Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Kumar Mangalam Birla	Member, Executive Committee	US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)	Chairman of Aditya Birla Group; honored with 2025 Global Leadership Award; \$15B investment in the US.
Abhijit Kishore	Chairperson (Reappointed)	COAI (Vodafone Idea)	Will guide 5G and telecom growth; deep regulatory and operational experience.
Rahul Vatts	Vice Chairperson (Reappointed)	COAI (Bharti Airtel)	Will support telecom expansion; noted for leadership in digital and regulatory affairs.
Babitha B P	Deputy Chief Information Security Officer (GM - Security)	State Bank of India (SBI)	Leads cybersecurity and digital safety; represents growing role of women leaders in tech and finance.
Dr Abhijat Sheth	Chairperson	National Medical Commission (NMC)	Succeeds Dr B N Gangadhar; appointed July 13, 2025; takes over amid CBI probe into bribery in medical college inspections
Sonali Mishra	Director General	Railway Protection Force (RPF)	First woman DG; replaces Manoj Yadava; term till Oct 31, 2026; 1993 batch IPS; extensive BSF & MP Police experience
Prof. Ashim Kumar Ghosh	Governor	Haryana	Appointed July 14, 2025; brings administrative & political experience
Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju	Governor	Goa	Appointed July 14, 2025; part of key reshuffle to boost governance
Kavinder Gupta	Lieutenant Governor	Ladakh	Appointed July 14, 2025; succeeds Brig. (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd)
R Doraiswamy	MD & CEO	Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)	Term till Aug 28, 2028; replaces interim CEO Sat Pal Bhanoo; over 38 years in LIC
Raghavendra S Bhat	Interim MD & CEO	Karnataka Bank	Appointed July 16, 2025; senior executive since 1981; replaces Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma; interim for 3 months
Hemant Rupani	CEO	Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd (HCCB)	Joins Sept 8, 2025; from Mondelez International; replaces Juan Pablo Rodriguez; wide FMCG experience
Sanjay Kaul	MD & CEO	GIFT City, Gandhinagar	Appointed July 15, 2025; 2001 batch IAS (Kerala cadre); replaces Tapan Ray; 3-year deputation
Manish Chopra	CEO	Sabyasachi Couture	Former Shein India & Meta exec; strategic move for luxury brand's global expansion; majority-owned by ABFRL
Ajay Kumar Shrivastava	Director (Engineering & R&D)	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)	37 years in aircraft design; led major upgrades & certifications; aligns with Aatmanirbhar Bharat goals
Nitu Chandra	SVEEP Icon	Bihar (Election Commission of India)	Promotes voter awareness for upcoming Assembly elections
Kranti Prakash Jha	SVEEP Icon	Bihar (Election Commission of India)	Promotes voter awareness under ECI's SVEEP programme
Dr J Ravishankar	Managing Director	Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRL)	2001 batch IAS; replaces Maheshwar Rao; aims for timely execution & better connectivity
Sanjay Kaul	MD & Group CEO	GIFT City (India's first smart city & IFSC)	Seasoned IAS officer with expertise in public policy, infrastructure, and technology; expected to boost GIFT City's transformation into a global financial hub, strengthen international collaborations, and enhance India's footprint in the financial services sector.
Deepak Bagla	Mission Director	Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog	Former CEO of Invest India; represented India in global forums like WAIPA; will drive outcome-oriented innovation initiatives aligned with India's development priorities.



Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Ajay Seth	Chairman	Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)	1987-batch IAS officer, former Finance Secretary; experienced in economic affairs, fiscal policy, and infrastructure; aims to enhance insurance penetration, strengthen regulatory oversight, and support policy innovation.
Prof Uma Kanjilal	Vice-Chancellor	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)	First woman VC of IGNOU since 1985; over 36 years in Open and Distance Learning; led digital education initiatives as National Coordinator of SWAYAM and SWAYAM PRABHA; global experience through Fulbright Fellowship and work with UNRWA.

New Appointments: National & International of June 2025

APPOINTMENTS NATIONAL

Person Name	Appointed As	Key Notes
Rajiv Memani	Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for 2025–26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rajiv Memani, Chairman and CEO of EY India, has been appointed the new CII President for 2025–26, succeeding Sanjiv Puri. With a strong background in global finance and industry leadership, Memani is set to enhance public-private collaboration and drive economic innovation. Alongside him, R. Mukundan and Suchitra K. Ella have been named President-Designate and Vice President, respectively.
Asheesh Pandey and Kalyan Kumar	MD & CEO of Union Bank of India and Central Bank of India, respectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FSIB has finalized Asheesh Pandey and Kalyan Kumar for the positions of MD & CEO of Union Bank of India and Central Bank of India, respectively, marking a key leadership reshuffle in the public sector banking landscape. These appointments follow interviews with 23 candidates and reflect the Bureau's ongoing efforts to ensure efficient leadership transitions, reinforce good governance, and sustain strategic progress in India's financial ecosystem.
S. Padmanabhan	Chairman of Tata Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S. Padmanabhan has been appointed as the Chairman of Tata Chemicals, marking a new chapter in the company's leadership. An alumnus of IIM Bangalore, he has held strategic roles in TCS, Tata Power, and most recently at Tata Chemicals as a Director. Recognized with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2008, Padmanabhan's leadership is expected to steer Tata Chemicals through its next phase of sustainable innovation and global growth.
Ashwani Lohani	Director of the Prime Ministers Museum and Library (PMML)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashwani Lohani, former chief of Air India and the Railway Board, has been appointed as the Director of the Prime Ministers Museum and Library (PMML) for a three-year term starting June 2025. His appointment follows recent restructuring of the PMML's executive council, which now includes eminent figures like Smriti Irani and Shekhar Kapur. Lohani's extensive public sector experience is expected to significantly contribute to preserving and promoting the legacy of India's Prime Ministers.
Noted economist S Mahendra Dev	Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted economist S Mahendra Dev has been appointed the Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), stepping into a key policymaking role. With deep expertise in agriculture, development economics, and rural transformation, Dev's academic and professional background makes him well-suited to guide economic strategy in a time of evolving domestic and global challenges. His leadership is likely to strengthen India's efforts toward inclusive growth, sustainable development, and evidence-based policymaking.



Person Name	Appointed As	Key Notes
Ryan Roslansky	CEO of LinkedIn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ryan Roslansky, the CEO of LinkedIn, has been appointed to also oversee Microsoft's Office productivity division, including the Microsoft 365 Copilot AI suite. This strategic leadership move reflects Microsoft's push toward AI-driven workplace innovation and tighter integration between its major platforms. Roslansky will remain CEO of LinkedIn while managing key products like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams, and more under Rajesh Jha's unit, reinforcing Microsoft's long-term vision of connected, intelligent productivity.
T Rabi Sankar	16th Finance Commission as a part-time member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has been appointed to the 16th Finance Commission as a part-time member, succeeding Ajay Narayan Jha. His expertise in financial regulation, digital currency, and monetary policy is expected to enrich the commission's fiscal recommendations for the 2026-2031 period. Headed by Arvind Panagariya, the commission will report by October 31, 2025, shaping Centre-State financial relations for the coming years.
Sailesh C. Mehta	Chairman of the Fertiliser Association of India (FAI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sailesh C. Mehta, MD of Deepak Fertilizers, has been appointed the new Chairman of the Fertiliser Association of India (FAI), succeeding N. Suresh Krishnan of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. With over 40 years of industry experience, Mehta aims to promote sustainable and nutrient-efficient fertiliser solutions, improve farm productivity, and enhance cooperation among the government, fertiliser industry, and farmers. The leadership shift comes at a critical time as the fertiliser sector in India undergoes strategic transformations to ensure agricultural resilience and environmental sustainability.
Sat Pal Bhanoo	Interim CEO and MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sat Pal Bhanoo has been appointed as the interim CEO and MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), effective from June 08, 2025, following the end of Siddhartha Mohanty's term. The appointment, made by the Ministry of Finance, grants Bhanoo full financial and administrative powers for a period of three months or until further notice. This ensures continuity of leadership in India's largest life insurance provider, which plays a vital role in the country's financial ecosystem.
Kirti Ganorkar	Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd has appointed Kirti Ganorkar as its Managing Director, effective September 1, 2025, in a strategic move reflecting structured succession planning. Founder Dilip Shanghvi will remain as Executive Chairman, focusing on long-term vision and the specialty portfolio. Ganorkar brings over 25 years of experience, having led Sun's India operations and driven global market expansion. Alongside this transition, Abhay Gandhi will exit his role as North America CEO, with Richard Ascroft taking over, reporting to Aalok Shanghvi.
R Doraiswamy	Managing Director and CEO of LIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended R Doraiswamy, a seasoned executive with 38 years of experience, for the role of Managing Director and CEO of LIC. This decision is part of a wider leadership revamp at LIC, India's largest insurer. The final appointment awaits approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. The move is considered critical for LIC's strategic future, especially in areas of governance, expansion, and market stability.





Person Name	Appointed As	Key Notes
Cipla Health	Cipladine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cipla Health has launched a powerful new campaign for Cipladine, titled “Aapka Fast Aid Expert”, featuring Neena Gupta. The campaign emphasizes Cipladine’s quick action, 30-second effectiveness, and deep wound healing with its Povidone Iodine formula. Backed by relatable and witty ads crafted by Lowe Lintas, the initiative redefines traditional first aid as fast aid, reinforcing Cipladine’s leadership in India’s antiseptic market.
Amitabh Kant	G20 Sherpa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amitabh Kant, former G20 Sherpa and a reform-oriented IAS officer, has announced his resignation after 45 years in public service. Known for leading the Aspirational Districts Programme, Incredible India, Startup India, and playing a pivotal role in India’s G20 Presidency, Kant emphasized achievements like digital public infrastructure, climate leadership, and global inclusivity through the African Union’s G20 inclusion. He now intends to support startups, free enterprise, and think tanks, continuing to shape Viksit Bharat from outside the government framework.
Arun Srinivas	India Head and Managing Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meta has appointed Arun Srinivas as its India Head and Managing Director, effective July 1, 2025, marking a key leadership reshuffle. He succeeds Shivnath Thukral, and will report to Sandhya Devanathan, who now oversees India and Southeast Asia. Srinivas brings nearly three decades of experience and has led Meta’s ads business in India since 2020, playing a pivotal role in the company’s AI, Reels, and messaging initiatives.
Lieutenant Commander Yashasvi Solankee	First woman ADC (Aide-de-Camp) to the President of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lieutenant Commander Yashasvi Solankee made history on May 9, 2025, by becoming the first woman ADC (Aide-de-Camp) to the President of India, an appointment driven by President Droupadi Murmu’s vision for gender equality and military inclusivity. Selected after a comprehensive evaluation process involving physical, intellectual, and ceremonial aptitude, Solankee is tasked with facilitating presidential engagements, liaising with government and military officials, and being constantly informed to support the First Citizen.
Anuradha Thakur	SEBI Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEBI Board, replacing outgoing Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth. Effective July 1, 2025, Thakur will also likely join the RBI Central Board, making her the first woman Economic Affairs Secretary in India. Known for her leadership in Air India’s disinvestment, Bharat Bond ETF, and regulatory enforcement, she brings rich administrative experience.
G. Sampath Kumar	Nippon Koei India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nippon Koei India has appointed G. Sampath Kumar as its Managing Director, making him the first Indian to lead the company. Backed by over three decades of experience in civil engineering and IT consultancy, Kumar’s leadership is expected to enhance the company’s footprint across India, West Asia, and the Asia-Pacific. This strategic shift highlights NKI’s commitment to regional expansion, local expertise, and inclusive leadership, as it continues delivering on large-scale infrastructure projects across sectors.
Prof M Satish Kumar	Queen’s University Belfast (QUB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen’s University Belfast (QUB) has named Prof M Satish Kumar as the first Dean of its GIFT City campus in Gujarat, a landmark step in enhancing UK–India education ties. With over 25 years of experience and deep regional knowledge, Prof Kumar will oversee the campus’s establishment, set to begin admissions in early 2026. The appointment marks QUB’s debut in GIFT City and reinforces its global expansion strategy, offering Indian students access to top-tier British education within India.



Person Name	Appointed As	Key Notes
Sivasubramanian Ramann	Chairperson of PFRDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sivasubramanian Ramann, former SIDBI Chairman, has assumed charge as the Chairperson of PFRDA for a five-year term starting June 20, 2025. With a deep background in finance, audit, and regulation, he brings leadership from institutions like SEBI, NeSL, and CAG.
China's Zou Jiayi	President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> China's Zou Jiayi, an experienced official with a strong international finance background, has been appointed as the next President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).
Anuj Pandey	CEO of UGRO Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UGRO Capital has named Anuj Pandey as its new Chief Executive Officer, underscoring a strategic focus on risk governance and leadership continuity. Pandey, a founding member and former Chief Risk Officer, brings over two decades of diverse experience from global institutions like Barclays and ABN AMRO. He will report to Shachindra Nath, who continues to steer UGRO's long-term vision and partnerships.
Amitabh Kant	Senior Adviser to Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amitabh Kant, a key figure in India's economic transformation and global diplomacy, has been appointed Senior Adviser to Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd, a Canadian multinational. With a track record of spearheading national initiatives like Digital India and the Aspirational Districts Programme, Kant's expertise will help guide Fairfax's India investments, especially as the firm aligns with the nation's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. His experience in governance, urban development, and policy innovation makes this a strategic move for both parties.
Professor Suman Chakraborty	Director of IIT Kharagpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Suman Chakraborty has been appointed as the Director of IIT Kharagpur, effective June 19, 2025. A distinguished academic and J.C. Bose National Fellow, he is celebrated for pioneering affordable diagnostic technologies like Covirap and HemoQR. With a career rooted in innovation and global academic engagement, Prof. Chakraborty's directorship is set to enhance IIT Kharagpur's research excellence, technological outreach, and global reputation.

BRAND & CAMPAIGN AMBASSADORS

Person Name	Brand / Campaign	Key Notes
Rohit Sharma	TCL India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TCL India has renewed its partnership with cricket legend Rohit Sharma as its brand ambassador for the second consecutive year, reinforcing its core message of "Master the Moment". The collaboration aims to foster a deeper emotional connection with Indian audiences through technology-led campaigns, AI-powered product innovations, and community-focused initiatives. TCL's continued association with Rohit Sharma reflects a strategic move to expand its digital presence, enhance brand credibility, and inspire consumers to embrace excellence in every moment.
MS Dhoni	Dettol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On May 28, 2025, Dettol announced MS Dhoni as the brand ambassador for its new Icy Cool range, including soaps, bodywash, and handwash. The campaign addresses summer-related hygiene problems, offering germ protection with an instant cooling effect. Known for his calm demeanor and reliability, Dhoni embodies the spirit of the product, helping Dettol foster stronger emotional engagement with its audience while promoting refreshing hygiene solutions tailored for India's hot climate.



Person Name	Brand / Campaign	Key Notes
Katrina Kaif	Global Tourism Ambassador for the Maldives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katrina Kaif, one of India's leading actors, has been named the Global Tourism Ambassador for the Maldives by the Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC). This appointment aligns with the launch of the Visit Maldives Summer Sale Campaign and comes ahead of PM Modi's visit, suggesting renewed efforts to strengthen tourism and diplomatic ties. Kaif's global brand appeal is expected to enhance the Maldives' image as a luxury travel destination. This move also reflects a soft power strategy amid recovering relations between India and the Maldives.
Aliawati Longkumer	Ambassador to North Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India has appointed Aliawati Longkumer as ambassador to North Korea, reviving high-level diplomatic engagement after a four-year pause. The move follows the reopening of India's embassy in Pyongyang in December 2024, which had been closed in July 2021 due to the pandemic. While trade remains suspended under UN sanctions, India has continued humanitarian support and training programmes for North Korean officials. The appointment reaffirms India's strategic presence in East Asia, balancing non-proliferation, regional security, and humanitarian interests.

Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings

Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of November 2025

A) MoUs WITH COUNTRIES – TABLE

Country	MoU Partner (India / Organisation)	Field / Purpose
Nepal	Government of India	Signed Letter of Exchange (LoE) for Jogbani–Biratnagar Rail Corridor to boost cargo movement, cross-border trade & port connectivity.
Singapore	— (No MoU)	Only update: Singapore ranked 1st in Global Passport Mobility Index; India ranked 85th . (<i>Not an MoU</i>)
United States	OpenAI & Amazon Web Services (AWS) (<i>Indirect international partnership</i>)	USD 38 billion AI + cloud infrastructure collaboration (not a Govt MoU; global technology partnership).
France	DRDO & DGA (Direction Générale de l'Armement)	Technical Agreement for long-term defence R&D, joint innovation & advanced technology collaboration.

B) MoUs WITH STATES – TABLE

State	MoU Partner(s)	Field / Purpose
Jharkhand	ISRO, BCCL, CMPDI	Tripartite MoU for studying surface coal fires , land subsidence & geospatial mapping in Jharia Coalfield (FY 2025–27) .
Gujarat	Banas Dairy & BBSSL	MoU to strengthen the potato seed-to-market value chain , improving farmer income & agri self-reliance.
Andhra Pradesh	C-DOT	Collaboration under Amaravati Quantum Valley (AQV) for quantum security, telecom R&D & indigenous innovation.
Tamil Nadu	Samsung & UN Global Compact Network India	DigiArivu programme to promote digital literacy & STEM education for school students.

C) MoUs BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS – TABLE

Organization	MoU With	Field / Purpose
ISRO	BCCL & CMPDI	Scientific assessment of coal fires , geospatial mapping & land stability study in Jharia.
Banas Dairy	BBSSL	Improve potato seed quality , supply-chain efficiency & farmer profitability.
OpenAI	Amazon Web Services (AWS)	USD 38 billion collaboration for cloud compute, AI model training & global infrastructure.



Organization	MoU With	Field / Purpose
Indian Railways (GoI)	Government of Nepal	LoE for Jogbani–Biratnagar Rail Corridor development.
Intellipaath	IndiaAI Mission (MeitY)	Partnership for YUVAi for ALL , boosting AI literacy nationwide.
IOCL, BPCL & HPCL	USA Suppliers	India's first structured LPG import contract : 2.2 MTPA LPG supply from 2026.
IPC (Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission)	Jharkhand State Pharmacy Council (JSPC)	Strengthening medicine safety , drug regulation & pharmacovigilance .
C-DOT	Andhra Pradesh Government	Collaboration under Amaravati Quantum Valley for quantum technologies & telecom innovation.
Samsung	UN Global Compact Network India	Launch of DigiArivu for digital & STEM education in Tamil Nadu.
DRDO	DGA (France)	Technical Agreement for advanced defence research , innovation & technology sharing.
GeM (Government e-Marketplace)	UN Women	Promote women entrepreneurs in public procurement; gender-inclusive sourcing.
DWBDNC (MSJE)	DAY-NRLM (MoRD)	Empowerment of DNT/NT/SNT communities via livelihood support & inclusion programs.
Asian Paints	BCCI	3-year partnership as Official Colour Partner for 110 Team India matches .

Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of October 2025

MoUs WITH COUNTRY

Country	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Nigeria	Government of India	Establishment of first Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) campus in Nigeria for bilateral collaboration in education
Nepal	POWERGRID & Nepal Electricity Authority	Construction of two 400 kV transmission lines (Inaruwa-Purnea and Lamki-Bareilly) for cross-border energy trade and regional cooperation
USA	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh & US Secretary Peter Hegseth	10-year historic defence framework signed in Kuala Lumpur (October 31, 2025) covering joint exercises, technology sharing, and Indo-Pacific maritime security

MoUs WITH STATE

State	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam Port Authority	₹39,216 crore deals at India Maritime Week 2025, including ₹29,662 crore shipbuilding cluster at Dugarajapatnam

MoUs BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
DDWS (Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation)	BISAG-N	GIS-integrated decision-support system for Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission for real-time monitoring of rural piped water supply
NCB (Narcotics Control Bureau)	RRU (Rashtriya Raksha University)	Training, research, and combat cyber-enabled narcotics trafficking
AIIA (All India Institute of Ayurveda)	MRIIRS	Enhancing Ayush insurance schemes and research collaboration to integrate traditional medicine with mainstream healthcare
National e-Governance Division	Sahakar Taxi Cooperative	Launch of Bharat Taxi (India's first cooperative-driven ride-hailing platform in December 2025) backed by IFFCO, AMUL, and NABARD
DRDO (Defence Research & Development Organisation)	SECI (Solar Energy Corporation of India)	Development of 300 MW solar capacity across DRDO establishments by 2027 for energy security and defence sustainability
Coal India	IIT Madras	Creation of Sustainable Energy Centre focusing on clean energy and low-carbon technologies



Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of September 2025

Organization / Country / State	MoU / Agreement With	Field / Purpose	Key Details / Significance
India	Japan	Climate Partnership – Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM)	Signed under Paris Agreement Article 6.2 to enable carbon credit trading between the two countries. Aims to mobilize green investments worth ₹10 trillion (approx. ₹5.5 lakh crore) in sectors like renewable energy, hydrogen, energy efficiency, and carbon capture . Strengthens India's role in global climate action and net-zero goals .
India	European Free Trade Association (EFTA) – comprising Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein	Free Trade Agreement (FTA)	Effective from October 1, 2025 , this is India's first FTA with EFTA nations. Includes legally binding sustainability clauses (a first for India), ensuring trade is aligned with environmental and labor standards . Expected to boost bilateral trade, increase FDI inflows , create job opportunities , and expand India's access to European markets .
Coal India	NSTFDC (National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation)	Tribal Education & CSR support	Empower tribal students in Eklavya schools via digital education, career mentorship, and sanitary napkin vending machines .
iDEX-DIO (Defence Innovation Organisation)	EdCIL (India) Ltd	Defence & Ed-Tech Innovation	Launched ASPIRE Program ; aims to develop dual-use solutions leveraging 650+ start-ups with ₹1,652 crore procurement orders under indigenous innovation model.
SAI (Sports Authority of India)	IIT Delhi	Sports Science & Innovation	MoU for sports science research, indigenous equipment development, and biomechanics lab to boost athlete performance under <i>Atmanirbhar Bharat</i> .
TCIL (Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd.)	Punjab National Bank (PNB)	Digital Banking & IT Transformation	Signed on Sept 3, 2025 ; partnership to enhance IT infrastructure and accelerate digital banking solutions .
India & ILO	International Labour Organization	Skills Recognition	Develop International Reference Classification of Occupations to improve global skill comparability & enhance employment opportunities for Indian youth.
IIT Kanpur (India)	Vietnam National University	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research	Collaboration to boost AI research, innovation & academic exchange .
India Post	BSNL	Telecom services	India Post to sell BSNL SIMs & recharges through 1.65 lakh post offices nationwide.
Oil India Ltd.	Hindustan Copper Ltd. & RVUNL (Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.)	Critical Minerals & Renewable Energy	MoUs for critical mineral exploration and 1.2 GW renewable energy projects in Rajasthan.
Government of India	Zepto (via National Career Service Portal)	Employment generation	Partnership to offer 10,000 job postings focusing on youth, women, and first-time job seekers .
UAE-India Business Council (UIBC)	Multiple Indian stakeholders	Bilateral trade & investment	Strategic MoUs signed to boost trade in logistics, healthcare, IT/ITES, education, and tourism sectors .


Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of August 2025

Partnership/Initiative	Key Focus Areas	Impact/Outcome
BSNL & NRL	Deployment of India's first 5G CNPN in the refinery sector; integration of Industry 4.0 technologies	Enhanced operational efficiency, strengthened cybersecurity, new job and innovation opportunities
Ministry of Ayush & IshVed-Bioplants / AIIA-AIIMS	Conservation of rare medicinal plants through tissue culture; setting up National Medicinal Plants Garden	Biodiversity preservation, public education, and advancement in traditional medicine and healthcare
SAP & Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV)	Digital skilling in logistics and transport; curriculum development; fostering research and job creation	Employment enablement, industry-academic collaboration, and enhanced logistics capacity
India & Philippines	MoUs in Defence, Digital Technology, Space, Maritime Cooperation, Tourism, and Cultural Exchange	Strengthened bilateral ties, enhanced cooperation across strategic and cultural sectors
Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) & Bhashini	Language inclusivity in innovation; integration of multilingual tools in programs and support for startups	Empowerment of grassroots innovators, inclusive digital ecosystem, vernacular innovation promotion
UIDAI - ISI	Biometric security, fraud & anomaly detection, algorithm improvement	Improved Aadhaar security and reliability
GIFT City - GTU	IFSC education, fintech research, centre of excellence	Skilled workforce and stronger global financial position for Gujarat
BSNL - Global Tech Giants (Ericsson, etc.)	5G, AI training, telecom R&D, digital skills development	Future-ready workforce and support for Atmanirbhar Bharat
NFR - IIT Guwahati	Eco-friendly packaging, biodegradable plastics, sustainability	Reduced plastic waste and greener railway operations
India - Zambia Trade Agreement	Cooperative trade cooperation, export promotion through Indian missions	Strengthened cooperative trade ties with Zambia and boosted export potential
NCEL - Senegal & Indonesia MoUs	Expanding cooperative trade, building global trade alliances	Broadened global reach for Indian cooperatives and enhanced international footprint
UIDAI - Starlink Satellite Communication Pvt Ltd	Aadhaar-based authentication for satellite internet users; secure, paperless KYC	Seamless onboarding, enhanced compliance, demonstrates Aadhaar's scalability in global tech partnerships
Haryana & Rajasthan - Yamuna Water Pipeline Project (MoU)	Joint DPR for underground water pipelines (577 MCM transfer from Hathnikund to Rajasthan districts)	Boosts water availability in arid districts (Churu, Sikar, Jhunjhunu), promotes inter-state cooperation on water security
Assam Rifles - IIIT Manipur (MoU)	Drone technology for defence & security; Advanced Drone Training & Refresher Course	Enhances surveillance, reconnaissance, and logistics; strengthens defence-academia collaboration; DGCA-certified training for personnel
RRU-SSB MoU (Alwar)	Training, academic collaboration, joint R&D, certified education in national security	Blends field expertise with research, strengthens professionalism & leadership in security forces
India-WFP Letter of Intent	Supply of fortified rice, humanitarian food aid, combating hunger globally	Ensures dependable food supply in crisis zones, highlights India as a global food security partner
India-Bhutan MoU (Agriculture)	Agriculture & allied sectors, livestock health, research, post-harvest management, value chain	Enhances food security, promotes sustainable farming, boosts rural prosperity & bilateral cooperation


Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of July 2025

S. No.	Level	MoU Parties	Field / Purpose
1	Country	India – Sri Lanka	Launch of Hindi Language Learning Programme at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) in partnership with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC); promotes cultural & educational ties.
2	Country	India – Saudi Arabia	Long-term fertilizer supply agreements with Maaden for 3.1M MT DAP annually (5 years); strengthens fertilizer security; boosts cooperation in health, pharmaceuticals, research, and investments.
3	Organisation	DEPwD – Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS)	Launch of Project Inclusion under Rupantar Programme; online teacher training for inclusive education for children with disabilities; reaches remote areas; aligned with RPwD Act 2016.
4	Organisation	NESTS – UNICEF India, Tata Motors, Ex-Navodayan Foundation	Initiatives for 1.3 lakh tribal students: TALASH career guidance, Kaushalya skill program, IIT-JEE/NEET coaching; aims to improve education & job readiness.
5	Organisation	Prasar Bharati – Handball Association of India (HAI)	Three-year deal to produce & broadcast national/international handball events; promotes the sport via DD Sports, Waves OTT, etc.
6	Organisation	NCDEX – IMD	Launch of India's first weather derivatives (rainfall-based futures contracts); helps farmers & climate-sensitive sectors hedge against weather risk; includes training & research.
7	Organisation	Vimananu Ltd – CYGR	Advanced drone manufacturing partnership; produces ISR, nano & fixed-wing UAVs; supports defence self-reliance & Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision.
8	Organisation	NIEPID – Jai Vakeel Foundation	DISHA Abhiyan curriculum for Children with Intellectual Disabilities; includes IEPs, multisensory tools, digital portal & teacher training; aligned with SDGs & inclusive education.
9	Organisation	Ministry of Rural Development – LIC	Bima Sakhi Yojana; stipend-based LIC agency for rural women under DAY-NRLM; promotes women-led financial inclusion & rural income generation.
10	Organisation / State	Centre of Excellence on PESA – Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, IGNTU	Strengthens grassroots governance in tribal areas; capacity building, research, participatory planning, preservation of tribal heritage; aligned with PESA Act & LSDGs.

Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings of June 2025

Category	Entity	MoU With	Field / Purpose
MoUs with Country	India	Cyprus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPCI and Eurobank Cyprus signed an MoU to introduce UPI services in Cyprus. Finalized during PM Modi's visit, it enables cross-border digital payments for tourists, businesses, and investors. Cyprus, a major FDI source for India, also signed an MoU with NSE at GIFT City, emphasizing fintech partnership and economic cooperation.
MoUs between Organizations	CAQM (Commission for Air Quality Management)	CSIR-CRRI and SPA-New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tripartite MoU signed on June 10, 2025, to implement urban road redevelopment across 9 NCR cities. Introduces greening strategies, smart road designs, and Web-GIS-based monitoring. Supported by a Project Monitoring Cell (PMC), this aims to combat road dust and improve air quality.





Category	Entity	MoU With	Field / Purpose
	NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India)	IDRBT (Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoU to bolster cybersecurity in India's digital payments ecosystem. Focuses on advanced training, launching a payment security certification, and access to IBCART 3.0 (सचेत) – a threat intelligence platform. Aims to enhance data privacy and infrastructure resilience.
	Shell India & DGT (Directorate General of Training, under MSDE)	Joint Green Skills & Electric Vehicle (EV) Training Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic collaboration to train India's youth for the green economy. Offers hands-on training in EV diagnostics, battery systems, and job certifications. Covers 5 major states, aiming to skill 250+ trainers and thousands of students.
	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.	Equitas Small Finance Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoU to boost retail vehicle financing in India. Offers accessible loan options for new, used, and commercial vehicles. Focuses on expanding vehicle finance to semi-urban and rural customers, promoting financial inclusion.
	DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade)	YourStory Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed under the Bharat Project to promote grassroots entrepreneurship. Targets 1 million entrepreneurs in Tier II, Tier III, and rural India. Offers AI tools, startup launchpads, and regional storytelling, aligning with Startup India and Atmanirbhar Bharat goals.

Banking Current Affairs

Banking Current Affairs of November 2025

Below is your **complete, merged, category-wise compilation** presented in **clean and exam-ready TABLE FORMAT**.

All items you provided are arranged into **Banking, Fintech, Economy, RBI, Regulatory Bodies, Business/Corporate**, and **International** categories.

A) BANKING NEWS – TABLE (DETAILED)

S. No.	Bank Organisation /	Event Announcement /	Detailed Explanation
1	Axis Bank	10th EVOLVE MSME Series	Held in Kozhikode with theme "MSMEs Powering the USD 10 Trillion Economy" ; 100+ entrepreneurs participated.
2	SBI	Discontinued mCASH	mCASH feature removed from OnlineSBI and YONO Lite effective 1 Dec 2025.
3	SBI	Gold Trading on IIBX	Executed its first Gold Trade as Special Category Client on the India International Bullion Exchange.
4	SBI	STAR Awards 2025	Award program to recognise employees in arts, culture, community service & CSR .
5	SBI	Record Performance	Crossed USD 100 bn market cap and achieved ₹100 trillion business milestone.
6	Public Sector Banks	Profit Growth	PSBs reported ₹49,456 crore profit in Q2 FY26 (+9% YoY); SBI contributed ₹20,160 crore.
7	NaBFID	Renamed as IDB	National Bank for Infrastructure renamed Infrastructure Development Bank for global alignment.



S. No.	Bank Organisation /	Event Announcement /	Detailed Explanation
8	South Indian Bank	Launched SIB HER Account	Premium savings account for women and NRIs with lifestyle & financial benefits.
9	RBL Bank	New Credit Cards	Introduced LUMIERE & NOVA premium cards for high-net-worth clients.
10	BoB & SIDBI	MSME MoU	Signed MoU to scale credit access for MSMEs & startups .
11	IPPB-EPFO	MoU for Pensioners	Enables doorstep Digital Life Certificate submission for EPS-95 pensioners.
12	UCBs (NABARD & RBI)	Digital Platforms Launched	Amit Shah launched 3 digital platforms to modernise Urban Cooperative Banks.
13	AU Small Finance Bank	M-Circle	Exclusive banking program for women customers with advisory & health benefits.
14	Rani Channamma Bank	Award	Won Best Profit-Making Bank Award in Belagavi for women-led financial inclusion.

B) FINTECH & PAYMENT SYSTEMS – TABLE

S. No.	Company / Entity	Announcement	Detailed Purpose / Explanation
1	PayU	RBI PA Approval	Received integrated Payment Aggregator approval for online, offline & cross-border payments.
2	PayGlocal	Final RBI PA Authorisation	Approved for cross-border inward/outward transactions.
3	Infibeam Avenues	RBI Approval	Received PA-P authorisation to expand digital payment services.
4	Easebuzz	RBI PA Approval	Approved as full Payment Aggregator under PSS Act, strengthening Indian fintech ecosystem.
5	Paytm Payment Services	RBI COA Granted	Allowed to operate officially as Payment Aggregator.
6	BHIM UPI	Full Delegation Feature	Enables trusted individuals to make payments on behalf of users with monthly limits.
7	UPI-TIPS	Cross-Border Integration	India-EU real-time, low-cost payment connectivity established.
8	UPI-TIPS (EU Repeat)	RBI Announcement	Reinforces G20 goal of reducing remittance costs.
9	UPI-Fawri+	India-Bahrain Link	Enables real-time cross-border UPI payments with Bahrain.
10	NPCI International	Bahrain Partnership	Signed MoU with Benefit to enable UPI & RuPay in Bahrain.
11	Digital Rupee (₹)	UPI Interoperability	Users can now transfer between Digital Rupee and UPI seamlessly.
12	UIDAI	New Aadhaar App	New UI with masked Aadhaar, biometric lock & multi-profile support.

C) RBI NEWS – TABLE (DETAILED)

S. No.	RBI Measure / Decision	Explanation
1	AI-powered Fraud Detection System	Detects millions of transactions per second , aims to cut fraud by 30% .
2	Moratorium for Exporters	Extended export credit tenors & realisation time due to global slowdown.
3	Penalty on UCBs	Fined three cooperative banks for KYC & risk management violations .
4	Gold Repatriation	RBI brought back 64 tonnes of gold to domestic vaults (total: 575.8 tonnes in India).
5	Forex Decline	Reserves dipped by \$5.6 bn to \$689.73 bn due to global price corrections.
6	Bank Credit vs Deposits	Credit growth slowed to 11.3% ; deposits grew 9.7% , hinting at future bank mergers.
7	Approval to 1729 Capital	FPI allowed to raise stake in Suryoday SFB from 3.81% to 7.14%.


D) REGULATORY BODIES – TABLE

Body	Announcement	Detailed Explanation
CBSE	International Sahodaya Conference	Held in Dubai on theme <i>"Rooted in Wisdom, Rising with Vision"</i> .
NEP 2020	Global Recognition	Lauded globally for multidisciplinary & tech-enabled design.
CIBIL	New Credit Rules	Introduced alternative data scoring & 15-day score refresh window.
CCI	Cleared 3 Major Acquisitions	Approved deals across finance, power & manufacturing sectors .
SEBI	RPT Rule Change	Replaced ₹1,000 crore threshold with turnover-based limits .
SEBI	BSDA Valuation	Proposed excluding ZCZP bonds for fair valuation.

E) INTERNATIONAL NEWS – TABLE

Country / Organisation	Announcement	Details
Oman	New Currency Symbol	Introduced unified symbol for Omani Rial for global digital alignment.
Air India – Air Canada	Codeshare Restored	Reinstated seamless India–Canada connectivity from 2 Dec 2025 .
World Bank	Funding to India	USD 776 million for education (Punjab) & agriculture (Maharashtra).
India Global Forum	Global Expansion Fund	USD 250 million to help Indian brands scale globally.

F) MEGA EVENTS & STARTUP ECOSYSTEM – TABLE

Event	Details
Global Startup Summit 2026	India to host with 12,000+ entrepreneurs from 80 countries.
India Demat Accounts	Crossed 21 crore , with 30 lakh new accounts in Oct 2025 due to strong IPOs.

Banking Current Affairs of October 2025
BANKING & FINANCE

S. No.	Bank Name / Institution	Purpose / Key Update
1	UPI (NPCI)	Launched in Qatar at Lulu Group supermarkets, enabling 830,000 Indians to access faster, cheaper remittances through NIPL-QNB-NETSTARS collaboration
2	FIDC (Finance Industry Development Council)	Granted Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) status by RBI to enhance industry discipline and customer protection in NBFC sector
3	NPCI	Launched biometric UPI authentication with facial recognition, fingerprint, and voice-based payment verification for enhanced security
4	PayPal	Integrated UPI as first global partner in PayPal World platform, expanding cross-border payment capabilities (October 7, 2025)
5	RBI	Launched Retail Sandbox for Digital Rupee testing with over 7 million users enrolled in e-rupee pilot
6	HDFC Bank	Launched 'My Business QR' at Global Fintech Fest 2025, enabling small merchants to create digital storefront through single QR code
7	HSBC	Committed \$1 billion to support Indian startups through Innovation Banking platform with non-dilutive debt capital
8	SBI	Opened one Managing Director position to private sector candidates with 21 years banking experience
9	Sonali Sen Gupta (RBI)	Appointed as RBI Executive Director to lead Consumer Education and Protection, Financial Inclusion and Development, and Inspection departments (effective October 9, 2025)
10	AdaniConnex-Google	Announced \$15 billion mega data centre project in Visakhapatnam with 1 GW initial capacity
11	Bajaj Finserv AMC	Launched 'Pay with Mutual Fund' enabling UPI payments up to ₹50,000 directly from mutual fund investments
12	BLS International	Secured 3-year MEA contract to operate Indian Visa Centres in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou
13	Ola Electric	Launched 'Ola Shakti' Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) based on 4680 Bharat Cell technology



S. No.	Bank Name / Institution	Purpose / Key Update
14	Ageas Federal Life Insurance	Partnered with CSB Bank for SME Bancassurance tie-up to provide life insurance solutions (October 2025)
15	Asian Development Bank	Signed \$3 billion Exposure Exchange Agreement with World Bank to increase lending capacity (October 2025)
16	Banking Laws (Amendment) Act 2025	New nomination rules effective November 1 allowing up to four nominations for deposit accounts with simultaneous or successive options
17	NPCI	Launched AI-powered 'UPI Help' assistant integrated with UDIR dispute resolution framework
18	UPI	Introduced 'Pay With Mutual Fund' feature for real-time payments from liquid mutual fund holdings (ICICI Prudential and Bajaj Finserv AMC)
19	State Bank of India	Won Global Finance awards—'World's Best Consumer Bank 2025' and 'Best Bank in India 2025'
20	Adani Power Limited	Received approval for 1,600 MW Godda Ultra Super Critical Thermal Power Plant grid connection with 25-year validity
21	Kotak Mahindra Bank	C. S. Rajan reappointed as Part-Time Chairman till October 21, 2027
22	Paytm	Launched NRI UPI service for 12 countries allowing international mobile number registration (October 27, 2025)
23	Reliance-Meta	Launched ₹855 crore AI joint venture Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Ltd (REIL) for enterprise-grade AI products
24	Cochin Port-BPCL	Signed ₹500 crore MoU for LNG bunkering infrastructure supporting IMO 2050 clean fuel targets
25	DP World	Committed \$5 billion investment to expand Indian logistics and integrated supply chains
26	Government	Extended LC75 and BLC investment options to NPS and UPS subscribers allowing up to 75% equity exposure

REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

S. No.	Name	Purpose / Key Update
1	RBI	Introduced 2FA mandate for all digital payments from April 2026 to reduce cyber frauds and enhance consumer protection
2	RBI	Formed a Payments Regulatory Board to ensure transparent and secure governance of India's payment ecosystem
3	RBI	Permitted gold-based working capital loans beyond jewellery businesses, expanding access to industrial users
4	ADB (Asian Development Bank)	Cut India's FY26 GDP growth projection to 6.5% (from 6.7%) citing U.S. tariffs on 60% of Indian exports with 50% hike
5	RBI	Mandates Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) for all digital payments starting April 1, 2026, replacing SMS OTPs with biometrics, tokens, and risk-based authentication
6	SIDBI	Reported record net profit of ₹4,811 crore in FY25, 19.5% increase YoY; balance sheet crossed ₹5.6 lakh crore with Gross NPA at 0.04%
7	RBI	Allowed banks to extend working capital loans using gold as raw material to manufacturers (effective October 1, 2025)
8	RBI	Maintained repo rate at 5.5% with neutral stance; revised FY26 GDP growth to 6.8% and reduced CPI inflation forecast to 2.6%
9	RBI	Established Payments Regulatory Board (PRB) under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra
10	World Bank	Raised India's FY26 growth forecast to 6.5% from 6.3% citing strong domestic demand, rural recovery, and GST reforms
11	RBI	Foreign Liabilities and Assets Census 2024-25 revealed total FDI reached ₹68.76 lakh crore (11% YoY growth) with US (20%) and Singapore (14.3%) leading



S. No.	Name	Purpose / Key Update
3	RBI	Unveiled four major banking reforms: risk-based deposit insurance premiums, Expected Credit Loss framework from April 2027, revised Basel III norms for MSMEs and home loans, and eased investment regulations
11	RBI	Launched Unified Markets Interface for tokenized finance enabling tokenization of financial assets and settlements using wholesale CBDC
12	RBI	Eased Rupee lending to Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka; extended repatriation period for unutilized foreign currency account balances from 1 to 3 months
19	SEBI	Working group proposed increasing transaction charges for clearing corporations; broker charges remain unchanged
25	RBI	Launched HaRBinger 2025 Innovation Hackathon on Tokenized KYC and Offline CBDC (registrations opened October 23, 2025)
28	RBI	Proposed same-day remittance credit mandate for foreign remittances received during forex market hours
29	SEBI	Proposed mutual fund fee reforms excluding taxes from Total Expense Ratio with performance-linked models (feedback till November 17, 2025)

Banking Current Affairs of September 2025

Banking Updates – September 2025

S. No.	Bank Name	Purpose / Key Update (Detailed)
1	CSB Bank	RBI approved overseas Dubai representative office (awaiting Dubai regulator nod) to serve NRIs and boost NRI deposits.
2	SBI Card × Flipkart	Launched co-branded Flipkart SBI Credit Card offering curated cashback rewards to enhance online shopping experience.
3	Bank of Baroda (BoB)	Introduced bob Digi Udyam, collateral-free digital working capital loans of ₹10–50 lakh for MSEs (CC/OD, 12-month tenure, under CGTMSE scheme).
4	Karnataka Grameena Bank (KGB)	Adopted common logo for 11 amalgamated RRBs symbolizing finance/trust (dark blue) & life/growth (dark green).
5	Unity SFB × BharatPe	Rolled out Unity Bank BharatPe Credit Card (RuPay, UPI linkable, EMI up to 12 months) to promote merchant digital payments.
6	BoB	Declared Reliance Communications & Anil Ambani Group loan accounts as fraud; exposure worth ₹1,656 crore.
7	Indian Bank	Migrated website to indianbank.bank.in domain per RBI directive for cybersecurity and anti-fraud protection.
8	SBI	BRSR FY25 report: 6.87 lakh customer complaints, highest among banks; 1.05 lakh pending, largely on unauthorised e-debits.
9	PNB	Signed ₹21,000 crore MoU with Rajasthan under Rising Rajasthan Summit for socio-economic development projects.
10	SBI	Hosted 'Dream2Demo' startup pitch fest to connect entrepreneurs with investors and showcase startup financing solutions.
11	Axis Max Life × IPPB	Partnership to expand affordable life insurance beyond Tier-1 cities using IPPB's rural post office network.
12	APGB × NABARD × AquaExchange	Launched shrimp crop loans (₹25 cr pilot, scaling to ₹100 cr FY25 & ₹250 cr FY26) for aquaculture sector.
13	Suryoday SFB	Launched FD-backed secured credit cards – RuPay Platinum (min FD ₹1,000) & RuPay Select (min FD ₹1.11 lakh); UPI integrated.
14	SBI	Raised \$500 million via 5-year senior unsecured notes (coupon 4.5%); listed on SGX & NSE-IX (GIFT City).
15	IPPB	Celebrated 8th anniversary – serving 12+ crore customers with last-mile services via 1.64 lakh post offices & 1.9 lakh GDS/postmen.
16	Yes Bank	RBI approved R. Gandhi's reappointment as Chairman till May 2027 ensuring leadership continuity.
17	IndusInd Bank	Appointed Viral Damania as Chief Financial Officer effective Sept 22, 2025; brings 27 years' experience incl. CFO of Bank of America India.


RBI Updates – September 2025

S. No.	Name / Initiative	Purpose / Detailed Notes
1	RBI Bulletin – Private Capex Outlook	Projected 21.5% rise in FY26 private capex to ₹2.67 lakh crore; driven by rate cuts, disinflation, liquidity, capacity utilisation, and infra investments (power sector led).
2	Governor Sanjay Malhotra's Address (Santripty Shivir)	Said India poised to be 3rd largest economy; highlighted 7.8% GDP Q1 FY26, 55 crore PMJDY accounts, and push for KYC, anti-mule accounts, UPI/digital literacy.
3	Penalty on Bandhan Bank	RBI fined ₹44.7 lakh for lapses in commission-based pay, data changes without approval, and weak audit trails.
4	FSDC Sub-Committee Meeting	Reviewed macro & financial stability, discussed NSFI 2025–30, and stressed inter-regulatory coordination.
5	BSR-2 (Deposits)	June 2025 data: deposits grew 11.3% YoY; large deposits 45.7%; households 59.9%; seniors 20.4%; private banks outpaced PSBs.
6	Nariman Point Land Purchase	RBI bought 4.16-acre land from MMRCL for ₹3,472 cr (+₹208.3 cr stamp duty); freehold ownership for self & commercial use.
7	Bhupen Hazarika Commemorative Coin	To release coin on Sept 13, 2025 for centenary celebration in Guwahati with PM's presence.
8	Yes Bank Leadership Approval	Confirmed R. Gandhi reappointed as Chairman till 2027.
9	Currency Education Portal	Launched microsite indiancurrency.rbi.org.in with 360° views, multimedia resources & games for public currency awareness.
10	Regulatory Review Cell (RRC)	New advisory group to periodically revise banking regulations for better governance.
11	Banking Liquidity Deficit	Liquidity deficit widened to ₹87,183 crore on Sept 23 due to advance tax & GST outflows; RBI conducted VRR auction injecting ₹1.50 lakh crore .
12	RBI Allows Working Capital Loans Using Gold	RBI Allows Working Capital Loans Using Gold as Raw Material: In a major reform effective October 1, 2025, RBI permits banks to provide working capital loans to manufacturers using gold as raw material, previously limited only to jewellers, aimed at boosting industrial growth and banking sector resilience.
13	RBI Mandates Two-Factor Authentication	RBI Mandates Two-Factor Authentication from April 2026: Reserve Bank of India makes 2FA mandatory for all digital payments starting April 1, 2026, replacing SMS OTPs with flexible authentication methods including biometrics, tokens, and risk-based authentication to reduce fraud risks.

Regulatory Authorities – September 2025

S. No.	Authority / Org	Purpose / Key Update
1	IDRBT	Migrated Indian Bank to .bank.in domain to strengthen cybersecurity & anti-fraud confidence.
2	IRDAI Vision 2047	Axis Max Life × IPPB partnership supports IRDAI's mission: "Insurance for All by 2047."
3	ADB–GoI	Signed \$126.42 mn loan for Uttarakhand Tehri Lake climate-resilient tourism, sanitation & disaster-preparedness benefiting 87k residents & 2.7M visitors.
4	World Bank SHORE	Approved \$212.64 mn loan for coastal resilience, job creation & plastic waste reduction in Tamil Nadu & Karnataka.
5	EPFO	Launched 'Passbook Lite' app for faster, simplified member account access.
6	UPI (NPCI)	Increased daily P2M limit to ₹10 lakh for select merchant categories (P2P stays at ₹1 lakh).
7	PhonePe	RBI approved PhonePe as online payment aggregator, expanding SME and underserved business reach.
8	UPI in Qatar	UPI went live in Qatar (Hamad Airport) , making it the 8th country to adopt UPI for Indian travelers.
9	SIDBI	SIDBI's Net Profit Surges 19.5% to Record High: Small Industries Development Bank of India reported an all-time high net profit of ₹4,811 crore in FY25, a 19.5% increase, with balance sheet exceeding ₹5.6 lakh crore and maintaining excellent asset quality with Gross NPA at 0.04%.


SEBI Updates – September 2025

S. No.	Announcement	Key Details	Effective Date
1	Intraday Derivatives Rule	Raised index options intraday net position limit to ₹5,000 cr/entity (from ₹1,500 cr) via FutEq; real-time surveillance; SOP in 15 days.	Sept 2025
2	Bandhan AMC – SIF	Approved launch of Arudha SIF platform (equity, debt, hybrid; incl. unhedged short derivatives).	Sept 2025
3	ESOP Flexibility	Allowed promoters to retain ESOPs/SARs granted ≥1 yr before draft IPO filing (earlier barred).	Sept 2025
4	PSU Voluntary Delisting	For ≥90% govt stake: relaxed 2/3rd public nod, fixed-price delisting ≥15% above floor, 7-yr escrow for unpaid dues.	Sept 2025
5	Co-Investment Window (AIFs)	Cat I/II AIFs may offer direct co-investment schemes to accredited investors (no leverage, up to 3× AIF contribution).	Sept 2025
6	Enforcement Actions	SEBI took action against 886 entities (Apr 2024–Jun 2025) for fraudulent/unfair practices.	Period noted
7	SWAGAT-FI	Introduced SWAGAT-FI portal to simplify long-term foreign investment onboarding through digital KYC.	Sept 2025
8	Smartphone Export Surge	India's smartphone exports to US grew 148% YoY in Aug 2025 , hitting \$965 million milestone .	Aug–Sept 2025
9	Future Food Forum Dubai	7th Future Food Forum 2025 held in Dubai focusing on food security, trade, and innovation.	Sept 2025

Banking Current Affairs of August 2025

S. No.	Bank Name	Purpose
1.	AU Small Finance Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AU Small Finance Bank (AU) has made history by becoming the first Small Finance Bank in India to receive in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to transition into a Universal Bank. This landmark achievement highlights AU's strong business model, sound governance, and unwavering commitment to financial inclusion. The approval validates AU's growth into a full-service bank offering a wide range of retail, business, and digital banking solutions.
2.	Bank of Baroda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank of Baroda has launched global UPI features on its bob ₹ Pay app, enabling cross-border payments for Indian and NRI customers. Key features include UPI Global Acceptance in eight countries (Mauritius, Singapore, UAE, USA, France, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan), real-time inward remittances from Singapore, and UPI access for NRIs with NRE/NRO accounts. The app supports seamless international digital transactions with a limit of ₹1,00,000 per transaction, enhancing convenience and flexibility for users worldwide.
3.	ICICI Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICICI Bank has reduced its minimum average balance (MAB) requirement for new savings accounts in urban areas from Rs 50,000 to Rs 15,000 following strong customer backlash. In semi-urban areas, the MAB was cut from Rs 25,000 to Rs 7,500, while for existing customers in rural and semi-urban regions, it remains Rs 5,000. This revision comes shortly after ICICI initially raised the MAB sharply, contrasting with other banks like SBI, which scrapped minimum balance rules, and many others maintaining lower thresholds between Rs 2,000 and Rs 10,000.
4.	ICICI Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICICI Bank has reported the lowest employee attrition rate among major private sector banks for the past three fiscal years, dropping to 18% in FY25 from 24.5% in FY24 and 30.9% in FY23. This strong employee retention is credited to competitive remuneration and a better working environment. Other private peers like HDFC Bank (22.6%), Axis Bank (25.5%), and Kotak Mahindra Bank (33.3%) also showed declining attrition rates, reflecting a broader industry trend due to a stabilized job market and reduced recruitment post-pandemic.
5.	IDFC FIRST Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDFC FIRST Bank has launched RemitFIRST2India, a zero-fee digital remittance platform designed for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to send money to India swiftly and securely. In partnership with SingX, the platform supports transfers from Singapore and Hong Kong with plans for expansion, offering live transaction tracking, competitive forex rates, and a seamless, paperless experience. New users also receive extra forex margin benefits on their first three transfers.



S. No.	Bank Name	Purpose
6.	Axis Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Axis Bank has launched the 'Lock FD' feature to protect customers from digital banking fraud by preventing premature closure of fixed deposits via online channels. Once activated, customers can only close their fixed deposits by visiting a branch in person with ID verification, blocking any digital closure attempts. This new security measure adds a crucial layer of protection against phishing, malware, and hacking risks, ensuring safer management of term deposits.
7.	State Bank of India (SBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Bank of India (SBI) will begin imposing nominal charges on IMPS online transfers above ₹25,000 from August 15, 2025, ranging from ₹2 to ₹10 plus GST, depending on the amount. While branch-based IMPS remains unaffected, salary package account holders and select current account types are exempt. Corporate account holders will see revised charges from September 8, 2025. This move reflects SBI's effort to balance service delivery with cost management while maintaining waivers for key customer segments.
8.	State Bank of India (SBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the occasion of the 79th Independence Day, SBI launched a collateral-free personal loan scheme for Agniveers enrolled under the Agnipath scheme, offering loans up to ₹4 lakh with zero processing fees and a flat 10.50% interest rate valid till September 30, 2025. The repayment tenure aligns with the Agnipath service period. Additionally, SBI has revised IMPS charges for online fund transfers above ₹25,000, now ranging from ₹2 to ₹10 plus GST, effective August 15, 2025.

RBI News

Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities		
S.No.	Name	Purpose
1.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the merger of New India Co-operative Bank with Saraswat Bank, effective August 4, 2025. Saraswat Bank will assume all assets and liabilities of New India Co-operative Bank, and its customers will enjoy full protection of their interests. The move, endorsed by the shareholders of both banks, strengthens the cooperative banking framework and expands the service reach for customers.
2.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI's decision to settle a \$5 billion dollar-rupee swap without a rollover highlights the central bank's confidence in India's strong rupee liquidity position, which currently stands at over ₹3.60 lakh crore. By selling dollars and absorbing rupees, the RBI is ensuring liquidity remains stable without disturbing the money markets. Experts believe this is a sound move since the banking system has adequate cash flow, minimizing the risk of market disruptions. (Click here to read article)
3.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recent RBI Survey of Professional Forecasters projects that India's merchandise imports will grow by 2.5% in 2025-26, more than twice the 1.2% growth expected in exports, leading to a widening trade imbalance and a current account deficit of 0.8% of GDP, rising slightly to 0.9% in 2026-27. Despite this, India's economy is forecast to grow steadily, with GDP expanding by 6.4% in 2025-26 and 6.7% the following year. Private consumption and investments are also expected to grow moderately, while inflation is projected to remain manageable, with headline CPI rising from 3.1% to 4.4% over the same period. (Click here to read article)
4.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed foreign entities holding Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) to invest their surplus rupee balances in central government securities, including treasury bills. This move, part of the updated Master Direction on Non-resident Investment in Debt Instruments, enables unused rupee funds from international trade settlements to be directed into secure Indian debt instruments, enhancing investment flexibility for non-residents.


Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities

S.No.	Name	Purpose
5.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI has introduced three key initiatives to enhance banking convenience and financial inclusion: (1) doorstep re-KYC camps at the panchayat level from July to September to help update customer details and provide financial services like micro-insurance and pension schemes; (2) a simplified claims process for deceased customers, easing fund access for legal heirs and nominees; and (3) upgraded features on the Retail Direct platform to improve user experience. (Click here to read article)
6.	RBI Liquidity Management Framework Review 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To strengthen control over short-term interest rates, ensure market stability, discontinue 14-day variable repo, retain WACR as operating target, phase out SPDs, and manage surplus liquidity effectively.
7.	RBI Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH) – Sept 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To capture household perceptions of price changes and inflation expectations (3 months & 1 year), providing key input for monetary policy decisions.

SEBI News

S.No	Announcement	Key Details	Effective Date
1	SEBI fines ₹10 lakh on Rupesh Satish Dalal HUF for insider trading in HDFC merger shares	Insider trading using UPSI received through son's contact with Deloitte insider; trades on April 1, 2022, exited April 4, 2022; violation of PIT Regulations.	April 2022 (Case investigated for Nov 2021 – Apr 2022, penalty imposed in 2025)
2	SEBI mandates ₹10 lakh minimum investment in Special Investment Funds (SIFs)	AMCs must ensure daily compliance; units frozen on breach; 30-day window to rebalance; auto-redemption if not corrected.	Immediate (as per SEBI notification, 2025)
3	NSE settles charges with SEBI for ₹40.35 crore	Charges of sharing sensitive unpublished information with NDAL and third-party vendors (Feb 2021–Mar 2022). Settlement ends proceedings without admission of guilt.	Settlement in 2025
4	SEBI renews recognition of MCXCCL as clearing corporation	Renewal valid for 3 years (July 31, 2025 – July 30, 2028).	July 31, 2025
5	SEBI proposes threshold-based regulation for Related Party Transactions (RPTs)	Materiality thresholds based on turnover slabs; new ceilings up to ₹5,000 crore; 60% fewer transactions need shareholder nod.	Proposal open for comments till Aug 25, 2025
6	SEBI allows fractional share trading under innovation sandbox	Bengaluru startup Xaults approved to test fractional shares and smart contract settlements; full-scale testing only after regulatory sandbox clearance.	August 2025
7	SEBI approves The Wealth Company (Pantomath Group) to start mutual fund business	First fund house in India founded by a woman (Madhu Lunawat). Certificate of Registration granted.	July 18, 2025
8	SEBI proposes SWAGAT-FI: Unified access portal for trusted foreign investors	Simplifies compliance; extends registration validity to 10 years for verified investors like sovereign funds, central banks, etc.	Proposal (2025)
9	SEBI proposes overhaul of large IPO structure	Retail quota reduced to 25%, QIB allocation increased to 60%; expanded anchor investor framework to include insurers, pension funds.	Proposal (2025)
10	SEBI proposes higher thresholds for RPT shareholder approval	Scale-based norms: up to 10% of turnover, or higher absolute limits (₹2,000–3,000 crore); easing compliance for large firms.	Proposal (2025)



S.No	Announcement	Key Details	Effective Date
11	SEBI proposes definitions for algorithmic & proprietary trading	Defines algo trading and proprietary trades in stock broker regulations; considers broader broker access to NDS-OM; move linked to Jane Street ban.	Proposal (July 2025)
12	SEBI proposes relaxation of Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) rules	Extended timelines (up to 10 years for 25% MPS) based on post-issue market cap buckets.	Proposal (2025)
13	SEBI takes action against 886 entities for fraudulent trade practices	Actions under PFUTP Regulations (Apr 2024–Jun 2025); includes mis-statements in financial reports; US-based Jane Street barred.	June–July 2025
14	SEBI proposes reforms to block deal framework	Minimum order size raised to ₹25 crore; wider price band (3%) for non-F&O stocks; same-day disclosure mandate.	Proposal (2025)
15	SEBI Chairman proposes extra incentives for first-time women MF investors	Aim: financial inclusion; tied to AMFI's campaigns like 'Investment Ka Sahi Kadam' and 'Bharat Nivesh Rail Yatra'.	Announced in 2025
16	SEBI approves LIC's reclassification as public shareholder in IDBI Bank	LIC's voting rights capped at 10% despite 49.24% stake; must reduce to 15% within 2 years; no special rights or board control.	Approved in 2025

Banking Current Affairs of July 2025

Bank Name	Purpose
Karnataka Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karnataka Bank witnessed a leadership transition as both its Managing Director & CEO and Executive Director resigned citing personal reasons and relocation issues. The bank quickly formed a search committee and appointed a Chief Operating Officer (COO) to maintain operational stability. It addressed investor concerns over financial audits and reassured that it remains well-capitalized and committed to its transformation journey. This change highlights the importance of succession planning, regulatory compliance, and strategic governance in the Indian banking sector.
State Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Bank of India (SBI) has taken a major step towards supporting India's clean energy transition by launching a Solar Rooftop Programme that will solarize 4 million homes by FY27. This aligns with India's Net Zero 2070 targets and showcases SBI's expanded role beyond banking — from agricultural support and CSR outreach to sustainable infrastructure development. With over ₹610 crore in social investments, a vision for green technology finance, and a deep commitment to environmental sustainability.
State Bank of India (SBI),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest bank, has launched two Global Trade Finance Centres—one in Kolkata and the other in Hyderabad—to boost import and export services. These centres aim to support businesses by making inland and cross-border trade faster and more efficient. With over 800 trained staff, the centres will use digital tools like AI, ML, blockchain, and document digitization to replace traditional paper-based processes. This shift will offer quicker, safer, and more reliable services, giving customers a better experience with reduced delays and improved accuracy.
Indian Bank and Punjab National Bank (PNB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Bank and Punjab National Bank (PNB) have waived minimum balance penalties for savings account holders starting from July 7 and July 1, 2025, respectively. Indian Bank also reduced its one-year lending rate to 9%, offering relief to loan borrowers. These steps are aimed at boosting financial inclusion and making banking easier, cheaper, and more accessible for all—especially students, senior citizens, farmers, and low-income families.
NSDL Payments Bank Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSDL Payments Bank Limited was added to the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934, making it a scheduled bank. This status enables the bank to access RBI facilities, gain clearinghouse membership, and enhances its regulatory credibility. Specializing in digital savings and remittance services for underserved populations, NSDL Payments Bank's inclusion reflects its financial health, regulatory compliance, and alignment with RBI's public interest criteria.



Bank Name	Purpose
State Bank of India (SBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's largest lender, the State Bank of India (SBI), executed a ₹25,000 crore QIP, which was oversubscribed 4.5 times, with LIC and other domestic investors receiving two-thirds of the allotment, and foreign investors accounting for 64.3% of demand. The capital raised will boost SBI's CET-1 ratio to 11.50%, enabling credit growth in retail, MSME, and corporate sectors. The QIP underscores strong investor confidence, the robustness of India's banking sector, and the country's economic resilience.
Fino Payments Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fino Payments Bank has launched GATI, a zero-balance digital savings account, aimed at boosting UPI transactions in West Bengal. Customers can open accounts instantly at any of 40301 merchant points, with an affordable fee structure and eKYC-based onboarding. The initiative promotes financial inclusion, targets rural and semi-urban populations, and supports features like auto UPI ID, FinoPay app, and access to insurance, digital gold, and loans. GATI caters to the digitally curious segment, especially the youth, women, and senior citizens.
State Bank of India (SBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Bank of India (SBI) has been awarded the title of World's Best Consumer Bank for 2025 by Global Finance magazine, based on global expert analysis. The award acknowledges SBI's digital innovation, vernacular voice banking, omni-channel engagement, and AI-based personalization, particularly benefiting rural and semi-urban customers. This achievement showcases SBI's role in shaping the future of consumer banking and enhancing India's financial reputation globally.

RBI News

Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities		
S.No.	Name	Purpose
1.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India has rolled out new security measures for the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) to curb increasing cases of fraud, especially in rural areas. Effective from January 1, 2026, the revised framework mandates strict KYC at onboarding, reactivation checks, a one-operator-one-bank policy, and continuous monitoring of transaction patterns by acquiring banks. These steps aim to enhance the security, traceability, and accountability of AePS operators and are legally backed by the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
2.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI's sectoral credit report for May 30, 2025, shows a slowdown in bank credit growth across key segments. Industrial credit rose by only 4.9%, while personal loans, services sector lending, and NBFC loans also experienced declines. However, medium enterprises and renewable energy sectors showed strong growth. This trend underscores cautious lending practices, reduced investment appetite, and changing sectoral dynamics in the Indian economy.
3.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India has announced that, effective January 1, 2026, prepayment penalties will no longer be applicable on floating rate loans availed by micro and small enterprises (MSEs). This move aims to support financial inclusion, credit affordability, and lender accountability by eliminating unjust clauses and promoting borrower freedom. It builds on RBI's continuing efforts to streamline loan frameworks and promote healthy competition in India's credit landscape.
4.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India has announced that, effective January 1, 2026, prepayment penalties will no longer be applicable on floating rate loans availed by micro and small enterprises (MSEs). This move aims to support financial inclusion, credit affordability, and lender accountability by eliminating unjust clauses and promoting borrower freedom. It builds on RBI's continuing efforts to streamline loan frameworks and promote healthy competition in India's credit landscape.


Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities

S.No.	Name	Purpose
5.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken a critical step in advancing digital security by mandating all financial institutions to adopt the Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) developed by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). This AI-supported system allows real-time detection of high-risk mobile numbers linked to cybercrime and financial fraud, drawing data from platforms like the NCRP and Chakshu. With major institutions like PhonePe, HDFC Bank, and Paytm already on board.
6.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 30, 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) directed all banks—including NBFCs and UPI platforms—to start using the Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI), made by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). The FRI detects fraud-prone mobile numbers using data from platforms like NCRP, Chakshu, and bank reports. Banks like HDFC, ICICI, and apps like PhonePe and Paytm are already using it. This step will strengthen India's digital banking safety, offer real-time protection, and help stop cyber-enabled financial frauds.
7.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on July 1, 2025, that ₹2000 notes worth ₹6,099 crore are still in circulation, even though it announced their withdrawal on May 19, 2023. Out of the original ₹3.56 lakh crore, 98.29% has been returned. People can still deposit or send these notes through RBI offices or post offices. The ₹2000 note is still legal but is being gradually removed from use.
8.	RBI's e-Kuber system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From July 16, 2025, all government payments above ₹75 crore must be made through the RBI's e-Kuber system to improve transparency, speed, and real-time tracking. The earlier limit of ₹500 crore has now been lowered, with some transactions needing e-Kuber from ₹100 crore onward. The move will shorten the time for account reconciliation to just 24 hours and could further reduce the payment limit to ₹50 crore next year, making public finance systems more efficient and accountable.
9.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will hold an auction on July 11, 2025, to sell two government bonds worth ₹25,000 crore through its e-Kuber platform in Mumbai. One bond is new, and the other is a re-issue of an older one. These dated securities will pay interest every six months and are used to help the government raise money. The auction will follow a multiple-price method, and both big and small investors can take part. The settlement will be done on July 14, 2025.
10.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalties on HDFC Bank and Shriram Finance for violating regulatory norms. HDFC Bank was fined ₹4.88 lakh for issues involving foreign investment in term loans, while Shriram Finance was penalised ₹2.70 lakh for digital lending rule violations discovered during a routine inspection. The action highlights RBI's commitment to ensuring that all financial entities follow proper rules and maintain transparency in their operations.
11.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI Financial Inclusion Index (FY25) improved to 67.0 from 64.2 in the previous year. This growth across Access, Usage, and Quality sub-indices reflects the success of government schemes, digital financial platforms, and financial literacy programs. It is a comprehensive tool that measures inclusion in banking, pensions, insurance, postal services, and more, helping shape India's inclusive financial ecosystem.
12.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI held a surprise ₹50,000 crore VRR auction on July 23, 2025, accepting bids worth ₹50,001 crore at a 5.58% average rate, addressing tight liquidity caused by GST outflows and VRRR locks. This reflects RBI's proactive liquidity management and signals policy consistency.
13.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI has approved Warburg Pincus to invest ₹4,876 crore in IDFC First Bank via its affiliate Currant Sea Investments B.V., acquiring up to 9.99% stake through Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares (CCPS). The move, already cleared by the CCI, will boost the bank's capital base, expand its lending ability, and accelerate its growth trajectory, marking a major foreign investment milestone in India's banking sector.


Other Important Banking Related Current Affairs

- **Indian public sector banks** will raise around ₹45,000 crore in FY26 through **Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)** of shares, starting with **SBI**. The government also plans to **complete its stake sale in IDBI Bank by October 2025** and sell shares in several other PSU banks. These moves are part of the government's ₹47,000 crore **disinvestment plan** announced in the **Union Budget 2025–26**, aimed at strengthening banks and encouraging private investment.
- **Taiwan's largest private bank, CTBC Bank**, has applied to set up an **IFSC Banking Unit (IBU)** in **GIFT City, Gujarat**. The application was filed with the **IFSCA** and proposes using **3,100 sq ft** of office space in **Brigade Towers**. The bank already operates in **New Delhi** and now plans to expand its services through GIFT City. Other banks from **Taiwan, UAE, and France** have also made similar moves. As of **March 2025**, **31 IBUs** have been set up in GIFT City, showing strong international interest.
- The **UPI-PayNow linkage**, expanded by **NPCI International** on **July 17, 2025**, now includes **19 Indian banks**, aiming to boost **real-time cross-border remittances** between **India and Singapore**. Supported by the **RBI** and **Monetary Authority of Singapore**, this initiative enhances **financial inclusion**, especially for **migrant workers and students**, and showcases India's progress in **global digital payment innovation**.
- **EximPe**, a leading fintech startup, has secured **RBI's in-principle PA-CB licence**, enabling it to facilitate **cross-border payments for e-commerce, digital services, and B2B trade**. The firm plans to **expand 10X by FY26**, with over **\$450 million** in processed transactions and support from **\$3.5 million in equity funding**. This milestone enhances India's presence in the **Asian cross-border payment corridor**, and strengthens the role of regulated **fintech solutions** for **SMEs**.
- **HSBC's withdrawal from the NZBA** makes it the first UK bank to quit the coalition, following a trend set by major US and Canadian lenders. The exit has sparked widespread criticism from **climate campaigners and investors**, raising doubts about **HSBC's climate priorities** and signalling potential risks for **global climate coordination** within the banking sector. While **HSBC reaffirms its net zero 2050 target**, the move has exposed deepening divides in how banks handle **climate risks, disclosures**, and sector-wide accountability.
- **Public Sector Banks (PSBs)** have identified **1,629 wilful defaulters** with outstanding dues of **₹1.62 trillion** as of **March 31, 2025**, as per the **Union Finance Ministry**. The government has implemented several legal and administrative measures to **recover NPAs**, including action through **SARFAESI, IBC**, and public disclosure via **credit bureaus** like **CIBIL** and **Experian**. This issue remains a **major concern** for the **health of the banking sector**, especially given the **slowing deposit growth** and rising **credit risk**.

Banking Current Affairs of June 2025

S. No.	Bank Name	Purpose
1.	Canara Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canara Bank has removed the Average Monthly Balance requirement for all savings bank accounts, including salary and NRI types, eliminating related penalties. • This step, aimed at financial inclusion, will benefit a wide range of customers. Established in 1906, Canara Bank now has over 9,800 branches, including a strong rural footprint and global presence.
2.	Deutsche Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deutsche Bank has appointed Stefan Schaffer as the CEO of Deutsche India's Global Capability Centre (GCC), alongside roles as Global CIO for Corporate Functions and Head of Global Technology Centres. • This appointment reinforces Deutsche Bank's commitment to technological innovation, standardisation, and its India operations, which currently support global functions across finance, technology, risk, and operations with a 20,000-strong workforce. • Schaffer's leadership experience in Bucharest and shared applications underscores the bank's drive toward a digitally unified global enterprise.
3.	Asian Development Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 1 June 2025, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) unveiled a \$10 billion initiative for urban transformation in India. • This 5-year plan aims to revamp metro networks, launch new RRTS corridors, and improve urban infrastructure and services across over 100 cities. Backed by sovereign loans, private capital, and the Urban Challenge Fund (UCF), the project also includes \$3 million in technical assistance for project planning. • ADB emphasized skill development, women's empowerment, and inclusive urban growth as part of India's Viksit Bharat @ 2047 mission. The announcement follows meetings with PM Modi, FM Nirmala Sitharaman, and Housing Minister Manohar Lal.



S. No.	Bank Name	Purpose
4.	State Bank of India (SBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Bank of India (SBI) gave a significant boost to the government's non-tax revenue by paying a dividend of ₹8,076.84 crore for FY 2024-25, up from ₹6,959.29 crore last year, with Chairman C.S. Setty formally handing over the cheque to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, highlighting SBI's robust financial performance, a ₹15.90/share dividend, and its pivotal role in fiscal resource mobilization.
5.	Federal Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scapia, in collaboration with Federal Bank, has launched India's first dual-network credit card combining Visa and RuPay, known as the Scapia Federal RuPay Credit Card. With UPI compatibility, zero forex markup, Scapia Coins, and airport lounge benefits, the card offers a unified credit experience for domestic and international use. The launch is aligned with Scapia's broader platform upgrades under its 2025 Summer Release, including AI recommendations, tailored fare options, and reward enhancements — marking a key milestone in India's fintech evolution.
6.	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$109.97 million loan to support Gujarat's Skills Development Program, a forward-looking initiative designed to enhance technical education, promote inclusive employment, and drive industrial competitiveness. By upgrading training infrastructure, launching industry-aligned courses, and improving governance at institutions like Kaushalya: The Skill University, the program will create a future-ready workforce.
7.	DFCC Bank PLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFCC Bank PLC, one of Sri Lanka's leading financial institutions, has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first foreign corporate to list a green bond on India's NSE International Exchange (NSE IX) at GIFT City. This LKR 2.5 billion bond, previously listed in Sri Lanka and on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, will finance solar energy projects in line with Sri Lanka's 2030 renewable goals. The bond adheres to ICMA Green Bond Principles and supports the UN SDGs, especially Affordable and Clean Energy and Climate Action.
8.	SBI General Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SBI General Insurance has appointed Mohd. Arif Khan as its Deputy CEO to steer the company through a phase of growth and innovation. With over 25 years at SBI, Khan has expertise across retail banking, digital systems, and leadership training. His appointment is expected to strengthen customer experience, drive technological innovation, and expand SBI General's footprint in emerging markets. Holding multiple certifications and academic accolades, his entry signifies SBI General's push towards excellence in insurance services and leadership transformation.
9.	Punjab National Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Punjab National Bank (PNB) has disbursed ₹17.02 crore to the families of 26 defence and paramilitary martyrs under its Rakshak Plus Scheme, as of June 11, 2025. The scheme, designed for uniformed personnel, provides comprehensive insurance benefits, including ₹1 crore accidental cover and ₹1.5 crore air accident cover, along with support for partial disabilities. PNB's initiative aims to honour the sacrifices of Indian soldiers by ensuring their families are not left without support. It reaffirms the bank's role in nation-building, standing in solidarity with the armed forces.

RBI News

Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities

S.No.	Name	Purpose
1.	RBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI's enhanced liquidity stress testing framework marks a significant step toward improving the financial system's capacity to absorb shocks. By including NBFCs, UCBs, and even its own portfolio in stress test models, and integrating climate transition risk, the central bank aims to foster a resilient, transparent, and future-ready financial ecosystem. The introduction of a Growth-at-Risk model will further align monetary policy with potential macroeconomic vulnerabilities.


Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities

S.No.	Name	Purpose
2.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India is set to review its inflation targeting framework and reassess the required liquidity levels in FY26. With growing concerns over the volatility of food prices, discussions are gaining momentum around using core inflation as a more stable benchmark for monetary policy. Simultaneously, the RBI plans to fine-tune liquidity management to maintain a surplus of around 1% of NDTL, ensuring smoother policy transmission. The shift underlines the central bank's commitment to financial stability, price control, and growth facilitation through a robust policy framework.
3.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted in-principle approval to PayPal Payments and Worldline ePayments India to operate as cross-border payment aggregators (PAs). This move follows an RBI directive from October 2024 requiring such firms to secure independent authorization instead of operating under the old OPGSP model. The step is expected to significantly benefit India's freelancers, SMEs, and exporters, strengthening India's digital economy and its participation in global trade.
4.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has successfully facilitated the withdrawal of ₹2,000 notes, with 98.26% returned by May 31, 2025. Introduced during the 2016 demonetisation, these high-value notes are being phased out under the Clean Note Policy due to low usage and aging currency stock. The notes can still be exchanged or deposited through RBI offices and India Post. This step is seen as a major move towards efficient currency management and reducing unaccounted cash holdings.
5.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed 353 penalties worth ₹54.78 crore on various regulated entities (REs) during the fiscal year 2024–25, as disclosed in its Annual Report. The violations pertained to cybersecurity non-compliance, exposure norms, IRAC guidelines, KYC norms, and fraud/data reporting failures. Cooperative banks faced the most penalties (264), followed by NBFCs, HFCs, and commercial banks. The RBI's actions reinforce the growing emphasis on regulatory enforcement, transparency, and risk mitigation across India's banking ecosystem.
6.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a draft proposal on April 9, 2025, outlining revised rules for lending against gold, aiming to align practices across financial institutions and curb discrepancies. Triggered by the surge in gold loan activity, particularly among banks, these guidelines focus on enhancing borrower safety, ensuring transparency, and streamlining lending norms—though they've raised alarms about potential disruptions to rural credit, especially for small-scale borrowers in southern India. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised its gold loan guidelines, increasing the loan-to-value (LTV) ratio to 85% for loans up to ₹2.5 lakh, while setting the cap at 80% for ₹2.5–5 lakh and 75% beyond ₹5 lakh. Effective from April 1, 2026, the norms are designed to improve credit accessibility for small-ticket borrowers while addressing rising non-performing assets (NPAs) in the sector. The move follows inputs from the Department of Financial Services (DFS) and mandates stricter collateral valuation, faster gold return, and safeguards against misleading ads.
7.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a special scheme to promote original Hindi book writing in economics, banking, and finance, offering recognition and financial rewards to UGC-recognized professors (working or retired) who author original Hindi books (20+ pages) published between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025, with the application deadline set for June 30, 2025.
8.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised its gold loan LTV norms, allowing a higher loan-to-value ratio of up to 85% for low-ticket loans. This move, effective from April 1, 2026, is expected to significantly benefit NBFCs, especially those with a large share of loans under ₹5 lakh. According to Crisil Ratings, the revised norms offer greater lending headroom and help offset new LTV computation rules that include accrued interest in bullet repayment loans.


Current Affairs related to Regulatory authorities

S.No.	Name	Purpose
9.	RBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI will conduct a ₹30,000 crore government securities auction on June 13, 2025, which includes the re-issuance of ₹5,000 crore Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) maturing in 2054. These bonds are earmarked for environmentally sustainable projects. The auction will use the multiple price method via the e-Kuber platform. This step demonstrates India's firm commitment to green financing, climate resilience, and its net-zero goals under global climate agreements.
10.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India has announced final guidelines for project finance provisioning, reducing the burden on lenders by setting a 1% requirement for under-construction loans, down from the earlier proposed 5%. The norms, effective October 1, 2025, provide flexibility for commercial real estate and housing loans, while retaining lower provisioning rates for operational projects. This move aligns with the RBI's broader consultative approach, supporting credit availability and infrastructure development.
11.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised Priority Sector Lending (PSL) norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs), effective from FY 2025–26, reducing the overall PSL target from 75% to 60% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent of Off-Balance Sheet Exposures (CEOBE), whichever is higher. Of this, 40% must still go to specified PSL sub-sectors (e.g., agriculture, MSMEs, education), while the remaining 20% can be flexibly allocated to any PSL sub-sectors where the SFB has a competitive advantage.
12.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported a 3.1% year-on-year rise in the All-India House Price Index (HPI) for Q4 FY2024–25, matching the previous quarter's growth but slightly lower than 4.1% in the same period last year. Based on property registration data from 10 major cities, the index reflects authentic urban housing trends. Quarter-on-quarter, national house prices increased by 0.9%, with Bengaluru, Jaipur, Kolkata, and Chennai leading due to strong demand and urban development. Kolkata saw the highest annual rise at 8.8%, while Kochi was the only city with a price decline (-2.3%).
13.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹29.6 lakh on Fino Payments Bank Limited for non-compliance with the Licensing Guidelines for Payments Banks. The violation was uncovered during the Statutory Inspection for Supervisory Evaluation (ISE 2024), assessing operations as of March 31, 2024. The breach involved exceeding the end-of-day balance limits in customer accounts, which is against the RBI's prescribed norms for Payments Banks designed to limit systemic risk. This action underscores the RBI's commitment to regulatory enforcement and financial discipline.
14.	Reserve Bank of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a major operational change by extending the call money market timings to 7 PM starting July 1, 2025. Additionally, market repo and Tri-Party Repo (TREP) timings will be extended till 4 PM from August 1, 2025. This decision follows recommendations from a Working Group led by Radha Shyam Ratho and is aimed at improving liquidity management, aligning with global market practices, and enhancing operational flexibility for banks and financial institutions. Trading hours for government securities, foreign exchange, and interest rate derivatives remain unchanged.

SEBI News

S.No	Announcement	Key Details
1.	SEBI launched settlement scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEBI has launched a settlement scheme for stock brokers involved in algo trading violations, open from June 16 to September 16, 2025. Over 100 brokers, including top firms like Zerodha and 5Paisa, were found collaborating with unregulated algo platforms offering assured returns—a direct breach of SEBI norms. The scheme provides a way to resolve cases with a low settlement cost, while SEBI continues to strengthen regulations for algorithmic trading, emphasizing retail investor protection, empanelment of algo providers, and broker accountability.



S.No	Announcement	Key Details
2.	Securities and Exchange Board of India Proposes Permitting All KYC Agencies to Function as Accreditation Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed that all KYC Registration Agencies (KRAs) be allowed to function as accreditation agencies, expanding eligibility beyond subsidiaries of stock exchanges and depositories. Currently, only subsidiaries of stock exchanges and depositories (under specific conditions) are eligible to be accreditation agencies. Key Highlights : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presently, only two accreditation agencies operate in the market: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CDSL Ventures Ltd (subsidiary of CDSL) NSDL Data Management Ltd (subsidiary of NSDL) Both current accreditation agencies are also KRAs, and there are a total of five KRAs registered with SEBI. SEBI believes this is the right time for the change as it would cause no disruption to the existing accreditation ecosystem. The move is expected to: Increase the number of accreditation agencies, Enhance competition, Enable cost-efficient servicing. SEBI also proposed faster onboarding of accredited investors by allowing Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) to temporarily onboard investors based on the first-level due diligence by AIF managers. However, funds should be received from such investors only after they receive an accreditation certificate from an accreditation agency. Any commitment made by a provisionally onboarded investor: Shall not be included in the calculation of the scheme's corpus until accreditation is received. Shall be null and void if the investor fails to obtain accreditation before the final close, in the case of close-ended AIF schemes. SEBI has invited public comments on the proposal until July 8, 2025.
3.	Securities and Exchange Board of India Urges Investors to Use CeFCoM Platform for Payments to Advisers and Research Analysts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is encouraging investors to make payments to investment advisers and research analysts through the Centralized Fee Collection Mechanism (CeFCoM) to protect against financial fraud and unauthorized fund collections. Use of CeFCoM is optional, but SEBI highlights its benefits in enhancing transparency, security, and trust in the investment advisory ecosystem. CeFCoM was launched on October 1, 2024, and is operated by BSE Ltd. in collaboration with MF Utilities India Pvt. Ltd. CeFCoM supports multiple digital payment modes including Net Banking, UPI/UPI Autopay, Debit/Credit Cards, IMPS/NEFT/RTGS, eNACH, and cheques. As of June 10, 2025, investors have paid over ₹5 crore through CeFCoM. The platform helps investors distinguish between SEBI-registered advisers/analysts and unregistered fraudulent entities, reducing the risk of deception via misleading schemes and payment links. SEBI plans to launch a digital verification tool called 'SEBI Check' from October 1, 2025, allowing investors to verify authenticity of UPI handles and bank account details before making payments. The new structured UPI handle system will use readable usernames with category-specific suffixes like 'brk' (brokers), 'mf' (mutual funds), and an '@valid' tag issued by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Verified UPI handles will have a green triangle with a thumbs-up icon as a visual indicator of legitimacy. SEBI also intends to collaborate with online app stores to ensure only validated apps for investment-related payments are listed, enhancing digital trust.



S.No	Announcement	Key Details
4.	Securities and Exchange Board of India Requires Registered Intermediaries to Have Dedicated UPI Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) will introduce a validated UPI handle for investor-facing intermediaries to ensure secure payments and prevent fraud. The new UPI handle will use the suffix “@valid”, for example: bkr@validhdfc where “abc.bkr” is the intermediary’s name and “hdfc” is the self-certified syndicate bank. The UPI handles will be allocated by NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India). A valid payment will display a thumbs-up symbol inside a green triangle to help non-English speaking users recognize authenticity. Approximately 8,000 to 9,000 intermediaries (including brokers, bankers to an issue, research analysts, investment advisors) will transition to the new UPI handle. The mandate will come into force from October 1, 2025. <p>Key Highlights :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing SIPs (Systematic Investment Plans) will not be affected, but old UPI IDs will be discontinued from December 11, 2026. SEBI will conduct investor awareness campaigns and cyber fraud prevention efforts over the next two years, with an allocated budget. Intermediaries are required to create awareness about the new UPI handle and prominently display it. Investors must verify UPI IDs before making payments using the SEBI Check application to ensure transactions are only with verified intermediaries. SEBI plans to collaborate with the Google Play Store to ensure only valid apps are available to investors.
5.	Securities and Exchange Board of India releases operational guidelines for issuance of Environment, Social and Governance debt securities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has released an operational framework for the issuance of social bonds, sustainability bonds, and sustainability-linked bonds, collectively called Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) debt securities. The framework aims to help issuers raise funds for sustainable projects and bridge the funding gap for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Debt securities will be labelled as social bonds, sustainability bonds, or sustainability-linked bonds only if the raised funds are used for financing or refinancing projects aligned with their objectives. <p>Key Highlights :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial disclosures must be made in the offer document; continuous disclosures must be included in annual reports or other mandated formats. Issuers of social bonds must disclose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social objectives of the project. Details of the decision-making process for project eligibility. Procedures for tracking deployment of proceeds. An indicative estimate of fund distribution between financing and refinancing. In case of refinancing, details of the existing debt, including amount outstanding, must be disclosed. Issuers must appoint an independent third-party reviewer or certifier to ensure compliance with recognized ESG standards. Issuers of sustainability bonds must comply with provisions specified for green debt securities. Issuers must ensure all funded projects meet the stated social or sustainability objectives and use proceeds only for the disclosed purpose. SEBI recognizes that some projects may have co-benefits (e.g., social projects with environmental benefits and vice versa). The classification of debt securities depends on the issuer’s primary objectives for the projects. Issuers must continuously monitor the impact of projects to confirm they are achieving the intended social or sustainable outcomes as stated in the offer document. The framework will be effective from June 5, 2025





S.No	Announcement	Key Details
6.	Securities and Exchange Board of India Introduces Verified UPI Handles to Prevent Market Frauds and Strengthen Investor Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched the 'SEBI Check' tool to validate UPI handles and registered bank accounts to ensure secure payments by investors. The tool will help enhance investor protection and combat deepfakes and cyber frauds. Investors can use SEBI Check to verify if a UPI handle or bank account is registered before making payments. UPI ID authenticity can be verified by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scanning a QR code, or Entering the UPI ID manually For bank account verification, investors can check: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank account number Indian Financial System Code (IFSC) of the SEBI-registered intermediary The username will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A readable name chosen by the intermediary Followed by a mandatory suffix that identifies their category (e.g., brk for Stock Broker, mf for Mutual Fund) A valid handle will feature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A unique identifier, "@valid", Combined with the name of the Self-Certified Syndicate Bank These validated UPI handles will be exclusively allocated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) only for payment collection by SEBI-registered intermediaries. The SEBI Check tool will be available from October 1, 2025. SEBI will also coordinate with online app stores to display only validated apps for payments to protect investors from fake platforms.
7.	Securities and Exchange Board of India Imposes ₹25 Lakh Penalty on BSE Limited for Multiple Regulatory Violations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed a penalty of ₹25 lakh on BSE Limited for multiple violations. Violations include dissemination of price sensitive information by corporates, weak supervision of broker trades, and laxity in taking action. SEBI conducted an inspection of BSE from February 2021 to September 2022 and issued a show cause notice Major charge: Prior to September 2023, BSE's system architecture allowed the Listing Compliance Monitoring (LCM) team and paid subscribers to access corporate announcements before they were publicly available on its website. BSE is directed to pay the penalty within 45 days of receiving the order.

Other Important Banking Related Current Affairs

- The **Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)** and **SEBI** launched the first **Niveshak Shivir** in **Pune** on **June 1, 2025**, focusing on helping investors **reclaim unclaimed dividends and shares**, update **KYC and nominations**, and learn about the **IEPF claim process**. Over **450 participants** benefited from **personalized assistance**, including a **search facility**, form filling support, and awareness of common errors. A special **NSDL brochure** was also released to guide investors. The initiative reflects a commitment to **transparent, investor-centric governance**, with more city-wide events to follow.
- The **SBI Economic Research Report** forecasts a **rise in household net financial savings** to ₹22 lakh crore in FY25, making up **6.5% of GNDI**—a sign of economic strengthening. It also highlights the **RBI's record surplus transfer** of ₹2.69 lakh crore and the **resilience of India's financial system** despite challenges like rising fraud amounts. The report paints a picture of **robust financial fundamentals** and **transformative shifts** in savings, governance, and institutional efficiency.
- In **May 2025**, **credit card spending** in India jumped by **14.5% year-on-year**, reaching **₹1.89 trillion**, as per **RBI** data. The increase was driven by the issuance of **760,000 new credit cards**, with **HDFC Bank** and **SBI Cards** leading the growth. The total number of cards in circulation rose to **111.19 million**, indicating enhanced **consumer confidence**, a growing shift toward **digital payments**, and rising **retail credit penetration**. This trend reinforces the role of **private banks** in driving the country's **digital consumption economy**.





Economy/Business Current Affairs

Economy/Business Current Affairs of November 2025

A) ECONOMY – TABLE (DETAILED)

Area	Indicator / Projection	Details
GDP Forecast	India Ratings	Q2 FY26 GDP at 7.2% , driven by consumption & services.
GDP Forecast	SBI Ecowrap	Q2 FY26 GDP at 7.5–8.0% , higher than RBI estimate (7%).
GDP Forecast	ICRA	Reduced Q2 FY26 projection to 7% due to lower government spending.
GDP Forecast	S&P	India GDP: 6.5% (FY26) & 6.7% (FY27) .
GDP Forecast	Moody's	7% growth in 2025 – fastest in G20.
GDP Forecast	IMF	6.6% growth FY26 , backed by consumption & GST efficiency.
GDP Growth (General)	Govt Projection	7% in 2025, moderating to 6.4% in 2026 .
Inflation	WPI	Fell to -1.21% (27-month low).
Inflation	CPI	Stayed at 0.25% .
Trade	Gold Imports	Surged to USD 14.72 bn due to festive demand.
Forex	Reserves	Hit USD 692.57 bn , strengthening rupee.
Labour	Unemployment	Overall unemployment at 5.2% (Oct 2025).
National Accounts	New GDP Series	Base year 2022–23 launched to reflect digital economy changes.
Agriculture	World Bank Loan	USD 1.2 bn approved for climate-resilient agriculture in 10 states.
Agriculture (State-specific)	POCRA-II	Maharashtra received World Bank funding for climate agriculture.
Taxation	Direct Tax Collection	Rose to ₹12.92 lakh crore (+7% YoY).

B) CORPORATE / BUSINESS NEWS – TABLE

S. No.	Company / Entity	Announcement / Achievement	Details
1	HDFC Bank	Most Valuable Brand	Valued at USD 44.99 bn , topped Kantar BrandZ 2025.
2	Zomato	Fastest Rising Brand	Big jump in brand value due to profitability & expansion.
3	UltraTech Cement	Top 10 Entry	Entered India's top 10 most valuable brands.
4	Elevation Capital	Paytm Stake Sale	Sold 1.86% stake for ₹1,556 crore.
5	Tesla	First India Centre	Opening in Gurugram on 26 Nov 2025 (Tesla's 50th global market).
6	Dell	New India Head	Anurag Arora appointed Senior Director & GM – Consumer Sales India.
7	MapmyIndia – Zoho CRM	India's 1st Geospatial CRM	Integrated geospatial tech with CRM for Indian enterprises.
8	PUMA	New MD	Ramprasad Sridharan appointed MD starting Dec 2025.
9	Asian Paints	BCCI Partnership	3-year partnership as Team India's Official Colour Partner for 110 matches.
10	Camikara	Global Rum Award	Won Global Rum Brand of the Year 2025 .
11	India Bioeconomy	\$150 bn Size	Driven by 3,000+ biotech startups; target \$300 bn by 2030 .
12	Tata Motors	Global Auto Leadership	MD Shailesh Chandra elected President of OICA .
13	Tata Power Solar	Solar Manufacturing	Announced India's largest 4 GW wafer & ingot plant .
14	Paradeep Phosphates	Brand Ambassador	Appointed Rahul Dravid as ambassador.


Economy/Business Current Affairs of October 2025
BUSINESS & ECONOMY

S. No.	Announcement / Event	Key Details	Effective / Reference Date
1	India's Industrial Output Grows 4% in August 2025	Growth driven by mining (6%) and electricity (4.1%), while manufacturing slowed to 3.8% and consumer non-durables fell 6.3%	August 2025
2	India Leads Global Dairy Production	India contributes 25% of global milk supply with 8 crore farmers; milk production rose 63.56% in a decade aided by Rashtriya Gokul Mission & White Revolution 2.0	2025
3	GST Collections Hit ₹1.89 Lakh Crore (September 2025)	9.1% YoY growth supported by GST 2.0 reforms and rate rationalization on 375 items; monthly average FY26 collections nearing ₹2 lakh crore	September 2025
4	ADB Revises India's Growth Outlook	Downgraded India's FY26 GDP forecast to 6.5%, reflecting trade pressure from elevated U.S. tariffs on exports	FY26
5	OpenAI Hits \$500 Billion Valuation	After \$6.6 billion share sale to SoftBank, valuation surged driven by ChatGPT Enterprise and advanced AI models	October 2025
6	Chemistry Nobel 2025	Awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar Yaghi for pioneering metal-organic frameworks for gas capture and water harvesting	2025
7	Global Fintech Fest 2025 Mumbai	6th edition inaugurated by FM Nirmala Sitharaman at Jio World Centre; theme "Empowering Finance for a Better World Powered by AI"; attended by PM Modi and UK PM Starmer	2025
8	Bharat AI Experience Zone at GFF 2025	Developed by NPCI and NVIDIA demonstrating AI-driven payment systems, fraud prevention, and risk management tools	2025
9	India-UK Climate Finance Initiative	Joint Offshore Wind Taskforce and Climate Tech Start-up Fund launched supporting AI-driven clean energy and green investments	2025
10	Castrol India MD Steps Down	Kedar Lele resigns as MD on December 31, 2025; Saugata Basuray appointed Interim CEO from January 1, 2026	December 31, 2025
11	Rishi Sunak Joins Tech Giants	Former UK PM appointed paid senior adviser at Microsoft and Anthropic focusing on global strategy with proceeds to charity	2025
12	India's Net Direct Tax Collection	Rose 6.33% to ₹11.89 lakh crore till October 12; government targeting ₹25.20 lakh crore for FY 2025-26	October 12, 2025
13	Retail Inflation Falls to 1.54%	Dropped to 8-year low in September 2025 from 2.07% in August; food inflation at -2.28% for fourth consecutive month	September 2025
14	Adani Group Kedarnath Ropeway	₹4,081 crore project from Sonprayag to Kedarnath reducing 9-hour trek to 36 minutes	Announced 2025
15	India's Trade Deficit Widens	Reached \$32.15 billion (highest in 11 months) due to higher imports after US tariff hikes; exports \$36.38 bn, imports \$68.53 bn	October 2025
16	India's Retail Sector Festive Sales	₹5.4 lakh crore in goods and ₹65,000 crore in services during Navratri to Diwali (25% increase YoY) driven by GST rate cuts	2025
17	India's Net FDI	Fell 159% in August 2025 reflecting higher outflows than inflows but remains above last year's total	August 2025
18	Deloitte GDP Growth Forecast	Projects India's GDP growth at 6.7-6.9% in FY26 driven by strong domestic demand, policy reforms, and low inflation	FY26
19	CPSE Classification Overhaul	Government planning two new Ratna categories for PSEs with 10-member committee led by Cabinet Secretary submitting report before Budget 2026-27	Before Budget 2026-27
20	Apple Hits \$4 Trillion Valuation	Third company after Nvidia and Microsoft to cross \$4 trillion market cap driven by iPhone 17 series and iPhone Air sales	2025
21	Nvidia Becomes Most Valuable Company	Market cap reached \$5 trillion overtaking Apple and Microsoft, fueled by AI chip demand and partnerships with Samsung, Hyundai, Nokia	2025
22	Uber-Nvidia Robotaxi Partnership	Deploy 100,000 autonomous Level 4 robotaxis by 2027 using Nvidia DRIVE AGX Hyperion 10; pilots in Austin, Atlanta, Abu Dhabi	By 2027



S. No.	Announcement / Event	Key Details	Effective / Reference Date
23	India's Industrial Output (September)	IIP grew 4% YoY driven by 4.8% manufacturing growth and 28.7% surge in electrical equipment sector	September 2025
24	₹38,000 Crore Fertiliser Subsidy	Union Cabinet sanctioned ₹37,952.29 crore for Rabi 2025-26 covering 28 grades of P&K fertilisers	October 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026

Economy/Business Current Affairs of September 2025

ECONOMY NEWS

- **Insurance Sector Reform:** Govt proposes **100% FDI in insurance via automatic route** (replacing 74% cap) to attract global players, boost capital adequacy & penetration under IRDAI oversight.
- **Private Capex Outlook:** RBI's Aug 2025 bulletin projects **private corporate capex to grow 21.5% to ₹2.67 lakh crore in FY26**, led by infra & power, aided by lower rates & easing inflation.
- **RBI Governor Statement:** RBI Governor **Sanjay Malhotra** says India is on track to become **world's 3rd-largest economy**, citing **7.8% Q1 FY26 GDP growth** and **55 crore Jan Dhan accounts**.
- **India's GST Collection:** GST revenue hit **₹1.86 trillion in Aug 2025**, up **6.5% YoY**; **GST Council** to discuss reforms.
- **Current Account Deficit (CAD):** India's CAD narrowed to **\$2.4 billion (0.2% of GDP) in Q1 FY26** from **0.9% in Q1 FY25**, aided by higher services receipts & 18% rise in remittances.
- **GDP Growth Forecast:** **Morgan Stanley** upgraded India's **FY26 GDP forecast to 6.7% (from 6.2%)**, citing strong Q1 growth & GST cuts.
- **Services PMI:** India's services **PMI hit 62.9 in Aug 2025**, a **15-year high**, though leading to fastest price rise in a decade.
- **FDI Growth:** FDI rose **15% in Q1 FY26 to USD 18.62 bn**, with **US inflows tripling to USD 5.61 bn** despite tariff issues.
- **Aadhaar Authentication Milestone:** **UIDAI** recorded **221 crore transactions in Aug 2025**, including **18.6 crore face authentications** using AI-based tech.
- **UPI Transaction Limit Boost:** **NPCI** raised UPI limits to **₹5 lakh per transaction & ₹10 lakh daily** for verified merchants in capital markets, insurance & govt sectors (effective Sept 15).
- **Agriculture's Role in GDP:** Principal Scientific Advisor **Ajay Kumar Sood** stated agriculture contributes **15–20% of India's GDP**, supporting **60% workforce**; announced launch of *National Plant Health Mission*.
- **Moody's on GST Reform:** Moody's warned that the proposed **two-slab GST structure** may cost the govt **₹48,000 crore revenue loss**, while boosting household spending.
- **Retail Inflation:** Rose to **2.07% in August 2025**, still below RBI's target; **food inflation remained negative**.
- **Harshavardhan Chitale Named Hero MotoCorp CEO:** To take charge on **Jan 5, 2026**; IIT Delhi gold medalist with 30+ years experience in Signify, Philips & Honeywell.

- **Dell CFO Yvonne McGill Resigns:** Will step down on **Sept 9, 2025** after nearly 30 years; **David Kennedy** appointed interim CFO.
- **Intel Leadership Reshuffle:** Products chief **Michelle Johnston Holthaus** to exit after 30+ years amid CEO **Lip-Bu Tan's turnaround strategy**.
- **Insurance Surety Bonds for NHAI:** Crossed **₹10,000 crore milestone**; 12 insurers issued **1,600 ISBs worth ₹10,369 crore**, offering cost-effective alternatives to bank guarantees.
- **IEPFA Foundation Day:** Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority marked its **9th Foundation Day** with a round table on **unclaimed financial assets** attended by SEBI, RBI, PFRDA, and IRDAI officials.
- **India's GDP growth FY25** projected at **6.5% (fastest among major economies)** – S&P.
- **India's WPI inflation** turned positive at **0.52% (Aug 2025)** vs -0.58% last year, led by food & manufacturing.
- **India's trade deficit** narrowed to **\$26.49 bn (Aug 2025)** from \$27.35 bn in July; exports \$35.1 bn, imports \$61.59 bn.
- **Unemployment rate** fell to **5.1% (Aug 2025)**; male 5.0%, female participation rising.
- **India's Logistics Costs Assessed at 7.97% of GDP:** **NCAER** report for DPIIT reveals comprehensive logistics cost analysis on Make in India's 10th anniversary, correcting earlier inflated estimates of 13–14%.
- **India's GDP Growth Forecast:** S&P Global Ratings retains India's GDP growth forecast at 6.5% for FY26, citing strong domestic demand and benign monsoon despite global headwinds.
- **India's Industrial Output Grows 4% in August:** Industrial production rose 4% in August 2025 with mining rebounding strongly at 6% and electricity at 4.1%, but manufacturing slowed to 3.8% and consumer non-durables slumped 6.3%, indicating subdued private investment and patchy consumption.

RANKERS^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

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Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm



BUSINESS NEWS

- **Tata-Merck Partnership:** Tata Electronics signed MoU with Merck to accelerate India's semiconductor ecosystem supporting the upcoming ₹91,000 crore Fab facility in Dholera, Gujarat.
- **DPIIT-ICICI Partnership:** DPIIT signed MoU with ICICI Bank to launch a Startup Engagement Programme, offering accelerators & mentorship to DPIIT-recognized startups.
- **Citibank Appointment:** Kaustubh Kulkarni appointed Co-head of Asia-Pacific Investment Banking at Citibank, reflecting regional expansion.
- **Harshavardhan Chitale Named Hero MotoCorp CEO:** To take charge on Jan 5, 2026; IIT Delhi gold medalist with 30+ years experience in Signify, Philips & Honeywell.
- **Dell CFO Yvonne McGill Resigns:** Will step down on Sept 9, 2025 after nearly 30 years; David Kennedy appointed interim CFO.
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- **IEPFA Foundation Day:** Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority marked its 9th Foundation Day with a round table on unclaimed financial assets attended by SEBI, RBI, PFRDA, and IRDAI officials.
- **Kotak811 ranked 3rd globally in banking app downloads** (H1 2025), with 250% YoY growth & 2.6 cr users.
- **SBI sold 13.18% stake in Yes Bank** to Japan's SMBC for ₹8,889 crore.
- **India's GDP growth FY25** projected at 6.5% (fastest among major economies) – S&P.
- **Apollo Tyres** bagged ₹579 cr BCCI deal as Team India lead sponsor (121 bilaterals + 21 ICC matches).
- **Myntra x Sourav Ganguly** launched 'Souragya' ethnic wear brand for Durga Puja season.
- **Japan's R&I upgraded India's credit rating to BBB+**, citing strong domestic demand & fiscal discipline.
- **India Leads Global Dairy Production:** India contributes nearly 25% of global milk supply, employing over 8 crore farmers with milk production increasing 63.56% in the past decade, supported by schemes like Rashtriya Gokul Mission and White Revolution 2.0 for nutrition and rural income security.

Economy/Business Current Affairs of August 2025

GDP & GROWTH RATE as per August 2025

- The **Income Tax Department** has awarded the ₹811.5 crore **PAN 2.0** project to **LTIMindtree Ltd**, aiming to **digitally transform PAN and TAN management**. Cleared in **November 2024** and scheduled to go live in **18 months**, the project will enhance **security, efficiency, and taxpayer convenience**, handling services like **Aadhaar-PAN linking, allotment, reissuance, and validation** on a unified digital platform.
- India has uncovered **₹7 trillion in GST evasion** across **91,000 cases** between **April 2020 and March 2025**, according to **Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary**. Of this, only **₹1.29 trillion** has been **voluntarily paid back** by taxpayers. Notably, **₹1.78 trillion** is linked to **fake input tax credit (ITC)**, with just **7% recovery**. The rise in evasion coincides with the government's deployment of **advanced tech tools**—including **e-invoicing, risk-based audits, facial recognition, and E-way bill tracking**—which have significantly strengthened **GST compliance and fraud detection**.
- India's **services sector** surged to an **11-month high** in **July 2025**, with the **HSBC India Services PMI** rising to **60.5**, up from 60.4 in June, according to **S&P Global**. This marks the **48th straight month of growth**, driven by **robust international demand** and **steady domestic sales**. The **finance and insurance sectors** led the growth, while **real estate and business services** lagged due to cautious spending.
- **Deloitte India** has forecasted India's economic growth to range between **6.4% and 6.7%** for the fiscal year 2025-26, building on a solid growth rate of 6.5% in 2024-25. This optimistic outlook is anchored by resilient domestic demand, easing inflation, and strategic global trade initiatives. A dynamic consumer base, resilient capital markets, and a globally competitive workforce. Ongoing and upcoming trade talks with the **UK, US, and European Union** are expected to enhance market access, income, and employment opportunities.
- **Goldman Sachs** has trimmed India's GDP growth forecast to **6.5% for 2025** and **6.4% for 2026**, citing concerns over **US-India trade tensions** after **President Trump's 25% tariffs** on Indian goods. While the investment bank expects some **tariffs may be negotiated**, it warns that the main risk lies in **policy uncertainty**, which could hurt **investor confidence**. On inflation, **forecasts have been lowered to 3.0%**, driven by easing **vegetable prices**, though Goldman cautions that such **low inflation is rare** in India and remains **vulnerable to shocks**.





ECONOMY NEWS

- Karnataka's **GST evasion** surged to **₹39,577 crore** in FY25, over **five times** higher than the previous year, with **1,254 cases** and **9 arrests**. Voluntary tax payments totaled **₹1,623 crore**. Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** clarified that **CGST authorities did not issue notices based solely on UPI transactions**, which were sent by state GST offices affecting mainly small traders. This marks a sharp rise in **tax evasion detection** compared to ₹7,202 crore in FY24 and ₹25,839 crore in FY23, highlighting increased efforts to curb evasion while addressing traders' concerns.
- India is poised to become the **world's most sought-after consumer market**, according to **Morgan Stanley**, driven by a **major energy transition**, rising **credit-to-GDP ratio**, and increased **manufacturing share in GDP**. Key factors include **lower oil intensity**, growing exports (especially services), **fiscal consolidation**, and **declining inflation volatility**, all contributing to **macro stability**, **lower real interest rates**, and a **shift in household investments toward equities**. Catalysts for further growth include a potential **US trade deal**, **capex boosts**, **loan acceleration**, and **improving trade with China**.
- The **Centre has proposed a two-slab GST overhaul** with **5% and 18% rates**, alongside a **40% tax on sin goods** like **tobacco and pan masala**, aiming to **simplify the tax structure**, **boost consumption**, and **ease compliance**. Key changes include shifting most **common-use goods** from 12% to 5%, and **aspirational items** like TVs from 28% to 18%. The reform also includes **structural fixes** like correcting **inverted duty structures**, **streamlining classifications**, **faster registrations**, and **automated refunds**, with implementation likely by **Q3 FY 2025-26**.
- India's **merchandise exports rose 7.3% to \$37.24 billion in July 2025**, driven by growth in **engineering goods, gems and jewellery, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals**. Notably, **electronics exports surged 34% to \$3.77 billion**. However, imports increased by **8.6% to \$64.59 billion**, pushing the **trade deficit to an eight-month high of \$27.35 billion**. From April to July, exports grew to \$149.20 billion, imports to \$244.01 billion, and total goods and services exports reached \$277.63 billion, up 5.23% year-on-year.
- Bank credit growth has slowed to 1.4% in FY26**, down from 2.3% last year, while **deposit growth remains steady at 3.4%**. According to RBI data, year-on-year, deposits rose **10.2%** and advances **10%** by July 25. The slowdown in credit is mainly due to **weaker corporate demand**, as companies shift toward **market instruments like bonds**. Despite **rate cuts**, **housing loan demand** hasn't picked up significantly, though overall **financial flows to the commercial sector have increased**.
- India's **foreign exchange reserves rose by \$4.74 billion** to reach **\$693.62 billion** as of August 8, 2025, driven by increases in **foreign currency assets (\$2.37 billion)**, **gold reserves (\$2.16 billion)**, **special drawing rights (\$169 million)**, and the country's **IMF reserve position (\$45 million)**. Despite a recent dip from a record high of \$704.885 billion in September 2024, the Reserve Bank of India continues to monitor and manage the forex market to maintain **exchange rate stability** and prevent sharp rupee depreciation.
- India's **net direct tax collection** for FY26 fell **3.95% to ₹6.64 lakh crore**, mainly due to a **10% rise in refunds** totaling ₹1.35 lakh crore, despite a smaller **1.87% dip in gross collections**. Key components include **corporate tax (₹2.29 lakh crore)**, **non-corporate tax (₹4.12 lakh crore)**, and **Securities Transaction Tax (₹22,362 crore)**, with the government targeting a **12.7% increase** in total direct tax collections to ₹25.20 lakh crore.
- India's **retail inflation dropped to an 8-year low of 1.55% in July 2025**, mainly due to a sharp fall in **food prices** (food inflation at -1.76%). This is the first time inflation fell below the RBI's target band in over six years. Despite a recent rise in **fuel prices (2.67%)**, the RBI kept the **repo rate steady at 5.50%**, maintaining a **neutral stance** with an FY26 inflation projection of **3.1%**. The decline offers the RBI flexibility to support growth amid global trade tensions and economic challenges.
- S&P Global Ratings upgraded the long-term credit ratings of 10 Indian financial institutions**—seven banks and three finance companies—following India's **first sovereign rating upgrade in 18 years** to **'BBB/Stable/A-2'**. Citing India's **strong economic growth**, **improved inflation management**, and **structural reforms** like the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)**, S&P highlighted enhanced **credit culture**, faster **bad loan recovery**, and reduced **systemic risk**. India's GDP growth averaged **8.8% (2022-24)**, with projections of **6.8% annually** for the next three years, supporting a positive outlook for the financial sector.
- India's **WPI inflation remained in the negative zone for the second consecutive month**, registering **-0.58% in July**, largely due to falling prices of **food articles, mineral oils, crude petroleum, and basic metals**, as per the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**. The **WPI food index** dropped by **-2.15%**, while **deflation in primary articles and fuel & power** stood at **-4.95%** and **-2.43%** respectively. However, **manufactured products saw inflation rise to 2.05%**. The drop aligns with a cooling **retail inflation (CPI)**, which also hit an **eight-year low of 1.55%** in July.





- India's **GDP growth** is projected at **6.7% in Q1 FY2026**, surpassing the RBI's target of **6.5%**, according to ICRA. While overall growth slows from **7.4% in Q4 FY2025**, the **services sector** leads with an **8.3% rise**, offsetting declines in **industry (4.0%)** and **agriculture (4.5%)**. Strong **government spending**, including a **52% surge in central capital expenditure** and rising state outlays, along with robust **project activity**, support the growth. Improved **monetary transmission** and potential **GST rationalisation** are expected to boost urban consumption ahead.
- India's **eight core industries** grew by **2% in July 2025** compared to last year, driven by higher production of **steel (12.8%)**, **cement (11.7%)**, **fertilisers (2%)**, and **electricity (0.5%)**, according to the **Commerce and Industry Ministry**. These industries, including **coal, crude oil, natural gas, petroleum refinery products**, together form **40.27%** of the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**. While **coal (-12.3%)**, **crude oil (-1.3%)**, **natural gas (-3.2%)**, and **petroleum refinery output (-1%)** declined due to monsoon effects, the overall steady growth reflects robust demand from **infrastructure projects** and a good **kharif sowing season**. Cumulative growth for April-July 2025 stood at **1.6%**.
- India's **growth momentum** remains strong despite **US tariff hikes**, says **S&P Global Ratings**, which upgraded India's **sovereign credit rating to "BBB"** with a **stable outlook** — the first upgrade in **18 years**. Citing **robust domestic demand, fiscal consolidation, and infrastructure reforms**, S&P projects **6.8% average GDP growth** over the next three years. India's **low trade dependence** shields it from global shocks. The upgrade also raised ratings for major **banks and NBFCs**, reflecting broad economic **resilience and policy continuity**.
- India **suspends 11% cotton import duty** until September 30, signaling willingness to address **U.S. tariff hike** on Indian goods. The move aims to ease pressure on India's **garment industry**, which faces nearly **60% tariffs** on exports to the U.S., and helps maintain competitiveness against **China and Bangladesh**. The waiver may be extended depending on future negotiations.
- India's economy is projected to grow at a **robust 6.7% in Q1 FY26**, driven by **strong government capital expenditure (up 52% YoY)**, **reviving rural demand**, and a **resilient services sector** including **finance, IT, and transport**. While **construction and agriculture** showed solid performance, concerns persist due to **slower industrial output (IIP growth at 2%)** and **climate/trade disruptions**. Despite these headwinds, the **RBI's 6.5% growth forecast** suggests steady momentum, with official **NSO GDP data due on August 29** expected to confirm this trend.
- Fitch Ratings has affirmed India's **Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BBB-'** with a **stable outlook**, citing the country's **robust economic growth** and strong external finances. Projected GDP growth remains strong at **6.5% for 2025-26**, well above peers, supported by **solid domestic demand, public capex, and steady private consumption**. While **US tariff risks pose moderate downside concerns**, Fitch expects limited direct impact on GDP but notes potential effects on business sentiment.
- Goldman Sachs projects India's **household savings** will generate **\$9.5 trillion inflows** into financial assets over the next decade, driven by a shift from physical assets like real estate and gold to **long-term savings products, equities, and bank deposits**. This rise in financial savings (around 13% of GDP) will support **corporate investments, long-duration bond markets**, and expand **retail participation** in capital markets, marking a significant deepening of India's financialization trend.
- India's **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** grew by **3.5% in July 2025**, driven primarily by a **5.4% rise in manufacturing**, as per Quick Estimates released on **28th August 2025**. Sector-wise, **Mining** contracted by **7.2%**, **Electricity** grew **0.6%**, and **Manufacturing** led the surge with **14 of 23 industries** showing positive growth. Major contributors include **basic metals (12.7%)**, **electrical equipment (15.9%)**, and **non-metallic mineral products (9.5%)**. Under **use-based classification**, highest growth was seen in **Infrastructure/Construction goods (11.9%)**, **Intermediate goods (5.8%)**, and **Consumer durables (7.7%)**, positioning these as the top positive contributors to overall IIP growth.

BUSINESS NEWS

- India's **UPI platform** reached an **all-time high in July 2025** with **1,947 crore transactions worth ₹25.1 lakh crore**, showing a **35% rise in volume** and a **22% growth in value** year-on-year. With **62.8 crore daily transactions** and deeper reach into **Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities**, UPI continues to dominate India's **cashless economy**, driven by **innovations like credit on UPI, recurring payments, and strong government support**.
- The **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** has rolled out **Aadhaar-based face authentication nationwide**, allowing customers to conduct **banking transactions using facial recognition** without fingerprints or OTPs. Developed under **UIDAI**, the feature enhances **financial inclusion and digital security**, especially benefiting the **elderly, differently-abled, and those with worn fingerprints**, while ensuring safe banking during **health emergencies**.





- Following the resignation of **MD & CEO Girsh Kousgi**, **PNB Housing Finance** has appointed **Jatul Anand** as **Executive Director** and **Valli Sekar** as **Chief Business Officer — Affordable Business**. While Kousgi will step down officially on **October 28, 2025**, he will assist with the transition. Despite an **18% fall in share price**, the company reaffirmed its focus on **growth, asset quality, and margins**, even as it faces the challenge of multiple senior-level exits.
- The **US decision to impose a 25% tariff** on Indian goods is projected by **SBI Research** to reduce **India's FY26 GDP growth by 25–30 bps**. The tariff will mainly affect **electronics, gems and jewelry, pharmaceuticals, and machinery**, which together make up nearly **half of India's exports to the US**. While this creates **deflationary pressures**, India's **diversified export base** and support from **PLI schemes and GST reforms** may cushion the impact. Experts believe that the **US economy faces higher risks** than India due to this move.
- India's **palm oil imports fell 10% in July 2025**, totaling **858,000 tons**, due to **contract cancellations**, while **soybean imports surged 38% to 495,000 tons**, the highest in three years, aided by **delayed shipments and competitive prices**. With **sunflower oil imports down 7%**, India's **total edible oil imports still rose 1.5% to 1.53 million tons**, the highest since November.
- India's **tea production dropped 9% in June 2025 to 133.5 million kg**, compared to **146.72 million kg** in June 2024, due to **adverse weather and pest infestations**. Output from both **North and South India** fell, impacting **big planters and small growers alike**. The fall was evident across all major tea types, including **CTC, orthodox, and green tea**, raising concerns for the industry.
- In a strategic move to boost its **value-added product portfolio**, **JSW Steel Limited** has committed **₹5,845 crore** to expand **Cold Rolled Grain-Oriented (CRGO)** steel manufacturing in collaboration with **JFE Steel Corporation** of Japan. This expansion includes increasing the **Nashik facility's capacity from 50,000 TPA to 250,000 TPA** at a cost of **₹4,300 crore**, and upgrading the **Vijayanagar unit** in Karnataka from **62,000 TPA to 100,000 TPA** with **₹1,545 crore** investment.
- The Business Confidence Index (BCI) surged to **149.4** in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025-26 (April-June), up from **139.3** in the previous quarter, according to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). This jump reflects strong optimism among Indian businesses about the near-term economic outlook. **Positive expectations across key indicators**, 78.7% of firms expect production to increase. 79.1% anticipate higher domestic sales. 66.5% foresee growth in exports of final products. 54.3% expect increased imports of raw materials, signaling growth in domestic production. Nearly 61% expect pre-tax profits to rise.
- In a major international expansion move, **Tata Motors** has announced its **largest acquisition since Jaguar Land Rover (2008)** by agreeing to acquire **Italian commercial vehicle manufacturer Iveco** for **€3.8 billion** (excluding its defence business). This also marks the **Tata Group's biggest deal since acquiring Corus** in 2007. The acquisition aims to merge the **complementary capabilities** of both companies, with minimal **overlap in geographies or industrial assets**, resulting in a **diversified commercial vehicle giant** with **combined sales of over 540,000 units annually** and revenues of **€22 billion**. The deal gives Tata Motors a stronghold across **Europe (50%), India (35%), and the Americas (15%)**, and strengthens its position in **emerging markets in Asia and Africa**.
- India's **electronics exports** soared over **47% year-on-year to \$12.4 billion in Q1 FY26**, driven largely by a **55% surge in mobile phone exports**, according to the **India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA)**. **Non-mobile electronics**, including **solar modules, networking equipment, and chargers**, also grew by **37%**. With momentum building, ICEA projects **FY26 exports to hit \$46–50 billion**, up from **\$38.6 billion** in FY25. Chairman **Pankaj Mohindroo** emphasized the need for a **domestic supply chain** and **globally competitive Indian brands** to ensure long-term **electronic sector sovereignty and value addition**.
- Tata AutoComp Systems** has signed an agreement to fully acquire the Slovakia-based **IAC Group** through its British subsidiary, **Artifex Interior Systems Limited**. While the company has not revealed the financial details, the acquisition involves a conditional agreement to purchase 100% of IAC Group's share capital, expanding Tata AutoComp's global footprint in the auto components sector.





- India's **soybean imports** are set to rise by **60%** in 2024/25 to a record **5.5 million tons**, driven by **cheaper prices** compared to palm oil. Meanwhile, **palm oil imports** are expected to drop **13.5%** to a five-year low of **7.8 million tons**, and **sunflower oil imports** may fall **20%** to **2.8 million tons**. This shift will increase India's total **edible oil imports** by about **1%** to **16.1 million tons**, impacting **global vegetable oil markets** by boosting soybean prices while pressuring palm oil futures.
- The **Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)** has appointed **merchant bankers and legal advisers** for three years to manage **minority stake sales** in **LIC, public sector banks (PSBs), and insurance firms** at suitable times. This move supports the government's aim to meet **SEBI's minimum public shareholding (MPS)** norm of **10%**, especially for LIC, which currently has only **3.5% public float**. The Centre may sell small stakes in LIC and up to five PSBs, and plans to make LIC eligible for **benchmark indices** by increasing its public float, boosting long-term investment potential.
- Jio Financial Services (JFS)** has launched a **paid tax planning and filing feature** on its **JioFinance app**, developed in partnership with **TaxBuddy**. The module offers both **self-service (starting at ₹24)** and **expert-assisted (from ₹999)** tax filing options, aiming to simplify **ITR filing** and improve **deduction accuracy**. Key tools include a **tax planner** for projecting and reducing future liabilities, **regime comparisons**, and guidance on **deductions under sections like 80C and 80D**, helping users save money and avoid dependence on costly intermediaries.
- India is poised to become the **world's most sought-after consumer market**, according to **Morgan Stanley**, driven by a **major energy transition**, rising **credit-to-GDP ratio**, and increased **manufacturing share in GDP**. Key factors include **lower oil intensity, growing exports (especially services), fiscal consolidation, and declining inflation volatility**, all contributing to **macro stability, lower real interest rates, and a shift in household investments toward equities**. Catalysts for further growth include a potential **US trade deal, capex boosts, loan acceleration, and improving trade with China**.
- India's **merchandise exports rose 7.3% to \$37.24 billion in July 2025**, driven by growth in **engineering goods, gems and jewellery, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals**. Notably, **electronics exports surged 34%** to \$3.77 billion. However, imports increased by **8.6% to \$64.59 billion**, pushing the **trade deficit to an eight-month high of \$27.35 billion**. From April to July, exports grew to \$149.20 billion, imports to \$244.01 billion, and total goods and services exports reached \$277.63 billion, up 5.23% year-on-year.
- BEL Limited**, a state-owned Indian company, has secured its **first overseas rail-metro contract** from **Malaysia**, valued at **USD 1 million**, for the **retrofit and reconditioning** of their **Mass Rapid Transport System**. This milestone coincides with BEL's expansion, including a new **warehousing facility in Bengaluru** supporting aerospace growth. BEL, under the Ministry of Defence, operates across **defence, rail and metro, mining, and construction** sectors, with advanced manufacturing and R&D facilities across India.
- India's **exports to the US rose 19.94% to \$8.01 billion in July 2025**, while **imports increased 13.78% to \$4.55 billion**, making the **US India's top trading partner during April–July FY26**, with **exports reaching \$33.53 billion (↑21.64%) and imports \$17.41 billion (↑12.33%)**. India also recorded **strong export growth to China (↑27.39% in July)**, while trade declined with countries like the **Netherlands, Singapore, and Australia**. A **bilateral trade agreement** with the US is under negotiation, with the **6th round of talks scheduled for August 25**.
- The **International Finance Corporation (IFC)** has committed **\$150 million** to the **H-DREAM Fund** managed by **HDFC Capital Advisors** to develop **25,000 green-certified affordable and mid-income homes** in India. This investment aims to mobilize up to **\$850 million** from institutional investors, supporting sustainable housing projects certified under **EDGE standards**. The fund targets India's significant affordable housing gap, estimated at **18 million units** in Tier-I and Tier-II cities, promoting energy efficiency and bridging the real estate shortfall.
- At the **19th China Brand Festival** held in **Shenzhen**, the **TopBrand 2025 "Top 500 Global Brands"** list was unveiled. **Microsoft** claimed the top spot with a brand value of **\$1,062.5 billion**, followed closely by **NVIDIA (\$1,046.8B)** and **Apple (\$997.7B)**. The rest of the **top 10** includes **Amazon, Alphabet (Google), Saudi Aramco, Walmart, Meta (Facebook), Berkshire Hathaway, and Broadcom**. **PetroChina** emerged as the **highest-ranked Chinese brand**, placing **14th**.
- To combat rising **UPI fraud**, the **NPCI** has directed all banks and apps to **discontinue peer-to-peer (P2P) 'collect requests'** on UPI by **October 1, 2025**. This change, affecting platforms like **PhonePe, Google Pay, and Paytm**, will ensure **all P2P transactions are payer-initiated**, eliminating a high-risk feature often exploited in scams. With **Rs 2,000 per transaction caps** proving insufficient to curb fraud, this move enhances **user control, security, and transparency** in India's digital payment ecosystem.





- **Foxconn** has begun **iPhone 17 production** at its newly operational **Bengaluru factory**, making it the company's **second-largest iPhone manufacturing unit** globally after China. The **Devanahalli-based facility**, built with a **\$2.8 billion (₹25,000 crore)** investment, is now producing devices on a **small scale**, supplementing output from Foxconn's **Chennai unit**. This marks a major boost for **India's electronics manufacturing** and Apple's **diversification beyond China**.
- **India's electronics exports** surged **47% in Q1 of FY 2025-26**, reaching **\$12.4 billion**, driven by the **'Make in India'** initiative, Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** announced. Electronics production soared from **\$31 billion to \$133 billion** since **2014-15**, with **mobile phone manufacturing** playing a central role—**99.2% of phones sold in India are now made domestically**, up from just **26% in 2014**. India now hosts **300+ mobile factories**, transforming from an importer to the **world's second-largest phone maker**, with **exports rising eightfold to ₹3.27 lakh crore** in 2024-25.
- India's **Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) market** is set to **grow 3.5 times from \$73 billion in FY2025 to \$258 billion by 2030**, driven by rising investments from institutional investors, pension and insurance funds, foreign participation, and greater retail awareness, according to Knight Frank. The rapid expansion in infrastructure spending—central government outlay rising from \$12 billion in FY2015 to \$75 billion in FY2025—is fueling this surge.
- India's **eight core industries** grew by **2% in July 2025** compared to last year, driven by higher production of **steel (12.8%)**, **cement (11.7%)**, **fertilisers (2%)**, and **electricity (0.5%)**, according to the **Commerce and Industry Ministry**. These industries, including **coal, crude oil, natural gas, petroleum refinery products**, together form **40.27% of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**. While **coal (-12.3%)**, **crude oil (-1.3%)**, **natural gas (-3.2%)**, and **petroleum refinery output (-1%)** declined due to monsoon effects, the overall steady growth reflects robust demand from **infrastructure projects** and a good **kharif sowing season**. Cumulative growth for April-July 2025 stood at **1.6%**.
- India's **marine fish production** surged to **44.95 lakh tonnes** in 2023-24, growing at **8.9% annually**, with **91.1% sustainable fish stocks** reported by ICAR-CMFRI. The government's **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)** drives **climate-resilient strategies**, funding **fishing harbours, cold storage, and post-harvest facilities**. Research under **NICRA** and training via **MPEDA's NETFISH** program support sustainable fishing, improve seafood quality, and boost fisher incomes, strengthening India's marine fisheries sector amid climate challenges.
- India's **interest payments** on government debt are projected to **reach ₹12.76 trillion in FY26**, nearly **tripling** from a decade ago, driven by **high borrowing costs**, especially from **pandemic-era loans**. While **bond yields have eased** since FY24, repayments on earlier bonds are pushing costs higher. The **total government debt** surged from **₹71 trillion (51.5% of GDP) in FY16** to a projected **₹200 trillion (56.1% of GDP) by FY26**. The government is using **buybacks and bond switches** to smooth out repayments and reduce rollover risks.
- **India's pharmaceutical exports** rose **5.21% to \$7.57 billion in Q1 FY26**, driven by **formulations and biologics**, according to **Pharmexcil**. Growth was seen in **NAFTA, Oceania, Latin America, and Africa**, though **US pricing pressures** dented earnings. **Imports** also increased **4.21% to \$786 million**, mainly in **bulk drugs and intermediaries**, though this segment shows a **declining trend** due to the **PLI scheme**. In FY25, pharma exports had grown **9.39% to \$30.47 billion**, but future growth may face **tariff and pricing challenges**.
- India's **seafood exports** remained steady at **USD 7.45 billion in 2024-25**, despite a drop in shipment volume to **16.98 lakh tonnes**. **Frozen shrimp** dominated exports, accounting for nearly **70% of earnings**, with the **US and China** as the largest importers—US imports valued at **USD 2.71 billion**. Other key markets include the **EU, Southeast Asia, and Japan**. Major export ports were **Vizag and JNPT**.
- India's **outbound investments** surged **67.7% to USD 41.6 billion in FY 2024-25**, driven by a focus on **ESG priorities**, the rise of **GIFT City** as a strategic investment hub, and **global tax reforms**, according to an **EY report**. Indian companies are diversifying globally, expanding beyond traditional hubs like Singapore and Mauritius to countries such as the **UAE, Luxembourg, and Switzerland**. Sectors like **IT, energy, pharma, and automotive** are key contributors. GIFT City's role has doubled, offering **tax benefits and regulatory clarity**, aiding Indian multinationals in managing overseas investments efficiently.
- **Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC)** has received **RBI approval** to acquire up to **24.99% stake in Yes Bank**, marking a major **cross-border M&A deal** in India's financial sector. The initial **\$1.6 billion investment** for a **20% stake** is SMBC's largest in India, and the RBI has clarified that **SMBC will not be classified as a promoter**, easing regulatory requirements. This move strengthens **foreign investor confidence** and deepens SMBC's presence in **India's banking sector**.
- India's **crude oil imports** fell by **8.7% in July to 18.56 million tons**, marking an **18-month low** since February 2024, amid a **4.3% drop in fuel demand** and **U.S. tariff threats** over India's purchase of **Russian oil**. Year-on-year, crude imports declined by **4.3%** and product imports by **12.8%**, while India plans to engage the U.S. with an **open mind** on trade ties despite ongoing **discounted Russian oil buys** by state refiners.
- India's **coal imports** rose marginally by **1.5% to 76.40 million tonnes** in the April-June quarter of 2025 compared to last year, despite government efforts to boost **domestic production**. June imports increased to **23.91 million tonnes**, while state-owned **Coal India Limited's (CIL) production dropped 8.5%** due to monsoon-related challenges. The government assures **adequate coal supply** for the monsoon season, emphasizing sustainable growth and reduced import dependence.





Economy/Business Current Affairs of July 2025

GDP & GROWTH RATE as per July 2025

- **Suzuki Motor Corporation** has announced a massive ₹70,000 crore investment in India over the next 5–6 years to expand production, launch new models, and strengthen its position in the world's third-largest automobile market. The announcement was made during the launch of the e-Vitara, Suzuki's first electric SUV, at the Hansalpur plant in Gujarat, flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **National Aluminium Company (NALCO)** will invest ₹300 billion (\$3.43 billion) over the next five years to build a new aluminium smelter in Odisha and a coal power plant, according to CMD Brijendra Pratap Singh. About ₹180 billion will go toward the smelter, while ₹120 billion is earmarked for the power plant, for which NALCO is in talks with Coal India and NTPC. The project will be funded through a mix of debt and internal accruals.
- **India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** grew by 3.5% in July 2025, driven primarily by a 5.4% rise in manufacturing, as per Quick Estimates released on 28th August 2025. Sector-wise, Mining contracted by 7.2%, Electricity grew 0.6%, and Manufacturing led the surge with 14 of 23 industries showing positive growth. Major contributors include basic metals (12.7%), electrical equipment (15.9%), and non-metallic mineral products (9.5%). Under use-based classification, highest growth was seen in Infrastructure/Construction goods (11.9%), Intermediate goods (5.8%), and Consumer durables (7.7%), positioning these as the top positive contributors to overall IIP growth.
- **Mastercard** has partnered with Infosys to integrate Mastercard Move's cross-border payment capabilities into Infosys Finacle, enabling faster, secure, and seamless global transactions for financial institutions across 200+ countries and 150+ currencies, ultimately enhancing digital payment experiences, customer loyalty, and operational efficiency.
- At the 48th AGM of Reliance Industries, Anant Ambani announced that Jamnagar and Kutch will become major clean energy hubs, with massive projects like the Dhirubhai Ambani Giga Energy Complex and a 5.5 lakh-acre solar site in Kutch—three times the size of Singapore. The projects include solar, battery storage, and green hydrogen production, aiming to supply 10% of India's electricity in the next decade. By 2026, Reliance will operationalize battery (100 GWh) and electrolyser gigafactories (3 GW), producing green ammonia, green methanol, and sustainable aviation fuel, establishing India as a global clean energy leader.
- India's foreign exchange reserves fell by \$4.38 billion to \$690.72 billion for the week ending August 22, 2025, after a previous rise, per RBI data. The decline was driven mainly by a \$3.65 billion drop in foreign currency assets, while gold reserves rose by \$665 million. Reserves with the IMF and Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) also slightly decreased. The RBI often intervenes in forex markets to stabilize the rupee, focusing on market orderliness rather than specific exchange rates.

- India's external debt rose to \$736.3 billion in FY25, registering a 10% growth over the previous year, with the external debt-to-GDP ratio climbing to 19.1%. Major contributors include non-financial corporations and government borrowings, while US dollar-denominated loans dominate the composition. Despite a decline in the short-term debt share, its ratio to forex reserves increased, raising questions about vulnerability to external shocks. The RBI also noted a valuation effect of \$5.3 billion due to currency movements.
- In FY25, India added \$297 billion to the global economy, making up 6.7% of global GDP growth, according to SBI Research. Out of this, the State Bank of India (SBI) contributed \$44 billion, which is 1.1% of global growth and 16% of India's total. SBI also added ₹1.38 lakh crore in value to India's financial services. This highlights the growing importance of India and its key institutions in the world economy.
- India's retail inflation fell to 2.1% in June 2025, the lowest in 77 months, thanks to cheaper vegetables and pulses. Wholesale inflation also turned slightly negative. While food prices dropped, costs in healthcare, transport, and gold stayed high. The RBI has already cut rates this year and may wait before making more changes. Economists expect inflation to remain low, but global trends and local price changes will decide what happens next.
- India aims to raise the tourism sector's contribution to GDP to 10% by 2047, from the current 5–6%, aligning with its vision of a \$32 trillion economy. Key types include spiritual, adventure, medical, and cultural tourism. Challenges such as infrastructure gaps, environmental concerns, and lack of standardization are being addressed through initiatives like Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD, and medical tourism promotion. The government also focuses on employment generation, e-visa facilitation, and sustainable practices to ensure inclusive and resilient tourism growth.
- India's core sector grew 1.7% in June 2025, marking a three-month high. Positive growth was seen in steel (9.3%), cement (9.2%), and refinery products (3.4%), while coal (-6.8%), electricity (-2.8%), and natural gas (-2.8%) saw declines. The April–June growth stood at 1.3%, reflecting an overall sluggish industrial trend. The Index of Core Industries, which represents 40.27% of the IIP, remains a key indicator for economic planning and assessment.
- Between March 2021 and March 2025, Gross NPAs dropped from 9.11% to 2.58%, thanks to IBC reforms, amendments to SARFAESI & DRT Acts, RBI's prudential framework, and specialized bank mechanisms. Use of e-auctions, valuation norms, and penalties for misvaluation have increased transparency and efficiency in NPA recovery.





ECONOMY NEWS

- India's **gross GST collections** surged to a **record ₹22.08 lakh crore in FY25**, marking a **9.4% growth** from the previous year and **doubling** the revenue seen in FY21. With **average monthly collections** rising and the **taxpayer base expanding** to over **1.51 crore**, the GST system has significantly contributed to **fiscal consolidation** and **tax transparency**. Celebrating **eight years of GST**, this achievement showcases India's success in building an **efficient, unified tax framework** that supports its economic ambitions.
- India's **state-wise GST collection for June 2025** saw **Maharashtra** leading with ₹30,553 crore, followed by **Karnataka** (₹13,409 crore) and **Gujarat** (₹11,404 crore), reflecting strong **industrial, commercial, and service sector** activities. Southern states like **Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh** showed robust contributions, while **Delhi, West Bengal, and Odisha** drove revenues in the east and north. Smaller and northeastern states had modest collections, underlining their **developing economic bases** but highlighting strategic potential in **logistics, tourism, and regional consumption**.
- Over the past **11 years**, India's **income tax refunds** have grown by **474%**, touching **₹4.77 lakh crore in 2024–25**. This is mainly due to **digital improvements** that cut refund time from **93 to 17 days**. **More people are filing returns**, and the share of refunds in tax collections has also increased. The government's **online systems and reforms** have helped build a faster, more **transparent tax system**, making life easier for taxpayers.
- Between **FY16 and FY25**, **Public Sector Banks (PSBs)** wrote off **₹12.08 lakh crore in non-performing assets (NPAs)**, following **RBI guidelines**, yet continued **loan recovery** efforts via **DRT, SARFAESI, and IBC** routes. While **10 PSBs** reduced write-offs, **SBI and Canara Bank** saw an increase. As of March 2025, **1,629 wilful defaulters** owed over **₹1.62 lakh crore**, with assets worth **₹25,000+ crore** recovered under **PMLA and FEOA**. Moreover, **48,570 employees** are being recruited, as **PSBs maintain 96% staff coverage**, reflecting focused efforts in both asset recovery and human resource management.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** forecasts India's **GDP** to grow at **6.5% in 2025** and **6.7% in 2026**, driven by **strong domestic demand, a normal monsoon, and monetary easing**. **Inflation** is projected to stay within **RBI's target range**, with **CPI at a six-year low** in June. While the broader **Asia-Pacific outlook** has weakened due to **trade tensions and geopolitical risks**, **India remains the world's fastest-growing major economy**, according to the **Asian Development Outlook 2025**.

BUSINESS NEWS

- Adani Green Energy Ltd** has made history by becoming the first Indian company to cross **15 GW of installed renewable energy capacity**, marking a key achievement in India's clean energy journey. With flagship projects like **Khavda**, the world's largest renewable plant under development, and plans to touch **50 GW by 2030**, **AGEL** is setting the pace for a sustainable energy transition. In FY25 alone, it added **3,309 MW**, a national record. The company's progress reflects India's broader ambition to be a global green energy leader.
- India's **farm sector** has demonstrated **strong economic growth**, with its **Gross Value of Output (GVO)** rising to **₹29.49 lakh crore in FY24**, a **54.6% increase** since FY12, as per the **NSO report** released on **June 27, 2025**. This reflects the **resilience of Indian agriculture**, supported by various **government schemes** and a **diversified rural economy**. The data offers critical insight for **policymakers, economists, and agricultural planners**, reinforcing the importance of sustained **agri-investment** and **reform-oriented planning**.
- Reliance Defence and Coastal Mechanics Inc.** have announced a strategic joint venture to set up a **defence MRO facility in Nagpur**, targeting India's **₹20,000 crore upgrade market**. The venture aims to modernize critical air and land platforms like **Jaguar, MiG-29, Apache helicopters, and L-70 guns**, enhancing asset longevity. With India's **defence production hitting ₹1.46 trillion** in FY25 and **exports touching ₹24,000 crore**, this initiative supports the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** vision and may offer **future US defence contract access** through the **FMS** route.
- The **Indian commercial vehicle industry** is expected to register **3–5% growth in FY26**, as per **ICRA**, driven by a revival in **construction, infrastructure, and mining activity**. While **M&HCV and LCV truck sales** may see moderate improvement, the **bus segment** is forecasted to post the strongest gains at **8–10%**. However, **high inventory levels, geopolitical issues, and a shift toward pre-owned vehicles** are restraining factors. The outlook suggests **gradual recovery** but with **sector-specific risks**.
- India's **UPI ecosystem** recorded **18.40 billion transactions** worth **₹24.04 lakh crore in June 2025**, reflecting a **minor monthly dip** but **strong yearly growth**. Experts attribute this moderation to **seasonal effects** and believe UPI is now reaching a **mature scale**, preparing for its next expansion through **innovative use cases** like **IoT-based payments, embedded credit, and B2B transactions**. With an average of **613 million daily transactions**, UPI remains a **cornerstone of India's digital economy**.
- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has increased the **Cost Inflation Index (CII)** to **376 for FY2025–26**, allowing for higher **tax relief on long-term capital gains (LTCG)**. While the **Finance Act 2024** reduced the availability of **indexation benefits**, a **grandfathering clause** allows continued relief for taxpayers selling assets bought before **July 23, 2024**. Eligible individuals and **Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs)** can choose between a **20% indexed tax** or a **12.5% flat tax**.





- **Reliance Jio** has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the **world's largest Fixed Wireless Access (FWA)** provider, surpassing **T-Mobile**. Through its **affordable Jio AirFiber broadband**, launched in **September 2023**, and rapid **5G expansion**, Jio now serves **over 20 million users**. This has revolutionized **internet accessibility** across India, especially in **rural and underserved regions**, promoting **digital inclusion**, and laying a **blueprint for global telecoms** seeking to expand in developing markets.
- **SAIL** has inaugurated its **first international Representative Office** in **Dubai, UAE**, marking a key step in its **global expansion**. The move aims to strengthen **India's steel exports** and enhance trade ties with the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)** region. **Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy** and top officials attended the event. **Dubai** was chosen for its **strategic location**, strong infrastructure, and access to **emerging steel markets**, supporting SAIL's goal to become a **globally competitive steelmaker**.
- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** recorded **229.33 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions** in **June 2025**, a **7.8% increase** from last year, signaling Aadhaar's growing role in **digital identity verification**. Cumulatively, Aadhaar has now enabled over **15,452 crore transactions** since launch. A notable highlight is the rise in **AI-powered Face Authentication**, which hit **15.87 crore transactions** in June 2025, up from **4.61 crore** in June 2024. This **secure, real-time** modality, developed by UIDAI, has now crossed **175 crore face authentications**, driving **digital inclusion** and **ease of access** to public services.
- **Microsoft** has closed its **Pakistan office** after **25 years** as part of its **global restructuring plan**. The decision was made on **July 4, 2025**, and came along with **9,100 job cuts** worldwide. The company is moving to a **cloud-based model** and depending more on **local partners**. Experts like **Jawwad Rehman** and leaders like **Arif Alvi** called the move a **troubling sign** for **Pakistan's economy** and blamed **instability** for losing business opportunities to countries like **Vietnam**.
- **Mashreq**, a top **UAE bank**, has received **IFSCA's in-principle approval** to open an **International Banking Unit (IBU)** in **GIFT City, Gujarat**, becoming the **first UAE-based bank** to do so. The branch, expected to start by **Q4 of 2025**, will offer **foreign currency loans, trade finance, and risk management services**. With support from the **UAE Central Bank** and **Indian SEZ bodies**, this step will **boost UAE-India financial relations**, improve **international banking services**, and show **confidence in India's financial hub**.
- On **July 4, 2025**, the **liquidity surplus** in India's banking system rose to **₹4.04 trillion**, its highest since **May 2022**, thanks to increased **government spending** and a **₹2.69 trillion surplus transfer** by the **RBI**. A **7-day VRRR auction** saw bids of **₹1.7 trillion**, with **₹1 trillion** accepted at **5.47%**. The **RBI's 0.50% CRR cut** earlier had also added **₹1.16 trillion** to the system. These developments show strong **bank liquidity**, likely leading to **cheaper loans** and more **credit flow** in the economy.
- **Adani Power Ltd** has **acquired the 600 MW Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd** in **Butibori, Nagpur** for **₹4,000 crore**, increasing its total capacity to **18,150 MW**. The deal was approved by the **NCLT** and completed on **July 7, 2025**. The company is building several new **brownfield and greenfield power plants** and aims to reach **30,670 MW by 2029-30**. **CEO SB Khyalia** said the company remains focused on providing **reliable, affordable electricity** to support **India's development goals**.
- **Nvidia** became the **first publicly traded company** to reach a **\$4 trillion market value**, thanks to a **1,350% rise in its stock** since **October 2022**. The company now has the **largest share** in the **S&P 500**, showing its growing power in the stock market. Other tech giants like **Microsoft, Apple, and Amazon** are also close behind, with the **technology sector** now making up **one-third** of the S&P 500. This event proves how important **Nvidia** and other tech companies have become to the global economy.
- **Indian government** extended the **tax exemption for Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs) and Pension Funds** on their investments in India until **March 31, 2030**. This policy covers **dividends, interest, and long-term capital gains** and aims to **attract long-term foreign investment** in sectors like **telecom, logistics, and energy**. The rule was first introduced in **2020** under **Section 10(23FE)** of the **Income Tax Act**, and the latest extension was officially notified by the **Department of Revenue**. According to **NSDL**, assets held by SWFs in Indian companies have grown by **60% year-on-year**, reaching **₹4.7 lakh crore** by **April 2024**, showing strong investor confidence.
- **PhonePe** led the **UPI market** in **June 2025**, handling over **8.54 billion transactions** and securing **46.46% of the market**, as per data from the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**. It was followed by **Google Pay (35.56%)** and **Paytm (6.90%)**. While total UPI transactions slightly fell to **18.39 billion**, new apps like **Navi** and **Super.money** showed steady growth. State-wise, **Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh** contributed the most to UPI volume.
- **ACKO** has been chosen as the **official insurance partner for Tesla in India**, ahead of the electric car giant's market launch. The partnership will offer **digital insurance services** that are smooth, quick, and made especially for **Tesla owners**. This deal reflects both companies' shared goal of using **technology to simplify vehicle ownership**, promote **clean mobility**, and help grow the **electric vehicle market** in India.
- **Tesla** has inaugurated its **first India showroom** at **Mumbai's BKC**, debuting the **Model Y** at a starting price of **₹59.89 lakh**. With imported variants, rapid charging solutions, and robust safety features, Tesla aims to catalyze India's **electric vehicle ecosystem** despite high import tariffs and regulatory challenges. The move reinforces Mumbai's position as an automotive innovation hub and signals broader opportunities for **clean mobility** in India's future.





- In **July 2025**, **HSBC** exited the **Net-Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA)**, sparking backlash from **green clients** like **Ecotricity**, who questioned the bank's **climate credibility**. The move, prompted by internal concerns over bias against carbon sectors, contrasts sharply with growing global expectations for **sustainable finance**. This development puts HSBC at the center of a critical debate on the future of **net-zero banking**, **ethical investing**, and the **financial sector's role in climate action**.
- India's **tea exports** rose by **2.85%** in FY 2024–25 to **257.88 million kg**, led by **North India's 8.15%** growth. **South India** saw a **4.92%** decline. The **average export price** increased by **12.65%** to **Rs 290.97 per kg**, boosting value realization. In **calendar year 2024**, total exports stood at **256.17 million kg**, a **10.57%** rise
- India's **net FDI inflows** dropped by **98% YoY** to **\$35 million** in **May 2025**, due to **24% rise in repatriation** and **11% fall in gross inflows**, as per the **RBI Bulletin**. **Singapore, Mauritius, UAE, and USA** were major sources, with inflows into **manufacturing, financial, and IT services**. **Outward FDI** rose to **\$2.1 billion**, mainly into **transport and business services**. Despite this dip, **India's FX reserves** stood at **\$696.7 billion**, covering **11 months of imports** and **95% of external debt**.

Economy/Business Current Affairs of June 2025

ECONOMY NEWS

- India's **unemployment rate** rose to **5.6%** in **May 2025**, attributed largely to a **seasonal drop in rural farm employment** after the harvest. Data showed that **youth and women** were particularly affected, with **female labour force participation** falling to **27.8%**. The trend underscores persistent structural challenges in creating adequate and inclusive employment, especially in rural regions. Both **urban and rural youth unemployment** surged, drawing attention to the need for focused employment generation strategies.
- India's **core sector growth** slowed sharply to **0.7%** in **May 2025**, marking a **nine-month low**. The fall was driven by a decline in the output of **crude oil, natural gas, fertilisers, and electricity**. This marked the **second consecutive month** of core sector weakness, reflecting pressure on **industrial production**. However, **cement (+9.2%)** and **steel (+6.7%)** continued to show strength. The figures point to a need for **targeted policy support** in key **infrastructure and energy sectors** to maintain momentum.
- India's **net direct tax collection** declined by **1.39%** to **₹4.59 lakh crore** in **Q1 FY26**, mainly due to **slower advance tax growth** and a **drop in corporate tax receipts**. While **gross direct tax collection** rose **4.86%**, a sharp **58% increase in tax refunds** significantly reduced the net collection base. Corporate advance tax saw modest growth of **5.86%**, while

non-corporate advance tax declined by **2.68%**. These developments point to **early fiscal pressure** and the importance of **monitoring tax compliance** and the **pace of economic recovery**.

- In **Q4 FY25**, **India recorded a current account surplus of \$13.5 billion**, a sharp turnaround from the previous quarter's deficit. According to **RBI data**, this surplus was driven by **strong services exports**, especially in **IT and business services**, and an increase in **remittances from abroad**. A **narrower merchandise trade deficit** and a fall in **net primary income outflows** also contributed to the surplus. Despite some moderation in **FDI inflows**, the improvement reflects a boost in **external sector stability** and overall **economic fundamentals**.
- India's **retail inflation** declined sharply to **2.82%** in **May 2025**, marking its **lowest level since February 2019**. The fall was largely driven by a significant drop in **food inflation**, which eased to **0.99%**. Prices of essential food items such as **vegetables, pulses, and meat** fell, aided by a **favourable base effect** and **government measures** like **import duty cuts**. Among states, **Kerala recorded the highest inflation**, while **Telangana reported the lowest**. Looking ahead, analysts expect the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** to average around **4% in FY26**, though they caution that **monsoon performance** and **geopolitical developments** could influence price dynamics. The current data supports the **RBI's strategy to frontload rate cuts**, but it also indicates **limited scope for further easing** unless **economic growth weakens** considerably.
- In line with the trend in retail inflation, India's **wholesale price inflation (WPI)** also fell to **0.39%** in **May 2025**, down from **0.85% in April**, reflecting **declining prices in food, fuel, and manufactured goods**. A key contributor to the drop was the **steep deflation in vegetable prices**, which plunged by **21.62%**. This simultaneous fall in both WPI and CPI sends encouraging signals for **price stability**, reinforcing a more **accommodative monetary policy stance** and giving the **RBI more flexibility**, especially amid external uncertainties.
- Additionally, India is planning a significant **revamp of its CPI framework**, with a proposal to **update the base year to 2024** and **expand the CPI basket** to better reflect current **consumption patterns**. This revision is being informed by the **Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2023–24**, which analyzed data from around **407 consumption items**. The updated **CPI series** is expected to be launched by **early 2026**, replacing the existing **2012-based index**. Furthermore, the **Economic Survey 2023–24** has recommended a review of the role of food prices in the **inflation targeting mechanism**, suggesting that food may be excluded due to its **volatile supply-side behavior**. This indicates a shift toward more **structural and targeted inflation management** going forward.



BUSINESS NEWS

- **GST collections for May 2025** rose **16.4% year-on-year** to **Rs 2.01 lakh crore**, showing **strong momentum** despite being lower than **April's record** Rs 2.37 lakh crore. While **domestic GST** grew **13.7%** to Rs 1.50 lakh crore, it slowed due to reduced **year-end transactions** and shifting **consumer behavior**. In contrast, **import GST** surged **25.2%**, indicating strong **import demand**. After **refunds**, **net GST** rose **20.4%** to Rs 1.74 lakh crore, signaling **economic recovery**, as highlighted by experts from **KPMG** and **EY India**.
- **UPI transactions in May 2025** hit a **record high** with **18.68 billion transactions** worth **₹25.14 trillion**, showing **4% M-o-M** and **33% Y-o-Y growth** in volume. This surge surpasses **March 2025's** previous record, highlighting India's rapid **digital payment adoption**. **Daily transactions** rose to **602 million**, with daily value reaching **₹81,106 crore**, underscoring the **UPI ecosystem's expanding scale** and deepening **usage intensity**.
- On **1 June 2025**, the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** unveiled a **\$10 billion initiative** for **urban transformation in India**. This 5-year plan aims to revamp **metro networks**, launch new **RRTS corridors**, and improve **urban infrastructure and services** across over 100 cities. Backed by sovereign loans, **private capital**, and the **Urban Challenge Fund (UCF)**, the project also includes **\$3 million in technical assistance** for project planning. ADB emphasized skill development, women's empowerment, and **inclusive urban growth** as part of India's **Viksit Bharat @ 2047** mission. The announcement follows meetings with **PM Modi**, **FM Nirmala Sitharaman**, and **Housing Minister Manohar Lal**.
- India has officially granted **Starlink**, the satellite internet venture by **Elon Musk's SpaceX**, the much-awaited **GMPCS licence**, paving the way for the company to offer satellite communication services across the country. This makes Starlink the third operator in India's satellite internet market, alongside **OneWeb** and **Jio Satellite**, and it is expected to receive trial spectrum soon to prove its technical and security readiness.

RANKERS ^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

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Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm

- Public sector general insurance companies (PSGICs) have achieved a notable **growth milestone** by collecting **₹1.06 lakh crore** in **premium income** during **FY2024–25**, up from ₹80,000 crore in FY19. This performance was highlighted during a **review meeting** chaired by **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**, focusing on **insurance penetration**, **density**, and **digital transformation**. The sector witnessed a **turnaround in profitability**, with firms like **NIACL**, **NICL**, **OICL**, and **UIICL** returning to profits.
- **Thomas Cook (India) Ltd.** has partnered with **Muthoot Forex** to expand access to its **Borderless Travel Card** and **Study Buddy Card** via Muthoot's **7,000+ branch network**, aiming to serve **international travelers** and **students abroad** across **metro to Tier 4 cities**, with features like **multi-currency support**, **emergency cash**, **free SIM**, **Rs.7.5 lakh insurance**, and **reward points** for forex loads.
- SEBI has launched a **settlement scheme** for stock brokers involved in **algo trading violations**, open from **June 16 to September 16, 2025**. Over **100 brokers**, including top firms like **Zerodha** and **5Paisa**, were found collaborating with **unregulated algo platforms** offering **assured returns**—a direct breach of SEBI norms. The scheme provides a way to resolve cases with a **low settlement cost**, while SEBI continues to strengthen **regulations for algorithmic trading**, emphasizing **retail investor protection**, **empanelment of algo providers**, and **broker accountability**.
- **Scapia**, in collaboration with **Federal Bank**, has launched India's **first dual-network credit card** combining **Visa and RuPay**, known as the **Scapia Federal RuPay Credit Card**. With **UPI compatibility**, **zero forex markup**, **Scapia Coins**, and **airport lounge benefits**, the card offers a unified credit experience for **domestic and international use**. The launch is aligned with Scapia's broader platform upgrades under its **2025 Summer Release**, including **AI recommendations**, **tailored fare options**, and **reward enhancements** — marking a key milestone in India's **fintech evolution**.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a **\$109.97 million loan** to support Gujarat's **Skills Development Program**, a forward-looking initiative designed to enhance **technical education**, promote **inclusive employment**, and drive **industrial competitiveness**. By upgrading **training infrastructure**, launching **industry-aligned courses**, and improving **governance** at institutions like **Kaushalya: The Skill University**, the program will create a **future-ready workforce**.
- **Apna.co** has launched **AI Job Prep**, an innovative **AI-powered interview preparation tool** aimed at bridging the **confidence gap** in India's job market. With over **7.6 lakh simulations** completed across **900+ cities**, the platform provides **realistic interview experiences**, **real-time feedback**, and **personalized tips** using its proprietary **Agentic AI technology**. Metro cities like **Delhi and Mumbai** lead in adoption, but usage is rapidly growing in **non-metro areas**. This tool reflects a larger trend of **tech-enabled skilling** and is expected to significantly boost **employability** and **digital empowerment**.



- India's **GIFT City** has witnessed a surge in global interest, with banks from **France and the UAE** applying to set up **IFSC Banking Units (IBUs)**. The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has approved **Natixis** and **Credit Agricole**, while other foreign and domestic banks await clearances. The total number of IBUs has doubled from **15 in 2022 to 31 in 2025**, with **\$88.5 billion in assets**. This reflects **global trust in India's economic reforms**, and supports the country's ambition to make GIFT City a **world-class financial centre**.
- The **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** has raised **₹2,005.90 crore** through a **QIP issue**, attracting strong participation from domestic and international institutional investors. The funds will **enhance IREDA's Tier-I capital** and enable expanded **green energy financing**. This development follows IREDA's IPO in 2023 and reaffirms the agency's growing significance in India's **clean energy transition**, strengthening its ability to support renewable energy initiatives across the country.
- UPI transactions are now set to be completed in just **10–15 seconds**, starting June 16, 2025, as per NPCI's latest directive. In addition to this, users will have a **50-times daily limit** for checking their account balance via UPI apps. To increase transaction transparency and reduce fraud, apps will display only the **final beneficiary's name**, and users will no longer be able to edit it. With UPI usage surging across India, these upgrades aim to boost the **efficiency, speed, and trust** in the country's digital payment ecosystem.
- Tata Consultancy Services (**TCS**) has partnered with the **Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)** in **Paris** to automate and optimise its financial reconciliation process. The implementation of **TCS BaNCS™ for Reconciliations** will enable **end-to-end automation**, **real-time insights**, and **AI-driven exception management**. This will lead to reduced **manual intervention**, improved **operational efficiency**, and enhanced **control and transparency** in daily transactions.
- India has granted **operating license to Starlink**, the **satellite internet service by SpaceX**, paving the way for **widespread rural and remote broadband access**. Following this, **Jio Platforms** and **Bharti Airtel** partnered with **SpaceX** to **retail Starlink kits and offer support services**, aiming to connect schools, hospitals, and businesses. While the move aligns with the **Digital India vision**, **spectrum allocation disputes** between **Elon Musk and Mukesh Ambani** highlight ongoing regulatory challenges.
- TVS Motor Company** has entered **Indonesia's electric two-wheeler market** with the launch of the **TVS iQube**, an electric scooter offering a **115 km range** and **78 kmph top speed**. Priced at **IDR 29.9 million**, the scooter will be **assembled locally** in East Karawang and aligns with the Indonesian government's EV adoption goals. As **Indonesia's EV market grows at 101% CAGR**, this marks a **major milestone** for **TVS's global EV expansion**, with the iQube already boasting a **6 lakh global customer base**.
- Jio Financial Services (JFSL)** has acquired **State Bank of India's 17.8% stake** in **Jio Payments Bank** for **₹104.54 crore**, resulting in full ownership of the digital bank. Approved by the **Reserve Bank of India**, the move marks a significant milestone in **Jio's fintech expansion**. Alongside, **Jio BlackRock Mutual Fund** introduced **Aladdin**, a **global risk analytics platform**, to the Indian market. While **JFSL shares dipped 1%**, the company is rapidly strengthening its **digital finance ecosystem** through **strategic collaborations** and acquisitions.
- India has secured the **13th spot globally** in terms of **online investment curiosity**, according to a recent study by **BrokerChooser**. The country logged **2,629 monthly searches per million people**, showing strong interest in **stocks**, followed by **crypto** and **forex**. While India still trails nations like **Australia, Singapore, and Kenya**, the findings reflect a rapid shift in **investment behavior**, especially among **tech-savvy youth**. The rise of **mobile trading apps, SIPs, and digital financial influencers** is redefining how Indians engage with the market.
- India's financial presence in Swiss banks has sharply increased in 2024, with total holdings reaching **CHF 3.5 billion (₹37,600 crore)** — a threefold jump over the previous year. The surge is largely driven by **institutional investments**, while **personal deposits** remain a minor share. Despite regular tax data exchange between India and Switzerland, the issue of **black money** remains under scrutiny. India also improved its global rank among foreign clients of Swiss banks, moving from **67th to 48th** in just one year.
- NPCI's New Real-Time PAN-Bank Account Validation API** aims to **enhance accuracy and efficiency** in tax-related processes by enabling **instant verification of PAN, bank account status, and account holder identity** via a secure **API interface**. Integrated with **Core Banking Systems (CBS)**, this facility ensures **real-time validation** on the **Income Tax e-filing portal**, reducing delays and manual errors. Though targeted at **government departments, taxpayers** benefit from **faster PAN-bank linking**, improved **refund processing**, and greater **data security**, marking a major step toward **streamlined digital governance**.
- From **July 2025**, the **National Automated Clearing House (NACH)** will transition to **NACH 3.0**, offering a more secure, efficient, and transparent framework for recurring financial transactions such as **salary credits, SIPs, EMIs**, and utility payments. With improved features like **PGP encryption, real-time alerts, and optimized file handling**, the new system by **NPCI** is poised to enhance **customer experience, minimize errors**, and handle increased transaction volumes. For both banks and consumers, **NACH 3.0** marks a **significant leap** in digital financial infrastructure.





- The **private sector in India** saw a significant surge in **economic activity** in **June 2025**, with the **Flash Composite PMI** reaching **61**, the highest in over a year. This growth was led by **manufacturing**, supported by **new domestic and international orders**, **rising employment**, and **increased tech investments**. While **input and output prices** continued to rise, they did so at a **moderated pace**, indicating improved cost management. **Capacity pressures** and **backlogs** remained high, prompting companies to hire more, particularly in the manufacturing sector.
- India's **state capital expenditure** is set to reach a record **₹10.2 lakh crore in FY26**, with **Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka** leading the charge. Together, they are expected to contribute nearly **50% of total state capex**, marking a significant shift towards **infrastructure-led growth**. The report highlights improved **revenue receipts**, **fiscal discipline**, and a clear **focus on asset creation**, making India's regional economies key players in driving national development during uncertain global conditions.
- In **May 2025**, **credit card spending** in India jumped by **14.5% year-on-year**, reaching **₹1.89 trillion**, as per **RBI** data. The increase was driven by the issuance of **760,000 new credit cards**, with **HDFC Bank** and **SBI Cards** leading the growth. The total number of cards in circulation rose to **111.19 million**, indicating enhanced **consumer confidence**, a growing shift toward **digital payments**, and rising **retail credit penetration**. This trend reinforces the role of **private banks** in driving the country's **digital consumption economy**.
- In a major boost to **Brand India**, the **Tata Group** has become the first Indian brand to cross the **\$30-billion** mark in brand value, as per **Brand Finance 2025** rankings. It is followed by **Infosys** and **HDFC**, while **Adani Group** has emerged as the **fastest-growing brand**. **Taj Hotels** remains the **strongest brand** with an **AAA+** rating. The rankings reflect India's expanding global presence, with **new entrants** like **Zomato** and **Birla Opus** making their mark.
- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has posted a **42% rise in surplus** to ₹1,552 crore and a **19% increase in revenue** to ₹3,270 crore in **FY25**, marking a strong financial performance. Despite challenges like **UPI outages** and the absence of **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)**, NPCI continues to lead India's **digital payments ecosystem**, managing platforms such as **UPI**, **RuPay**, and **IMPS**. With over **18 billion UPI transactions** in May 2025 alone, NPCI is on track to surpass global giants like **Visa** in daily volume.
- India's **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** has emerged as a **model digital payment system**, as acknowledged in a recent **IMF report**. The study underscores how **interoperability**, supported by **low mobile data costs**, **widespread banking access**, and the **Aadhaar-based digital identity system**, helped the platform scale rapidly. The **IMF recommends** **other nations** seeking a similar transition to adopt a **holistic digital ecosystem**, not just standalone payment platforms. This recognition places **India's fintech leadership** on the global stage and encourages further investment in **inclusive digital infrastructure**.
- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** and **ICAR-NIRCA** have initiated a **training program** for **farmers and FPOs** in **East Godavari**, focusing on **post-harvest technologies** for **turmeric and chilli**. The initiative, launched on **June 25, 2025**, highlights the need for **moisture and microbial control** in spice crops and aims to **enhance value**, **reduce losses**, and improve **export readiness** through **scientific practices and technology adoption**.
- In a strategic move to expand their fuel retail presence, **Adani Total Gas Ltd (ATGL)** and **Reliance BP Mobility Ltd (Jio-bp)** have agreed to **dispense each other's fuels at select retail outlets**. The initiative aims to enhance infrastructure usage and customer convenience while increasing the market share of private players in a sector largely led by public oil companies. This partnership builds upon their earlier collaboration and reflects the growing synergy between India's corporate giants in the energy sector.
- **IFFCO**, India's leading fertiliser cooperative, is set to launch its **first overseas nano fertiliser plant** in **Brazil** through a joint venture with **NANOFERT**. The facility will produce **4.5 million litres of nano nutrients** annually, helping boost yields of crops like **corn, soybean, and sugarcane**. With **field trials confirming 7–10% yield increases** and **20% fertiliser use reduction**, this initiative strengthens India's **global agri-tech leadership** and promotes **sustainable farming**. Future expansions include **nano zinc and copper** variants.
- **India** has launched its **first maritime sector NBFC**, the **Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL)**, inaugurated by **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal**. Aimed at **bridging financial gaps** in the maritime ecosystem, SMFCL will finance **ports, MSMEs, and startups**. The minister also unveiled the **SAGAR SETU platform** for operational efficiency, a **standardised tariff template** for major ports, and the **Gateway to Green** report to advance **green hydrogen adoption**. An **MoU with CDAC** was signed to set up a **Digital Centre of Excellence**, reinforcing India's push for **digital maritime transformation**.
- **JioBlackRock Broking Pvt. Ltd.** has received **SEBI approval** to start operations as a **brokerage firm**, marking a significant milestone in the joint venture between **Jio Financial Services Ltd.** and **BlackRock Inc.** The brokerage arm complements the group's existing **asset management** and **investment advisory** services, furthering its mission to **democratise investing in India**. Through **technology-led, cost-efficient, and digital-first platforms**, JioBlackRock aims to serve **retail and self-directed investors**, delivering a full spectrum of financial solutions under one roof.





- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has levied a ₹1 crore **penalty** on **Edelweiss Life Insurance** for violating **corporate governance** standards. The violations include improper **outsourcing oversight** and failure to obtain **mandatory bank account details** of policyholders. IRDAI's action emphasizes the importance of **regulatory compliance**, **policyholder protection**, and adherence to the **Companies Act, 2013**. This move sends a strong signal to the insurance sector about maintaining **transparency**, **due diligence**, and **accountability** in business operations.
- India has **exported its first consignment** of **rose-scented litchi** from **Pathankot, Punjab**, to **Qatar and the UAE**, demonstrating its rising presence in the **premium**

horticulture market. Supported by **APEDA** and the **Punjab Horticulture Department**, this initiative showcases India's growing **agricultural export** capabilities. With exports of **fruits and vegetables touching USD 3.87 billion** in FY 2024–25, this move reinforces India's ambition to lead in **high-quality fresh produce** globally.

- India's **coffee export sector** has grown **125%** over the past decade, reaching **\$1.8 billion** in 2024–25, fueled by initiatives from the **Coffee Board of India**. The board introduced **digital export permits**, offered **financial incentives** for **value-added** and **specialty coffee**, and encouraged **shade-grown, sustainable coffee farming**. India is now the **5th largest exporter**, with top markets in **Europe, Japan, and the Middle East**.

Defense Current Affairs

Defense Current Affairs of November 2025

MILITARY EXERCISES • TESTING • DEFENCE DEALS • ARMED FORCES NEWS

Category	Name / Event	Venue / Countries Involved	Key Notes / Highlights
Exercise	VAYU SAMANVAY-II	Pune, India	Drone & counter-drone tri-services exercise (Oct 28–29, 2025); improves coordinated air-ground operations.
Exercise	Malabar 2025	Guam – India, USA, Japan, Australia (Quad)	Focus: maritime security, ASW; India deployed INS Sahyadri .
Exercise	Mitra Shakti 2025	India & Sri Lanka	Counter-terrorism, jungle warfare, interoperability.
Exercise	VINBAX 2025	Hanoi, Vietnam	6th India–Vietnam Army exercise; 60 troops each; focuses on UN peacekeeping & Indo-Pacific security.
Exercise	Garuda-2025	France – India & France	IAF deployed Su-30MKI ; deepened air combat cooperation (Nov 16–27, 2025).
Exercise	Ajeya Warrior 2025 (8th Edition)	Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan	India–UK bilateral exercise; counter-terror ops under UN Chapter VII.
Exercise	Surya Kiran 2025 (19th Edition)	Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand – India & Nepal	Runs Nov 25 – Dec 8, 2025; 334 troops each; counter-terror, mountain warfare, drone ISR, disaster relief.
Operation	Operation Akhand Prahar	India – RUDRA Brigade	Showcased AI-enabled warfare, drone swarms & indigenous battlefield tech.
Operation	Op Drishti	Command Hospital, Udampur	Army outreach: 2,000 screened, 400 surgeries; led by Brig. S.K. Mishra.
Exercise	INS Savitri Maritime Activity	Maputo, Mozambique	Anti-piracy, HADR drills under SAGAR doctrine.
Commissioning	INS Ikshak	Kochi, India	3rd Survey Vessel (Large); 80% indigenous; commissioned Nov 6, 2025.
Commissioning	INS Mahe	Mumbai, India	First Mahe-class ASW vessel; advanced sonar, 80% indigenous; commissioned Nov 24, 2025.
Testing	Man-Portable AUVs	DRDO Test Facilities	AI-based sonar, underwater cameras, mine countermeasure capabilities.
Testing	Anti-Drone Laser System (Mark-II)	DRDO → Army & IAF	10-kW laser neutralises drones at 2 km; AI-enabled targeting + radar fusion.
Deal / MoU	India–Israel Defence MoU	India & Israel	Signed at 17th JWG meeting (Tel Aviv); enhances defence R&D & tech cooperation.



Category	Name / Event	Venue / Countries Involved	Key Notes / Highlights
Deal / MoU	India–Vietnam Submarine Rescue Pact	India & Vietnam	Strengthens submarine SAR capability in Indo-Pacific.
Deal / MoU	BEL–Safran JV	India & France	50:50 JV to manufacture HAMMER precision-guided weapons ; 60% indigenisation target.
Deal / MoU	DRDO–GSV MoU	DRDO & Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya	Collaborate on smart defence technologies.
Deal / MoU	BDL–INVAR Missile Deal	Bharat Dynamics Ltd → Indian Army	Indigenous INVAR ATGM supply for T-90 tanks.
Deal / MoU	INS Savitri Joint Training	India & Mozambique	Maritime cooperation, anti-piracy security, and HADR operations.
Navy News	INS Mahe Crest Unveiled	India Navy	Crest features Kerala’s Urumi sword; motto: “Silent Hunters”.
Navy News	Withdrawal from Ayni Airbase	India–Tajikistan	India ended operational presence—strategic realignment in Central Asia.
Navy News	vice Admiral B. Sivakumar	Indian Navy	Appointed Chief of Materiel ; responsible for logistics & warship upkeep.
Air Force	Nyoma Airbase Operational	Eastern Ladakh (23 km from LAC)	High-altitude airbase; ₹218 crore; boosts surveillance & logistics near LAC.
Air Force	Garuda–25 Participation	France – Mont-de-Marsan Air Base	Joint air drills with Rafale squadrons; Su-30MKI deployed.
Army News	Digital Combat Coat (IPR)	Indian Army	3-layer coat by NIFT & Army Design Bureau; improved warmth, mobility & camouflage.
Army News	CDD 2025 (Chiefs of Defence Doctrine)	India	Army unveils military transformation roadmap for “Future Force 2047”.

Defense Current Affairs of October 2025

MILITARY EXERCISES – OCTOBER 2025

Exercise Name	Venue / Participating Countries	Key Notes
Exercise Konkan 2025	Off Western Coast of India (India–UK)	Bilateral naval exercise (Oct 5–12); featured INS Vikrant and HMS Prince of Wales with participation from Norway & Japan ; first combined Carrier Strike Group drill.
10th NATPOLREX	Chennai Coast, India	Conducted by Indian Coast Guard with 40 foreign observers from 32 countries; focused on marine oil spill response and pollution preparedness.
AUSTRAHIND 2025	Perth, Australia	4th India–Australia joint military exercise (Oct 13–26); involved 120 Indian troops from Gorkha Rifles; focused on urban warfare & interoperability .
India–South Korea Naval Exercise	Busan Naval Base, South Korea	First-ever bilateral naval drill featuring INS Sahyadri and ROKS Gyeongnam ; aimed at strengthening maritime security cooperation.
Samudra Shakti 2025	Visakhapatnam, India	5th India–Indonesia maritime exercise under Act East Policy ; enhanced interoperability in maritime domain awareness and anti-submarine warfare.
JAIMEX 25 (India–Japan Maritime Exercise)	Yokosuka, Japan	Conducted Oct 16–17; INS Sahyadri participated with Japanese naval and air units; focused on tactical coordination and regional security .
Ocean Sky 2025	Gando Air Base, Canary Islands, Spain	Multinational air combat exercise hosted by Spanish Air Force (Oct 20–31); India became first non-NATO nation to participate, enhancing aerospace interoperability.
Trishul 2025 (Tri-Services Exercise)	Gujarat & Rajasthan, India	10-day tri-services drill (Oct 30–Nov 8) involving 20,000 troops , Rafale , Sukhoi-30 , T-90 tanks , and Navy frigates ; aimed at joint combat readiness .
Drone Kavach 2025	Arunachal Pradesh	Held Sep 25–28 by Spear Corps , Eastern Command ; focused on counter-drone tactics and was preceded by Mount Gorichen Expedition (6,488 m) .



DEFENCE DEALS & MoUs

Entity / Organization	Partner / Country	Purpose / Details
India & Australia (Defence Ministries)	Canberra, Australia	Signed defence agreements on maritime security, cybersecurity, and technology cooperation under Atmanirbhar Bharat and Indo-Pacific Strategy .
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)	Russia's United Aircraft Corporation (UAC)	MoU signed Oct 27 to manufacture SJ-100 commuter aircraft in India for regional connectivity under UDAN scheme.
Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)	Swan Defence Pvt Ltd	Teaming Agreement (Oct 28) to build Landing Platform Docks worth ₹33,000 crore for the Indian Navy.

ARMY, NAVY & AIR FORCE NEWS

S. No.	News	Details / Highlights
1	ICGS Akshar Commissioned	Fast Patrol Vessel commissioned on 4 Oct 2025 at Karaikal ; built by Goa Shipyard Ltd with 60% indigenous content , top speed 27 knots .
2	INS Androth Commissioned	Second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASWSWC) inducted at Visakhapatnam (Oct 6) ; 80% indigenous content ; fitted with advanced sensors and waterjet propulsion .
3	DRDO Releases IRSA 1.0	Indian Radio Software Architecture launched Oct 6; establishes framework for interoperable military radios with standardized APIs.
4	Indian Army Launches SAKSHAM	Counter-UAS grid developed with BEL Ghaziabad to detect and neutralize drone threats via Army Data Network.
5	Army Contracts for Software Defined Radios	Signed in Oct 2025; first DRDO-designed SDRs to be produced by BEL , featuring MANET communication capability .
6	25 Bhairav Battalions Formed	New elite Army units created for rapid strikes, counter-insurgency, and cross-border operations .
7	UN Peacekeeping Chiefs' Conclave	Hosted by Indian Army in Delhi (Oct 14–16) ; attended by 32 troop-contributing nations; addressed by Rajnath Singh & S. Jaishankar .
8	Titanium & Superalloy Plant Inaugurated	₹1,000 crore facility inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Lucknow to strengthen defence material self-reliance .
9	INS Sutlej Completes Indo- Mauritian Mission	18th Hydrographic Mission completed (Oct 26); surveyed 35,000 sq nautical miles , trained 6 Mauritian officers, aligned with MAHASAGAR Vision .
10	Defence Manufacturing Collaboration (Australia)	India invited Australian defence firms to co-develop aerospace and naval systems and export defence technologies .
11	Indian Coast Guard's NATPOLREX Exercise	National-level pollution response drill with 40 foreign observers focusing on marine oil spill control .

OTHER DEFENCE DEVELOPMENTS

S. No.	Event / Development	Details / Highlights
1	Indian Army Celebrates 199th Gunners Day	Observed on September 28, 2025 at National War Memorial ; commemorates the raising of India's first artillery unit in 1827.
2	BSF Launches AI-Powered Command Centre	Integrated AI & GIS-based Border Command and Control Centre for real-time surveillance, data analysis, and infiltration prediction.
3	Mount Gorichen Expedition	Conducted by Spear Corps in Arunachal Pradesh; demonstrated high-altitude endurance and tactical readiness at 6,488 m .



Defense Current Affairs of September 2025

Military Exercises – September 2025

Exercise Name	Venue / Participants	Key Notes
Yudh Kaushal 3.0	Kameng region, Arunachal Pradesh (India)	Large-scale Indian Army drill with drones, AI tactics, precision strikes, indigenous weapons under Atmanirbhar Bharat.
Yudh Abhyas 2025	Fort Wainwright, Alaska (India-US)	21st edition (Sept 1–14, 2025); focus on arctic warfare, interoperability, multi-domain ops; Indian contingent from Madras Regiment.
MAITREE-XIV	Meghalaya, India (India-Thailand)	120 Indian Army (Madras Regiment) & 53 Royal Thai Army; runs till Sept 14, 2025.
ZAPAD 2025	Mulino Training Ground, Russia (Multilateral)	India sent 65-member KUMAON Regiment (Sept 10–16); focus on interoperability.
All India Thal Sainik Camp 2025	Delhi Cantt, India	12-day NCC camp with 1,547 cadets from 17 directorates; included weapon firing, map reading; Punjab & Karnataka won top honors.
CGGS 2025 (Coast Guard Global Summit)	Hosted by India	Showcased maritime safety; India proposed to host next summit in 2027 (Chennai).
INS Nistar – Pacific Reach 2025	Singapore	India's indigenously designed Diving Support Vessel joined multinational naval exercise.
India–Greece Naval Exercise	Mediterranean Sea (INS Trikan & HS Themistokles)	First-ever bilateral maritime exercise (Sept 18, 2025), included harbor & sea phases.

Deals & MoUs – September 2025

Organization	With	Purpose / Key Notes
DRDO	BHEL, JSPL, SAIL & others	Transferred advanced material technologies to industries, boosting defence self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat).
India–Morocco	Defence Cooperation MoU	Signed Sept 22, 2025; framework for military training, joint exercises, counter-terrorism & maritime security collaboration .
L&T–BEL Consortium	Joint bid for AMCA program	Formed 50:50 consortium to bid for India's ₹15,000 crore Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft program , challenging HAL's monopoly.

Army, Navy & Air Force News – September 2025

- **Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0** conducted in Arunachal showcasing AI-enabled tactics & indigenous weapons.
- **Indian Army contingent** participated in **Yudh Abhyas 2025 (Alaska)** with US Army.
- **Exercise MAITREE-XIV** with Thailand Army began in Meghalaya.
- **Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia (AVSM VSM)** assumed charge as **Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance** at IAF HQ.
- **Indian Navy commissioned INS Aravali**, a major communications & MDA base to boost maritime ops.
- **TASL installed first indigenously integrated Lanza-N 3D radar** on a warship under \$145M deal.
- **INS Androth (ASW craft)** delivered to Navy on Sept 13, 2025; >80% indigenous content.
- **DSC A22 Diving Support Craft** launched at Titagarh, Kolkata – 3rd in 5-ship project.
- **All-Women Tri-Service Sailing Voyage 'Samudra Pradakshina'** flagged off – world's first circumnavigation (26,000 nautical miles).
- **PM Modi inaugurated 16th Combined Commanders' Conference (Kolkata)** – focus on modernization & joint ops.
- **IAF reviewed ₹2 lakh crore Rafale Deal** – 114 Made-in-India jets, 60% local content, Hyderabad MRO hub.
- **Military Education Reform** – Govt to merge tri-services education branches into a unified corps.
- **IDSE celebrated 76th Raising Day**, highlighted defence infra development.
- **First Defence Manufacturing Plant in Morocco** – Tata Advanced Systems Maroc facility inaugurated.
- **First Tri-Services Technology Symposium (T-SATS)** launched by CDS Anil Chauhan with 62 institutes.
- **Project Vijayak** celebrated 15 years – BRO milestone for connectivity in Kargil & Zaskar.
- **CDS Tenure Extended** – Gen. Anil Chauhan to serve till May 30, 2026.
- **Agni-Prime Missile Test** successful from rail-based mobile launcher (range 2,000 km).
- **MiG-21's Final Flight** – IAF's iconic fighter retired on Sept 24, farewell ceremony Sept 26 at Chandigarh.
- **Indian Army Celebrates 199th Gunners Day**: Artillery Regiment observed **Sept 28** with wreath-laying at National War Memorial, marking service since 1827.



- **BSF AI-Powered Command Centre:** BSF launched **AI & GIS-based Decision Support System** to integrate sensor feeds, predict smuggling hotspots, and strengthen **Pakistan & Bangladesh border security**.

Defense Current Affairs of August 2025

EXERCISE

EXERCISE NAME	VENUE / PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES	KEY NOTES
SIMBEX 2025	India-Singapore	The Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy concluded SIMBEX 2025 , held from July 28 to August 1 , with joint exercises in the South China Sea . Featuring ships, aircraft, and professional exchanges, this 32nd edition strengthened maritime security cooperation as both nations marked 60 years of diplomatic relations .
SLINEX-25	India and Sri Lanka	Indian Naval Ships INS Rana and INS Jyoti arrived in Colombo for the 12th edition of SLINEX-25 , a bilateral naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka , aimed at boosting interoperability, maritime cooperation, and exchange of best practices .
Operation Alert		The Border Security Force (BSF) has launched Operation Alert , a high-intensity security drive along the Rajasthan border from August 11 to 17, 2025 , ahead of Independence Day . The operation focuses on strengthening border security , rehearsing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) , and countering potential threats through intensified patrols, technology-driven surveillance, and full force deployment on August 15.
Exercise Bright Star 2025	India-Egypt	The exercise involves live firing, command post exercises, and expert interactions , showcasing the capabilities of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force . This participation emphasizes India's commitment to regional peace, military cooperation, and improving jointness and interoperability with allied nations.

TESTING

- **DRDO** successfully conducted **maiden flight-tests** of the **Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS)** on **23 August 2025** off Odisha's coast. This **multi-layered air defence system**, featuring indigenous **QRSAM, VSHORADS** missiles, and a **laser-based Directed Energy Weapon (DEW)**, demonstrated its capability by **simultaneously destroying multiple aerial targets**, including UAVs and drones. Controlled by a **Centralised Command Centre**, the system's performance was flawless.

DEAL & MoU's

- India received the **final Airbus C-295MW transport aircraft** from **Spain**, completing the delivery of the first 16 planes under the **2021 contract**. The aircraft, capable of carrying **5–10 tonnes** with **11-hour endurance**, will replace the **ageing Avro fleet** of the IAF. The remaining **40 aircraft** will be **manufactured in India** at the **TATA Aircraft Complex, Vadodara**, India's **first private Final Assembly Line for military aircraft**. This programme strengthens India's defence self-reliance under the **Make in India initiative** and marks a **historic milestone in aviation manufacturing**.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, chaired by **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh**, has approved proposals worth **₹67,000 crore** to bolster India's military capabilities. For the **Indian Army**, **Thermal Imager-based Driver Night Sights** for **BMPs** were cleared to enhance night mobility. The **Indian Navy** will procure **Compact Autonomous Surface Craft, BrahMos Fire Control Systems**, and upgrade the **BARAK-1 Missile System**. The **Indian Air Force** will get **Mountain Radars** and upgrades to **SAKSHAM and SPYDER Weapon Systems**.
- The Border Security Force (BSF) has launched **Operation Alert**, a high-intensity security drive along the **Rajasthan border** from **August 11 to 17, 2025**, ahead of **Independence Day**. The operation focuses on **strengthening border security**, rehearsing **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**, and countering potential threats through **intensified patrols, technology-driven surveillance, and full force deployment** on August 15.



- India has cleared a **₹62,000 crore deal** for **97 Tejas Mark 1A fighter jets** for the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**, significantly boosting **indigenous defence manufacturing** under the **Make in India** and **Atmanirbhar Bharat** missions. The jets, with **over 65% indigenous components**, will **replace ageing MiG-21s**, raising the total IAF Tejas Mark 1A fleet to **180 aircraft**. Developed by **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**, the aircraft features **advanced avionics and radar systems**.
- India is partnering with France's **Safran** to domestically manufacture advanced **jet engines** for the **Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**, a fifth-generation fighter jet designed indigenously. Announced by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**, this collaboration aims to develop a new engine with a powerful **110 Kilo Newton thrust**, surpassing current global standards. The project, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security and backed by **DRDO**, is a decade-long effort and part of the Rs 15,000-crore plan to boost India's defense technology and self-reliance in aerospace manufacturing.
- India **successfully test-fired** the **Agni-5 Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM)** on **August 20, 2025** from **Chandipur, Odisha**, under the **Strategic Forces Command**, validating its **operational readiness** and enhancing India's **nuclear deterrence**. The **three-stage, solid-fuelled, canisterised** missile has a range of **over 5,000 km** and can carry **nuclear or conventional warheads**, reinforcing India's **No First Use (NFU)** policy and strengthening its **nuclear triad**.
- The **Defence Ministry** has signed an **MoU with the Quality Council of India (QCI)** to improve **pension, healthcare, resettlement, and welfare services** for over **63 lakh veterans** and their families. Under the agreement, **QCI** will assist the **Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW)** with **digital evaluations, impact assessments, and evidence-based policy recommendations**. The initiative aims to enhance **healthcare delivery, boost employment and entrepreneurship opportunities**, and strengthen **State and District Sainik Boards**.

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ARMY, NAVY & AIR FORCE NEWS

- The **Indian Navy** will commission two advanced **Project 17A stealth frigates**, **Udaygiri** and **Himgiri**, on **26 August 2025** at **Visakhapatnam**, presided over by **Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh**. These frigates, built by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL)** and **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)**, feature significant improvements in **design, stealth, weapons, and sensors**, with around **75% indigenous content**, supporting the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** vision. Notably, **Udaygiri** is the **100th ship** designed by the Navy's **Warship Design Bureau**.

Defense Current Affairs of July 2025

EXERCISE

EXERCISE NAME	VENUE / PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES	KEY NOTES
Jaa Mata'	Chennai Port	The Japanese Coast Guard Ship JCGS Itsukushima reached Chennai Port on July 7, 2025 , as part of the Global Ocean Voyage Training . The six-day visit includes joint training, official meetings, and a sea exercise named ' Jaa Mata '. Senior officials like Captain Naoki Mizoguchi, Vice Admiral Hiroaki Kaosue, and Director General Paramesh Sivamani are part of the engagement. This visit strengthens the India-Japan maritime partnership and supports regional goals like SAGAR and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative .
Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025	Australia	India has taken part for the first time in Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025 , held in Australia from July 13 . This major military exercise includes over 35,000 troops from 19 nations , such as the US, UK, Japan, and France . Activities include live firing, amphibious landings, and air combat drills across various Australian regions and in Papua New Guinea . India's involvement is a key step in strengthening defence ties with Australia and boosting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific .
Prachand Shakti	Meerut, Uttar Pradesh	Indian Army's Ram Division held a high-impact tech demo called ' Prachand Shakti ' at the Kharga Corps Field Training Area in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh . The event highlighted the use of AI-enabled systems, UAVs, autonomous platforms, and loitering munitions in Strike Corps operations . This is part of the Army's ' Year of Tech Absorption ' initiative, aiming to use more Indian-made technology in defence. The demonstration showed how these tools can improve the speed, power, and safety of soldiers in complex missions, supporting the Army's goal of becoming more future-ready and self-reliant .



EXERCISE NAME	VENUE / PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES	KEY NOTES
PASSEX (Passing Exercise)	Mumbai	Indian Navy and the Greek Navy held a PASSEX (Passing Exercise) near Mumbai in the Arabian Sea, led by INS Tarkash and HS Psara. The drill included tactical operations, firing practice, and helicopter landings. This exercise is part of growing India-Greece defence ties, especially after both countries became strategic partners in 2023. INS Tarkash, inducted in 2012, is a Talwar-class stealth warship equipped with BrahMos missiles and is built to handle a wide range of missions. The PASSEX boosted teamwork and understanding between the two navies and marks a step forward in maritime cooperation.
SIMBEX 2025	India-Singapore	India's participation in SIMBEX 2025 marks a significant step in advancing India-Singapore naval cooperation. It reflects India's strategic maritime goals under Act East and SAGAR, involving frontline naval platforms like INS Delhi and Satpura. SIMBEX boosts bilateral interoperability, ensures preparedness for maritime challenges, and paves the way for India's leadership in future events like MILAN and the International Fleet Review, reinforcing a rules-based maritime order and regional stability.
'Bold Kurukshetra 2025'	India and Singapore	India and Singapore launched the joint military exercise 'Bold Kurukshetra 2025' in Jodhpur, focusing on urban warfare, counter-terrorism, and interoperability. The drill uses modern weaponry, real-time simulations, and advanced communication systems, reinforcing defence cooperation under India's Act East Policy. This exercise showcases growing regional strategic synergy and highlights the importance of coordinated action in complex battlefield scenarios.

TESTING

- India has successfully completed user trials of the Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR), a fully indigenous naval weapon designed to detect and destroy enemy submarines, boosting India's maritime defence and self-reliance in defence technology. Conducted from INS Kavaratti between June 23 and July 7, 2025, the trials involved 17 rocket launches across multiple ranges. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh hailed the DRDO, Indian Navy, and domestic defence industry for the achievement, stating it will enhance the Navy's striking power.
- DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully conducted flight tests of the Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) from a Su-30 MKI fighter jet off the Odisha coast. The missile, equipped with an indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker, accurately hit high-speed aerial targets in both tests. This success boosts India's defence strength, supports the 'Make in India' initiative, and reduces reliance on foreign technology.
- The Indian Army's successful trial of Akash Prime at 15,000 feet in Ladakh showcases a major step in enhancing India's indigenous air defence capabilities. With its improved seeker, high-altitude operability, and proven combat role in Operation Sindoor, Akash Prime strengthens India's self-reliance and border defence readiness. The system is poised for future induction and will play a key role in securing India's skies against modern aerial threats.
- India's test-firing of the nuclear-capable Prithvi-II and Agni-I missiles at the Chandipur range validated key operational parameters and boosted its deterrence capability. Developed by the DRDO, both missiles enhance India's nuclear arsenal with their reliable, indigenous design and proven effectiveness, maintaining high standards of military preparedness and strategic security.
- India's DRDO has successfully test-fired the UAV-Launched Precision Guided Missile (ULPGM)-V3 at Kurnool, marking a major boost in drone-launched precision strike capabilities. The 12.5 kg missile, powered by a dual-thrust solid motor, uses infrared imaging for day-night targeting, supports two-way datalink, and offers multiple warhead options. Developed with support from MSMEs, startups, and major firms like Adani and BDL, the ULPGM programme has three variants, with V3 (ULM-ER) being the most advanced. This achievement enhances India's defence preparedness and aligns with Aatmanirbhar Bharat goals.

DEAL & MoU's

- LCA Tejas Mk 1A, powered by GE F404 engines, is vital for IAF's modernisation, with 12 jets to be delivered by end-2025. HAL plans 16 aircraft per year, pending timely engine delivery. Features include AESA radar, EW suite, and BVR missiles like ASTRA. The ₹5,375 crore engine deal and upcoming ₹67,000 crore order highlight the strategic importance of this indigenous programme.



ARMY, NAVY & AIR FORCE NEWS

- Rear Admiral **V Ganapathy** has taken over as the new **Commandant** of the **Military Institute of Technology (MILIT)**, Pune, India's top **tri-services training institute**. His appointment is significant in light of the **armed forces' modernization**, the push for **jointness**, and the growing need for **cutting-edge defence technology** education.
- INS Udaygiri**, India's latest **stealth frigate**, was inducted into the **Indian Navy** on **July 1, 2025**. Built in a record **37 months** under **Project 17A**, the warship showcases **advanced stealth design**, **indigenous weapon systems**, and **multi-mission capabilities** suited for **blue-water operations**. With contributions from over **200 MSMEs**, this induction highlights India's push for **defence indigenisation** and the growing strength of its **naval shipbuilding ecosystem**.
- India has **commissioned INS Tamal**, a state-of-the-art **stealth guided missile frigate**, in **Russia**, representing the **last foreign-built major warship** for the Indian Navy. Built under **Project 1135.6**, Tamal underscores the shift toward **defence indigenisation**, integrating systems like **BrahMos missiles** and **HUMSA-NG sonar**. The vessel enhances India's **blue-water capabilities** and reinforces the **Indo-Russian defence partnership**, having become the **51st ship** built under the collaboration. The **Western Fleet** now gains a powerful asset, while future warships will be **constructed domestically**, propelling India closer to its **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** vision.
- Sub Lieutenant Aastha Poonia**, from **Meerut**, has become the **first woman** to be trained as a **fighter pilot** in the **Indian Navy**. She received the **"Wings of Gold"** at a ceremony on **July 3, 2025**, in **Visakhapatnam**. She will now train to fly fighter jets like the **MiG-29K** and **Rafale M** from aircraft carriers like **INS Vikramaditya** and **INS Vikrant**. This achievement reflects the **Indian Navy's push for gender equality**, and its aim to **promote women's roles in defense and combat aviation**.
- On **July 9, 2025**, the **Indian Navy** received **INS Nistar**, its first **indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel (DSV)**, from **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)** in **Visakhapatnam**. With **75% indigenous content**, **INS Nistar** can perform **deep sea diving up to 300 metres**, rescue trapped submariners using **DSRV**, and carry **ROVs** for operations up to **1000 metres**. This modern ship supports the Navy's underwater missions and reflects the goals of **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India**.
- INS Nistar**, commissioned on **July 18, 2025**, is India's **first indigenous Diving Support Vessel**, designed and built by **Hindustan Shipyard Limited**. It supports **deep-sea diving**, **submarine rescue up to 300m**, and acts as a **mother ship for DSRVs**. With **80% indigenous content**, over **120 MSMEs** involved, and advanced technologies, it strengthens India's **underwater maritime capabilities** and aligns with the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** mission.
- India is enhancing **military surveillance** by sourcing **high-resolution satellite imagery** from **global players** like **Maxar**, following **China's support to Pakistan** during **Operation Sindoor**. The **SBS-III programme** aims to launch **52 satellites** by **2029**, operated by the **Defence Space Agency**, with a **\$3.2 billion budget**. This move ensures **real-time monitoring**, **improved border surveillance**, and **strategic preparedness**, while challenges like **data security** and **external dependency** remain.
- The **Indian Air Force** will retire **MiG-21 fighter jets** by **September 2025**, ending **60 years** of service. These **Soviet-origin supersonic aircraft**, inducted in **1963**, played major roles in wars including **1971** and **Kargil**. Their replacement with the **indigenous LCA Tejas Mark 1A** signifies a move towards **modernization**, despite **challenges like delays** in jet engine supply. The shift supports the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiative and strengthens **IAF's air defense capability**.
- The **Indian Army** has received its **first Apache AH-64E helicopters** from the **United States**, aimed at **boosting firepower** in **challenging terrains**. These **state-of-the-art attack helicopters** feature **advanced targeting systems**, **precision strike capabilities**, and **night operation functionality**. The move enhances **Army Aviation Corps' autonomy**, supports **defense modernization**, and fortifies India's **tactical strength along borders**.
- The Indian Coast Guard's new vessel '**Samudra Prachet**', launched on **July 23, 2025**, is the final **Pollution Control Vessel (PCV)** constructed by **Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL)** to enhance India's **oil spill response** and **maritime pollution control** capabilities within its **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**. With a **displacement of 4,170 tonnes** and **cutting-edge response equipment**, it supports **Aatmanirbhar Bharat**, aligns with **MARPOL obligations**, and represents a milestone in **indigenous shipbuilding** and **coastal environmental protection**.

Defense Current Affairs of June 2025

EXERCISE

Exercise Name	Venue / Participating Countries	Key Notes
Exercise Tiger Claw 2025	India – Garud Regimental Training Centre, Uttar Pradesh Participants: India (IAF Garud Commandos), USA (USAF Special Forces)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First-ever joint special forces exercise between Indian Air Force's Garud Commandos and USAF Special Forces (May 26 – June 10, 2025). Aimed at enhancing interoperability, sharing air-based special operations tactics, and boosting combat readiness. Adds a new layer to India-US military ties beyond Yudh Abhyas, Vajra Prahar, and Cope India.



Exercise Name	Venue / Participating Countries	Key Notes
Exercise Khaan Quest 2025	MongoliaParticipants: Multinational (including India)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India sent a 40-member team, including women soldiers, to this U.N.-mandated multinational peacekeeping drill (June 14–28, 2025). Training includes civilian evacuation, cordon & search, counter-IED ops, and combat medical care. Reinforces India's commitment to peacekeeping and international defense diplomacy.
Cyber Suraksha	IndiaOrganizer: Defence Cyber Agency (Integrated Defence Staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 12-day cybersecurity exercise involving 100+ defence personnel. Includes CISOs leadership conclave, threat simulations, and decision-making drills. Aims to strengthen cyber resilience and promote a cybersecurity-first culture in defence. Will be made a regular initiative by the Ministry of Defence.
Exercise Shakti 2025	France – Camp LarzacParticipants: India, France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th edition of Indo-French military exercise focusing on sub-conventional and counter-terrorism operations. 90-member Indian contingent from Jammu and Kashmir Rifles trained alongside France's 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade. Simulated urban warfare scenarios conducted under UN Chapter VII mandate to improve coordination and readiness.

TESTING

- The **Indian Army** has successfully conducted trials of **Rudrastra**, an **indigenously developed VTOL drone** by **Solar Aerospace and Defence Limited (SDAL)**. The trials, held at the **Pokhran range**, validated the drone's ability to execute **deep-cross border strikes** with **precision-guided airburst munitions**. With a total **range of 170 km**, **1.5-hour endurance**, and **real-time live video relay**, Rudrastra enhances India's **stand-off strike capability**.
- India is developing next-generation variants of the **Pinaka rocket system**, with ranges up to **300 km**, to boost its **artillery strength** and achieve **defence self-reliance**. Developed by **DRDO**, the Pinaka-3 and Pinaka-4 systems will support **precision strikes**, rapid deployment, and **high-volume firepower**. With the successful **trials of the Guided Pinaka** and the Army planning to induct **22 regiments by 2030**, these developments reinforce India's commitment to **indigenization, modernization**, and enhanced **national security**.

DEAL & MoU's

ARMY, NAVY & AIR FORCE NEWS

- In a historic **first visit**, European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) ships — **ESPS Reina Sofia** and **ITS Antonio Marcegaglia** — docked in **Mumbai** from **26 May to 1 June 2025**. The port call featured **Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEEs)**, a **Table Top Exercise**, and discussions with the **Indian Navy** on boosting **maritime security cooperation**. These engagements serve to enhance **interoperability**, reflect the outcomes of the **4th India-EU Maritime Security Dialogue**, and underscore shared interests in tackling **piracy, smuggling**, and **IUU fishing** in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.
- Air Marshal Jasvir Singh Mann has assumed the role of **Senior Air Staff Officer** in the **Western Air Command of the Indian Air Force**, bringing with him a vast range of operational and strategic experience, having served in several critical commands and earned prestigious honours during his decades-long career in the armed forces.
- On **June 1, 2025**, **Shailendra Nath Gupta**, a seasoned officer from the **Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES)**, took charge as the **Director General of Defence Estates (DGDE)**. Having held various leadership positions across **Cantonment Boards, Defence Estates Circles**, and **Commands**, Gupta now oversees **18 lakh acres of defence land**. The **DGDE**, through its six regional commands, plays a crucial role in **land management, urban governance in cantonments**, and **coordination with the Ministry of Defence**.



- The **Tri-Services All-Women Sailing Expedition Team** completed a **historic 1,800-nautical-mile international voyage** to **Seychelles**, marking the **first of its kind** by the **Indian Armed Forces**. The mission, conducted aboard **'Triveni'**, not only showcased the **resilience and operational capability** of women officers from the **Army, Navy, and Air Force**, but also contributed to **India's maritime diplomacy**. Their return on **June 4, 2025**, is a tribute to **Nari Shakti, Tri-services synergy**, and India's **strategic vision** for gender inclusion and oceanic outreach.
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** has commissioned a **dedicated jetty at Vizhinjam Harbour, Kerala**, marking a vital development in India's maritime security network. Inaugurated on **June 7, 2025**, by **DG Paramesh Sivamani**, this **76.7-metre jetty** lies just **10 nautical miles** from key international shipping lanes and aims to strengthen operations related to **coastal surveillance, anti-smuggling, and search & rescue**. The event was attended by high-ranking officials from various defense and maritime bodies. The initiative underscores India's strategic efforts to secure its southwestern coastline and bolster integrated coastal management.
- **Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi** visited **Uttarakhand's Garhwal region** to evaluate the **readiness of deployed troops** and to boost morale. During this visit, he launched **Ibex Tarana 88.4 FM**, a **community radio station** in **Jyotirmath** envisioned to promote **local culture, education, and disaster awareness**. The station aims to empower **youth voices** and connect the people with their **cultural roots**. Additionally, the Army Chief honoured **veterans** for their **nation-building contributions**, marking a notable blend of **military vigilance and community development**.
- **Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai** has been appointed as the new **Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Strategy)**, a key role overseeing **Operations and Intelligence Directorates**, while continuing as **DGMO**, marking a major move in the Indian Army's **strategic leadership** to strengthen **threat anticipation, integrated command, and inter-departmental synergy** through a unified **operational oversight** structure.
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** chaired the **137th Offshore Security Coordination Committee (OSCC)** meeting in **New Delhi** on **June 12, 2025**, to reinforce the **security of India's offshore installations**. Senior representatives from the **armed forces, ministries, ONGC, and state police** discussed enhancing **joint response frameworks and inter-agency coordination**. Established in **1978**, OSCC plays a pivotal role in safeguarding India's **strategic energy infrastructure**, making the meeting a crucial step toward **energy security and maritime safety**.
- In a proud moment for India, a **10-member NCC team**, including **five girls and five boys**, successfully **summitted Mount Everest** on **May 18, 2025**, marking NCC's **third successful expedition** to the world's highest peak. The team was **felicitated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** on **June 12, 2025**, and awarded a **₹10 lakh reward**. The expedition showcased **courage, discipline, and patriotism**, reinforcing the NCC's role in developing **resilient, confident youth**.
- A major marine emergency has unfolded off **Kerala's coast** as the **Singaporean vessel MV Wan Hai 503**, engulfed in flames since **June 9, 2025**, continues to drift with a dangerous cargo of **fuel and hazardous containers**. The **Indian Coast Guard** has deployed multiple ships, aircraft, and salvage teams to control the fire and **tow the ship away from the shore**. Despite reducing the visible flames, **internal fires still pose significant risks**, underscoring the urgent need for continued **aerial, sea, and technical operations** to avert an **environmental and maritime crisis**.
- On **13 June 2025**, the **Indian Navy** executed a **daring aerial insertion** of a salvage team aboard the **burning cargo ship MV Wan Hai 503** using a **Seaking helicopter** from **INS Garuda**. The operation involved connecting the vessel to the **salvage tug Offshore Warrior** and successfully extracting the team post-mission. Supported by **INS Sharda, MV Triton Liberty, and Indian Coast Guard**, the mission highlighted India's **maritime emergency response capabilities**, ensuring the vessel could be safely towed and maritime safety maintained.
- **INS Arnala**, the first of the **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)** series, was **commissioned by the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam** on **June 18, 2025**, in a ceremony led by **CDS General Anil Chauhan**. Built by **GRSE** in partnership with **L&T Shipbuilders**, the vessel showcases **80% indigenous content**, aligning with the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative**. Designed for **coastal and littoral warfare**, it enhances India's **anti-submarine capabilities** and secures the nation's interests in the **Indian Ocean Region**.
- **INS Tamal**, a **stealth multi-role frigate**, will be commissioned on **July 1, 2025**, in **Kaliningrad, Russia**, becoming the **last imported warship** of the **Indian Navy**. Built at **Yantar Shipyard**, the vessel features **BrahMos missiles**, advanced **stealth design**, and increased **indigenous systems**. It is part of the **Krivak class** and will serve with the **Western Fleet**. With **two sister ships** under construction in **Goa Shipyard**, India now pivots firmly toward **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India** in the defence sector.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has taken a strategic step by offering **28 indigenous weapon systems** for **emergency procurement** by the Indian armed forces. These include advanced **missiles, rockets, grenades, and anti-drone technologies**, which were critical in **Operation Sindoor**—India's military response to the **Pahalgam terror attack**. The systems have been categorized for the **Army (14), Navy (8), and Air Force (6)**. Backed by a list of approved vendors from both **PSUs and private firms**, this move supports the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** mission and ensures swift **operational readiness** under geopolitical stress.





Awards & Recognition

Awards & Recognition of November 2025

A) AWARDS IN ARTS & CULTURE / FILMS

Award Name	Award Winner	Field	Key Notes
Dr. Bhupen Hazarika National Award 2025	Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi	Literature / Arts & Culture	Honoured for contributions to Assamese literature; award presented in Guwahati by Jyotiraditya Scindia.
Dr. Bhupen Hazarika National Award 2025	Rajni Basumatary	Films / Social Cinema	Recognised for meaningful regional films & cultural storytelling.
World Peace Award 2025	Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar	Peace & Spiritual Leadership	Awarded by Boston Global Forum & AIWS for global humanitarian work.
Chevalier Award (France)	Thota Tharani	Arts & Literature	Recognised for exceptional contributions to Indian art direction.
Academy Honorary Award (Oscars)	Tom Cruise	Global Cinema	Presented at 16th Governors Awards by Alejandro G. Iñárritu.
Desert Palm Achievement Award (Actor)	Leonardo DiCaprio	Films	Honoured for performance in <i>"One Battle After Another."</i>
Son of the Soil Awards 2025	Sarbananda Sonowal	Culture / Public Service	Presented in Tezpur, Assam.

B) OTHER IMPORTANT AWARDS

Award Name	Award Winner	Field	Key Notes
Manohar Parrikar Yuva Scientist Award 2025	Dr. Sai Gautam Gopalakrishnan (IISc)	Science & Technology	Awarded for innovation in computational materials science.
Padma Awards 2025 (Sports Category)	Abhinav Bindra, Leander Paes, Neeraj Chopra, Gagan Narang	Sports Excellence	Recognised for exceptional contributions to Indian sports.
Guinness World Record	Palak Muchhal	Social Work / Child Health	Record for sponsoring 3,800+ paediatric heart surgeries .
Don Award 2025 (Australia)	Oscar Piastrì	Sports (Formula 1)	Honoured for inspiring the nation through F1 victories.
Lok Nayak Foundation Literary Award 2025	Velamala Simmanna	Literature	₹2 lakh award to be presented on 18 Jan 2026 in Visakhapatnam.
CIMUSET Award 2025	"On the Edge? Climate Change Gallery", Science City Kolkata	Science Communication	Awarded at 27th ICOM General Conference, Dubai.

C) IMPORTANT RECOGNITIONS

Recognition Name	Recipient / Entity	Details
Guinness World Record – Humanitarian Category	Palak Muchhal	Supports highest number of paediatric heart surgeries funded by an individual.
Padma Awards – Sports Excellence 2025	Bindra, Paes, Chopra, Narang	Celebrates India's legendary sports achievers.
World Peace Recognition 2025	Sri Sri Ravi Shankar	Recognised globally for meditation outreach & conflict resolution.
AMBA Accreditation (Global)	IIM Ranchi	Places institute among top 2% global B-schools ; secured 4 Palmes of Excellence .



Recognition Name	Recipient / Entity	Details
GI Tags (November 2025)	Mathura Zari Poshak & Meerut Bugle (UP)	Recognised for cultural craftsmanship & heritage.
International IDEA Chairship	CEC Gyanesh Kumar	To assume Chair from 3 Dec 2025; India trained 3,169 officials from 142 countries.
IITF 2025 Excellence Awards	Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Odisha	Awarded for innovation, sustainability & exhibition quality.
International Tennis Hall of Fame 2026 (Elect)	Roger Federer	Secured over 75% votes ; inducted into ITHF Class of 2026.

Awards & Recognition of October 2025

AWARDS AND HONORS - OCTOBER 2025

S. No.	Award Name	Award Winner / Recipient	Field Organisation /	Key Notes
1	BusinessLine Changemaker Award 2025	DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation)	Strategic Defence Innovation	Won Changemaker of the Year for leadership in indigenous strategic technologies and promoting self-reliance in defence
2	Iconic Changemaker Award 2025	Azim Premji Foundation	Social Development	Recognized for transformative work in education and philanthropy, improving lives nationwide
3	Global Tourism Award 2025	Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department	Tourism & Sustainability	Honoured for innovation in sustainable tourism, eco-friendly projects, and digital promotion campaigns; award presented in New Delhi
4	Andhra Pradesh Tourism Excellence Award 2025	Novotel Vijayawada Varun	Hospitality / Tourism	Declared Best 5-Star Hotel with 233 rooms; presented by CM Chandrababu Naidu to manager Manish Pathak
5	ISSA Award 2025	Government of India	Social Welfare / Governance	Awarded for expanding social security coverage from 19% to 64.3%, reaching 940 million citizens
6	TANSA Award 2022	Prof. R. Arthur James (Bharathidasan University)	Environmental Science	Recognized for sustainable marine research and environmental conservation; includes ₹50,000 prize
7	International Emmy Awards 2025 (Nomination)	Diljit Dosanjh	Acting / Film (Arts & Culture)	Nominated for Best Actor for Amar Singh Chamkila by Imtiaz Ali; film also nominated in TV Movie / Mini-Series category; winners to be announced November 24, 2025 (New York)
8	Diamond Jubilee Silver Trumpet and Banner	President's Bodyguard (PBG)	Defence Honour	Presented by President Droupadi Murmu to commemorate 75 years of post-independence service of India's oldest regiment (est. 1773)
9	Nobel Prize in Medicine 2025	Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaguchi	Physiology or Medicine	Awarded for groundbreaking discoveries on regulatory T cells and Foxp3 gene related to immune tolerance research
10	Nobel Prize in Physics 2025	John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, and John M. Martinis	Physics / Quantum Computing	Received for discovering macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in electric circuits, foundational work for quantum computing
11	MY Bharat-NSS Awards 2022-23	Various Youth Contributors	Social Service	President Murmu honored exceptional youth contributions in social service and community development at Rashtrapati Bhavan, recognizing National Service Scheme achievements



S. No.	Award Name	Award Recipient / Winner	Field Organisation /	Key Notes
12	Nobel Prize in Literature 2025	László Krasznahorkai	Literature	Hungarian author honored for visionary apocalyptic prose and exploration of art's transformative power in contemporary world
13	Nobel Peace Prize 2025	Maria Corina Machado	Peace / Democracy Activism	Venezuelan democracy activist and Súmate founder honored by Norwegian Nobel Committee for nonviolent struggle for democracy and human rights
14	Mrs Universe 2025	Sherry Singh	Beauty Pageant	Indian representative won prestigious title in Manila, Philippines, becoming first Indian to win with advocacy theme of women's empowerment and mental health awareness
15	Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026	IISc Bengaluru (Top Indian Institution)	Education / Research	Released on October 9, 2025; Oxford retained #1 for 10th consecutive year; India ranked 2nd globally with 128 institutions; IISc in 201-250 band
16	2025 International Ranger Awards	13 Forest Rangers from 13 Countries	Wildlife Conservation	IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas recognized rangers for bravery in protecting wildlife and forests; India's Minister Kirti Vardhan Singh praised them as unsung heroes
17	Filmfare Awards 2025	Laapataa Ladies (Kiran Rao - Director)	Film / Cinema	70th Filmfare Awards at EKA Arena, Ahmedabad; won Best Film and Best Director with 13 total wins matching Gully Boy's 2020 record
18	Filmfare Best Actress 2025	Alia Bhatt	Film / Acting	Won Best Actress at 70th Filmfare Awards
19	Filmfare Best Actor 2025 (Shared)	Abhishek Bachchan and Kartik Aaryan	Film / Acting	Shared Best Actor honors at 70th Filmfare Awards
20	Kenton R. Miller Award	Sonali Ghosh (Kaziranga National Park Director)	Conservation / Sustainability	First Indian to receive prestigious award from IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas in Abu Dhabi for community-driven conservation model
21	M3M Hurun India Rich List 2025	Shah Rukh Khan	Entertainment / Business	Became world's first Bollywood billionaire actor with net worth of \$1.4 billion (₹12,490 crore), surpassing Taylor Swift and Tom Cruise
22	Person of Cultural Merit Award (Japan)	Masako Nozawa	Voice Acting / Anime	First voice actor to receive Japan's prestigious award for voicing Son Goku in Dragon Ball and decades-long contribution to anime culture
23	FAO Global Recognition	SAIME Model (Sundarbans)	Agriculture / Environment	Recognized for promoting sustainable shrimp farming, mangrove conservation, and climate-adaptive livelihoods
24	Global Fintech Awards (GFA 2025)	Various Fintech Trailblazers	Fintech Technology	4th edition announced during Global Fintech Fest 2025 at Jio World Centre, Mumbai, honoring exceptional contributions to fintech ecosystem
25	PM-JANMAN Implementation Award	Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD)	Social Welfare	Awarded for exceptional contribution towards implementation of Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan scheme
26	British Academy Book Prize 2025	Sunil Amrith	Literature / History	Indian-origin historian won £25,000 prize for "The Burning Earth: An Environmental History of the Last 500 Years"



S. No.	Award Name	Award Winner / Recipient	Field Organisation /	Key Notes
27	Ursula K. Le Guin Prize	Vajra Chandrasekera	Literature / Fiction	Sri Lankan author received \$25,000 prize for novel 'Rakesfall' exploring power, equity, and humanity
28	Knighthood	James Anderson	Cricket / Sports	England's legendary fast bowler knighted at Windsor Castle on October 28, 2025 by Princess Anne; retired with 704 Test wickets
29	World Food Prize Recognition	Chef Sanjeev Kapoor	Food / Nutrition	Recognized among top agri-food pioneers for nutrition advocacy and promoting bio-fortified crops through 'Nutri Pathshala' initiative
30	Rajyotsava Award	Prof. Ravindra Korisetar	Archaeology / Research	Karnataka honored UGC Emeritus Fellow from Karnatak University Dharwad for 40+ years of prehistoric and geoarchaeological research
31	Grand Order of Mugunghwa	Donald Trump	Diplomacy / International Relations	First American President to receive South Korea's highest honour during ceremony in Gyeongju for diplomatic efforts with North Korea
32	Chemistry Nobel 2025	Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar Yaghi	Chemistry / Materials Science	Honored for pioneering metal-organic frameworks capable of gas capture, chemical storage, and water harvesting applications
33	World's Best Consumer Bank 2025	State Bank of India	Banking / Finance	Received Global Finance award along with 'Best Bank in India 2025' for innovation and customer service

Awards & Recognition of September 2025

Award / Appointment / Ranking	Award Winner / Appointee	Field / Category	Key Notes
Controller General of Accounts (CGA)	T.C.A. Kalyani (1991-batch ICAS officer)	Finance / Governance	Assumed charge as 29th CGA ; 34 years of experience; milestone in women's leadership in fiscal roles .
High Court Judges Appointment	Arun Kumar & others	Judiciary	President appointed new judges to Allahabad & Kerala High Courts ; includes permanent elevation of Additional Judges .
NIRF Rankings 2025	IIT-Madras	Education / Rankings	IIT-Madras retains top spot for 7th consecutive year ; followed by IISc Bengaluru and IIT-Mumbai across 17 categories .
Prof. V.K. Gokak Award	Anand V. Patil	Literature	Bal Sahitya awardee (Kendra Sahitya Academy); to receive award on Sept 7, 2025 in Bengaluru by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan .
National Awards for Teachers 2025	Outstanding Teachers	Education	Celebrated on Teacher's Day (Sept 5, 2025) ; theme: <i>"Inspiring the Next Generation of Learners"</i> ; awards presented by President of India .
Best Director – 82nd Venice Film Festival (Orizzonti Section)	Anuparna Roy	Cinema / International Film	Won for film <i>"Songs of Forgotten Trees"</i> .
Camel International Award (Arabian World Records)	Younus Ahamed	Business Leadership	Palakkad-based NRI businessman; Executive Director, Middle East Dotspace Coworking; honoured in Dubai.



Award / Appointment / Ranking	Award Winner / Appointee	Field / Category	Key Notes
Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards 2025	Cities: Indore, Jabalpur, Agra, Surat	Environment / Air Quality	Recognized under National Clean Air Programme ; ₹1.55 lakh crore mobilized for clean air initiatives.
PV Narasimha Rao Award (Posthumous)	Dr. Manmohan Singh	Politics / Economic Reforms	Honoured for his role in India's economic transformation ; award received by wife Gursharan Kaur.
Inspire Award 2025 – Innovation Contest	Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	Education / Student Innovation	Ranked 1st nationally with 7,403 student submissions , surpassing Bengaluru & Lucknow.
ASME Holley Medal 2025	Baba Kalyani (Chairman, Bharat Forge)	Engineering / Manufacturing	Honoured for advanced manufacturing & supply chain resilience innovations.
NECA 2025 (National Energy Conservation Award – Influencer Category)	BEE Initiative	Energy Efficiency / Digital Content	New award launched for influencers promoting energy efficiency .
77th Primetime Emmy Awards (2025)	Seth Rogen, Cristin Milioti, Jean Smart & shows Severance, The Studio	Television / Entertainment	Held on Sept 14, 2025 ; recognised excellence in acting & series .
India's Official Oscar Entry (2025)	Neeraj Ghaywan's "Homebound"	Film / Best International Feature	Selected as India's Oscar entry ; backed by Martin Scorsese (EP) ; received global acclaim .
Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2025)	Mohanlal	Indian Cinema	Malayalam superstar honored for 4-decade career , 400+ films; award to be presented on Sept 23, 2025 , during 71st National Film Awards.
National e-Governance Awards	Gram Panchayats (Village Councils)	Digital Governance	Recognized at 28th National Conference (Visakhapatnam) for paperless offices, online services, QR/UPI-based systems .
Kalaimamani Awards (2021–23)	Sai Pallavi, S.J. Suryah, Anirudh Ravichander & others	Arts & Culture (Tamil Nadu State Award)	Tamil Nadu govt honored 90 artists across cinema, music, dance, theatre.
Lifetime Achievement Award	Prof. Shyam S. Rai	Seismology	Felicitated by President Droupadi Murmu for pioneering contributions in earthquake studies .
National Honor for Scientists	20 Geoscientists	Science & Research	Recognized for outstanding contributions in geosciences , enhancing India's research excellence.
Agricultural Journalism Excellence Award	Amshi Prasannakumar	Journalism (Agriculture)	To be awarded on Oct 11, 2025, in Bangalore for impactful reporting on farm sector & rural issues .
BusinessLine Changemaker Award 2025	DRDO	Strategic Technologies / Defence	Won Changemaker of the Year for leadership in indigenous strategic technologies.
BusinessLine Iconic Changemaker Award 2025	Azim Premji Foundation	Social Work / Philanthropy	Honoured for long-term impactful contributions in education and social development.
International Emmy Awards 2025 (Nomination)	Diljit Dosanjh	Best Actor – Entertainment	Nominated for role in <i>Amar Singh Chamkila</i> (Imtiaz Ali film); only Indian entry ; winners on Nov 24, 2025 (New York) .


Awards & Recognition of August 2025

Award Name	Award Winner	Field	Key Notes
M.S. Swaminathan Global Award for Food and Peace	Dr. Arenare	Food Security and Peace	Launched by PM Modi to honour scientists from developing countries; Dr. Arenare recognized for fighting hunger in Nigeria
Equator Initiative Award 2025	Bibi Fatima Women's SHG, Dharwad	Biodiversity Conservation	Only Indian group among 10 global winners from 103 countries
Gallantry and Service Medals 2025	1,090 Police, Fire, Civil Defence & Correctional personnel	Public Safety and National Security	Includes 233 Gallantry Medals, 99 President's Medals, 758 Meritorious Medals, mostly to J&K and LWE areas
National Anubhav Awards 2025	15 retired government employees	Public Administration Storytelling	8th edition, marks 10 years of Anubhav Portal, notable one-third women representation
Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2025	Neeraj Ghaywan (Best Film & Director for <i>Homebound</i>)	Cinema and Film Direction	Film explores displacement and emotional return; stars Janhvi Kapoor and others
Miss Universe India 2025	Manika Vishwakarma	Beauty & Pageantry Modeling	Model from Ganganagar, Rajasthan; previously Miss Universe Rajasthan 2024; crowned in Jaipur; will represent India at the 74th Miss Universe in Thailand; praised by Urvashi Rautela & Riya Singha among 50 contestants

Awards & Recognition of July 2025

Award Name	Winner	Field	Key Notes
Honouring Ceremony at Foundation of Future	Radhanath Swami	Spiritual Leadership	Honoured by New York City for contributions to spiritual leadership, community service & interfaith harmony; American-born ISKCON leader.
NASA-NSS Space Settlement Design Contest 2025	S.R.N. Mehta CBSE School, Kalaburagi	Space Science / Education	1st prize for project "IRA" by 11 students; presented at ISDC-2025, Orlando; visited NASA Kennedy Space Center.
Hollywood Walk of Fame (Class of 2026)	Deepika Padukone	Cinema / Global Recognition	First Indian actress to receive a star; celebrated for global success; boosts Indian cinema's global profile.
Tamil Wikki Suran Award	V. Vedachalam	Archaeology / Tamil Epigraphy	51 years in archaeology; supported Keeladi excavations; authored 25 books; public history outreach.
Fisheries Department Excellence Award 2025	Kasaragod District	Fisheries / Aquaculture	Best district in Kerala for sustainable aquaculture; strong inland fish production.
Chintha Raveendran Award 2025	Sarankumar Limbale	Literature / Dalit Writing	Recognised for Dalit literature and social thought; awarded in Kozhikode.
IESA Industry Excellence Award 2025	Telangana (State)	Battery Manufacturing / Green Energy	For leadership in EV policy & energy storage; awarded during India Energy Storage Week.
United Nations Population Award 2025	Varsha Deshpande	Gender Equality / Social Justice	For work on saving girl children, legal reform & Dalit women empowerment; honoured by UNFPA in New York.
Hem Bahadur Malla Award 2080	Kalyan Shrestha	Judicial Leadership	Awarded in Kathmandu for judicial leadership & democracy promotion; includes Rs 2 lakh & certificate.
PEN Pinter Prize 2025	Leila Aboulela	Literature	Sudanese-Scottish author recognised for works on faith, migration & Muslim women's lives.
Kalinga Ratna Award 2024	Dharmendra Pradhan	Public Service / Education	Conferred by President Murmu in Odisha; celebrates contributions to education & cultural unity.



Award Name	Winner	Field	Key Notes
National Geospatial Practitioner Award 2025	INCOIS	Geospatial Technology	For innovative marine GIS use in forecasting, disaster alerts & sustainable resources.
State Kathakali Award 2023	Kuroor Vasudevan Namboothiri	Performing Arts (Kathakali)	Recognised by Kerala for Kathakali excellence.
Pallavur Appu Marar Vadya Puraskaram 2023	Sankara Warriar	Performing Arts (Chenda)	Honoured for mastery in Chenda percussion.
Pallavur Appu Marar Vadya Puraskaram 2023	Mattannur Sankarankutty Marar	Performing Arts (Maddalam)	Honoured for mastery in Maddalam percussion.
Keraleeya Nritta-Natya Puraskaram 2023	Girijadevi	Performing Arts (Koodiyattam)	For contributions to Koodiyattam theatre.
WSIS Prizes 2025 Champion Award	Meri Panchayat App (MoPR & NIC)	E-Governance / Technology	Recognised for multilingual rural governance app used in 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats.
Best Magic Creator 2025 (FISM)	Suhani Shah	Magic / Performing Arts	First Indian to win at FISM; blends magic with psychology & storytelling.
GP Birla Memorial Award 2025	Dr. V. Narayanan (ISRO)	Space Science	Honoured for cryogenic propulsion advances & strategic missions.
PEN Translates Award 2025	Geetanjali Shree (tr. Daisy Rockwell)	Literature / Translation	For <i>Once Elephants Lived Here</i> ; promotes Hindi literature & global cultural exchange.

Awards & Recognition of June 2025

Important Awards

Award Name	Award Winner	Key Notes
Global Leadership Award	Kumar Mangalam Birla	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of the Aditya Birla Group, has been honoured with the Global Leadership Award by the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) at its 8th annual summit in Washington D.C. The award recognises Birla's visionary leadership, which led the group to invest over \$15 billion in the U.S. economy, creating over 5,400 jobs. With a presence in 15 American states, Aditya Birla Group represents one of India's largest global footprints. Birla emphasized a long-term, people-first investment approach.
knighthood	David Beckham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Beckham, the globally celebrated footballer, philanthropist, and environmental advocate, is set to receive a knighthood in the upcoming King Charles III Birthday Honours. Having already earned an OBE in 2003, Beckham's continued dedication to UNICEF, his ambassadorship with The King's Foundation, and his public service mark a transformation from sports icon to national role model. This honour will formally bestow the title "Sir David Beckham", celebrating decades of achievements both on and off the field.
National e-Governance Awards 2025	Rohini Gram Panchayat from Dhule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a groundbreaking achievement, Rohini Gram Panchayat from Dhule, a 100% tribal village, has bagged the Gold Award at the National e-Governance Awards 2025 for its digital governance model. Recognized under the Grassroots Level Initiatives category, the Panchayat has provided over 956 online services, including digital delivery of certificates via WhatsApp and streamlined e-services in health, education, and welfare. This award underscores the transformative potential of Digital India in rural and tribal regions, with Rohini emerging as a national role model for technology-enabled governance.



Award Name	Award Winner	Key Notes
Pardo d'Onore (Honorary award) Leopard	American filmmaker Alexander Payne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 78th Locarno Film Festival, scheduled from August 6–16, 2025, will bestow its highest honour, the Pardo d'Onore (Honorary Leopard award), upon renowned American filmmaker Alexander Payne. Payne, celebrated for his emotionally grounded storytelling in films such as <i>Sideways</i>, <i>Nebraska</i>, and <i>The Holdovers</i>, will also interact with festival audiences through retrospectives and discussions. This tribute places him among a prestigious list of global cinema icons, reaffirming his role as a master of modern humanist cinema.
Food Planet Prize 2025	NitroCapt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swedish startup NitroCapt has won the \$2 million Food Planet Prize 2025 for its green fertiliser technology that eliminates fossil fuels by using plasma and renewable energy to extract nitrogen from air. With the potential to reduce CO₂ emissions by over 90%, the innovation addresses one of agriculture's biggest environmental challenges. As fertilisers contribute to 2.7% of global emissions, NitroCapt's scalable, locally-produced solution could transform food security and climate resilience worldwide.
2025 Skytrax World Airline Awards	IndiGo Airlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a major achievement, IndiGo Airlines ranked 3rd globally in the 2025 Skytrax World Airline Awards under the Best Low-Cost Airlines category, following AirAsia and Scoot, showcasing India's rising stature in global aviation. The Skytrax Awards, often called the "Oscars of aviation", reflect votes from 22.3 million passengers. While no Indian full-service airline made the top 10, IndiGo's efficiency, affordability, and expanding global reach earned it this prestigious international recognition.
Padma Bhushan	Shri Ram Bahadur Rai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Padma Bhushan was awarded to Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, veteran journalist, cultural thinker, and President of IGNCA Trust, in a special ceremony organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs on June 18, 2025. Acknowledging his over 40 years of service in journalism and his active participation in the JP Movement, the event celebrated his impact on Indian media, democracy, and intellectual thought. Through numerous editorial roles, publications, and leadership in cultural institutions, Shri Rai has left an indelible mark on India's journalistic landscape.
Champion of Digital Media Awards South Asia 2025	The Hindu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hindu emerged as the Champion of Digital Media Awards South Asia 2025, winning 10 accolades including four golds for innovations in video storytelling, AI integration, native advertising, and podcasting. Held in Chennai, the event was organized by WAN-IFRA, celebrating digital excellence across South Asian newsrooms. With recognitions in data visualisation, audience engagement, and digital subscriptions, <i>The Hindu</i> solidified its place as a digital leader in journalism. The awards reflect the organisation's collaborative approach and its commitment to tech-driven, reader-centric journalism.
Jury Prize at the Annecy International Animation Festival 2025	Desi Oon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian animation film Desi Oon, directed by Suresh Eriyat, won the Jury Prize at the Annecy International Animation Festival 2025, one of the most respected awards in global animation. Rooted in Indian culture, the film also won at the WAVES Awards of Excellence, was a standout in the Create in India Challenge, and earned a place in MoMA's archive. It has been shortlisted for Cannes Lions, recognized at the AICP Show, and earned accolades like the D&AD Wooden Pencil and Good Ads Matter Golds. Government leaders and animation bodies hailed the film as a milestone in India's journey to becoming a global AVGC-XR powerhouse.
Digital Payments Award 2024–25	India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has been honored with the Digital Payments Award 2024–25 by the Ministry of Finance, marking its leading role in expanding digital financial inclusion across India. Topping the Payments Bank Performance Index, IPPB has leveraged its massive postal network, tech-enabled doorstep banking, and over 2 lakh field agents to deliver banking services in even the most remote areas.



Award Name	Award Winner	Key Notes
JCB Prize for Literature		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The JCB Prize for Literature, once hailed as India's richest and most inclusive literary award, has been discontinued after seven successful editions. Established in 2018, the award not only recognized fiction in English but also celebrated translated works, thus amplifying the reach of regional Indian literature. With prize money of up to Rs 25 lakh for authors and Rs 10 lakh for translators, it significantly contributed to India's literary landscape. The closure, following the deregistration of the JCB Literature Foundation, has shocked the literary community, raising concerns about support for regional languages and emerging writers.

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International)

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of November 2025

Category	Name of Summit / Event / Conference	Venue	Key Points / Highlights
Summit	WAVES – World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (Animation Bazaar)	HICC, Hitex, Hyderabad	Inaugurated by Sanjay Jaju (I&B Secretary); part of IndiaJoy; boosts AVGC (Animation, VFX, Gaming, Comics) ecosystem.
Summit	IndiaJoy 2025 – 8th Edition	HICC, Hitex, Hyderabad	India's largest digital entertainment & gaming summit; attracts global participants; major AVGC platform.
Summit	Summit on Technology, Trust & Trade	—	Inaugurated by Vice President of India; attended by 2,500 delegates from 77 countries ; AP targets USD 0.5 trillion investments .
Summit	India AI Governance Guidelines Launch (IndiaAI Mission)	New Delhi (MeitY)	Introduced India's national AI governance framework for safe, responsible, inclusive AI.
Summit	30th CII Partnership Summit 2025	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Theme: "Technology, Trust & Trade"; inaugurated by VP C.P. Radhakrishnan; 613 MoUs , ₹13.25 lakh crore investments, 16.31 lakh jobs .
Summit	Earth Summit 2025–26	Hyderabad	Focus on rural innovation , sustainability & low-carbon solutions.
Event	IndiaJoy (Entertainment & Animation Festival)	Hyderabad	Supported by I&B Ministry; Asia's major festival for animation, gaming & digital entertainment.
Event	MeitY – India AI Governance Guidelines Public Release	New Delhi	Ensures AI safety, ethics, accountability, auditing & responsible deployment.
Event	Technology, Trust & Trade Summit Activities	—	Showcased India's leadership in digital economy & global cooperation.
Event	3rd International Ayurveda Conference	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Inaugurated by Ambassador Dinesh Bhatia; marks 40 years of Ayurveda practice in Brazil , first South American nation to recognise Ayurveda.
Conference	22nd All India TDS Conference 2025	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	Reviewed Income Tax Act 2025; focused on digital TDS compliance, reforms, transparency.
Conference	6th International Agronomy Congress (IAC-2025)	— (24–26 Nov 2025)	Discussed climate-smart farming, AI in agriculture, precision farming, natural farming innovations.

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of October 2025

Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Summit	11th World Green Economy Summit 2025	Dubai, UAE	Attended by 3,300+ participants from 30+ countries under the theme " <i>Innovating for Impact</i> "; co-hosted with WETEX 2025 ; focused on climate finance , sustainability, and net-zero goals .
Conference	National Conference on Land & Disaster Management 2025	Gandhinagar, Gujarat	Focused on digitization of land records , integration of indigenous technologies for disaster resilience, and improved coordination between authorities.
Summit	Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025	Nationwide (India)	Launched by Ministry of Education engaging 1 crore students (Classes 6–12) ; live innovation event on 13 October 2025 .



Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Conference	68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference	Barbados	Indian delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla ; theme: <i>"The Commonwealth: A Global Partner"</i> ; held 5–12 October 2025 .
Summit	India Mobile Congress 2025	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi	Inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi (8–11 Oct); Asia's largest telecom event with 1.5 lakh visitors, 7,000+ delegates ; focused on 6G, AI, cybersecurity, satellite communication .
Congress	IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025	Abu Dhabi, UAE	India unveiled its first National Red List (11,000 species) and announced Dugong Conservation Reserve in Tamil Nadu.
Assembly	8th International Solar Alliance Assembly 2025	New Delhi, India	Attended by 124 member nations ; focused on accelerating solar cooperation and climate action globally.
Forum	ARISE Cities Forum 2025	New Delhi, India	Adopted Delhi Declaration , uniting Global South cities for urban climate leadership ahead of COP30 .
Festival	Purple Fest 2025	Goa, India	Launched IELTS Training Handbook, ISL Interpretation Certification , and Specialized Sign Language Training promoting inclusivity for persons with disabilities.
Expo	45th GITEX Global 2025	Dubai, UAE	World's largest technology & AI exhibition ; 6,800+ exhibitors from 180+ countries ; India's largest-ever participation (237 exhibitors).
Summit	India–Mongolia Strategic Summit 2025	New Delhi, India	PM Modi & President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa signed 10 MoUs on digital cooperation, culture, and heritage; India announced free e-visas and reaffirmed \$1.7B oil refinery project .
Summit	Uttarakhand AI Impact Summit 2025	Dehradun, Uttarakhand	Inaugurated by MoS Jitin Prasada (MeitY); explored AI's role in governance, education, and sustainable development.
Summit	Sharm El-Sheikh Gaza Summit 2025	Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt	Leaders including Donald Trump, Egypt, Qatar, and Turkey signed "Trump Declaration for Enduring Peace" for Gaza reconstruction; Israel & Hamas absent .
Session	8th Codex Committee on Spices & Culinary Herbs	India	Finalized international standards for vanilla, large cardamom, and coriander ; India now leads Codex standards for 19 spices .
Meeting	Asia-Pacific Aviation Safety Summit (APAC-AIG)	New Delhi, India	Organized by Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) from 28–31 October 2025 with 90 international delegates ; focused on aviation safety & investigation .
Summit	20th East Asia Summit (EAS)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Adopted Kuala Lumpur Declaration , reaffirming ASEAN centrality and peace, stability in Indo-Pacific.
Convention	UN Cybercrime Convention 2025	Hanoi, Vietnam	Signed by 72 nations ; first global treaty against cybercrime , to enter into force 90 days after 40 ratifications .
Summit (Upcoming)	COP30 Climate Summit	Belém, Brazil	Scheduled 10–21 November 2025 ; focuses on forest conservation, carbon markets, and climate finance for developing nations.

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of September 2025

Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Summits	India–China SCO Meeting	Tianjin, China	PM Modi & President Xi met after 10 months; agreed on resumption of direct flights, border trade, Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, tourism visas ; pledged to rebuild trust & cooperate on terrorism, trade & Global South.
Events	Semicon India 2025	New Delhi, India	Inaugurated by PM Modi; showcased India's semiconductor ambitions with 10 projects worth ₹1.5 lakh crore ; participation from 48+ countries .
Summit Conference	AI Impact Summit 2026	India (Exact city TBA)	India to host in 2026 ; focus on AI infrastructure, digital innovation ; linked with finalized DPDP (Digital Personal Data Protection) rules.



Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Food & Sustainability	7th Future Food Forum 2025	Dubai, UAE	Hosted by UAE Food & Beverage Business Group; focus on food security, sustainability, CEPA trade, agri-tech innovation ; UAE targets \$10.9 bn food sector .
Digital Governance	28th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG)	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Adopted Visakhapatnam Declaration 2025 ; stressed AI, cybersecurity, digital inclusion, civil service reforms ; aligns with Viksit Bharat 2047 .
Food Processing & Trade	World Food India 2025 (25–28 Sept)	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	Inaugurated by PM Modi ; features 1700+ exhibitors, 500+ global buyers, 100+ countries ; promotes sustainability, innovation & inclusivity in food systems.

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of August 2025

Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Summit	BIMSTEC Summit 2025	Thailand	PM Modi announced the cultural initiative 'SaptaSur'; promotes regional unity through arts and culture among BIMSTEC nations.
Event	BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival – 'SaptaSur'	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	Organized by ICCR; inaugurated by EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar; features performers from 7 BIMSTEC nations; enhances regional cultural diplomacy.
Conference	M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International Conference	New Delhi	Inaugurated by PM Modi; themed " Evergreen Revolution – The Path to Bio-Happiness "; honors Dr. Swaminathan's contributions to agriculture and food security.
Workshop	WHO–IRCH Workshop on Herbal Medicine Safety & Regulations	Hotel Fortune, Ghaziabad	Held from Aug 6–8, 2025 ; organized by Ministry of Ayush and WHO; attended by 15+ countries including USA, Japan, Brazil; focuses on global herbal medicine safety.
Initiative	Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI) Strategic Plan	Ramsar COP15 (Global Platform)	Developed by Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam with IUCN; aims to protect wetlands, build resilience, and conserve biodiversity across borders till 2030.
Summit	SEMICON India 2025 (4th edition)	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi	Inaugurated by PM Modi on 2 Sept 2025 ; Theme: "Building the Next Semiconductor Powerhouse"; 350+ exhibitors, 50+ global CXOs, 33 nations; organized by SEMI & India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) under MeitY; focus on fabs, packaging, AI, smart manufacturing, design innovation
Leadership	India elected Chairman of Executive Board, AIBD	23rd General Conference, Phuket, Thailand	India re-elected to chair after 2016; AIBD (est. 1977 under UNESCO) has 92 members from 45 nations; theme: "Media for People, Peace & Prosperity"; reinforces India's leadership in Asia-Pacific broadcasting cooperation & policy-making
International Parliamentary Meet	68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC), 2025	Barbados (Oct 5–12, 2025)	Led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla ; delegation includes Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh; discussions on democracy, tech in governance, climate change, financial transparency & multilateralism; Birla to address General Assembly on " <i>The Commonwealth: A Global Partner</i> "; youth roundtable on cyber-bullying & gang violence.
Defence Medicine /	MILMEDICON-2025 (International Military Medicine Conference)	Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi	Inaugurated by Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth ; organized by DGMS (Army); part of Indian Army's <i>Year of Reforms</i> ; focus on innovations, challenges & reforms in military medicine; themes: trauma care, AI in healthcare, battlefield response, women in combat leadership; marks Centenary of Military Nursing Service celebrating <i>Nari Shakti</i> .



Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of July 2025

Here's your table simplified with **only key bullet points** and without unnecessary repetition:

Category	Event	Venue	Key Points
Summits	ASEAN–India Cruise Dialogue	Chennai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First ASEAN–India Cruise Dialogue hosted by India. 30+ delegates from ASEAN & Timor Leste. Promote maritime cooperation & sustainable cruise tourism. Linked to Sagarmala, Act East Policy & Viksit Bharat 2047. Aim: Make India a regional cruise hub.
Summits	17th BRICS Summit	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PM Modi called for reforms in UN, IMF, World Bank, WTO. Condemned terrorism; referred to April 2025 Pahalgam attack. Supported peace via dialogue in West Asia & Europe conflicts. Proposed: BRICS Science Repository, mineral supply chain security, responsible AI. 'Rio Declaration' adopted on global reforms & technology.
Summits	11th India Maize Summit	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched plan for Maize Revolution. Promote research, technology, and field programs. UP's success under Accelerated Maize Development Program. Maize key for ethanol, livestock feed, climate-smart farming. Goal: Make India a global maize leader.
Conference	National Conference of Urban Local Bodies	Manesar, Gurugram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First ULB Chairpersons' conference. Focus: democratic governance, inclusive growth, women empowerment. Strengthening grassroots institutions & participatory democracy.
Conference	Global Conference on Manuscript Heritage	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First global meet on manuscript heritage (Sept 11–13, 2025). Theme: "Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy." 500+ delegates, rare exhibitions, digitisation & AI archiving sessions. Linked to Swami Vivekananda's 1893 speech anniversary.
Conference	Trade Facilitation Conference 2025	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme: "Scientific Excellence for Seamless Trade." Focus on improving testing infrastructure. 400+ participants from trade & industry. Aim: Boost trade efficiency, compliance & economic growth.

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International) of June 2025

Category	Event	Key Points
Events	first Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India hosted the first Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) in New Delhi, establishing a global coalition for the conservation of seven major big cat species. Chaired by Bhupender Yadav, the meeting saw the endorsement of governance frameworks and leadership roles, uniting nine participating countries. The IBCA, launched in March 2024, seeks to drive international cooperation, knowledge exchange, and financial support to protect biodiversity and habitats across 95 range nations. The event marked a significant milestone in India's vision of global ecological stewardship.



Category	Event	Key Points
Conference	National Conference on Agri Stack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Conference on Agri Stack, held on June 13, 2025, marked a significant step in India's digital agriculture journey. With the launch of ₹6,000 crore funding, DigiLocker-linked DVCs, AI-powered chatbots, and grievance redressal systems, the Centre reaffirmed its commitment to data-driven governance. States like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Karnataka shared innovative use cases, reflecting collaborative efforts to enhance scheme delivery, credit access, and farmer identity authentication.
Conference	Bonn Climate Change Conference 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bonn Climate Change Conference 2025, held from June 16 in Bonn, Germany, is a vital UNFCCC technical meeting bringing together over 5,000 stakeholders to lay the groundwork for decisions at the next COP summit. It focuses on operational aspects like the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), climate finance, loss and damage, technology transfer, and NDC monitoring. Led by the SBI and SBSTA, the conference plays a key role in ensuring scientific rigor, accountability, and policy readiness in global climate governance.
Conference	Indian Conservation Conference (ICCON) 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian Conservation Conference (ICCON) 2025, hosted at the Wildlife Institute of India in Dehradun from 25–27 June, is India's leading forum for biodiversity conservation and environmental policy. Inaugurated by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, the event convenes over 500 delegates from across India and the Global South, highlighting platforms like TechBridge for wildlife innovation. Organised by the MoEFCC, ICCON 2025 promotes interdisciplinary dialogue, supports youth and equitable participation, and reaffirms India's role as a leader in global conservation science.

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports)

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on November 2025

Topic / Report / Index	Details / Highlights	Additional Notes
Visa Mobility Ranking 2025	India ranked 85th with 57 visa-free destinations ; Singapore ranked 1st globally .	Indicates global mobility gap and passport strength comparison.
Climate Risk Index 2025 (Germanwatch)	India improved to 38th position , showing enhanced climate resilience & disaster preparedness.	Reflects better climate adaptation measures.
Asia Happiness Index 2025	Mumbai ranked 1st in Asia , with 94% residents reporting high happiness.	Recognised for culture, community bonding & urban quality of life.
Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) – India Insights Briefing	India ranked 3rd globally with 65 clean energy industrial projects (after China & USA).	Shows India's rising momentum in clean manufacturing.
16th Finance Commission Report Submission	Submitted tax devolution recommendations (2026–27 to 2030–31) to President Murmu.	Report becomes public after Parliament tables it under Article 281.
75th NSS Anniversary – MoSPI Ceremony	Held in Udaipur ; released NIC 2025 , coffee table book, 'Stories' journal, Data Innovation Lab Portal & NSO Anthem.	Celebrates 75 years of National Sample Survey operations.
Report: Water Budgeting in Aspirational Blocks	Released by Dr. V.K. Paul (NITI Aayog) in New Delhi.	Supports improved water management practices in key districts.



Topic / Report / Index	Details / Highlights	Additional Notes
AIM – CFA Institute India Partnership (Sol)	Signed to promote financial literacy, ethical governance & decision-making in India's innovation ecosystem.	Strengthens startup & innovation ecosystem ethics.
Global Passport Mobility 2025	Singapore ranked 1st ; India at 85th with 57 visa-free destinations .	Indicates relative ease of global travel.
Forbes Real-Time Billionaires List (Nov 2025)	Larry Page became world's 2nd-richest with USD 255 bn , surpassing Larry Ellison (USD 247.4 bn).	Global wealth ranking update.
Kharif Crop Production – 1st Advance Estimates (2025–26)	Released by Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan; projected rise of 3.87 MT , total 173.33 MT .	Indicates improved agricultural performance for the season.

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on October 2025

Category	Report / Title	Submitted By / Source	Key Notes
Ranking	Hurun India Rich List 2025	Hurun India	Mukesh Ambani tops with ₹9.55 lakh crore net worth; Gautam Adani second; Roshni Nadar becomes India's richest woman .
Ranking	India's Billionaire Actors List 2025	Forbes / Industry Reports	Shah Rukh Khan becomes India's first billionaire actor (₹12,000 crore); followed by Juhi Chawla , Hrithik Roshan , Karan Johar , Amitabh Bachchan , Akshay Kumar .
Report	Crime in India Report 2023	National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)	Manipur tops violent crime cases with 14,427 incidents (20× rise from 2022), including 5,421 riots and 6,203 arson cases linked to Meitei–Kuki conflict.
Environmental Report	World Heritage Outlook 4 (2025)	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	Warns that 43% of Natural World Heritage Sites face threats from climate change, invasive species, and wildlife diseases ; calls for Indigenous leadership in conservation.
Index	Henley Passport Index 2025	Henley & Partners	Singapore tops (193 destinations) ; India ranks 85 , China 64 , Bhutan 89 , Pakistan 106 , Afghanistan 110 — reflecting visa policy shifts.
Index	State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) 2025	Ministry of Mines, Government of India	Assesses mineral governance & transparency ; Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat lead among mineral-rich states.
Environmental Report	Global Forest Resource Assessment (GFRA) 2025	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations	India ranks 9th globally with 72.74 million hectares (2%) forest cover; up from 10th earlier. Russia (20%), Brazil (12%), Canada (9%) lead globally.

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on September 2025

Rank / Report Name	Submitted By	Key Notes / Highlights
Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India ranked 38th (score: ~40.5), up from 48 in 2020. - #1 among lower-middle-income economies & in Central & Southern Asia region. - Top 10 Countries: Switzerland (66), Sweden (62.6), USA (61.7), Korea (60), Singapore (59.8), UK (59.1), Finland (57.7), Netherlands (57), Denmark (56.9), China (56.6). - India's strengths: Knowledge & Technology Outputs (#22), Market Sophistication (#38), Human Capital & Research (Top 40). - India's weaker areas: Business Sophistication (#64), Infrastructure (#61), Institutions (#58). - Covers 139 countries, 80+ indicators across 7 pillars (Institutions, Human Capital, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Business sophistication, Knowledge & technology outputs, Creative outputs).



Rank / Report Name	Submitted By	Key Notes / Highlights
Bloomberg Billionaires Index (Sept 11, 2025)	Bloomberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Larry Ellison (Oracle co-founder & CTO) briefly overtook Elon Musk as world's richest. - Ellison's net worth: \$383.2B (+\$89B in one day, biggest single-day gain ever). - Musk reclaimed top spot: \$384B (held top spot 16 months, crossed \$400B in 2024). - Top 10 Richest (Sept 2025): 1. Musk \$384B, 2. Ellison \$383B, 3. Zuckerberg \$264B, 4. Bezos \$252B, 5. Larry Page \$210B, 6. Sergey Brin \$196B, 7. Ballmer \$172B, 8. Arnault \$162B, 9. Jensen Huang \$154B. - Indian Billionaires: Mukesh Ambani (#18, \$97.9B, +\$7.26B YTD); Gautam Adani (#21, \$80.9B, +\$2.19B YTD).
NIRF Rankings 2025 (10th Edition)	Ministry of Education (India)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Released on 4 Sept 2025. - Overall Top 10: 1. IIT Madras, 2. IISc Bengaluru, 3. IIT Bombay, 4. IIT Delhi, 5. IIT Kanpur, 6. IIT Kharagpur, 7. IIT Roorkee, 8. AIIMS Delhi, 9. JNU Delhi, 10. BHU Varanasi. - Engineering (Top 10): IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Roorkee, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Guwahati, NIT Trichy, IIT (BHU) Varanasi. - Management (Top 10): IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Bangalore, IIM Kozhikode, IIT Delhi, IIM Lucknow, IIM Mumbai, IIM Calcutta, IIM Indore, MDI Gurugram, XLRI Jamshedpur. - Other Categories: Architecture & Planning (IIT Roorkee #1), Pharmacy (Jamia Hamdard #1), Colleges (Hindu College #1), Law (NLSIU Bengaluru #1), Universities (IISc #1), Medical (AIIMS Delhi #1), Dental (AIIMS Delhi #1), Agriculture (IARI Delhi #1), Research (IISc #1), Innovation (IIT Madras #1), Open Universities (IGNOU #1), SDG Institutions (IIT Madras #1), Skill Universities (Symbiosis Skills Pune #1). - Key Statements: Edu Minister Dharmendra Pradhan linked to <i>Viksit Bharat 2047</i>, proposed One Nation, One Data policy, suggested entrepreneurship as ranking parameter. - Parameters: Teaching & Resources, Research, Graduation Outcomes, Outreach & Inclusivity, Perception.
Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025	Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19th edition; ranked 163 countries. - India's Rank: 115th (score: 2.229), unchanged from 2024. - Top Global 10: 1. Iceland (1.095), 2. Ireland, 3. New Zealand, 4. Austria, 5. Switzerland, 6. Singapore, 7. Portugal, 8. Denmark, 9. Slovenia, 10. Finland. - Asia Top 10: Singapore (1.357), Japan (1.440), Malaysia (1.469), Bhutan (1.536), Mongolia (1.719), Vietnam (1.721), Taiwan (1.730), South Korea (1.736), Timor-Leste (1.758), Laos (1.783). - Highlights: Singapore #6 globally, safest in Asia. India struggles with border tensions, urban safety, internal security challenges.
UDISE+ Report 2024–25	Ministry of Education (India)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launched in 2018–19, tracks school education. - Teachers: Crossed 1 crore teachers (+6.7% vs 2022–23); improved PTR – Foundational 10:1, Preparatory 13:1, Middle 17:1, Secondary 21:1 (all within NEP 2020 target of 30:1). - Dropouts: Preparatory 3.7%→2.3%; Middle 5.2%→3.5%; Secondary 10.9%→8.2%. - Enrolment: GER – Middle 90.3%, Secondary 68.5%; transition rates improved. - Schools: Single-teacher schools reduced from 110,971 → 104,125; Zero-enrolment schools reduced from 12,954 → 7,993. - Infrastructure: Electricity 93.6%, Water 99.3%, Handwashing 95.9%, Computers 64.7%, Internet 63.5%, Accessibility ramps/rails 54.9%. - Gender Equity: Female teachers 54.2%, Girls enrolment 48.3%. Shows progress towards inclusive education under NEP 2020 goals.



Rank / Report Name	Submitted By	Key Notes / Highlights
Forest Accounts 2025	MoSPI (Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation), released during 29th CoCSSO, Chandigarh	Based on UN SEEA framework ; India's forest cover rose by 17,444.61 sq. km (2010–11 to 2021–22) , now 21.76% of land area . Highest gains in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu . Usable wood stock rose 7.32% (305.53 MCM) led by MP, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andaman & Nicobar. Provisioning services value ₹37,930 cr; regulating services ₹6.20 lakh cr (51.82% rise) = 2.63% of GDP . Supports Net-Zero 2070 goal .
Children in India 2025 (4th Edition)	MoSPI, released at CoCSSO, Chandigarh	Covers health, nutrition, education, protection, SDGs ; new indicators on digital usage, adoption, child deaths . Infant Mortality Rate fell from 44 (2011) → 25 (2023) . Dropout rates declined (secondary = 8.2% in 2024–25). Gender parity achieved (GPI 1.1) at secondary level. Child marriage declined (26.8% → 23.3%). 4,515 adoptions in 2024–25 , mostly in-country & female. Provides QR-linked datasets for evidence-based policy.

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on August 2025

Report Name / Ranking	Submitted By / Source	Key Notes
Unlocking a \$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India	NITI Aayog (released by Shri Rajiv Gauba)	Highlights India's EV sales growth (50,000 in 2016 → 2.08 million in 2024); targets 30% EV penetration by 2030 ; stresses cross-sector collaboration & data-driven policies to unlock \$200 bn EV opportunity. (Released on 4 Aug 2025)
India becomes World's 5th Largest Aviation Market (2024)	International Aviation Data (2024 report)	Carried 241 million passengers in 2024 (11.1% growth YoY); Mumbai–Delhi route ranked 7th globally ; premium travel up 11.8%; aircraft dominance: Boeing B737 & Airbus A320.
Housing Price Index (HPI) – Q1 2025	Housing.com–ISB	HPI rose 8 points YoY to 132 (March 2025) across 13 major cities; reflects healthy consolidation; driven by cautious buyers, supply adjustments, and global headwinds; foundation for sustainable growth.
Forest Cover Study (2015–2019)	IIT Bombay	India lost 18 sq km forest for every 1 sq km gained ; all states saw net loss; >50% new forests fragmented and ecologically weak; calls for prioritizing continuous, connected forests for biodiversity.
Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways	NITI Aayog + IAMAI	Strategic roadmap for homestays/BnBs; focus on local entrepreneurship, cultural tourism, light-touch regulations, safety & sustainability ; emphasizes digital integration & public-private collaboration.
Report on Criminal Records of Chief Ministers (2025)	Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)	40% of CMs face criminal cases ; 12 out of 30 CMs declared cases; Telangana CM Revanth Reddy (89 cases) & TN CM MK Stalin (47 cases) top list; 33% face serious charges (murder attempt, bribery, kidnapping).

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on July 2025

Topic / Report	Key Data & Achievements
Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2025: Top 10 Countries	Top countries by unicorn count: 1. United States – 758 (San Francisco, New York, Boston, Austin) 2. China – 343 (Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou) 3. India – 64 (Bengaluru, Mumbai, Gurugram) 4. UK – 61 (London) 5. Germany – 36 (Berlin) 6. France – 30 (Paris) 7. Canada – 28 (Toronto) 8. Israel – 20 (Tel Aviv) 9. South Korea – 18 (Seoul) & Singapore – 18 (Singapore). Notes: USA & China host 72% of global unicorns; San Francisco is the "Unicorn Capital." India ranks 3rd with startups like Zerodha, Dream11, Razorpay.
India's Under-Five Mortality & Immunization Progress	UN IGME 2024: India achieved a 78% reduction in under-five mortality (global avg: 61%). Neonatal mortality down 70%. Key drivers: Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), outreach to underserved areas. Significant drop in zero-dose children. Supports progress toward SDGs.
Prajakta Koli in TIME100 2025	Prajakta Koli (<i>MostlySane</i>) – only Indian on 2025 TIME100 Creators List. 7M+ YouTube subscribers, Netflix & Bollywood roles, debut novel, collaborations with UN & WEF. She thanked her fans and her younger self.



Topic / Report	Key Data & Achievements
Forbes: African-Born US Billionaires 2025	Forbes (Jul 13, 2025): 8 African-born billionaires among America's 125 richest immigrants. Countries: South Africa (Elon Musk, Patrick Soon-Shiong, Rodney Sacks), Nigeria, Egypt, Morocco, Kenya. Immigrant billionaires = 14% of US-based billionaires, controlling 18% of total wealth. Elon Musk is world's richest at \$393.1B. Most are self-made.
India's Most Polluted & Cleanest Cities 2025	CREA report (Jan–Jun 2025): Most polluted: Byrnihat & Delhi ($PM_{2.5} > 40 \mu g/m^3$). 259 of 293 cities already exceed safe annual limit. Cleanest city: Aizawl, Mizoram. Highlights urgent pollution control need.
QS Best Student Cities 2026	Delhi – world's most affordable student city. Mumbai (98th), Delhi (104th), Bengaluru (108th), Chennai (128th) improved ranks. Reflects India's strength in affordability, employability, and academic quality per NEP 2020.
Hurun India U30 List 2025	79 under-30 entrepreneurs recognized (e.g., Zepto founders). Raised \$5.2B+, created 64,000+ jobs. Mostly first-generation founders across software, FMCG, fintech. Highlights India's rising young entrepreneurial spirit.
World Bank: Indian Urbanization Risks 2025	Cities to generate 70% of new jobs by 2030, but climate risks (heat, floods) may cause \$5B annual loss by 2030. \$2.4T needed for resilient infrastructure by 2050. High-risk cities: Delhi, Chennai, Surat, Lucknow. Success stories: Ahmedabad, Indore, Kolkata.
CSMIA Among Top 10 Airports 2025	Travel + Leisure 2025: Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport ranked in world's top 10. Reader score: 84.23. Handles 55M+ passengers/year, 121 destinations. Best single-runway airport. Repeated winner for 3 years; recent digital upgrades.
Henley Passport Index India Ranking 2025	India rose from 85th to 77th globally – biggest rise. Visa-free/VOA access to 59 countries (Malaysia, Thailand, Maldives, Sri Lanka, etc.). Reflects stronger diplomacy. Still behind leaders like Singapore (193 destinations).
World Bank: India Gini Index & Poverty Progress	Gini Index 2025: India is 4th most equal globally (score: 25.5) ahead of China (35.7) & US (41.8). Extreme poverty down to 2.3% (from 16.2% in 2011–12); \$3/day poverty at 5.3%. 171M lifted out of poverty in 12 years. Key schemes: Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, DBT, Ayushman Bharat, Stand-Up India, PMGKAY.
NITI Aayog SDG Index NE Districts 2023–24	2nd edition (Jul 7, 2025): 121 districts assessed; 85% improved SDG score. Best: Hnathial (Mizoram) – 81.43. Lowest: Longding (Arunachal) – 58.71. All Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura districts = "Front Runners." Sikkim had most consistent scores.

List/Indexes (Ranks & Reports) on June 2025

RANKINGS

Rank Category	Details
IGIA Airport (Delhi)	Ranked among top 10 hub airports in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East by Airports Council International (ACI APAC & MID) . Only Indian airport in the list; connects to 153 destinations.
Mumbai (Data Centres)	Ranked 6th globally and 1st in Asia-Pacific for under-construction data centre capacity , per Cushman & Wakefield 2025 . 335 MW capacity under development.
India – Global Gender Gap Report 2025	Ranked 131st out of 148 countries with a gender parity score of 64.1% in WEF's Global Gender Gap Report 2025 . Dropped due to lower female political representation.
India – THE Impact Rankings 2025	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (41) and LPU (48) led India's 135 entries. JSS Academy and Shoolini University also in top 100. Ranked for UN SDGs performance.
India – Energy Transition Index 2025	Ranked 71st globally , falling from 63rd, per World Economic Forum . Improvement in clean energy and efficiency, but gaps in energy equity and grid reliability.
India – Global SDG Index 2025	Ranked 99th with a score of 67 in the UN Sustainable Development Goals Index . First time in top 100. Progress in healthcare, digital access, and infrastructure.
India – Power Generation Growth (IEA)	3rd highest growth in global power generation capacity over the last five years, driven by urbanization, industrial growth, and renewable energy (esp. solar).
India – 360 ONE Wealth Creators List 2025	Highlighted young entrepreneurs under 40. Dominated by Ambani siblings , Nikhil Kamath , and Bhavish Aggarwal . Total wealth nearing ₹100 trillion.
India – TRAI Telecom Report Q1 2025	1.2 billion total subscribers. ₹98,250 crore gross revenue . High ARPU, surge in data consumption. Strong 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) growth.



REPORTS

Report Name	Submitted By	Key Notes
34th CPGRAMS Report (May 2025)	DARPG	78,123 complaints resolved; UP leads in complaints received/disposed. 2 lakh pending grievances; 28,000+ officers trained under Sevottam.
SIPRI Yearbook 2025	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)	India expanding nuclear arsenal and delivery systems. Global nuclear total: 12,241 warheads; US & Russia hold 90%. Warning of renewed arms race.
WMO Climate Report 2024	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	Asia warming twice as fast as the global rate. India faced extreme heat, glacial melt, and cyclones. Urges climate adaptation and early warning systems.
India's Data Imperative – Future Front Report	NITI Aayog	Highlights poor data quality in governance. Recommends improved accuracy, integration, and standardization to enhance public service delivery.
Sustainable Development Report 2025	UN SDG Network	India ranks 99th. Only 17% of global SDG targets are on track. South and East Asia show fastest progress toward Agenda 2030.

Books & Authors

Books & Authors of November 2025

Event / Book	Details	Additional Information
Release of Hindi Translation of "The Last Day"	Sahitya Akademi released the Hindi translation "Antim Din" at Rabindra Bhawan, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Embassy of Lithuania.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original Author: Jaroslavas Melnikas (Lithuanian–Ukrainian). • Translator: Dr. Poonam Tiwari. • Pages: 250. • Ministry: Ministry of Culture. • Purpose: Wider Indian readership.
Booker Prize 2025 Shortlisted Novel – "The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny"	Novel by Kiran Desai shortlisted for Booker Prize 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme: Emotional complexity of modern life, love, longing, displacement. • Setting: Bridges India & America; explores tradition vs modernity and generational connections.

Books & Authors of October 2025

Book Name	Author	Key Notes
They Will Shoot You, Madam	Harinder Baweja	A compelling memoir chronicling 40 years of conflict reporting , providing deep insights into India's modern history, insurgencies, and war journalism .
Mahatma Gandhi and the Environment: Analysing Gandhian Environmental Thought	T.N. Khoshoo	Explores Gandhi's ecological philosophy , emphasizing sustainability, rural development, and climate-conscious living ; connects Gandhian values to modern environmental challenges .
Ready, Relevant and Resurgent II: Shaping a Future Ready Force	General Anil Chauhan (Chief of Defence Staff)	Released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh ; outlines India's strategy for a technologically advanced and integrated defence force to meet future security challenges.
Civil-Military Fusion as a Metric of National Power and Comprehensive Security	Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla (Retd.)	Released at United Service Institution of India (USI), New Delhi ; focuses on integrating defence and civil sectors for national security and innovation synergy.
Sivam Subham: The Biography of a Couple	B.K. Harinarayanan	A biography of M.S. Subbulakshmi and T. Sadasivam ; celebrates their contribution to Indian classical music and cultural heritage ; published by Current Books (Malayalam) .
Modi's Mission	Berjis Desai	Launched by Governor Acharya Devvrat in Mumbai ; highlights Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governance philosophy, leadership journey, and development vision for India.


Books & Authors of September 2025

Book Name	Author	Key Notes
Rocket Dreams	Christian Davenport	Explores billionaire rivalries between Elon Musk's SpaceX & Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin , shaping the modern space race .
Dapaan	Ipsita Chakravarty	Collection of stories based on oral memory & folklore , reflecting Kashmiri survival under conflict .
The Chola Tigers: Avengers of Somnath	Amish Tripathi	Second book in the <i>Indic Chronicles</i> series; launched at Crossword Kemps Corner ; attended by celebs Ravi Dubey & Jimmy Shergill .
Different But No Less	Anupam Kher	Fourth book (releasing June 2025); focuses on resilience & self-belief , inspired by his film journey .
Mother Mary Comes to Me	Arundhati Roy	Memoir (2025 release) ; marks her return to publishing after <i>The God of Small Things</i> ; deeply personal account .
Why the Constitution Matters	Former CJI DY Chandrachud's	DY Chandrachud's "Why the Constitution Matters" published by Penguin Random House explores constitutional values and their impact on everyday Indian lives through 25+ years judicial experience.

Books & Authors of August 2025

Book Name	Author	Key Notes
M.S. Swaminathan: The Man Who Fed India	Priyambada Jayakumar	Biography of M.S. Swaminathan, father of the Green Revolution; covers his formative years, choice of science over IPS, role in making India food self-sufficient; blends history, personal anecdotes, and scientific milestones.
A Treatise for the Remarkable Rohit	R. Kaushik	Life story of Rohit Sharma; from U-17 cricket to becoming India's all-format captain; highlights setbacks (missed 2010 Test debut, 2011 World Cup) and triumphs (ODI double centuries, 2019 Test opening success, leading India to 2024 T20 WC & 2025 Champions Trophy). Warm, personal narrative with voices of teammates and coaches.
The Conscience Network	Sugata Srinivasaraju	Story of Indian diaspora resistance during the Emergency (1975–77); focuses on Indians for Democracy (IFD) in the U.S.; their nonviolent protests, lobbying, and advocacy for Indian democracy abroad; highlights diaspora patriotism and moral courage.

Books & Authors of July 2025

Book Name	Author	Key Notes
Confessions of a Shakespeare Addict	Retired IPS officer V.S. Ravi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retired IPS officer V.S. Ravi launched his book "Confessions of a Shakespeare Addict" on July 7, 2025, in Hyderabad. The book is a tribute to William Shakespeare, showcasing Ravi's long journey with the Bard's works. Guests like P.S. Ramamohan Rao, S. Chakravarthy, and A.K. Khan praised Ravi's deep understanding of Shakespeare's timeless writings. The Hindu Chairperson Nirmala Lakshman also appreciated Ravi's literary contributions. The book captures Ravi's love for Shakespeare and is aimed at making his work accessible to modern readers.
Das Paise ka Postcard	S.N. Ahmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new book titled "Das Paise ka Postcard" by S.N. Ahmed, a retired Indian Army officer, was released on July 10, 2025, in Hyderabad. The book, which highlights the emotional value of postcards from the past, was launched by actor and director Vinay Varma. It will soon be adapted into a stage play, aiming to revive the memories of handwritten letters and their role in human connection. The book is a heartfelt tribute to the postcard era, reminding us of the beauty of simple, personal messages.
"Sustainable Wellness of Students: A Collective Responsibility in Higher Education"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a significant step towards promoting student welfare and mental health, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on July 26, 2025, released a book titled "Sustainable Wellness of Students: A Collective Responsibility in Higher Education" at a special program held at the Chief Minister's residence auditorium in Dehradun. The initiative highlights the growing need to address the psychological and social challenges faced by students in higher education institutions.


Books & Authors of June 2025

Book Name	Author	Key Notes
Indira Gandhi and the Years that Transformed India	TCA Srinivasa Raghavan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deeply researched analysis of Indira Gandhi's tenure, focusing on the 1975–77 Emergency Highlights democratic struggles, executive dominance, and key policy shifts Released ahead of the 50th anniversary of the Emergency with insights into India's political evolution
India: 5000 Years of History	Audrey Truschke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive account of India's history by an expert in South Asian history Blends archival research, narrative analysis, and pluralistic perspectives Challenges simplistic historical narratives
The Stars Light the Way	Sucheta Raj Khanna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debut novel following Shazma's spiritual and political journey Explores ancestral wisdom, identity, and personal transformation A meditation on faith, courage, and belonging
India's Finance Ministers III: Different Strokes (1998–2014)	A.K. Bhattacharya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explores the economic decisions of four finance ministers post-liberalisation Narrative-driven account of key policy shifts and fiscal reforms Non-judgemental tone, ideal for economists and civil services aspirants
"Woman! Life! Freedom!"	Chowra Makaremi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronicles Iran's 2022 uprising after Mahsa Amini's death Merges anthropology, personal narrative, and political protest Reflects Iran's history of resistance and feminist revolution
The Emergency Diaries	Not Mentioned (Released by Amit Shah)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released on the 50th anniversary of the Emergency Chronicles PM Narendra Modi's underground resistance during the Emergency Draws from personal accounts and archives to highlight democratic resilience
The One: Cricket, My Life and More	Shikhar Dhawan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memoir detailing Dhawan's cricket career and personal struggles Features teammate reflections and focuses on mental health Published by HarperCollins India on June 26, 2025

Sports Current Affairs
Sports Current Affairs of November 2025

Category	Event / Achievement	Winner / Key Persons	Key Details
Cricket	ICC Women's ODI World Cup 2025	India	Beat South Africa by 52 runs; Shafali Verma – PoM, Deepti Sharma – PoS
Cricket	ICC Player of the Month (Nov 2025)	Senuran Muthusamy & Laura Wolvaardt	Outstanding November performances
Cricket	Retirement	Kane Williamson	Retired from T20Is; continues ODIs & Tests
Cricket	WPL 2026 Auction	Deepti Sharma	Became costliest player
Cricket	India's biggest Test defeat	India	Lost by 408 runs to South Africa (Guwahati), 2–0 whitewash
Cricket	ICC Men's T20 WC 2026 Ambassador	Rohit Sharma	Appointed by BCCI
Tennis	Paris Masters 2025	Jannik Sinner	Won championship; regained ATP World No.1
Tennis	Davis Cup 2025	Italy	Beat Spain 2–0; 4th title & 3rd consecutive win



Category	Event / Achievement	Winner / Key Persons	Key Details
Tennis	International Tennis Hall of Fame 2026	Roger Federer	Inducted for 20 Grand Slams & 310 weeks at No.1
Badminton	Australian Open Super 500	Lakshya Sen	Won his 3rd BWF Super 500 title
Archery	24th Asian Archery Championship 2025	India	Topped with 10 medals (6 Gold, 3 Silver, 1 Bronze)
Archery	Individual Recurve Gold	B. Dhiraj & Ankita Bhakat	First-ever Indian male & female to win recurve golds
Boxing	International Boxing Events	India	Won 9 gold medals (7 by Indian women)
Kabaddi	Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025	India	Beat Chinese Taipei 35–28; 2nd consecutive title
Blind Cricket	Blind Women's T20 World Cup	India	Beat Nepal; chased 115 in 12 overs
Chess	New Woman Grandmaster	Sarayu Velpula	Became India's 26th Woman Grandmaster
Chess	UK Women's Blitz Champion	Bodhana Sivanandan (10 yrs)	Youngest Woman IM; won 8 straight games
Chess	FIDE World Cup 2025	Javokhir Sindarov	Beat Wei Yi in tiebreaks
Football	FIFA World Cup 2026 Qualifiers	Curaçao, Haiti, Cape Verde, Panama	Curaçao became smallest nation ever to qualify
Multi-Sport	Asian Youth Games 2025	India	Best-ever finish: 48 medals (13G, 18S, 17B)
Hockey	India Hockey Centenary	Hockey India	Announced 1,400 matches in 550 districts
Hockey	Hockey World Cup 2026	Belgium & Netherlands	Will include 1st ever ParaHockey World Cup
Cultural Sports	Kartik Naach Festival	Nepal	Concluded at Patan Durbar Square
Deaflympics	25th Summer Deaflympics 2025	India – 20 Medals (9G, 7S, 4B)	Best-ever finish; 16 medals from shooters
Deaflympics	Top Performer	Mahit Sandhu	Won 4 medals (2 Gold, 2 Silver)
Deaflympics	Women's Golf	Diksha Dagar	Won gold — her 2nd Deaflympics gold
Martial Arts	World Jiu-Jitsu Championship 2025	Giovanna de Sequeira (10 yrs)	Won bronze after major injury recovery
Formula 1	Las Vegas Grand Prix 2025	Max Verstappen	125th career podium; reduced Lando Norris' lead

Sports Current Affairs of October 2025

CRICKET

Event / Update	Details
India Wins 2025 Asia Cup	India defeated Pakistan in a thrilling final; Tilak Varma's unbeaten 69* guided India to chase 147 runs . BCCI announced ₹21 crore prize money for the champions.
Abhishek Sharma Tops ICC T20I Rankings	Became world's highest-rated T20I batter (931 points) , surpassing Dawid Malan's 2020 record; scored 314 runs in Asia Cup 2025.
Rohit Sharma Becomes India's 3rd-Highest ODI Run Scorer	Surpassed Sourav Ganguly with 11,249 runs in 275 matches, trailing only Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli .
Bumrah's Historic Milestone	Jasprit Bumrah became first Indian pacer to play 50 Tests and achieve 50+ appearances in all formats , joining elite company of Dhoni & Kohli.
India Clinches Test Series vs West Indies (2–0)	India beat West Indies by 7 wickets in the 2nd Test at Arun Jaitley Stadium, Delhi .
ICC–UNICEF “Promise to Children” Campaign	Launched during 2025 Women's Cricket World Cup to promote education, healthcare, and child protection , endorsed by Ayushmann Khurrana and Smriti Mandhana .
Chris Woakes Retires	England all-rounder Chris Woakes retired from international cricket after a 14-year career (396 wickets, 3,705 runs).



ATHLETICS, FOOTBALL & MULTISPORTS

Event / Championship	Key Highlights
World Para Athletics Championships 2025	Held in New Delhi with 1,000+ athletes from 100+ nations. India achieved best-ever haul of 18 medals (6 Gold, 7 Silver, 5 Bronze).
Nishad & Simran Win Golds	Nishad Kumar set Asian record (2.14m) in Men's High Jump T47; Simran Sharma won Gold in Women's 100m T12 (11.95s PB).
Men's Javelin F44 Double Podium	Sandip Sargar (Gold – 62.82m) and Sandeep Chaudhary (Silver – 62.67m) secured 1–2 finish at Para Athletics Worlds.
SAFF U-17 Championship	India U-17 football team defeated Bangladesh 4-1 on penalties (after 2–2 draw) to clinch 7th title in Colombo.
Cape Verde Qualifies for FIFA World Cup	Becomes second smallest nation ever to qualify; India lost to Singapore, missing out on 2027 Asian Cup berth .
FIFA ASEAN Cup Announced	New regional football tournament announced at 47th ASEAN Summit (Kuala Lumpur) with 11 Southeast Asian nations .
Morocco Wins U-20 FIFA World Cup	Morocco beat Argentina 2–0 in Santiago, Chile, becoming first African champions since 2009 .
India Re-elected Vice-Chair, Anti-Doping Bureau	India re-elected as Vice-Chairperson of COP10 Bureau (2025–2027) at UNESCO Paris , promoting anti-doping governance.
Commonwealth Games 2030	India to host centenary edition in Ahmedabad, Gujarat —its second time after 2010 Delhi CWG.
Khelo India University Games 2025	5th edition to be held Nov 24–Dec 5, 2025 across 7 cities in Rajasthan .
Sachin Tendulkar Launches "TEN x You" Brand	Bharat Ratna Sachin Tendulkar launched his first sportswear and athleisure brand to promote fitness and sports.

WEIGHTLIFTING & POWERLIFTING

Championship	Highlights
World Weightlifting Championships 2025 (Norway)	Mirabai Chanu won Silver (Total: 199kg – 84kg Snatch, 115kg Clean & Jerk) and Bronze in Snatch; set 2 National Records .
World Para Powerlifting Championships 2025 (Egypt)	11th edition held in Cairo (Oct 11–18) ; 537 athletes from 70 countries ; China topped medal table with 6th overall title; first-ever world para event hosted in Africa.

BADMINTON, TENNIS & HOCKEY

Event / Update	Key Highlights
BWF World Junior Championships 2025	Hosted in Guwahati (Oct 6–19) after 17 years; 36 teams competed under new relay-scoring format for Suhandinata Cup .
Sultan of Johor Cup 2025	Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team won Silver , losing 1–2 to Australia in final at Johor Bahru, Malaysia ; India's 5th Silver in event history.
Indian Chess Stars Shine in Europe	D. Gukesh (Board 1 Gold) and Divya Deshmukh (Board 2 Gold) excelled at European Club Cup , ahead of FIDE Chess World Cup 2025 in Goa.

ARCHERY & SHOOTING

Athlete / Event	Achievement
Sheetal Devi (World Archery Para Championships 2025)	Won Gold in Women's Compound Open defeating Turkey's Oznur Girdi (146–143) ; also claimed Team Silver and Mixed Bronze .
Abhinav Bindra – Olympic Torchbearer	Appointed Torchbearer for Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics (Feb 6–22, 2026).

AQUATICS

Event / Update	Details
Asian Aquatics Championships 2025	Hosted for first time in India (Ahmedabad, Sept 28–Oct 11) with 1,100+ participants from 29 countries ; India's best-ever tally: 13 medals (4 Silver, 9 Bronze) .



Event / Update	Details
Srihari Nataraj's Record Performance	Won 7 medals , while Bhavya Sachdeva earned India's first women's medal (Bronze – 400m freestyle).
Arianne Titmus Retires	Australian Olympic gold medalist Arianne Titmus retired citing personal and health reasons.

CHESS

Event / Announcement	Highlights
FIDE World Cup 2025 (Goa)	Official logo and anthem 'It's Your Move' by Daler Mehndi unveiled by Goa CM; logo features three trapezoidal panels representing Goa's identity.
European Club Cup (Chess)	Gukesh (Gold – Board 1) & Divya Deshmukh (Gold – Board 2) shine for respective clubs, highlighting India's growing dominance.

MOTORSPORTS

Event / Race	Winner / Highlights
Formula 1 – US Grand Prix 2025	Max Verstappen won, narrowing championship gap to 40 points , intensifying F1 title battle

Sports Current Affairs of September 2025

CRICKET

- **India Wins 9th Asia Cup Title:** Tilak Varma's unbeaten 69* powers India past Pakistan; **₹21 crore prize** announced by BCCI.
- **ICC–UNICEF Campaign:** *Promise to Children* launched at Women's World Cup 2025, supported by Ayushmann Khurrana & Smriti Mandhana.
- **Smriti Mandhana Record Century:** Smashed **50-ball ODI century vs Australia**, breaking Virat Kohli's 52-ball record.
- **ICC Women's World Cup 2025:** Anthem "*Bring it Home*" by Shreya Ghoshal launched; hosted by **India & Sri Lanka (Sept 30–Nov 2)**.
- **ICC–Google Partnership:** Announced to digitally enhance women's cricket ahead of **2025 WWC & 2026 WT20**.
- **WWC 2025 Prize Money:** Record **₹40 crore** declared for winners (+239% vs 2022).
- **ICC "Will to Win" Campaign:** Featuring Indian stars ahead of WWC 2025.
- **Retirements:** Chris Woakes (England, all formats), Mitchell Starc (T20Is), Amit Mishra (India, 25-year career, 3 IPL hat-tricks).
- **Ashwin to BBL:** Becomes first Indian international male cricketer to join **Sydney Thunder** in Big Bash League.
- **USA Cricket Suspended by ICC:** For governance failures & lack of recognition by USOPC.

BADMINTON & TENNIS

- **Satwik–Chirag** assured at least **bronze at 2025 World Championships (Paris)**.

- **India to Host 2026 Badminton World Championships** in New Delhi (return after 17 years; last in 2009).
- **Carlos Alcaraz wins 2nd US Open title** vs Jannik Sinner → 6th Grand Slam; regains World No.1.
- **Aryna Sabalenka** defends US Open crown → first woman since Serena Williams with back-to-back titles.

ARCHERY & SHOOTING

- **Sheetal Devi** wins **maiden World Championship gold** at Gwangju 2025 (Women's Compound Open); also wins **silver (team) & bronze (mixed)**.
- **India Men's Compound Team** wins **historic gold** vs France (235–233).
- **ISSF Junior World Cup (New Delhi):** India sweeps **women's 50m prone rifle** (gold, silver, bronze); men's team wins silver & bronze; 69 Indian participants.
- **Anti-Doping Breakthrough:** NIPER Guwahati & NDTL develop **Methandienone reference material** aiding global anti-doping.

SALE IS LIVE

Test Prime

**ALL EXAMS,
ONE SUBSCRIPTION.**



ATHLETICS, FOOTBALL & HOCKEY

- **India Clinches 7th SAFF U-17 Football Title:** Beats Bangladesh 4-1 on penalties after 2-2 draw in Colombo.
- **12th World Para Athletics Championship:** Held at JLN Stadium, New Delhi with 1,000+ athletes (100+ nations); India fields 70+ athletes.
- **India Wins 4th Asia Cup Hockey Title:** Beats South Korea 4-1 at Rajgir, ends 8-year drought; books World Cup berth.
- **India Wins Bronze at CAFA Nations Cup:** Defeats Oman on penalties (3-2) after 1-1 draw.
- **Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone** clocks **47.78s** in **400m** → fastest in 40 years, 2nd-fastest ever by a woman.
- **Chess:** 16-year-old **Abhimanyu Mishra** defeats World Champion **D. Gukesh** at FIDE Grand Swiss 2025 (Samarkand).
- **Skating:** Anandkumar Velkumar wins **gold** in **42km marathon** → India's **first speed skating world champion**; Anish Raj takes **bronze** in **sprint**.
- **FIFA 2026 Mascots:** Clutch (USA), Maple (Canada), Zayu (Mexico).
- **Retirements:** Jerome Boateng (Germany), Sergio Busquets (Spain).
- **11th Asian Aquatics Championship 2025:** Held in Ahmedabad (Sept 28-Oct 11) with **900+ athletes** from **29 nations**.

OTHER SPORTS

- **Formula 1:** Oscar Piastri wins **Dutch GP 2025 (Zandvoort)**; Verstappen wins **Italian GP 2025**, sets **fastest lap in F1 history** in qualifying.
- **World Boxing Championships 2025:** Kicked off in Liverpool under new body *World Boxing*; India represented by **Nikhath Zareen**, **Lovlina Borgohain**, **Sumit Kundu**.
- **Asian Table Tennis Championships 2025:** To be hosted in **Bhubaneswar (Oct 11-15, 2025)**.

Sports Current Affairs of August 2025

Here's a **well-structured Sports Current Affairs Digest (Aug 2025)** with all your provided content neatly organized under categories. I've included your cricket add-ons inside the **Cricket** section and grouped the rest for exam-ready use.

Sports Current Affairs – August 2025

Cricket

- **Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar** won **gold** in **50m rifle 3P** at the **16th Asian Shooting C'ship (Shymkent, Kazakhstan)** with 462.5 points; India also bagged **silver** in team event.

- **NorthEast United FC** retained **Durand Cup 2025** (Kolkata) with a 6-1 win over debutants **Diamond Harbour FC**, first team in 25 years to defend title.
- **Sunil Gavaskar's statue** unveiled at **Wankhede Stadium**; **MCA Sharad Pawar Cricket Museum** inaugurated.
- **Mirabai Chanu** won **gold** at **2025 CW Weightlifting C'ships (Ahmedabad)**, lifting 193kg (new records in all categories), direct qualifier for **CWG 2026 Glasgow**.
- **Hockey Men's Asia Cup 2025** trophy unveiled by **Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya**; to be held at **Rajgir, Bihar (Aug 29-Sept 7)**, direct qualifier for **FIH WC 2026**.
- **FIDE World Cup 2025** to be hosted in **Goa (Oct 30-Nov 27)**; \$2M prize pool, 206 players, 3 spots for **2026 Candidates Tournament**.
- **R Ashwin** retired from IPL after 2025 season (221 matches, 187 wickets); eligible to play overseas leagues.
- **Cheteshwar Pujara** retired from all cricket on **Aug 24, 2025**; played 103 Tests, scored 7,195 runs, key to India's 2018-19 series win in Australia.
- **Union Cabinet approved India's bid for CWG 2030**, Ahmedabad as host city.
- **Minerva Academy FC (Mohali)** felicitated by **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** after historic **European treble** – Gothia Cup (Sweden), Dana Cup (Denmark), Norway Cup (Norway).

Cricket Highlights (Other Events)

- **WCL 2025 Final (Edgbaston):** AB de Villiers (58-ball 100*) led South Africa Champions to a **9-wicket win vs Pakistan Champions** (Sharjeel Khan 76).
- **David Warner milestone:** Overtook Virat Kohli as **5th-highest T20 run-scorer (13,545 runs)** while playing for London Spirit in The Hundred 2025.
- **ICC Players of the Month (July 2025):**
 - **Men's:** **Shubman Gill** – 567 runs in 3 Tests vs England (including 269 as debut Test captain).
 - **Women's:** **Sophia Dunkley** – 144 T20I + 126 ODI runs vs India.

Archery & Shooting

- **India's first Archery League** (Oct 2025, Delhi) announced; 6 franchise teams, backed by World Archery.
- **Rishabh Yadav** won **bronze** in men's compound archery at **World Games 2025 (Chengdu, China)**.

Athletics & Football

- **Annu Rani (Javelin):** Won **gold** in **Poland meet (62.59m)**, season best; target 64m for **World Championships 2025 Tokyo**.
- **FIFA Talent Academy (Hyderabad):** India's first residential academy for girls, at Gachibowli Stadium.



- **Real Madrid** remains **world's most valuable football club 2025** (€1.921 bn).
- **Minerva Academy FC (India)** won **U-14 Norway Cup 2025**, scoring 130 goals in 8 matches, beating SIF 14-1 in final.

Other Sports

- **Hungarian GP 2025:** Lando Norris beat Oscar Piastri by 0.698s, 5th win this season.
- **Chess Esports World Cup (Riyadh):** Magnus Carlsen (Team Liquid) defeated Alireza Firouzja (Team Falcons); inaugural champion + \$250k prize.
- **Quantbox Chennai GM 2025:** Vincent Keymer (Germany, 20) won title, enters world Top 10.
- **Wushu (World Games 2025, Chengdu):** Namrata Batra reached women's 52kg final, India's first-ever medal in Wushu (Silver/Gold pending).
- **Boxing – Asian U19 & U22 C'ships 2025 (Bangkok):** India won **27 medals (4 Gold, 11 Silver, 12 Bronze)**; notable gold – Ritika (80+ kg, U19).
- **Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating Trophy 2025 (Dehradun, Aug 20–23):** India hosted 1st edition, 11 nations, 9 events.
- **Khelo India Water Sports Festival (Dal Lake, Aug 21–23):** 400+ athletes, mascot Himalayan Kingfisher, events in rowing, canoeing, kayaking, dragon boat race.
- **Ahmedabad 2025 Events:** Hosting **CW Weightlifting (Aug 24–30)**, **Asian Aquatics (Sept–Oct)**, **AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers (Nov 22–30)**.

Tennis

- **Iga Świątek** won **Cincinnati Open 2025**, defeating Jasmine Paolini (7-5, 6-4); 24th career title, back to World No. 2.
- **Carlos Alcaraz** won men's **Cincinnati Open 2025**, his 6th title this year, beating Jannik Sinner (retired ill); now leads ATP Race to Turin.

Awards

- **Mohamed Salah (Liverpool):** Won **PFA Player of the Year (3rd time)**, also claimed Golden Boot, Playmaker Award & PL Player of the Season.

Sports Current Affairs of July 2025

CRICKET

- India achieved a **historic Test victory** at **Edgbaston** on **July 6, 2025**, beating **England** by a **record 336-run margin**, the **biggest overseas win** for India in terms of runs. **Akash Deep** stood out with **10 wickets**, the **best Test figures by an Indian in England**. This was also **India's first Test win at Edgbaston** after **seven losses**. The match saw several records broken, including the **highest total runs** in a Test between the two nations. **India has now leveled the series 1-1**, marking a proud moment in Indian cricket history.

- The **IPL's total value** rose to **\$18.5 billion** in **2025**, showing its growing status as a top sports league. **RCB** became the **most valued franchise** at **\$269 million** after winning the **2025 title**. **Mumbai Indians** and **CSK** followed behind. **Sponsorships** and **viewership** also broke records—**JioHotstar** and **Star Sports** saw historic numbers. **Tata Group** extended its sponsorship deal, and **PBKS** showed the highest growth in brand value. The league's success shows that the **IPL is now a global sports business**, combining cricket, entertainment, and media in a way few other events do.
- **On July 10, 2025, Sachin Tendulkar's portrait** was officially unveiled at the **MCC Museum at Lord's Cricket Ground** in **London**, a place known as the **Home of Cricket**. The painting was created by **Stuart Pearson Wright**, and Tendulkar also **rang the bell** to begin the day's **India vs. England Test match**. He shared memories of his early days in **England** and said the portrait was a special moment in his journey. He also praised **Shubman Gill**, India's new captain, for his calm leadership and good form.
- **On July 11, 2025**, both **Italy** and the **Netherlands** confirmed their spots in the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026** after the final matches of the **Europe Qualifiers**. This will be **Italy's first appearance** at the global event. Despite losing to the Netherlands, Italy ensured qualification by holding their opponents till the **17th over**, maintaining a better **net run rate**. The Netherlands chased down **134/7** with strong performances from **Roelof van der Merwe** and **Michael Levitt**. A total of **15 teams** have qualified so far, with more to be confirmed through upcoming qualifiers. The **World Cup** will take place in **India and Sri Lanka** in 2026.
- **MI New York** defeated **Washington Freedom** by **5 runs** to win the **2025 Major League Cricket (MLC)** title at the **Grand Prairie Stadium in Dallas** on **July 14**. After a poor start to the season, MI New York made a strong comeback with help from players like **Quinton de Kock**, **Nicholas Pooran**, **Trent Boult**, and **Rushil Ugarkar**. **De Kock** scored **77 runs**, while **Ugarkar** bowled a brilliant last over to stop Freedom from reaching the target of **181**. This is MI New York's **second MLC title**, making their journey from bottom of the table to champions truly inspirational.
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** awarded the **June 2025 Player of the Month** titles to **South Africa's Aiden Markram** and **West Indies captain Hayley Matthews**. Markram scored a match-winning **136 runs** in the **WTC Final** against **Australia**, helping South Africa win their **first ICC title since 1998**. Matthews impressed with **104 runs and 4 wickets** in ODIs, followed by **147 runs and 2 wickets** in the **T20I series** against South Africa. This is **Matthews' fourth ICC award**, making her the **second-most awarded female cricketer** in the monthly rankings. Both players expressed pride in their performances and focus on future goals.





- **Andre Russell** retires from **international cricket**, ending a 15-year career marked by **two T20 World Cups**, 84 **T20Is** (1,078 runs & 61 wickets), and a strong global franchise record. His **farewell matches** are on **July 20 & 22, 2025**, against **Australia** in **Jamaica**. He follows **Nicholas Pooran** into retirement ahead of the **2026 ICC T20 World Cup**, leaving behind a legacy of **power, performance, and pride**.
- The **England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)** has been awarded hosting rights for the **2027, 2029, and 2031 ICC World Test Championship Finals**, following its successful execution of the **2021, 2023, and 2025 finals**. The announcement came during the **ICC Annual Conference 2025** in **Singapore**. This decision, underpinned by England's rich cricketing legacy and strong infrastructure, is set to reinforce the global standing of **Test cricket**, enhance **fan engagement**, and ensure continuity in staging this prestigious event.
- **Joe Root** has become the **second-highest run-getter in Test cricket**, surpassing **Dravid**, **Kallis**, and **Ponting** in a single innings at **Old Trafford**. With **38 centuries** (equal to **Sangakkara**) and **104 fifties**, he is second only to **Tendulkar** in both major milestones. Root also became the **first batter to score 1,000+ Test runs at Old Trafford**, solidifying his status as a **modern legend** of the game. His form has been particularly dominant in the last five years, marked by consistency and big hundreds.

BADMINTON & TENNIS

- **Jannik Sinner** won his **first Wimbledon title** on **July 13, 2025**, by defeating **two-time defending champion Carlos Alcaraz** in the final. The match ended with a score of **4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4**. This win gave **Sinner his fourth Grand Slam title** and stopped **Alcaraz's 24-match winning streak**. The two players, now the top stars in men's tennis, have shared the last **seven major titles**, showing a growing rivalry. **Sinner's victory** also came after losing to **Alcaraz at the French Open**, making this a sweet comeback.
- **Iga Swiatek** won her **first Wimbledon title** on **July 12, 2025**, defeating **Amanda Anisimova** with a rare **6-0, 6-0** scoreline in just **57 minutes**. The victory was Swiatek's **sixth Grand Slam title** and made her the **only active women's player to win on all three surfaces**. **Anisimova**, playing her **first major final**, couldn't match Swiatek's level. Despite recent struggles and a brief doping ban, Swiatek proved her strength and determination. **Kate, the Princess of Wales**, attended the final, making the event even more special. **This win marks a major comeback and historic moment in women's tennis**.

- The **Japan Open Badminton 2025**, a key **BWF World Tour** event, saw **Shi Yuqi** of **China** win the **men's singles title**, while **South Korea's An Se-young** claimed her **sixth championship** of the year in the **women's singles**. China emerged as the **top-performing nation**, winning **three gold medals** in total, while **South Korea** and **Malaysia** also registered strong finishes. The tournament reinforced the **dominance of Asian countries in global badminton**, showcasing world-class talent and resilience across all events.
- India made **history at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships 2025** as **Tanvi Sharma** and **Vennala Kalagotla** became the **first Indian women's singles duo** to win medals at the same edition. **Tanvi**, the **junior World No. 1**, showcased dominance with straight-game victories, while **Vennala**, ranked **World No. 103**, showed resilience in tight matches. This **unprecedented feat** highlights India's rising stature in **junior women's badminton** and marks a **significant milestone** in the nation's sporting achievements.

Chess

- **Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh** won the **rapid title** at the **SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz 2025** in **Zagreb, Croatia**, on **July 4**, scoring **14 points**. He now leads the **Grand Chess Tour** ahead of **Jan-Krzysztof Duda (11 points)** and **Magnus Carlsen (10 points)**. The **blitz section begins on July 5**, and the **overall winner** will be decided by the combined scores of both formats.
- **Magnus Carlsen** won the **SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz 2025** chess tournament in **Zagreb, Croatia** on **July 7**, finishing with **22.5/36**. He secured the title one round early. **Wesley So** of the **USA** came second with **20/36**, and **India's D Gukesh** took third with **19.5/36**. This Grand Chess Tour event tested players in **Rapid and Blitz formats**. Gukesh, despite challenges in Blitz, showed strong progress. The **next event** will be held in **Saint Louis, Missouri** in **August 2025**.
- **Harikrishnan A. Ra.**, a **23-year-old** from **Chennai**, became **India's 87th Grandmaster** after earning his **third GM norm** at the **La Plagne International Chess Festival** in **France** on **July 11, 2025**. Coached by **Shyam Sundar**, Harikrishnan had previously earned GM norms in **Switzerland (2023)** and **Spain (June 2025)**. His final performance, including a draw with **P. Inian** and a win over **Jules Moussard**, secured the title. Harikrishnan, who recently finished his **M.Com from SRM**, plans to compete in **Spain and Portugal** before pursuing an **MBA in the USA**. His next goal is to reach an **Elo rating of 2600**.
- The **FIDE World Cup 2025** will be held in **India** from **October 30–November 27** with **206 players** in a **knockout format**. The event offers **3 qualification spots** for the **2026 Candidates Tournament**. India's strong performance in recent international events and its chess culture make it an ideal host. **Qualification routes** include champions, ratings, continental events, and nominations. With stars like **Gukesh**, **Praggnanandhaa**, and **Erigaisi**, India is cementing its role as a **chess powerhouse**.





Grand Prix

- Lando Norris won the **British Grand Prix** at Silverstone on **July 6, 2025**, in a wet and exciting race. He took the lead after **Oscar Piastri** received a **10-second penalty**, which helped Norris reduce the points gap in the **Formula 1 championship**. It was **McLaren's first win** at Silverstone since **2008**. **Nico Hülkenberg** finished third, and **Max Verstappen** came fifth after a spin. Many **rookie drivers** crashed out due to the rain. Norris called the win a dream come true in front of his home fans.

ATHLETIC & FOOTBALL

- India will place a **strategic bid** to host the **2029 or 2031 World Athletics Championships**, according to AFI official **Adile Sumariwalla** on **July 6, 2025** in Bengaluru. The bidding process starts this year, and final decisions will be made in **September 2026**. Since **Tokyo (2025)** and **Beijing (2027)** are already hosting, **India** may have a better chance at **2031**. India has also shown interest in hosting the **2028 Junior World Championships** and future **Athletics Relay events**. These efforts are part of India's goal to bring the **Olympics to the country in 2036**.
- Mexico** defeated the **United States 2-1** in the **CONCACAF Gold Cup 2025 final** held at **NRG Stadium, Houston**. **Chris Richards** scored early for the **US**, but **Raul Jimenez** and **Edson Alvarez** scored for **Mexico** to seal the win. This victory gives **Mexico** a **record 10th Gold Cup title**. The match saw dramatic moments, strong performances, and emotional tributes, making it a memorable final for football fans across the region.
- Neeraj Chopra** won the **inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025** in **Bengaluru** with a best javelin throw of **86.18 metres**. The event was held at the **Sree Kanteerava Stadium** as part of the **World Athletics Gold-level series**. **Kenya's Julius Yego** finished second with **84.51 metres**, while **Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage** came third with **84.34 metres**. Neeraj impressed the crowd with a strong third throw, keeping his top form ahead of upcoming global competitions. **This new event also marks India's growing presence in international athletics**.
- The **Indian men's football team** has dropped **six places to 133rd** in the **FIFA rankings**, marking its **worst ranking since December 2016**. The decline follows recent defeats to **Thailand** and **Hong Kong** in **June 2025**, which also led to **coach Manolo Marquez's exit**. India's performance under him saw just **one win in eight matches**. With the team struggling and **qualification for the 2027 Asian Cup at risk**, **India's next chance** to bounce back will come in **October** against **Singapore**.

- Chelsea FC** won the **FIFA Club World Cup 2025** by beating **PSG 3-0** on **July 13, 2025**, at **MetLife Stadium** in **New Jersey**. **Cole Palmer** was the standout player, scoring **two goals** and assisting **Joao Pedro** for the third. **Chelsea's tactical game plan**, led by manager **Enzo Maresca**, completely outplayed the **Champions League winners PSG**. The match also saw **Joao Neves** get sent off for **PSG**, adding to their poor night. With this win, **Chelsea** took home the **champion's prize of \$40 million**, and **Palmer** received the **Golden Ball** as the best player of the tournament.

OTHER SPORTS NEWS

- On **July 1, 2025**, the **Union Cabinet** approved the **National Sports Policy** to transform India into a **global sports powerhouse**. The policy emphasizes **athlete-centric development**, **mass fitness participation**, **sports tourism**, and **transparent governance**. It envisions a robust ecosystem driven by **education integration**, **corporate involvement**, and the **manufacture of sports goods**, aligning sports with **economic growth** and **social well-being**.
- India made history at the **World Boxing Cup 2025** in **Astana** by winning **11 medals**, including **3 gold**, **5 silver**, and **3 bronze**. **Sakshi, Jaismine**, and **Nupur** were the gold medal winners who led the team to success. Their wins against strong opponents from the **USA**, **Brazil**, and **Kazakhstan** brought pride to the country. This was India's **best medal haul ever** at this event and shows the **growing power of Indian women boxers** on the global stage.
- Deepika Sehrawat**, 21, became the **first Indian** to win the **Poligras Magic Skill Award** for her solo field goal against the **Netherlands** in the **2024-25 FIH Hockey Pro League**. Her rise began in **Hisar** with national-level success and culminated in global recognition. The goal was a **turning point**, leading India to a draw and shootout win. Her win is a **milestone for Indian hockey**, reflecting growing global respect for the sport in India. **Key terms: Deepika Sehrawat, Poligras Magic Skill Award, FIH Hockey Pro League, Netherlands match, Hisar, Women's Hockey India.**
- Bihar** won the **U18 Boys' title** at the **10th Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025**, defeating **Odisha 17-15** and completing a **historic double victory** after claiming the **U18 Girls' title** earlier. With standout performances from players like **Goldan Kumar** and **Sunny Kumar**, Bihar remained **undefeated** and displayed national dominance alongside top teams like **Maharashtra** and **Delhi**. The competition serves as a **key talent pipeline** for India's future in **senior rugby**.
- At the **World University Games 2025** in **Germany**, **Srihari Nataraj** set a new **Best Indian Performance** in **200m freestyle** with **1:48.22**, while **B. Benediction Rohit** became the **first Indian man** to swim the **50m butterfly** in **under 24 seconds (23.96s)**, breaking a **7-year-old national mark**. These achievements mark a turning point in **Indian swimming history**.





- The **Fit India Sundays on Cycle** program, under the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, is a national-level campaign promoting **fitness, youth empowerment**, and a **drug-free lifestyle**. With large-scale participation, including events like the one held at **BHU Varanasi**, the initiative integrates **cycling, yoga, games**, and **public awareness** to support the vision of **Viksit Bharat**. It fosters **healthy habits**, encourages **community involvement**, and delivers a **strong social message**, making it a cornerstone of India's public health and youth development strategy.
- The **MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship 2025** began at **Kari Motor Speedway**, featuring top performances by **teen drivers** like **Ishaan Madesh, Arjun Chheda, Bhuvan Bonu**, and others across **F2000, F1600, and Touring Cars**. Key names included **Biren Pithawalla, Arjun Balu**, and **Rithwik Thomas**. The event marked the **rising dominance of youth** in Indian motorsport and highlighted India's growing presence in **competitive racing circuits**.
- **Riley Powell**, a **16-year-old Welsh cueist**, defeated **Pankaj Advani** in the final of the **IBSF World 6-Red Snooker Championship 2025** held in **Manama, Bahrain**, with a **5-4 victory**. Advani, on his 40th birthday, was denied his **29th world title**. The win is a **major milestone** for Powell and reflects the **rise of young global talent** in snooker.
- India won its **first gold medal** at the **FISU World University Games 2025** as **Parneet Kaur and Kushal Dalal** triumphed in the **compound mixed team archery** event. India also secured a **silver** in **compound men's team** and a **bronze** in **compound women's team**. This performance boosts India's prospects ahead of the **LA 2028 Olympics**, where **compound archery** will debut. The event underscores the **rising standards in university-level sports**, especially for **women athletes** and **non-mainstream sports**.
- **India-England Test series renamed**
- The Test series between India and England will now be called the **Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy**, replacing the **Pataudi and de Mello trophies**.
- **MS Dhoni inducted into ICC Hall of Fame**
- MS Dhoni is among the seven new inductees in 2025, joining legends like **Matthew Hayden, Daniel Vettori, Hashim Amla, Graeme Smith, Sana Mir**, and **Sarah Taylor**.
- **Nicholas Pooran retires from international cricket**
- At age 29, Pooran retires with 106 T20Is and 61 ODIs, finishing as **West Indies' most capped T20I player**.
- **MCC updates Law 19.5.2 on boundary catches**
- The "bunny hop" catch is now outlawed. Fielders may only make one airborne touch from outside the boundary before landing inside to complete a legal catch.
- **Four-day Tests to be introduced**
- Starting with the 2027–29 World Test Championship cycle, smaller nations will play four-day Tests, while India, Australia, and England will retain five-day matches.
- **Women's ODI World Cup 2025 schedule announced**
- The event will take place from September 30 to November 2 in India and Sri Lanka. Due to political tensions, Pakistan's matches will be held in Sri Lanka.
- **Jasprit Bumrah achieves historic milestone**
- He becomes the first Asian bowler to take 150 Test wickets in SENA countries after his five-wicket haul at **Headingley**.
- **Rishabh Pant scores twin centuries at Headingley**
- Pant scores centuries in both innings, amassing 252 runs and becoming the **highest-scoring Indian wicketkeeper** in a Test.
- **Rinku Singh to become education officer**
- Rinku Singh will be appointed as a District Basic Education Officer in Uttar Pradesh under a state sports policy. His wedding is postponed to February 2026 due to cricketing commitments.
- **Stop clock introduced in Test cricket**
- A new 60-second timer is in place between overs in the 2025–27 WTC cycle. Three violations will result in a five-run penalty. Rules on saliva and short runs have also been updated.

Sports Current Affairs of June 2025

CRICKET

- **Glenn Maxwell retires from ODIs**
- Glenn Maxwell will retire from One Day Internationals after the 2025 Champions Trophy. He cited fitness issues and the need to create space for younger players. He will continue to play T20Is.
- **Heinrich Klaasen announces retirement**
- South African wicketkeeper-batter Heinrich Klaasen retires from international cricket after the 2025 Champions Trophy, ending a seven-year career with over 3000 white-ball runs.
- **RCB win their first IPL title**
- Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Punjab Kings by 6 runs in the IPL 2025 final, securing their maiden IPL trophy after years of near-misses.

BADMINTON AND TENNIS

- **Carlos Alcaraz wins French Open 2025**
- Alcaraz defeated Jannik Sinner in a five-hour thriller, claiming his second French Open title and fifth Grand Slam.
- **Indonesia Open 2025 highlights**
- Anders Antonsen and An Se-young won singles titles. France secured its first Super 1000 mixed doubles title.
- **Wimbledon 2025 prize money increased**
- Total prize pool is now 53.5 million pounds. Singles champions will earn 3 million pounds each.
- **Taylor Fritz wins Stuttgart Open 2025**
- Fritz beat Zverev in straight sets, securing his ninth career title and moving to World No. 4.



CHESS

- **D Gukesh defeats Magnus Carlsen**
- Gukesh beat Carlsen in a classical game at Norway Chess 2025, his first win over the world champion.
- **Magnus Carlsen wins Norway Chess 2025**
- Carlsen secured his seventh title with 16 points, narrowly beating Fabiano Caruana and Gukesh.
- **Aravindh Chithambaram wins in Armenia**
- He clinched the 6th Stepan Avagyan Memorial title, edging out Praggnanandhaa on tiebreaks.
- **Praggnanandhaa wins UzChess Cup Masters**
- This is his third classical title of the year. He is now World No. 4 in live ratings.

HOCKEY

- **India begins Women's Asia Cup 2025 campaign**
- India will face Thailand on September 5 in Hangzhou, aiming to win the title and qualify for the 2026 World Cup.
- **Hockey India Masters Cup 2025 held in Chennai**
- Features veteran players across men's and women's age groups, promoting active aging and celebrating hockey legends.

ATHLETICS AND FOOTBALL

- **Portugal wins UEFA Nations League 2025**
- Portugal defeated Spain on penalties after a 2–2 draw, becoming the first team to win the title twice.
- **Cristiano Ronaldo becomes Esports World Cup ambassador**
- Ronaldo is named global ambassador for the 2025 edition in Riyadh and appears as a playable character in FATAL FURY.
- **FIFA Club World Cup 2025 expanded**

- Now a 32-team event in the United States, with concerns raised over player fatigue and scheduling.
- **Oscar Piastri wins Spanish Grand Prix 2025**
- The McLaren driver claimed his fifth win of the season, leading from pole to finish.
- **Armand Duplantis breaks pole vault world record again**
- Cleared 6.28 meters at the Stockholm Diamond League, setting a new personal and global best.
- **Neeraj Chopra wins Paris Diamond League**
- With a throw of 88.16 meters, Neeraj returns to top form and builds momentum for upcoming championships.
- **Carlos Alcaraz wins Queen's Club title again**
- Alcaraz beat Jiri Lehecka in three sets and extended his grass-court winning streak to 18 matches.
- **Oklahoma City Thunder win NBA Finals 2025**
- Thunder beat Indiana Pacers in Game 7, with Shai Gilgeous-Alexander named Finals MVP.
- **India to host 2025 World Para Athletics Championships**
- The event will be held in New Delhi from September 27 to October 5. The mascot 'Viraa' symbolizes resilience.
- **Lalit Upadhyay retires from international hockey**
- The Olympian ends his career with over 179 caps and significant contributions to India's hockey success.
- **Neeraj Chopra wins Ostrava Golden Spike**
- Achieved a throw of 85.29 meters in the Czech Republic, his fifth outing of the season.
- **India to host 2029 World Police and Fire Games**
- Gujarat will host the event across Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, and Ekta Nagar, with participation from over 70 nations.

Science & Technology

Science & Technology of November 2025

Satellite / Space Mission	Agency	Launch Vehicle / Platform	Date / Status	Key Features / Notes
CMS-03 Communication Satellite (4410 kg)	ISRO	LVM3-M5	Launched: 2 Nov 2025	Boosts India's secure communication, broadband, broadcasting and digital connectivity.
NISAR (NASA-ISRO SAR Mission)	NASA + ISRO	—	Operational from 7 Nov 2025	World's first dual-band (L & S) radar satellite for climate, forestry, agriculture, disaster mapping.
Oceansat (Next Gen)	ISRO	PSLV-N1 (India's 1st fully private PSLV by HAL & L&T)	Launch: 2026 (Scheduled)	Supports ocean-colour, sea-surface temperature & marine ecosystem monitoring.
RLV-LEX 4 (Reusable Launch Vehicle Test)	ISRO	Landing Experiment	Success in Nov 2025	Fully autonomous landing at Chitradurga; milestone for reusable spaceplane program.
Hypersonic Glide Vehicle (HGV)	ISRO	Scramjet test platform	Tested: 2025	Achieved Mach 7+ ; boosts strategic defence and spaceplane capability.
CE-20 Cryogenic Engine (Bootstrap Restart Test)	ISRO	Engine Test Stand	Success: 2025	Improves restart capability for deep-space and long-duration missions.



Satellite / Space Mission	Agency	Launch Vehicle / Platform	Date / Status	Key Features / Notes
Human-Rated Vikas Engine (L110)	ISRO-LPSC + Godrej Aerospace	Gaganyaan Launch Vehicle (HLVM3)	Delivered 2025	Key propulsion module ensuring astronaut safety for India's crewed mission (2027).
Quantum Diamond Microscope – Associated Research Instrument	IIT Bombay	—	2025	Supports quantum imaging for future satellite quantum sensing missions (scientific milestone).
Compact Diode Laser (QKD)	ESTIC + DRDO	—	2025	Enables Quantum Key Distribution for secure satellite communication networks.

SATELLITE LAUNCHES – INTERNATIONAL

Satellite / Mission	Agency Countries /	Launch Vehicle	Launch Site / Date	Key Features / Notes
Copernicus Sentinel-6B	NASA + ESA + EUMETSAT + EU	SpaceX Falcon-9	Vandenberg Space Force Base, USA	Global sea-level rise monitoring , climate tracking & ocean science.
Google Project Suncatcher (AI Solar Satellite System)	Google	—	Announced 2025	Concept for solar-powered space-based AI data centers .
LRO + ShadowCam Lunar Ice Mapping	NASA	LRO Mission	Findings announced 2025	Confirmed 1–3 m deep water-ice deposits in unexplored lunar craters.
Gemini 3 (AI Satellite Supercomputing Ecosystem)	Google–DeepMind	—	Nov 18, 2025 (Announcement)	AI system with 1 million-token context window , supports Earth-observation data fusion.

CATEGORY-WISE SUMMARY

1. Communication & Earth Observation Satellites

- CMS-03 (India)
- Oceansat (India, 2026)
- Sentinel-6B (International)

2. Climate & Radar Satellites

- NISAR (NASA-ISRO)
- Sentinel-6B (NASA-ESA)

3. Reusable & Advanced Vehicle Tests

- RLV-LEX 4 (ISRO)
- Hypersonic Glide Vehicle (ISRO)

4. Propulsion & Engine Upgrades

- CE-20 Cryogenic Engine (ISRO)
- Human-rated L110 Vikas (Gaganyaan)

5. Quantum, AI & Space Technology Innovations

- Quantum Diamond Microscope (IIT Bombay)
- Project Suncatcher (Google)
- Gemini 3 AI system
- QKD Diode Laser (DRDO)

6. Lunar & Deep-Space Discoveries

- Water-ice discovery by **LRO + ShadowCam**
- ISRO's 2035 roadmap (Space Station, new lunar missions)

RANKERS ^A
BATCH
FOR MAINS
FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025

Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm



Science & Technology of October 2025

SPACE & SATELLITE MISSIONS

Mission / Project	Agency Organization	Key Highlights
Vyommitra (Gaganyaan Mission)	ISRO	India's first AI-powered humanoid robot to assist in uncrewed Gaganyaan test flights ; capable of voice recognition, gesture control, and real-time communication ; supports India's first human spaceflight in 2027 .
Chandrayaan-2 (New Findings)	ISRO	Discovered how solar storms (Coronal Mass Ejections) impact the Moon's exosphere , improving understanding of lunar space weather .
CMS-03 Satellite Launch	ISRO	India's heaviest communication satellite (4,400 kg) to be launched on Nov 2, 2025 , from Sriharikota using LVM3-M5 rocket to enhance digital & maritime connectivity .
Mission Drishti	GalaxEye Space (India)	India's first multi-sensor Earth Observation satellite (launch: 2026) combining SAR and optical sensors for defence, agriculture, and disaster management ; world's first of its kind.
Indo-Mauritian Hydrographic Mission	INS Sulej (Indian Navy)	Completed 18th survey mission mapping 35,000 sq nautical miles and training Mauritian officers, aligning with MAHASAGAR Vision .
India Leads Interstellar Comet Tracking	ARIES Devasthal & IIA Pune	Led global tracking of interstellar comet 3I/ATLAS after NASA's outage; data shared with Minor Planet Center improving global space observation collaboration.

SCIENCE & HEALTH

Initiative / Discovery	Institution / Source	Key Highlights
Biomedical Research Career Programme – Phase III	Department of Biotechnology (DBT) & Wellcome Trust (UK)	Cabinet approved ₹1,500 crore (2025–31) program to train 2,000+ biomedical researchers in Tier-2/3 cities .
India's First Indigenous Antibiotic – Nafithromycin	Indian Biotech Researchers	Developed new antibiotic effective against community-acquired pneumonia ; milestone in domestic pharma innovation .
Gene Therapy for Hemophilia Success	Indian Biotech Consortium	First successful gene therapy treatment for Hemophilia patients achieved in India, reducing dependency on imported treatments.
Australia Approves Alzheimer's Drug – Lecanemab	Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), Australia	Approved for early-stage Alzheimer's ; slows progression but remains costly and has side effects.

SATELLITE & TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS

Project / Announcement	Organization / Country	Details / Impact
Google AI Data Centre, Andhra Pradesh	Google	\$15 billion investment for AI Data Centre in Visakhapatnam , creating 1.88 lakh jobs (2025–2030) under Digital India & AI Mission Bharat .
World's First 3D Wind-Mapping Satellite Constellation (Feilian)	Stellarus Technology, Hong Kong	Will deploy Feilian constellation led by ex-NASA scientist Prof. Hui Su to provide hourly wind data for aviation & renewable forecasting .
India Surpasses \$20 Billion in AI Investments	Government of India / MeitY	Reflects India's emergence as a global AI hub , driven by AI Mission Bharat and growing startup ecosystem.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DIGITAL INNOVATION

Initiative / Launch	Organization / Partner	Key Features / Objectives
India-AI Impact Summit 2026 (Logo Unveiled)	Government of India (MeitY)	Logo by Ajith P. Suresh unveiled; design integrates Ashoka Chakra + Neural Network motifs; Summit to be held Feb 19–20, 2026 at Bharat Mandapam .



Initiative / Launch	Organization / Partner	Key Features / Objectives
IBM–Anthropic Partnership	IBM & Anthropic	Integrates Claude LLM into enterprise tools for AI productivity, secure automation, and analytics .
Google Opal AI Builder (India Launch)	Google	No-code AI app builder enabling users to create applications using natural language prompts ; launched in 15 countries including India .
EY–Microsoft AI Skills Passport	EY India & Microsoft	Free AI training program (10 hours) for students (16+) in English & Hindi , offering digital certification badges upon completion.
AR Rahman & Google Cloud – Secret Mountain	Google Cloud & A.R. Rahman	AI-powered music avatar generator using Gemini 2.5 Pro & Veo 3 technologies; merges art and AI creativity.
Amit Shah Adopts Zoho Mail	Union Home Ministry / Zoho Corp.	Adoption of indigenous Swadeshi email platform promotes data sovereignty and reduced dependence on foreign tech.
OpenAI ChatGPT Atlas (MacOS)	OpenAI	Launched ChatGPT Atlas browser with contextual help, memory, and Agent Mode to automate workflows; Windows & mobile rollout next.
Ramanujan Junior Researchers Programme	DST (India) & London Institute for Mathematical Sciences (UK)	New fellowship enabling young Indian physicists & mathematicians to conduct research in the UK under Indo-UK collaboration.

INTERNATIONAL & SPACE COOPERATION

Summit / Initiative	Hosted By	Key Highlights
8th International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly 2025	New Delhi, India	Attended by 125 member countries ; launched SUNRISE and OSOWOG initiatives to promote global solar economy and sustainability.
India–UK Scientific Collaboration	DST & UK Govt	Jointly advancing STEM research , fellowships, and youth innovation under Ramanujan Programme .
ISRO–GalaxEye Cooperation	Private–Public Partnership	Strengthens space-tech ecosystem through AI, Earth Observation, and dual-sensor satellite development .

Science & Technology of September 2025

Science, Technology & Space

- India hosts 89th IEC General Meeting (Sept 15–19, 2025) at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi with 2,000+ experts from 100+ countries.
- Sentient AI launches open AGI network for 2 million users, enabling decentralized AI collaboration.
- ISRO to launch AI robot Vyommitra on uncrewed Gaganyaan mission for space exploration.
- CAG to deploy AI-based audit system for modern oversight & accountability.
- Tiny Computer for PRATUSH Cosmic Dawn Mission built by Raman Research Institute to detect 21-cm hydrogen signals from early universe on Moon's far side.
- IIT Jodhpur AI tools project for 13 Indian languages under Vision, Language & Learning Group for cultural heritage preservation.
- ISRO's new spaceport in Tamil Nadu to be operational by Dec 2026 for small satellite launches.
- India achieves 9 new space world records; future targets: Mars mission & lunar South Pole landing.

- ISRO transfers SSLV tech to HAL – its 100th tech transfer deal, enabling independent SSLV production in 24 months.
- NASA Perseverance Rover finds strongest signs of ancient life on Mars – organic carbon + mineral deposits.

National Affairs

- India leads Global Postal Congress (Dubai) – Jyotiraditya Scindia represented India at 28th UPU Congress, promoting UPI–UPU integration for remittances.
- AIIMS Delhi becomes first govt medical college to train doctors on da Vinci robotic surgery platform.
- National Forest Martyrs Day (Sept 11) observed – theme: "Remembering Martyrs, Protecting Forests"; commemorates Khejarli Massacre.
- Digvijay Diwas celebrated to honor Swami Vivekananda's 1893 Chicago speech on universal brotherhood.
- Rare Dragonfly Rediscovery: *Crocothemis erythraea*, usually seen in Europe and Himalayas, reconfirmed in Western Ghats (Kerala & Tamil Nadu) above 550m; likely a relic species from the Ice Age, highlighting biodiversity richness and fragility of Shola-grassland ecosystems.
- Rare Bird Species Spotted in Tamil Nadu: Red-necked Phalarope, a small shorebird known for unique spinning behavior on water, documented in India with circumpolar distribution across boreal and tundra zones.



- **R&D Capacity Building Scheme:** Cabinet approves DSIR/CSIR scheme with ₹2277.397 crore outlay for 2021-26 period fostering young researchers in STEMM fields.
- **Forest Cover Expansion:** India's forest coverage increases by 22.5% over 12-year period, MoSPI releases comprehensive report including services, condition and asset accounts.

International Affairs

- **Rare 82-min Total Lunar Eclipse (Blood Moon)** occurred **Sept 7–8, 2025**, visible in **Asia, Africa, Europe**.
- **Russia's Colon Cancer Vaccine trials** – showed **80% tumor reduction** & improved survival.
- **Russia's Enteromix mRNA Cancer Vaccine** – early trials on **48 patients, 100% efficacy with tumor shrinkage**.
- **World First Aid Day (Sept 13, 2025)** – theme: *"First Aid and Climate Change"*.
- **Patriot Day (USA, Sept 11)** – remembrance of **2001 terror attacks**, honoring **first responders**.
- **New Eel Species Discovered:** Scientists discover *Apterichtus kanniyakumari*, a new finless snake eel species off Tamil Nadu's Colachel coast, distinguished by its golden-yellow body and unique black blotches.
- **Google's 27th Anniversary:** Google celebrates 27 years with nostalgic Doodle featuring original logo design, expressing gratitude to billions of global users.

Science & Technology of August 2025

SATELLITE LAUNCHES

- **ISRO** is preparing to launch the **6,500 kg BlueBird communications satellite**, developed by **AST SpaceMobile (USA)**, aboard the **LVM3** from **Sriharikota** in **late 2025**. This mission follows the successful **NISAR** launch and reflects the strengthening **Indo-U.S. space collaboration**. It also aligns with India's broader space goals, including the **Gaganyaan human spaceflight programme** and the target to establish the **Bharatiya Antariksh Station by 2035**.
- **ISRO** successfully conducted the **first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-01)** for the showcasing the **parachute-based deceleration system** for human spaceflight. This milestone, achieved with support from the **Indian Air Force, DRDO, Indian Navy, and Coast Guard**, follows the completion of the **Human Rated Launch Vehicle (HLVM3)** and other critical systems like the **Crew Module, Service Module, and Crew Escape System (CES)**. The mission is part of India's broader space vision, aiming for the **Bharatiya Antariksha Station by 2035** and a **Moon landing by 2040**.

NATIONAL

- **ISRO** conducted a **10-day high-altitude space simulation at 14,000 feet in Ladakh** under its **Gaganyaan programme**. Held at the newly inaugurated **HOPE (Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration)** facility by **Protoplanet**, the study focused on **isolation, cold stress, and mental health** impacts. Two participants, **Rahul Mogalapalli** and **Yaman Akot**, were

selected from **135 applicants**, mimicking **astronaut routines**.

- To improve agricultural resilience, **ICRISAT**, in collaboration with **ICAR** and under the **Monsoon Mission III**, launched an **AI-powered climate advisory** in **Maharashtra**. Using an **AI-enabled WhatsApp bot**, the service provides **hyper-local weather insights to smallholder farmers**, with plans for a **national and international rollout**.
- The **IndiaAI** and **National Cancer Grid (NCG)** launched the **CATCH Grant Program**, offering **pilot grants up to ₹50 lakh** and **scale-up funding up to ₹1 crore**. The program, open until **September 2, 2025**, supports **AI-driven solutions in cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment**, encouraging **responsible AI development** and **clinical validation**.
- **BharatGen AI**, under the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**, will support **all 22 languages** of the **Eighth Schedule** by **June 2026**. This initiative, part of the **National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems**, aims to ensure **digital inclusivity** and promote **multilingual AI ecosystems** across India.
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** inaugurated **India's first Animal Stem Cell Biobank and Laboratory** at **NIAB, Hyderabad**, marking a major leap in **veterinary biotechnology**. He also laid the foundation for new infrastructure worth **₹19.98 crore** to support research. The lab, built at **₹1.85 crore**, will focus on **regenerative medicine** and **cellular therapies** for livestock. He also launched **five innovative veterinary diagnostic tools** to combat **antimicrobial resistance** and support the **'One Health'** approach. Praising **PM Modi's BioE3 policy**, the minister emphasized India's leadership in **biotech-driven growth**, aiming for an **Evergreen Revolution** in **animal husbandry and agriculture**.
- **Rare Blue Pinkgill mushroom**, native to **New Zealand**, discovered in **Telangana's Kagaznagar forest**, showcasing its **striking sky-blue colour** due to rare **azulene pigments**. Additionally, the **shuttlecock mushroom spotted for the first time in Eastern Ghats** (**Kawal Tiger Reserve**), highlighting the region's **rich fungal diversity** and unique ecological conditions.
- **ISRO** has inaugurated a **cutting-edge space laboratory** at **Mechuka Government Higher Secondary School** in **Shi-Yomi district, Arunachal Pradesh**. Opened by **Education Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona**, the lab—established in collaboration with **ISRO** and **Muskaan Foundation**—aims to **spark interest in space science** among students through hands-on learning. Named **Pasang Wangchuk Sona ISRO Space Laboratory** after the minister's father, the initiative honors his belief in the power of education to transform lives.
- **Deep Ocean Mission Record:** Aquanaut **Jatinder Pal Singh** descended **5,002 metres** in the **North Atlantic**, marking India's deepest dive under the **Deep Ocean Mission**. Supports the indigenous **Matsya 6000** (trials by Dec 2027).
- **India's 6G Roadmap:** Govt unveiled a **6G rollout plan by 2030**, guided by the **Bharat 6G Vision Document** and **ITU-R M.2160**. Initiatives include **100 5G labs**, the **TTDF Scheme (₹275.88 Cr for 104 projects)**, **Bharat 6G Alliance**, and a **Tech Hub at IIIT Bangalore**.





- **ISRO – Gaganyaan Update:** First manned mission test flight in Dec 2025; 80% of tests completed. ISRO achieved 196 milestones, including GLEX-2025 propulsion system and a 6,500 kg US comm satellite launch.
- **Bharatiya Antariksh Station & Moon Mission:** India targets space station by 2035 and crewed lunar mission by 2040. Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh hailed IAF Group Captain Subhanshu Shukla's ISS mission.
- **India has become ground zero in the global AI race**, with OpenAI leading the charge by launching ChatGPT Go at just ₹399/month and announcing its first India office in New Delhi. This move, aligned with the IndiaAI Mission, intensifies competition with Google, Microsoft, Perplexity, and xAI, sparking a price war in a rapidly expanding market. OpenAI's localisation—UPI integration, Indic languages, and education tools—caters to India's massive student base and developer ecosystem. While this surge offers users affordable AI access, it also challenges Indian startups, forcing them to collaborate or adapt in a capital-heavy landscape.

INTERNATIONAL

- India, in collaboration with UK scientists, has identified the world's rarest blood group — CRIB, in a 38-year-old woman from Bengaluru. Part of the Cromer blood group system, the blood lacks a common antigen, making transfusions extremely difficult. The discovery may revolutionize critical care, prenatal diagnostics, and rare blood donation systems globally.
- To combat hidden hunger, India is introducing iron-enriched bio-fortified potatoes with support from the International Potato Center (CIP). The initiative complements efforts for Vitamin A-rich sweet potatoes, all part of ICAR's biofortification programme covering 61 crops. It strengthens nutrition security and showcases India's leadership in climate-smart agriculture.
- **Russia's Venera-D Mission:** Russia to launch Venus exploration mission (2034–2036) with lander, balloon probe, and orbiter. Preliminary design starts Jan 2026 under IKI & Lavochkin Association.
- **Parag Agrawal's Startup:** Ex-Twitter CEO launched Parallel Web Systems, an AI startup building a "web for machines." Its APIs outperform OpenAI's GPT-5 in benchmarks like BrowseComp & DeepResearch Bench.
- **SpaceX completed its 10th successful Starship test launch** from Starbase, Texas, showcasing progress toward the world's first fully reusable rocket. The Super Heavy booster achieved a controlled splashdown in the Gulf of Mexico, while Starship's upper stage performed a re-ignition in space and soft-landed in the Indian Ocean. Notably, it also demonstrated payload deployment using Starlink simulators, meeting all key objectives and aiding future missions like NASA's Artemis III in 2027.

- The UN General Assembly has launched two major initiatives — the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance — to promote global cooperation on AI governance. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres hailed the move as a "significant step" toward balancing AI's benefits and risks. The Scientific Panel will offer independent assessments to guide policy, while the Dialogue will serve as an inclusive platform for global stakeholders. These efforts support the Global Digital Compact under the Pact for the Future (2024).
- **Nano Banana** is the code name for Google's new AI-powered photo-editing tool, officially launched as Gemini 2.5 Flash Image, developed by Google DeepMind. It allows users to blend multiple images, maintain character consistency, and make creative edits like changing hairstyles, adding costumes, or altering backgrounds using natural language prompts. A standout feature, "Design Mixing," lets users transfer textures or styles from one image to another for unique effects.

Science & Technology of July 2025

SATELLITES LAUNCHES

- **Hyderabad-based Ananth Technologies** will launch India's first private satellite broadband service by 2028. It has received approval from IN-SPACe, India's space regulator. The company will send a satellite to geostationary orbit over 35,000 km above Earth to provide broadband internet directly from space. This ₹3,000-crore project aims to improve internet access, especially in remote areas, and will compete with international players like Starlink, OneWeb, and Amazon Kuiper. This marks a big change in India's space and telecom sectors, allowing private companies to grow and serve more people.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully conducted two hot tests of the Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) on July 3, 2025, at its Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu, marking a crucial step for India's first crewed space mission under the Gaganyaan Programme. The SMPS, featuring 5 Liquid Apogee Motors (LAMs) and 16 Reaction Control System (RCS) thrusters, is key for orbital maneuvers, trajectory corrections, and crew safety.
- **NISAR**, to be launched on July 30, 2025 by ISRO's GSLV-F16, is the first joint satellite between ISRO and NASA, featuring dual-frequency SAR (L-band & S-band). Weighing 2392 kg, it will operate from a Sun-synchronous orbit (743 km) and use SweepSAR technology for 12-day global coverage. Key applications include disaster management, climate monitoring, soil moisture tracking, and ice sheet movement, reinforcing its global scientific importance.





- **NASA** has launched the **TRACERS Mission** with **two satellites** to study **magnetic reconnection** in Earth's **polar cusp**, protecting the planet from **solar storms**. The satellites will provide **real-time data** on how space weather affects **satellites, communication systems, and power grids**. It launched alongside **Athena EPIC, PEXt, and REAL** satellites on a **SpaceX Falcon 9** rocket, and is significant for **global space research**, including for countries like **India**.

NATIONAL

- In a strategic step towards enhancing India's **sovereign space capabilities**, **SatSure** and **Dhruva Space** have joined hands to offer **end-to-end Earth Observation (EO) solutions**. This collaboration will unify upstream and downstream segments of the **space value chain**, integrating **KaleidEO's payloads** with **Dhruva Space's satellite platform infrastructure**. With a focus on **indigenous innovation**, the alliance will provide **full-stack space solutions**, addressing the demands of **commercial and strategic users** alike.
- Indian researchers have **engineered a next-generation energy storage material** using **lanthanum-doped silver niobate nanoparticles**, showing **superior performance in supercapacitor devices**. The material demonstrated **118% energy retention** and **100% coulombic efficiency**, making it a promising solution for **clean energy storage**. This **eco-friendly innovation**, led by **Dr. Kavita Pandey's** team at **CeNS, Bengaluru**, paves the way for future **high-density, fast-charging supercapacitors** in portable electronics and **renewable energy systems**.
- On **July 6, 2025**, **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh** opened the **National Biobank** at **CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi**. This project will collect data from **10,000 Indians** to support **personalized medicine** and better disease treatment. It is part of the **Phenome India** project. The minister also highlighted India's work in **genomics, CRISPR technology, and healthcare innovation**. Experts like **Dr. N. Kalaiselvi** and **Dr. Souvik Maiti** praised the move as a major step toward **healthcare self-reliance** and **global leadership** in science.
- **India** became the **fourth-largest biofuel consumer** in the world in **2024**, moving ahead of **China** for the **second year in a row**, according to the **Statistical Review of World Energy 2025**. India consumed **77 kbbloe/d**, a **40% rise** from last year, while **China consumed 60 kbbloe/d**. However, in **biofuel production**, India made **70 kbbloe/d**, still behind China's **106 kbbloe/d**. The report also showed that global demand for biofuels rose, especially in the **Asia Pacific** and **North America** regions. While **biofuels** help cut pollution, overall **global emissions** from energy **rose by 1%** in 2024, marking another **record high**.

- The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB)** has launched the **Kalaa Setu – Real-Time Language Tech for Bharat Challenge** via its **WaveX Startup Accelerator Platform**. The challenge calls on **AI startups** across India to build tools that turn **text into audio, video, or graphics** in various **Indian languages**. Applications can be submitted on the **WaveX portal** by **July 30**, while the **Bhasha Setu translation challenge** closes on **July 22**. This effort is part of the **WAVES initiative**, aiming to boost **innovation in media and language tech**.
- The **Government of Andhra Pradesh** has introduced the **Smart Mosquito Surveillance System (SMoSS)** to fight **mosquito-borne diseases** like **dengue and malaria**. This **AI-powered project** will start in **66 places** across **six major cities** including **Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam**. It will use **smart sensors, drones, apps, and hospital data** to track and control mosquito breeding. The system will help officials take quick action by sending alerts and mapping problem areas. This is a **big step** toward **tech-based public health** and can serve as a **model for other states** in India.
- A **new species, Garcinia kusumae**, has been discovered in **Baksa district, Assam**, by botanist **Jatindra Sarma**, who named it in honour of his **late mother, Kusum Devi**. The discovery was made in **April 2025** and published in the global journal **Feddes Repertorium**. This **evergreen tree** has unique flowers and fruits and is used in **traditional food and medicine**. With this, Assam adds to its record of **12 Garcinia species**. The new finding boosts **India's botanical diversity** and shows how much more is still to be discovered in the country's **rich forests**.
- A **new butterfly species, Zographetus mathewi**, has been discovered in the **Western Ghats of Kerala**, adding to the region's already rich biodiversity. The species was confirmed after careful study by researchers from the **Travancore Nature History Society, Zoological Survey of India**, and others. It is named after **George Mathew**, a well-known Indian entomologist. This butterfly, also called the **Sahyadri Spotted Flitter**, is found in forests below 600 metres, and its larvae feed on the vine **Aganope thyrsoflora**. The discovery, published in **Entomon**, highlights the importance of **conservation** and continued **field research** in biodiversity hotspots like the Western Ghats.
- **IIM Kozhikode** has launched **Gyanodaya**, a **Centre for Pedagogical Innovation and Publishing**, to transform **management education** through **peer-reviewed content, indigenous knowledge, and collaborative pedagogy**. It uses **Pandulipi**, an in-house platform, and is aligned with **Vision 2047** and **NEP** goals, aiming to build a **global knowledge commons**.





- A new lichen species, **Allographa effusosoredica**, was discovered in the **Western Ghats** by scientists at **MACS-Agharkar Institute**, marking the **first Indian Allographa** supported by **DNA sequencing**. It features **rare chemical traits**, a **Trentepohlia algal partner**, and mimics other Graphidaceae species morphologically. Backed by the **ANRF**, this research emphasizes the role of **integrative taxonomy**, **symbiotic diversity**, and the need for **molecular studies** in documenting India's rich **lichen biodiversity**.
- A **Martian meteorite** named **NWA 16788**, weighing **54 pounds**, was discovered in **Niger** in **2023** and sold at **Sotheby's** for a **record \$5.3 million** in July 2025. The rock, ejected from **Mars** about **5 million years ago**, traveled **140 million miles** to Earth and is now the **largest known Martian meteorite** found. Its journey and discovery highlight key areas of **space science**, **geology**, and **global interest in extraterrestrial artifacts**.
- **Indian scientists** from **Bose Institute** have identified and **overexpressed the AcSERK3 gene** in **pineapple** to enhance **resistance against Fusariosis**, caused by *Fusarium moniliforme*. This is the **first documented case** of such a native gene's overexpression in pineapple, resulting in **stronger stress response**, **better survival**, and **potential multi-fungal tolerance**. The genetically modified plants showed **increased levels of stress-fighting enzymes** and may offer a **sustainable disease-resistant crop** for future farming.

INTERNATIONAL


- **Nvidia** has become the **world's most valuable company**, reaching a **market capitalisation of \$3.92 trillion**, surpassing **Apple's** previous record. Fueled by the **AI boom**, Nvidia's dominance in **AI chip technology** has driven massive growth, with its stock rising **68% since April**. Its value now exceeds the **entire stock markets of Canada, Mexico**, and even the **UK**, highlighting investor confidence in Nvidia and the future of **artificial intelligence**.
- **HCL Software**, the software arm of **HCL Tech**, has launched **Domino 14.5**, an advanced platform focused on **data sovereignty** and **enhanced privacy** for **governments and regulated organisations**. Its key feature, **Domino IQ**, is a **sovereign AI solution** designed to safeguard **sensitive national and enterprise data** from **foreign surveillance**. **Richard Jefts**, Executive VP, emphasized the importance of **local digital control**, especially as nations tighten **data protection frameworks**.
- **Switzerland's health authority, Swissmedic**, has given its **first approval** to a **malaria medicine for infants**, made by **Novartis**. The approval came on **July 9, 2025**, and applies to babies weighing **2 to 5 kilograms**. The decision is important because **malaria kills thousands of children**, especially in **Africa**, where **95% of global malaria deaths** occurred in **2023**. Experts say the new medicine is **safe and effective**, and it will be offered on a **not-for-profit basis** in malaria-hit countries. This move could **help protect the youngest lives** in the fight against one of the world's **deadliest diseases**.

- A **new study** led by scientists, including **Edward Doddridge** from the **University of Tasmania**, has found that **Antarctica's summer sea ice** is at **record low levels**. The research team used **satellite data**, **robotic ocean sensors**, and **computer models** to study the effects. Their findings show rising **ocean temperatures**, damage to **marine ecosystems**, and growing global risks. This worrying trend began in **2016** and is continuing. The scientists call for **faster climate action** to protect the planet from long-term harm.
- **Chinese scientists** at the **Beijing Institute of Technology** announced the creation of the **world's lightest mind-controller**, weighing **just 74 milligrams**. This device is used to **control bees**, turning them into **cyborgs** that can follow commands during **military missions**, **urban combat**, **drug searches**, and **disaster rescue**. The controller sends signals through **three tiny needles** inserted into the bee's brain, successfully guiding their flight paths. **Professor Zhao Jieliang**, who led the team, said insect cyborgs offer **better movement, stealth, and endurance** than machines. While battery life remains a problem, the team plans to make future upgrades.
- **Israel** successfully launched its **Dror-1 communications satellite** on **July 13, 2025**, using a **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket** from **Cape Canaveral**. Built by **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)**, **Dror-1** weighs **4.5 tons** and is equipped with large antennas and solar panels. It will serve **Israel's communication needs for 15 years**. The launch highlights Israel's efforts to strengthen its **space program**, ensure **technological self-reliance**, and expand **secure communication networks** using **advanced satellite systems**.
- **Google** is offering **free Gemini AI Pro** access to eligible Indian students until **September 15, 2025**. It includes tools like **Gemini 2.5 Pro**, **Deep Research**, **Gemini for Workspace**, and **2TB cloud storage**. The offer supports **exam prep**, **creativity**, and **digital empowerment**. Visit gemini.google/students to apply with student ID and get one year free.

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Science & Technology of June 2025

SATELLITES LAUNCHES

- India is embarking on the construction of its **first-ever Polar Research Vessel (PRV)** through an MoU signed between **GRSE and Norway's Kongsberg**. This vessel, to be used by **NCPOR**, will enhance India's role in **polar research** and reflect its **Make in India** prowess. Union Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal**, attending the Nor-Shipping 2025 event in Norway, also promoted India's **MAHASAGAR vision**, encouraged **sustainable maritime investments**, and highlighted opportunities in **shipbuilding and green logistics**. This development marks a critical step in India's maritime transformation and global collaboration.
- Shubhanshu Shukla**, an **Indian Air Force** officer, became the **634th astronaut** to enter **space**, marking a significant chapter in **India's space journey**. Part of the **Axiom-4 mission**, he successfully **docked at the ISS** on **June 26, 2025**, alongside astronauts from the **USA, Poland, and Hungary**. The 14-day mission will focus on **scientific research**, international collaboration, and showcasing India's growing contribution to **human spaceflight**.

NATIONAL

- India is taking a **major step in AI infrastructure** by launching its first **AI-focused Special Economic Zone (SEZ)** in **Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh**, with a ₹1,000 crore investment by **RackBank Datacenters**. This **carbon-neutral data hub** aims to foster **AI research, development**, and employment, offering incentives under the **SEZ framework**. It is expected to attract **global tech giants** like **Google, Microsoft, and OpenAI**, and will provide **job opportunities** to local youth while supporting **digital transformation** nationwide.
- For the first time in Kerala, the **State Public Health Laboratory** has confirmed the presence of *Acanthamoeba spp.*—a fatal brain-infecting amoeba—in a human sample using **in-house developed molecular diagnostic kits**. This scientific advancement allows Kerala to carry out its own **confirmatory testing** for **amoebic encephalitis**, bypassing national labs and enabling early, effective treatment.
- Union Minister **Kamlesh Paswan** inaugurated **Garuda Aerospace's Agri-Drone Indigenization Facility** in **Chennai**, launching **300 Centres of Excellence (CoEs)** and the **DGCA-approved Train the Trainer (TTT) programme**. The 35,000 sq. ft. facility is equipped to manufacture **1 lakh drones by 2026**, aligning with **Prime Minister Modi's vision** of making India a **Global Drone Hub**. Live demonstrations by **Drone Didis**, collaboration with the **Bharat Drone Association**, and a focus on **self-reliance, skilling, and innovation** marked a transformative moment for the country's drone industry.

- India has marked a significant milestone in **cancer research** by developing a **one-step synthesis method** for **PEGylated nano-cups**, offering a **non-toxic, efficient alternative** for **photothermal therapy (PTT)**. Spearheaded by **INST Mohali** with contributions from **IIT Bombay** and **ACTREC**, this breakthrough utilizes **ZIF-8 MOF** and **ascorbic acid** to create **semi-shells** that can precisely **target and destroy cancerous tumors**, especially in **advanced breast cancer**. The innovation not only enhances **therapeutic efficacy** but also opens pathways for **biosensing** and **chemo-photothermal treatments**, making it a game-changer in **minimally invasive oncology**.
- India's participation in **international commercial spaceflight** has reached new heights as the **Axiom Mission 4** launch, featuring **Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla**, has been **rescheduled to June 22** due to safety checks in the **Zvezda module** of the **ISS**. The mission, led by **NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson** and operated by **Axiom Space**, includes astronauts from **India, Poland, and Hungary**, and will fly aboard the **SpaceX Falcon 9** using the **Dragon capsule**. With **ISRO's support**, this mission reflects India's evolving space ambitions and boosts its role in **low-Earth orbit (LEO)** scientific operations.
- Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has laid the **foundation stone** for a **Mini Planetarium and Astro Globe** at the **Hanle Dark Sky Reserve** in **Ladakh**, with a project outlay of **₹276.65 lakh** under the **Special Development Package**. The initiative supports **astro-tourism, public astronomy education**, and **local employment**, complementing the work of advanced observatories like **MACE**. The Minister also engaged with **nomadic communities**, distributing **goat-shearing machines**, and allocated **₹50 lakh** under **SBI's CSR** for constructing community tents.
- In a move set to accelerate India's entry into the **commercial space launch market**, **HAL** has secured a **₹511 crore** deal to manufacture and operate **SSLVs** under **ISRO's technology transfer programme**. The process will include **two years of support and training**, after which HAL will independently handle SSLV production. This milestone reflects India's strategic intent to empower its public sector units in **space commercialisation**, foster **private collaboration**, and position the country as a **global launch service provider** for small satellites.
- Bharti Space Ltd** has invested **₹313 crore** in **Eutelsat's €1.35 billion capital raise**, signaling a major move in the **global satellite internet race**. As the **French government becomes the largest shareholder**, Eutelsat plans to expand its **hybrid satellite fleet**—including **600+ LEO satellites**—to build a **sovereign European space network**. Bharti's stake will dilute, but it remains invested in **both Eutelsat-OneWeb and Starlink** ventures in India.





- **Dangeti Jahnvi**, a young space enthusiast from **Palakollu, Andhra Pradesh**, has made history as the **first Indian** to complete **NASA's International Air and Space Program**, marking a breakthrough for **India in global space missions** and for **women in STEM**. Selected for the upcoming **2029 Titan's Orbital Port Space Station mission**, she will be among the first Indians to join **commercial space operations**. Backed by a strong academic foundation in **Electronics and Communication Engineering**, Jahnvi is also a passionate **STEM educator, ISRO outreach speaker, and analog mission trainee**, reflecting her deep commitment to **space research, education, and global collaboration**.
- India's quantum revolution is taking shape with the announcement of the **Amaravati Quantum Valley**, the country's **first quantum computing hub**, set to launch by **January 2026**. Spearheaded by the **ITE&C Department of Andhra Pradesh**, the initiative aims to foster **research, innovation, and job creation** across critical sectors like **healthcare, logistics, agri-tech, and cybersecurity**. In collaboration with major players like **IBM, LTIMindtree, and TCS**, and aligned with the **National Quantum Mission**, the project will integrate **quantum AI, secure communication (QNu Project)**, and advanced computing to drive national productivity and future-ready skills.

INTERNATIONAL

- China launched the **Tianwen-2 mission** on **May 30, 2025**, targeting **asteroid 2016HO3** for **sample collection** and later exploring **comet 311P**. Led by **CNSA**, the mission is designed to yield **scientific insights** about the **solar system's origins**, particularly Earth's **water sources**. The mission represents China's growing role in **deep-space exploration**, further advancing its **space technology** after previous successes like **Tianwen-1** and its **lunar missions**.
- Snap Inc. has announced the **launch of its first consumer-ready smart glasses**, called **Specs**, in **2026**, marking its

serious entry into the **wearable augmented reality (AR)** market. This move challenges **Meta**, whose Ray-Ban smart glasses are gaining popularity. Snap's new product will be **lightweight, AR-integrated**, and supported by the **Lens Studio** platform in collaboration with **Niantic Spatial**. With **over \$3 billion invested** and five previous developer-only versions, Snap aims to expand its ecosystem and reduce dependence on digital ads.

- A new **COVID-19 variant, NB.1.8.1 (Nimbus)**, first identified in **January 2025**, is drawing global concern due to its **rapid spread** and a distinct symptom described as "**razor blade throat**". Classified by the **WHO** as a **variant under monitoring**, Nimbus, a **descendant of Omicron**, has been detected in **22 countries** including the **US, UK, China**, and **parts of Asia**, accounting for **10.7% of sequenced cases** in late April.
- The **US FDA** has approved **Lenacapavir (Yeztugo)**, a **twice-yearly injectable drug** for **HIV prevention**, showing **99.9% efficacy** in Phase 3 trials. This breakthrough offers a **low-maintenance, long-acting** alternative to current **PrEP options**, with potential to **boost global compliance** and **reduce stigma**. Though not widely used in **India** due to high costs and absence in **national HIV programmes**, experts say the drug could transform **global public health outcomes** if supported by **WHO and donor agencies**.
- A new scientific study from **Yunnan, China** has revealed the existence of **two novel henipaviruses** in **bat populations**, raising concerns due to their genetic similarity to the **deadly Nipah and Hendra viruses**. Found in the **kidneys of bats**, the viruses could **spread to humans** through **urine-contaminated fruits or water**, potentially triggering **neurological or respiratory diseases**. Experts have flagged this discovery as a **public health warning**, urging for **heightened surveillance of zoonotic pathogens**, especially in rural regions where **human-wildlife interactions** are more frequent.

Schemes/ Apps / Portal

National Schemes/ Apps of November 2025

CENTRAL GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	Ministry / Department	Year	Purpose / Key Features
AMRIT Pharmacies – 10th Anniversary Expansion (10 New Outlets)	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	2025	To provide affordable, quality medicines through AMRIT outlets; expansion improves accessibility to low-cost drugs for poor and middle-class citizens.
YUVA AI for ALL	Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)	2025	A free foundational AI course under IndiaAI Mission to train 1 crore Indians in basic AI skills, digital literacy, and ethical AI usage.
Trade Intelligence & Analytics (TIA) Portal	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	2025	To offer transparent, real-time trade data for MSMEs, startups & small exporters, enabling informed decision-making and improved export competitiveness.
ColoNoX (Nitric-Oxide Wound Dressing)	Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)	2025	India's first indigenous nitric-oxide wound dressing to accelerate healing, reduce infection, and support Atmanirbhar Bharat in medical technology.



Name of Initiative	Ministry / Department	Year	Purpose / Key Features
Ferrocronatite (BARC B1401) – Certified Reference Material (CRM)	Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)	2025	India's first CRM for Rare Earth Elements (REE), used to standardise testing labs and strengthen India's rare-earth mineral capability.
Re-election to Codex Executive Committee (CCEXEC – Asia)	Ministry of Health / FSSAI	2025	Ensures India's representation in global food safety standards until 2027; enhances India's role in international food regulatory decisions.
Project Gaja-Lok	Ministry of Culture (INTACH)	2025	A national documentation project capturing the cultural, ecological & historical significance of Asian elephants and human-elephant coexistence.
Capital Gains Accounts (2nd Amendment) Scheme 2025	Ministry of Finance	2025	Allows taxpayers to temporarily park capital gains in designated accounts & retain tax exemption while purchasing/constructing property.
SARAL SIMS (Simplified Steel Import Monitoring System)	Ministry of Steel	2025	A simplified one-time import declaration system for iron & steel products; enables importers to use one SARAL SIMS number for multiple consignments.
₹7,280-crore REPM Manufacturing Scheme	Union Cabinet / Ministry of Commerce & Industry	2025	To promote manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets , cut import dependence, and support EVs, drones & renewable sectors.
Nayi Chetna – Initiative for Change (4th Edition)	MoAFW, MoRD & MoWCD (Joint)	2025	Focuses on women's safety, mobility, dignity, gender equality, economic empowerment & social behavioural change at the community level.
Tex-RAMPS (Textile-R&D, Analytics, Modernisation, Promotion Scheme)	Ministry of Textiles	2025	A ₹305-crore scheme to boost textile innovation, startups, IT-enabled services & strengthen data systems in the textile value chain.

National Schemes/ Apps of October 2025

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose
PM SETU Scheme	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	2025	Modernization of 1,000 ITI institutes with ₹60,000 crore investment to benefit 2 million youth over five years
Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	2025	Agricultural productivity enhancement with ₹24,000 crore investment to promote sustainable farming
Mission Aatmanirbharta for Pulses	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	2025	Self-reliance in pulses production with ₹11,440 crore investment
Vishwas Scheme	Ministry of Labour and Employment	2025	End EPF litigation through rationalized penal damages, digital tools, and simplified partial withdrawal norms
PM GatiShakti National Master Plan	Multi-ministerial (44 Central Ministries)	2021	Multi-modal connectivity and seamless infrastructure coordination integrating 36 States/UTs
LIC Jan Suraksha (Plan 880)	Department of Financial Services	2025	Life insurance coverage for low-income groups with maturity and guaranteed returns
LIC Bima Lakshmi (Plan 881)	Department of Financial Services	2025	Life insurance coverage specifically designed for women with maturity and guaranteed returns
UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)	Ministry of Civil Aviation	2016	Regional air connectivity enabling 1.56 crore passengers through 649 routes, targeting hilly and NE regions



Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose
Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) Scheme	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Revised 2025	Promote efficient water use, micro-level water storage and conservation, and raise farmers' income
IndiaAI Mission	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)	Ongoing	Global call for abstracts on AI applications in health systems (collaboration with WHO)
PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India)	Ministry of Education	Ongoing	Improve quality of education in government schools nationwide

STATE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	State/UT	Year	Purpose
Mhaje Ghar Scheme	Goa	2025	Grant ownership rights to nearly 11 lakh residents on government and community lands, with ₹2,452 crore for infrastructure and digital services
CM Flight Initiative	Assam	2025	Empower youth for global careers through world-class training, international exposure, job placements, and mentorship to address unemployment and skill gaps

National Schemes/ Apps of September 2025

Central Govt Schemes

Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose
Make in India	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	2014	Boost FDI, manufacturing, exports, and job creation; aligned with Aatmanirbhar Bharat & PLI schemes ; expanded presence of global majors (Apple, Samsung, Boeing, Tesla).
CBHRD Scheme (Capacity Building & Human Resource Development)	Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) / CSIR	2021–26	Support doctoral & postdoctoral fellowships, Bhatnagar Fellowships, research grants & awards; strengthen STEMM workforce and improve innovation ranking.
Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (Blue Revolution)	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying	2020	Transform fisheries sector: 195 lakh tonnes production , ₹21,274 cr project approvals; aims to double fishers' income & boost exports.

State Govt Schemes

Name of Initiative	State	Year	Purpose
Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana	Bihar	2025	Direct cash transfer of ₹10,000 to 75 lakh women via DBT; scope of ₹2 lakh support via SHGs & Jeevika Nidhi; complements Lakhpati Didi campaign for women entrepreneurs.
Bihar Women Empowerment Scheme	Bihar	2025	Direct cash transfer of ₹10,000 to 75 lakh women to promote self-employment opportunities. (<i>overlaps with Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana</i>)
Anbu Karangal Scheme	Tamil Nadu	2025	Comprehensive welfare program for orphaned children covering education, health & social support.

National Schemes/ Apps of August 2025

CENTRAL GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose
PM Internship Scheme (PMIS)	Ministry of Corporate Affairs	2023	To provide internship opportunities to youth in various companies across districts; aims to boost employability and inclusiveness. Female participation rose from 31% to 41% in the second round.



Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose
Mission Poshan 2.0	Ministry of Women & Child Development	2021	Combines Poshan Abhiyan and ICDS to improve nutrition for pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children. Offers Take-Home Ration (THR) for 300 days.
Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)	Ministry of Women & Child Development	2017	Provides maternity benefits to pregnant women and lactating mothers to reduce maternal and infant mortality. Over 4.05 crore beneficiaries till July 2025.
MERITE Scheme	Ministry of Education	2025	Improve quality and employability in technical education; boost research, innovation, and NEP goals
Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana	Ministry of Labour and Employment	2025	Generate 3.5 crore jobs by 2027; incentives for first-time employees and employer subsidies
PM E-Drive Scheme	Ministry of Heavy Industries	Extended till 2028	Promote electric vehicles, support charging infrastructure, reduce subsidies as market matures
Stand-Up India Scheme	Ministry of Finance (Dept. of Financial Services)	2016	Provides loans to SC/ST & women entrepreneurs for greenfield enterprises in trading, manufacturing, services & allied agriculture sectors.
Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare	Ongoing	Offers interest subvention on short-term crop loans ; in 2024–25, ₹17,811.72 crore disbursed.
Fortified Rice Scheme (extended till 2028)	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	2021 (Pan-India rollout under PM POSHAN)	To fight malnutrition & anaemia ; provides fortified rice, double fortified salt & fortified edible oil in school meals; supported by NDDB's Gift Milk Program .
SASCI – Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (Tourism projects)	Ministry of Tourism	2025	₹3,295.76 crore sanctioned for 40 projects ; promotes lesser-known destinations with 100% central funding; focus on responsible tourism, sustainability, local growth .
Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Lending Regulations	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	2017 (regulatory framework)	RBI-regulated digital lending system ensuring fair practices, transparency & borrower protection .
PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)	Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA)	2020 (extended till 2030)	Cabinet approved restructuring & extension till 31st March 2030 with ₹7,332 crore outlay. Loan limits enhanced (₹15k, ₹25k, ₹50k), UPI-linked RuPay Credit Cards , cashback incentives, and coverage expanded to census & peri-urban areas , targeting 1.15 crore beneficiaries .
Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)	Ministry of Finance	2014	Celebrated 11th Anniversary (Aug 28, 2025) ; world's largest financial inclusion programme with 56.2 crore accounts , ₹2.68 lakh crore deposits, 56% accounts held by women , 38.7 crore RuPay cards issued. Strengthened DBT, social security schemes, and reduced financial exclusion.

STATE GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	State	Year	Purpose
Mukhya Mantrir Nijut Moina 2.0	Assam	2025	Provides monthly financial aid to girl students from HS to PG level in government/aided institutions. Aims to reduce dropout rates and empower female education. Expected to benefit 4 lakh+ students.
Shramshree Scheme	Govt. of West Bengal (Labour Dept.)	2025	Rehabilitation of Bengali migrant workers returning to state; provides ₹5,000/month for 1 year (or until employment), plus skill training, job cards & loans for self-employment.


National Schemes/ Apps of July 2025
CENTRAL GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose (Detailed)
SPREE 2025	Ministry of Labour and Employment (ESIC)	2025	Promotes voluntary registration of employers and employees under the ESI Act via a digital, inspection-free process. Removes fear of retrospective penalties and aims to extend ESI benefits to informal workers.
Amnesty Scheme – 2025	Ministry of Labour and Employment (ESIC)	2025	Resolves long-pending legal disputes related to ESIC compliance. Encourages voluntary compliance, reduces litigation, and fosters a cooperative approach to social security enforcement.
AYUSH Integration with ESIC	Ministry of Labour and Employment (ESIC)	2025	Enhances healthcare by integrating AYUSH systems (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy) into ESIC facilities and partnering with charitable hospitals for holistic treatment.
Small Savings Interest Policy	Ministry of Finance	2025	Keeps interest rates unchanged for PPF, NSC, Sukanya Samriddhi, etc., to ensure predictable returns, boost public trust, and support household savings amid economic uncertainties.
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)	Ministry of Agriculture	—	10-year review shows progress in covering non-loanee farmers, though reach has flattened. Recommendations include higher central funding, a national-level model, and third-party evaluation for affordability, transparency, and effectiveness for small farmers.
PM E-DRIVE Initiative	—	—	First electric truck scheme offering up to ₹9.6 lakh incentive per vehicle for N2/N3 category e-trucks. Targets 5,600 deployments, promotes cleaner freight transport, mandates scrapping of old diesel trucks, and supports Atmanirbhar Bharat and net-zero goals.
Employment-linked Incentive Scheme	—	2025	₹1 lakh crore scheme to generate 3.5 crore jobs (1.92 crore first-time workers) from Aug 2025–Jul 2027. Offers ₹3,000/month per employee to employers and up to ₹15,000 wage support for new employees.
Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY)	—	2025	Six-year plan (₹24,000 crore/year) to enhance agriculture in 100 low-performing districts via crop diversification, irrigation, credit, and storage. Converges 36 schemes from 11 ministries with NITI Aayog guidance, benefiting 1.7 crore farmers.
ADEETIE Scheme	Ministry of Power (BEE)	—	₹1,000 crore scheme to improve industrial energy efficiency in MSMEs across 60 clusters and 14 sectors, targeting 30–50% energy savings. Includes interest subvention, technical audits, and supports low-carbon growth.
VCF Settlement Scheme 2025	SEBI	2025	One-time scheme (July 21, 2025 – Jan 19, 2026) for Venture Capital Funds to settle violations during migration to the AIF regime. Promotes voluntary compliance, investor protection, and smooth regulatory transition.
New Employment Scheme	—	2025	Provides ₹15,000 incentives to first-time private sector employees from Aug 1, 2025. Funded with ₹1 lakh crore, targeting youth employment, especially in eastern states like Bihar, to boost formal sector job creation.
Bima Sakhi Scheme	LIC	2024	Empowers rural women as Mahila Career Agents with a stipend (₹7,000–₹5,000) for the first 3 years plus commissions. Over 2 lakh enrolled, ₹520 crore FY 2025–26 budget. Offers career growth and enhances insurance penetration.
Palna Scheme	—	2022	Supports working mothers with day-care/crèche facilities for children (6 months–6 years), integrated with Anganwadi centres for nutrition, health monitoring, and early learning. Targeting 17,000 centres, 14,599 approved.



Name of Initiative	Ministry	Year	Purpose (Detailed)
Skill India Mission	—	2015–2025	Trained over 6 crore people, integrating PMKVY 4.0, PM-NAPS, and JSS. Focuses on AI, robotics, and green energy skills. Major achievements: 1.63 crore under PMKVY, 26 lakh under JSS, 43.47 lakh apprentices under PM-NAPS.

STATE GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	State Government /	Purpose (Detailed)
Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Poverty-Free Village Scheme	Rajasthan Government	Launched on July 4, 2025, to support BPL families in 5,000 villages. Provides up to ₹1 lakh for job/business support and ₹15,000 for women in SHGs. Families moving out of poverty get ₹21,000 as a reward and Atmanirbhar Parivar Cards. Village-level plans link families to skill and job programs, aiming to reduce rural poverty and promote self-reliant villages.
Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana	Punjab Government	Launched on July 8, 2025, offering free and cashless medical treatment up to ₹10 lakh per year for every family in the state. Covers ~65 lakh families, including farmers, workers, pensioners, businessmen, and government employees. Digital health cards enable treatment for 2,000+ diseases at both government and private hospitals. Includes ₹5 lakh top-up for Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries.
Gajah Mitra Scheme	Assam Cabinet	Approved on July 11, 2025, to reduce human-elephant conflicts in 80 problem areas. Includes planting elephant-friendly vegetation, rapid response teams, and community awareness programs. Aims to reduce deaths of both humans and elephants caused by conflicts, often linked to illegal fencing and human encroachment.
Digi-Lakshmi Scheme	Government of Andhra Pradesh	Launched on June 30, 2025, to empower urban poor women as entrepreneurs. Establishes 9,034 Common Service Centres (CSCs) in Urban Local Bodies, run by SHG women, offering ~250 public services. Women receive training and loans of ₹2–2.5 lakh to start their centres, supporting the 'One Family, One Entrepreneur' mission and digital job creation.
Prerona Aasoni Scheme	Assam Cabinet	Provides ₹300 per month to Class X students to support education. Part of broader welfare measures to boost rural pay, support traditional workers, and promote education.
Monthly Pay Enhancement for Rural Workers	Assam Cabinet	Increased monthly pay for Gaon Pradhans from ₹9,000 to ₹14,000, Anganwadi workers to ₹8,000, and Anganwadi helpers to ₹4,000. Recognises and strengthens grassroots workforce contributions.
Monk Stipend Scheme	Assam Cabinet	Provides a ₹1,500 monthly stipend to monks in Satras, supporting cultural and religious institutions.
GST Refund Scheme for Bell Metal Artisans	Assam Cabinet	Offers GST refunds to bell metal artisans to boost traditional industries and support rural craftsmanship.
Rabindranath Thakur Vishwavidyalaya	Assam Cabinet	Renaming of Rabindranath Tagore University to Rabindranath Thakur Vishwavidyalaya, honouring cultural heritage.

National Schemes/ Apps of June 2025

CENTRAL GOVT SCHEMES

Name of Initiative	Purpose
MGNREGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a significant shift, the Centre has capped MGNREGS expenditure at 60% for the first half of FY 2025–26, bringing the scheme under the MEP/QEP framework for the first time. This move comes amid pending liabilities of ₹21,000 crore, and may affect the scheme's employment generation capacity. With an annual allocation of ₹86,000 crore and an ambitious labour target of 198.86 crore persondays, the decision marks a major policy shift in how the demand-driven MGNREGS is financially managed. While it aims at fiscal control, concerns remain about potential job shortfalls in rural areas.



Name of Initiative	Purpose
JAIHIND scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delhi University has launched the JAIHIND scheme to empower Scheduled Tribe (ST) students from remote regions by providing basic computer training and CUET preparation support. The programme targets school students (Classes 9–12) and addresses challenges like lack of digital access and unfamiliarity with online admission processes. With the first batch of 25 students from Ukhrul, Manipur, the initiative is fully funded by DU and is envisioned as an annual skill-building programme to support tribal participation in higher education.
Indian Railways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian Railways has introduced a new welfare initiative offering ₹1 crore accident compensation to its employees, without requiring any insurance premium. Under the scheme, employees only need to maintain a Salary Package Account with one of the partner banks, like SBI. The move was publicized after the family of loco pilot Sushil Lal received the first benefit under this policy. Aimed at boosting financial security, the scheme will be widely promoted through railway unions and awareness campaigns, ensuring all employees are covered under this life-saving program.
NAVYA Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a key step toward gender empowerment and inclusive growth, the Government is launching NAVYA, a pilot skilling initiative for adolescent girls under the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision. Rolled out in 27 districts across 19 states, NAVYA will provide vocational training in non-traditional job roles to girls aged 16–18 with a minimum Class 10 education. The programme reflects a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of Skill Development, using frameworks like PMKVY.
SIGHT Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SECI has issued a landmark green ammonia tender for 724,000 tonnes/year under the SIGHT Scheme to decarbonize India's fertilizer sector, a major consumer of fossil-based hydrogen. Backed by ₹1,533.4 crore incentives, long-term contracts, and a Payment Security Mechanism, the initiative provides both market confidence and environmental benefits. By replacing conventional ammonia with green hydrogen-derived ammonia, the project addresses climate goals, import dependency, and industrial sustainability.
Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS) launched by the All India Chess Federation (AICF) on June 25, 2025, marks a significant step in developing grassroots chess in India. With direct financial support ranging from ₹60,000 to ₹1.5 lakh per quarter for 78 top-performing young players across Under-7 to Under-19 categories, the scheme aims to encourage national-level participation, recognize talent, and remove financial hurdles in player development. This initiative underscores India's growing ambition to become a global chess powerhouse, while promoting gender parity and sustained investment in youth sports.
Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Central Govt NPS retirees (≥10 years service) retired on/before Mar 31, 2025 Apply by: June 30, 2025 Lump sum: 1/10th of last basic + DA per 6 months of service Top-up pension: Difference between UPS & NPS annuity Interest: Arrears at PPF rate Launched: Jan 2025, assures 50% avg last 12-month basic pay
SPMEPCI (EV Manufacturing Scheme)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15% customs duty on EV CBUs ≥\$35,000 (CIF) Valid for 5 years Import quota: 8,000 EVs/year with rollover Greenfield & brownfield investment eligible Goal: Promote domestic EV industry, clean mobility Minister: H.D. Kumaraswamy Tesla: Interested in showrooms, not manufacturing



Name of Initiative	Purpose
Krishi Nivesh Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrates agri-schemes across 14 central & 9 state depts Covers: 17 major schemes (AIF, AHIDF, PM-KUSUM, etc.) Centralized portal for: tracking, applications, scheme info Focus: PPP, credit-linked, VC, startups Goal: Boost private agri-investment, improve infra & value chains FY25 Allocation: ₹1.31 lakh crore
PM-WANI Reform	<p>Tariff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TRAI capped tariffs for PDOs under PM-WANI PM-WANI plans previously 2x costlier than FTTH <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Mbps: ₹1,532.82 (PM-WANI) vs ₹706.82 (FTTH) Draft Order: 70th Amendment (Aug 2024) DoT Amendment (Sep 2024): No need for commercial contracts with ISPs Aim: Affordable, inclusive public Wi-Fi
CEGSSC – SC Credit Guarantee Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched: May 6, 2015 Agency: IFCI Ltd. For SC-owned firms/individuals with ≥51% ownership Guarantee Cover: ₹0.15 – ₹5 crore Tenure: Up to 7 years Monitoring by special bank cells & SLBCs

STATE GOVT SCHEMES

Rajiv Gandhi Van Samvardhan Yojana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Himachal Pradesh has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Van Samvardhan Yojana to improve green cover and provide employment opportunities through community participation. Introduced by CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, the scheme involves Mahila Mandals, Yuvak Mandals, and SHGs in forest restoration on degraded lands. Complementing this is the Green Adoption Scheme, which brings in corporate players like Ambuja, Adani, and UltraTech for large-scale plantations. Additionally, Van Mitras were inducted to address staff shortages in the forest department, and the event highlighted the state's commitment to women empowerment and sustainable forest management.
Punjab Udyog Kranti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Punjab Udyog Kranti, launched on June 10, 2025, marks a significant shift in industrial governance in India. With its 12 bold reforms, including the FastTrack Punjab Portal, deemed approvals in 45 days, and colour-coded stamp papers, Punjab aims to eliminate bureaucratic red tape and foster a business-friendly environment. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal have positioned Punjab as a national leader in industrial policy reform, making it a potential magnet for investment, innovation, and employment generation.
Karnataka government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Yuva Nidhi scheme, the Karnataka government has disbursed ₹11.70 lakh to 39,132 unemployed youths in Yadgir district via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Graduates receive ₹3,000/month and diploma holders ₹1,500/month for up to two years, post a six-month grace period after course completion. Beneficiaries must report job status monthly on the Seva Sindhu portal, ensuring transparency and accountability. This initiative reflects the state's commitment to youth empowerment, welfare, and inclusive governance.
Vidya Shakti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 25, 2025, Andhra Pradesh launched 'Vidya Shakti', a remedial learning initiative aimed at supporting slow learners in government schools through after-school sessions in Math, Science, and English. Implemented across 4,424 schools and 576 KGBVs, the tech-enabled program focuses on bridging learning gaps, reducing dropouts, and boosting enrolment, with teacher training supported by IIT-Madras Pravartak. Backed by education leaders, 'Vidya Shakti' signals a major push for inclusive, digitally-driven education reform in the state.



Uttar Pradesh Reserves 20% Police Posts for Ex-Agniveers under Agneepath Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a significant step to honour and rehabilitate military-trained youth, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved 20% horizontal reservation for former Agniveers in direct police recruitment. Announced the policy will be implemented from 2026, aligning with the return of the first Agniveer batch from the Agneepath scheme.
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Important Days

Important Days of November 2025

Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description (2025)
3 Nov	World Jellyfish Day	Celebrates jellyfish; highlights 500-million-year-old marine species vital to ocean ecosystems.
5 Nov	World Tsunami Awareness Day	<i>Theme: "Be Tsunami Ready: Invest in Tsunami Preparedness";</i> focuses on early warning & coastal resilience.
6 Nov	Intl. Day for Preventing Exploitation of the Environment in War & Armed Conflict	UN observance promoting environmental protection during war.
7 Nov	National Cancer Awareness Day (India)	Focus: early detection, prevention; aligns with <i>"United by Unique"</i> .
8 Nov	World Radiography Day	Marks discovery of X-rays; honours radiographers & AI-based imaging advancements.
10 Nov	World Science Day for Peace & Development	<i>Theme: "Trust, Transformation, and Tomorrow – The Science We Need for 2050."</i>
11 Nov	National Education Day (India)	Honours Maulana Azad; focus on inclusive, tech-driven, skill-based education.
12 Nov	World Pneumonia Day	<i>Theme: "Protect Every Breath."</i>
13 Nov	World Kindness Day	Promotes kindness, compassion, peace & unity.
14 Nov	World Diabetes Day	<i>Theme: "Diabetes Across Life Stages."</i>
14 Nov	Children's Day (India)	Birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru; <i>Theme: "For Every Child, Every Right."</i>
15 Nov	Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (India)	150th birth anniversary of Birsa Munda; celebrates tribal culture & freedom fighters.
15 Nov	UN Day to Fight Transnational Organized Crime	<i>Theme: "Follow the Money. Stop Organized Crime."</i>
16 Nov	National Press Day (India)	Marks establishment of Press Council of India; promotes press freedom.
16 Nov	International Day for Tolerance	Promotes respect & cultural understanding.
17 Nov	National Epilepsy Day (India)	Raises awareness on diagnosis, treatment & stigma removal.
17 Nov	World Cervical Cancer Elimination Day (1st Edition)	<i>Theme: "Act Now: Eliminate Cervical Cancer."</i>
17 Nov	International Students' Day	Honors 1939 Czech student uprising; celebrates student rights (85th observance).
3rd Sunday of Nov	World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims	<i>Theme: "Remember. Support. Act."</i>
18–24 Nov	World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW)	<i>Theme: "Act Now: Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future."</i>
18 Nov	World Day for Prevention & Healing from Child Sexual Abuse	International day for child protection & rehabilitation.
18 Nov	National Naturopathy Day (India)	8th edition; promotes natural wellness & therapies.
19 Nov	Women's Entrepreneurship Day	Celebrates global women-led enterprises (12th edition).
19 Nov	World Toilet Day	<i>Theme: "Sanitation in a Changing World."</i> Focus on climate-resilient toilets.



Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description (2025)
19 Nov	International Men's Day	Theme: "Celebrating Men and Boys."
19–25 Nov	National Integration Week	Promotes unity; begins on Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary.
19–25 Nov	World Heritage Week (India)	Promotes conservation of heritage & monuments.
20 Nov	Africa Industrialization Day	Theme: "Transforming Africa's Economy through Sustainable Industrialization."
20 Nov	World Philosophy Day (3rd Thursday of Nov)	Highlights value of philosophy in global dialogue.
23 Nov	NCC Raising Day (India)	77th anniversary of world's largest uniformed youth organisation.
24 Nov	World Conjoined Twins Day	2nd edition; promotes awareness, dignity & inclusion.
24 Nov	Guru Tegh Bahadur Shaheedi Diwas	Honors martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (1675).
25 Nov	Intl. Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women	Theme: "UNITE to End Digital Violence Against Women and Girls."
25 Nov – 10 Dec	16 Days of Activism Campaign	Global movement against gender-based violence.
26 Nov	National Constitution Day (India)	76th anniversary of adoption of Constitution; Theme: "Humara Samvidhan, Humara Swabhimaan."
26 Nov	National Milk Day (India)	Birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien.
26 Nov	World Sustainable Transport Day (UN)	3rd edition; promotes safe, green & accessible transport systems.
27 Nov	Thanksgiving Day (USA)	Fourth Thursday of November; commemorates 1621 harvest feast; family celebrations & parades.
Nov (Full Month)	Guru Nanak Jayanti / GURPURAB	Celebrates birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji; promotes equality, humility & compassion.
2nd Thursday of Nov	World Usability Day	Theme: "Emerging Technologies and Human Experience." Focus on AI, AR & human-centered design.

Important Days of October 2025

Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description
Sept 29, 2025	World Heart Day	Theme: "Small Lifestyle Changes, Big Health Benefits" — promotes cardiovascular health through balanced diet, exercise, and stress management.
Sept 30, 2025	International Translation Day	Celebrates translators' contribution to global communication; observed on St. Jerome's Feast Day — patron saint of translators.
Oct 1, 2025	International Day of Older Persons	Theme: "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action" — recognizes senior citizens' role in community and policymaking.
Oct 4, 2025	World Animal Day (100th Anniversary)	Theme: "Save Animals, Save the Planet!" — promotes animal welfare and links conservation to climate action.
Oct 6, 2025	World Habitat Day	Theme: "Urban Crisis Response" — emphasizes sustainable urban planning and housing under UN SDG 11 .
Oct 6, 2025	World Cerebral Palsy Day	Theme: "Unique and United" — promotes awareness, inclusion, and support for 18+ million people with cerebral palsy globally.
Oct 7, 2025	World Cotton Day	Highlights cotton's role in livelihoods, trade, and sustainability — recognized by UN and observed in 75+ countries.
Oct 7, 2025	Valmiki Jayanti	Honors Maharishi Valmiki , author of <i>Ramayana</i> and Sanskrit's first poet (<i>Adi Kavi</i>); celebrates social harmony and justice.
Oct 8, 2025	Indian Air Force Day (IAF Day)	Marks IAF's founding in 1932 ; showcases modernization, air shows, and career opportunities via NDA & AFCAT .
Oct 10, 2025	World Mental Health Day	Theme: "Access to Services — Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies" — focuses on mental well-being during crises.





Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description
Oct 10, 2025	National Post Day (India)	Theme: “#PostForPeople: Local Service, Global Reach” — celebrates 150 years of India Post’s service and financial inclusion.
Oct 9–15, 2025	National Postal Week	Promotes digital postal services , rural outreach, and philately with daily observances like Banking Day and Antyodaya Day.
Oct 13, 2025	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	Encourages global efforts for disaster preparedness and resilience , shifting focus from response to prevention.
Oct 14, 2025	World Standards Day	Theme: “A Shared Vision for a Better World” — honors ISO, IEC, and ITU experts shaping global standardization and innovation.
Oct 17, 2025	International Day for Eradication of Poverty	Promotes dialogue, dignity, and justice; India’s extreme poverty fell from 16.2% (2011–12) to 2.3% (2022–23) .
Oct 18, 2025	World Menopause Day	Theme: “Lifestyle Medicine in Menopausal Health” — promotes women’s wellness and holistic care during menopause.
Oct 20, 2025	World Osteoporosis Day (WOD)	Theme: “It’s Unacceptable!” — spreads awareness on bone health and prevention of osteoporosis.
Oct 20, 2025	National Solidarity Day (India)	Honors soldiers of the 1962 Indo-China War ; reaffirms national unity and military valor.
Oct 21, 2025	Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) Prevention Day	Raises awareness on iodine’s importance for thyroid and brain health; promotes iodized salt use.
Oct 21, 2025	Bandi Chhor Divas (Sikh Festival)	Commemorates Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji’s release from captivity; symbolizes freedom and justice .
Oct 21, 2025	Police Commemoration Day (India)	Remembers 10 police martyrs of 1959 Ladakh clash ; observed at National Police Memorial, New Delhi .
Oct 22, 2025	Bestu Varas (Gujarati New Year)	Marks new business year and spiritual renewal a day after Diwali; celebrated with Chopda Pujan & Saal Mubarak greetings.
Oct 23, 2025	World Snow Leopard Day	Theme: “Protecting the Mountain Guardian” — focuses on conserving endangered snow leopards (Panthera uncia) .
Oct 24, 2025	United Nations Day	Marks UN’s founding (1945) ; celebrates peacekeeping, human rights, and sustainable development.
Oct 24, 2025	World Polio Day	Theme: “End Polio: Every Child, Every Vaccine, Everywhere” — emphasizes global eradication of polio.
Oct 24, 2025	World Development Information Day	Highlights ICT’s role in global progress and digital inclusivity .
Oct 24, 2025	ITBP Raising Day	Marks 63 years of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police ; honors service in guarding high-altitude frontiers.
Oct 27, 2025	Infantry Day (India)	Commemorates the 1947 airlift of Sikh Regiment to Srinagar , pivotal in defending Jammu & Kashmir.
Oct 27, 2025	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	Theme: “Digitizing Our Shared UNESCO History” — promotes digital preservation of historical media records.
Oct 27 – Nov 2, 2025	Vigilance Awareness Week (India)	Theme: “Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility” — promotes transparency, ethics, and anti-corruption efforts nationwide.
Oct 28, 2025	International Animation Day	Celebrated by ASIFA ; honors Émile Reynaud’s 1892 Théâtre Optique — 2025 poster by Lucija Mrzljak .
Oct 29, 2025	World Stroke Day	Highlights Ayurveda’s Pakshaghata therapy and holistic stroke recovery through traditional medicine.
Oct 31, 2025	National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas)	Celebrates Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s 150th birth anniversary ; nationwide Run for Unity organized at Statue of Unity, Gujarat .



Important Days of September 2025

Important Days & Observances (September 2025)

Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description
Sept 1-7	National Nutrition Week (India)	Theme: <i>"Eat Right for a Better Life"</i> ; promotes balanced diets, mindful eating & tackling malnutrition.
Sept 2	World Coconut Day	Celebrates founding of Asian Pacific Coconut Community ; India is world's 3rd-largest coconut producer .
Sept 3	Skyscraper Day	Marks birth anniversary of Louis H. Sullivan , "father of skyscrapers" & <i>form follows function</i> principle.
Sept 5	Teacher's Day (India)	Honours Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan , 2nd President of India, philosopher & academician.
Sept 7	Brazil Independence Day	Marks 203rd anniversary of independence from Portuguese rule.
Sept 7	Grandparents Day (US, Canada, India)	Celebrates grandparents' love, wisdom & contributions .
Sept 8	International Literacy Day	Theme: <i>"Promoting Literacy in the Digital Era"</i> ; focuses on bridging the digital divide.
Sept 8	World Physiotherapy Day	Theme: <i>"Healthy Ageing"</i> ; preventing frailty among older adults.
Sept 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	Theme: <i>"Changing the Narrative on Suicide"</i> ; India implements Tele-MANAS & DMHP initiatives.
Sept 11	National Forest Martyrs Day (India)	Theme: <i>"Remembering Martyrs, Protecting Forests"</i> ; commemorates sacrifices like Khejarli Massacre .
Sept 11	Patriot Day (USA)	Observes 9/11 terror attack victims ; honors first responders with community service.
Sept 11	Digvijay Diwas (India)	Marks Swami Vivekananda's 1893 Chicago speech promoting universal brotherhood.
Sept 13	World First Aid Day	Theme: <i>"First Aid and Climate Change"</i> ; promotes emergency preparedness & climate disaster response.
Sept 15	Engineers' Day (India)	Theme: <i>"Deep Tech & Engineering Excellence: Driving India's Techade"</i> ; honors Sir M. Visvesvaraya .
Sept 15	International Day of Democracy	Theme: <i>"Achieving Gender Equality, Action by Action"</i> ; focus on inclusive democratic governance .
Sept 16	World Ozone Day	Theme: <i>"From Science to Global Action"</i> ; marks 40 years of Vienna Convention & Montreal Protocol success.
Sept 17	World Patient Safety Day	Theme: <i>"Safe Care for Every Newborn and Child"</i> ; focus on pediatric healthcare & reducing medical errors .
Sept 17	Vishwakarma Puja	Celebrates divine engineer Vishwakarma ; artisans & workers worship tools & craftsmanship .
Sept 18	World Bamboo Day	Theme: <i>"Next Generation Bamboo"</i> ; highlights design, innovation & sustainability .
Sept 18	International Equal Pay Day	Observed to address global gender pay gap and promote pay equity .
Sept 19	International Talk Like a Pirate Day	Celebrates pirate-speak tradition worldwide in a fun & playful way .
Sept 20	International Red Panda Day	Focus on conservation of endangered Himalayan red panda (fewer than 10,000 left).
21 Sept	International Day of Peace 2025	Theme: <i>"Act Now for a Peaceful World"</i> – promotes unity, non-violence & global harmony.
21 Sept	World Alzheimer's Day 2025	Theme: <i>"Ask about Dementia. Ask about Alzheimer's"</i> – awareness on early diagnosis, caregiver support & stigma reduction.
22 Sept	World Rose Day 2025	Honors cancer patients & caregivers, inspired by Melinda Rose , symbolizing hope & solidarity.
22 Sept	World Rhino Day 2025	Focus on rhino conservation – highlights Project Rhino & protection at Kaziranga National Park .
23 Sept	International Day of Sign Languages 2025	Theme: <i>"Sign Language Unites Us"</i> – promotes awareness of sign languages for deaf & hard-of-hearing communities.
23 Sept	Ayurveda Day 2025	First time celebrated on autumnal equinox (instead of Dhanteras). Theme: <i>"Ayurveda for People and Planet"</i> .
25 Sept	World Pharmacists Day 2025	Theme: <i>"Think Health, Think Pharmacist"</i> – recognizes pharmacists' role in healthcare.
25 Sept	Antyodaya Diwas 2025	Birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya , focus on inclusive growth & uplifting poorest sections.



Date	Day / Observance	Theme / Description
26 Sept	World Contraception Day 2025	Theme: "A choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose" – promotes reproductive health rights.
26 Sept	European Day of Languages	Promotes linguistic diversity & intercultural understanding across Europe's 225+ languages .
26 Sept	World Environmental Health Day 2025	Theme: "Clean Air, Healthy People" – awareness on air quality & human health.
27 Sept	World Tourism Day 2025	Theme: "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation" – promotes responsible & inclusive tourism.
29 Sept	World Heart Day	Theme: "Small Lifestyle Changes, Big Health Benefits" – promoting heart health through diet, exercise, stress management & avoiding harmful habits.
30 Sept	International Translation Day	Honors translators, interpreters & language professionals; established in 1991 by International Federation of Translators; observed on feast day of St. Jerome, patron saint of translators; highlights role in multilingualism & UN's six official languages.

Important Days of August 2025

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
August 1, 2025	World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1–7)	Theme: " Prioritise Breastfeeding: Create Sustainable Support Systems "; emphasizes long-term support, public acceptance, and policy for accessible breastfeeding.
August 1, 2025	National Mountain Climbing Day	Celebrates the feat of Bobby Mathews and Josh Madigan (2015); promotes physical and mental fitness and environmental value of mountains.
August 1, 2025	World Lung Cancer Day	Highlights awareness, prevention, and early detection of lung cancer, including risks from smoking, pollution, and genetics.
August 1, 2025	World Wide Web Day	Theme: " Empowering the Future: Building an Inclusive, Safe, and Open Web "; focuses on digital inclusion, ethical AI, and universal access.
August 3, 2025	Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day	Raises awareness about CLOVES syndrome , a rare disorder; promotes early diagnosis, treatment, and community support.
August 6, 2025	Hiroshima Day	Marks the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima ; promotes peace, non-violence, and nuclear disarmament; honors Hibakusha (survivors).
August 7, 2025	National Handloom Day	Theme: " Handlooms – Empowering Women, Empowering the Nation "; celebrates Indian weavers and commemorates the Swadeshi Movement of 1905 ; initiated in 2015 by PM Modi.
August 9, 2025	World Sanskrit Day	Celebrates ancient Sanskrit; promotes preservation and education among youth
August 9, 2025	Nagasaki Day	80th anniversary of atomic bombing; stresses peace, disarmament, and global remembrance
August 10, 2025	World Lion Day	Highlights lion conservation, threats from habitat loss and poaching
August 12, 2025	International Youth Day	Theme: "Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond"; focuses on youth participation
August 12, 2025	World Elephant Day	Theme: "Bringing the World Together to Help Elephants"; stresses conservation efforts
August 15, 2025	Independence Day (India)	79th celebration; honors freedom struggle and India's vision for a \$5 trillion economy
Aug 19	World Humanitarian Day	Theme: " Strengthening Global Solidarity and Empowering Local Communities "; honors humanitarian workers and global aid efforts.
Aug 19	World Photography Day	Theme: " MY FAVORITE PHOTO "; celebrates photography's art, history & impact; part of <i>World Photography Week (Aug 12–26)</i> .
Aug 20	World Mosquito Day	Marks Sir Ronald Ross's 1897 discovery linking malaria to female Anopheles mosquito; raises awareness on malaria, dengue, chikungunya, Zika, etc.
Aug 21	World Entrepreneurs' Day	Celebrated in 170+ countries; honors innovation, job creation & resilience of entrepreneurs.



Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
Aug 21	World Senior Citizens' Day	Theme: <i>"Empowering Elderly Voices for an Inclusive Future"</i> ; promotes dignity, respect, and inclusion of older adults.
Aug 21	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to Victims of Terrorism	Theme: <i>"United by Hope: Collective Action for Victims of Terrorism"</i> ; shows solidarity and promotes human rights.
Aug 22	Madras Day	Marks founding of Madras (Chennai) in 1639; celebrates heritage, culture, and civic pride.
Aug 22	International Day Commemorating Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief	UNGA Resolution A/RES/73/296; honors victims of violence due to religion or belief; promotes freedom of religion and peaceful assembly.
Aug 23	National Space Day (India)	Marks Chandrayaan-3's 2023 soft landing; Theme: <i>"Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient Wisdom to Infinite Possibilities"</i> . Highlights India's space achievements & future missions.
26 August	Women's Equality Day	Marks certification of the 19th Amendment (1920) granting US women right to vote; rooted in Seneca Falls Convention (1848); recognised in 1973; honours women's suffrage & ongoing fight for gender equality.
23 September	Ayurveda Day	Shifted from Dhanteras to fixed date; Theme: <i>"Ayurveda for People & Planet"</i> ; led by Ministry of Ayush for global awareness on holistic health & ecological harmony.
29–31 August	National Sports Day (India)	3-day campaign under Fit India Mission honouring Major Dhyan Chand; Theme: <i>"Ek Ghanta, Khel ke Maidan Main"</i> (fitness movement); also highlighted as <i>"Sport to Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies"</i> .
26 August	International Dog Day	Founded in 2004 by Colleen Paige; raises awareness on dog welfare, adoption, and contributions in service, law enforcement, and emotional support; officially recognised in New York (2013).
29 August	International Day Against Nuclear Tests	Established by UN in 2009; marks closure of Semipalatinsk Test Site (Kazakhstan, 1991); raises awareness on effects of nuclear testing, promotes disarmament.
30 August	International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances	UN observance to highlight human rights violation of enforced disappearances; calls for truth, justice, and end to impunity.
30 August	National Small Industry Day (India)	First celebrated in 2001 after 2000 policy package; honours SSIs' role in economic growth, entrepreneurship, rural upliftment, and cultural heritage.

Important Days of July 2025

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
July 1, 2025	National Doctor's Day	Theme: <i>"Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?"</i> — Focuses on the mental health and emotional well-being of doctors; honours their selfless contribution to public health.
July 1, 2025	National Chartered Accountants Day	Celebrates 76 years of ICAI; recognises the role of CAs in economic governance, taxation, auditing, and nation-building.
July 1, 2025	GST Day	Marks the anniversary of GST implementation in 2017; celebrates tax reform that unified India's indirect tax system with benefits like ITC, online compliance, and simplified tax structures.
July 1, 2025	SBI Foundation Day	Celebrates 70 years of State Bank of India (formed in 1955); acknowledges its ₹61 trillion asset base, digital leadership, and role in India's financial evolution.
July 2, 2025	World Sports Journalists Day	Theme: <i>"Championing Fair Play: Reporting with Integrity and Impact"</i> — Honours sports journalists for promoting ethical storytelling and public engagement with sports.





Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
July 4, 2025	Punyatithi of Swami Vivekananda	Commemorates the death anniversary of Swami Vivekananda (1902); honours his spiritual legacy, teachings of nationalism, Vedanta, service, and his iconic 1893 Chicago address.
July 5, 2025	International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay)	Theme: <i>"Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World"</i> — Highlights the role of co-ops in empowering communities and achieving sustainable development goals.
July 6, 2025	World Rural Development Day	First-ever celebration by the UN; focuses on empowering rural communities, supporting women, youth, farmers, and small businesses; promotes infrastructure, digital and financial inclusion to achieve SDGs by 2030.
July 7, 2025	World Bioproduct Day	Promotes sustainable bioproducts from renewable materials to protect the environment; highlights India's role in biopharma, agriculture, and bio-industry; supports a cleaner, circular economy.
July 7	World Swahili Language Day	Declared by UNESCO in 2022; celebrates Swahili as a unifying African language spoken by over 200 million; honors leaders like Nyerere and Kenyatta; promotes cultural pride and respect for African languages.
July 11, 2025	World Population Day 2025	Theme: <i>"Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world"</i> ; focuses on youth empowerment, reproductive rights, and gender equality amid India becoming the most populous country.
July 11, 2025	World Horse Day	First-ever celebration by UN; recognizes horses' role in agriculture, culture, therapy, and livelihoods; urges protection of equine welfare; promotes awareness through visits, education, and support for rescue centers.
15 July 2025	World Youth Skills Day 2025	Theme: <i>"Youth Empowerment Through Artificial Intelligence and Digital Skills"</i> – Focus on equipping youth with AI and digital skills, addressing NEET challenges, and promoting TVET for jobs and career growth.
16 July 2025	AI Appreciation Day (India)	Showcasing AI-driven transformation across sectors; highlighting initiatives like Digital India, AI for All, and Skill India AI Portal; emphasis on inclusive, ethical AI innovation.
15 July 2025	World Snake Day 2025	Awareness on snake conservation; sessions at Bannerghatta Biological Park; release of snake-themed postcards; focus on reducing fear/misinformation and empowering youth as ecological stewards.
17 July 2025	World Day for International Justice	Commemorates adoption of the Rome Statute and founding of the ICC; promotes justice, human rights, accountability, and rule of law.
18 July 2025	Nelson Mandela International Day	Theme: <i>"It's still in our hands to combat poverty and inequity"</i> – Encourages 67 minutes of community service, honoring Mandela's 67 years of public service and commitment to justice and equality.
20 July 2025	World Chess Day	Marks FIDE's founding in 1924; celebrates chess as a tool for intellectual growth, strategic thinking, and global unity; roots in ancient India.
20 July 2025	International Moon Day	Marks Apollo 11 Moon landing; promotes peaceful space exploration, sustainable lunar resource use, and global cooperation in space initiatives.
22 July 2025	World Brain Health Day	Theme: <i>Brain Health for All Ages</i> – Promotes early intervention, lifestyle awareness, and equal access to neurological care; encourages quality sleep, exercise, healthy diet, and mental engagement.
22 July 2025	NABARD Foundation Day (44th)	Celebrates NABARD's role in rural development; highlights loans and infrastructure support, cooperative development, digitisation, and climate-resilient growth.
22 July 2025	National Flag Day	Marks the 78th anniversary of adoption of the Indian National Flag; promotes patriotism, national pride, and adherence to the Flag Code of India.
23 July 2025	National Broadcasting Day	Commemorates the history of radio broadcasting in India; honors AIR's role in communication, education, freedom struggle, and disaster management.
25 July 2025	International Day for Women and Girls of African Descent	Highlights challenges faced due to racism, sexism, and socio-economic bias; calls for education, leadership, and policy inclusion.
25 July 2025	World Drowning Prevention Day	Raises awareness on drowning prevention; promotes low-cost interventions, swimming lessons, and rescue training; stresses multi-sectoral action.
25 July 2025	International Day for Judicial Well-being	Highlights the link between judicial wellness and quality justice; combats stigma, encourages institutional reforms, and promotes awareness.



Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
24 July 2025	Income Tax Day	Marks the introduction of income tax in India (1860); highlights modernization of tax administration and voluntary compliance.
26 July 2025	World Mangrove Day	Promotes conservation of mangrove forests; raises awareness on biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.

Important Days of June 2025

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
June 1	Global Day of Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Global Day of Parents, celebrated on June 1, recognizes the immense contributions parents make toward the well-being and development of children. In 2025, global institutions focused on supporting positive parenting, mental health, and inclusive caregiving. With origins dating back to UN resolutions in the 1990s, the day emphasizes that strong family structures are crucial for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The observance brings together global voices to celebrate, support, and empower parents worldwide.
June 1st	World Milk Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Milk Day, celebrated on June 1st, recognizes milk's nutritional power, economic importance, and cultural value. Established by the FAO in 2001, it highlights milk's role in health, rural livelihoods, sustainability, and women empowerment. The 2025 theme, "Let's Celebrate the Power of Dairy," emphasizes dairy's impact across all life stages. In India, the White Revolution, led by Dr. Verghese Kurien and the NDDB, transformed the nation from a milk-deficient country to the world's largest milk producer, ensuring food security and economic growth.
June 2nd	Telangana Formation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana Formation Day, observed on June 2nd, marks the creation of India's 29th state in 2014 after a prolonged struggle for self-determination, cultural identity, and regional autonomy. Far from being symbolic, the day reflects the people's fight against regional imbalances, administrative neglect, and cultural underrepresentation. Rooted in the Hyderabad State's distinct pre-1956 identity, the Telangana Movement ultimately culminated in a political and social victory that empowered its citizens and reshaped India's federal landscape.
June 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 4, 2025, the world observes the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, a UN-designated day dedicated to highlighting the suffering of children affected by armed conflict, violence, and exploitation. Originating in 1982 following the violence in Palestine and Lebanon, the observance now encompasses global efforts under frameworks like the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Resolution 51/77, and SDG 16.2. The UN's 2024 report revealed 32,990 grave violations in 2023, including killing, recruitment, abduction, and sexual violence, urging the international community to intensify child protection efforts.
June 5	World Environment Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Environment Day 2025, observed on June 5, focuses on the theme "Beat Plastic Pollution", highlighting the urgent need to tackle the global plastic crisis affecting ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. Celebrated annually since 1973, it is a UN-led initiative involving over 150 countries, urging governments, industries, and individuals to reduce plastic waste and promote sustainable alternatives.



Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
June 5	International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, observed annually on June 5, aims to spotlight global efforts to curb unsustainable and often criminal fishing practices. With support from the UN FAO and the Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA), now backed by two-thirds of coastal nations, this initiative enforces port-level regulations to block illegally sourced fish.
June 7	World Food Safety Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Food Safety Day 2025, observed on June 7, promotes the theme "Food Safety: Science in Action", spotlighting the use of technology and innovation to combat food contamination. Established by the UN in 2018, the day raises global awareness about the health, economic, and social consequences of unsafe food. In India, where food adulteration, inspection shortfalls, and poor cold storage pose persistent risks, the observance urges collective action—from authorities to consumers—to ensure safety from farm to fork.
June 8	World Brain Tumour Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Brain Tumour Day 2025 observed on June 8, a day dedicated to raising awareness about brain tumours, promoting early diagnosis, supporting patients and families, and encouraging research and treatment advancements. Although the official theme for 2025 is yet to be announced, global activities like health talks, campaigns, and events will spotlight the serious challenges faced by those affected.
June 9 th	World Accreditation Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Quality Council of India (QCI) celebrated World Accreditation Day 2025 on June 9th at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, under the theme "Accreditation: Empowering SMEs", highlighting its commitment to quality standards, global alignment through NABL and NABCB, and launching the revamped NABL Portal to boost digital access, transparency, and support for MSMEs in the accreditation process.
10 June	International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations, to be observed annually on 10 June, was established by the United Nations in 2024 to promote intercultural dialogue, global solidarity, and peaceful coexistence. The 2025 celebration featured a UNESCO event in Paris focused on the Silk Roads' cultural legacy and youth engagement. The event included thematic panels, expert speakers, and cultural performances, emphasizing the role of dialogue in eliminating prejudice, enhancing mutual respect, and building inclusive societies.
June 11	International Day of Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of Play, observed annually on June 11, celebrates the essential role of play in promoting child development, mental well-being, and social connection, with the 2025 theme "Choose Play – Every Day" urging individuals, communities, and governments to prioritize daily play across homes, schools, and public life for healthier, happier societies.
June 12	World Day Against Child Labour 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Day Against Child Labour 2025 was observed on June 12, emphasizing the urgent need to eliminate child labour globally. With 138 million children still affected, this year's theme — "<i>Progress is clear, but there's more to do: let's speed up our efforts!</i>" — serves as a powerful reminder that global efforts must intensify. Initiated by the ILO in 2002, the observance aims to promote child rights, ensure education, and reduce poverty-driven exploitation, while in India, various national policies and acts are already supporting the cause.





Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
June 12	World Kidney Cancer Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Kidney Cancer Day 2025, observed on June 12, highlights the importance of kidney health awareness with the theme "Understanding Kidney Health." Organized by the International Kidney Cancer Coalition (IKCC), the campaign promotes early detection, identifies key risk factors like smoking, obesity, and hypertension, and urges people to adopt a kidney-friendly lifestyle. As kidney cancer often shows no symptoms in early stages, routine screenings such as CT scans and urine tests are crucial for timely diagnosis and treatment.
June 13	International Albinism Awareness Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Albinism Awareness Day 2025, observed on June 13, is a UN-recognized global event aimed at protecting the rights and dignity of individuals affected by albinism, a genetic disorder marked by the lack of melanin in the body. The day serves to fight stigma, promote equality, and raise awareness of visual impairments, sun sensitivity, and genetic inheritance patterns associated with the condition. Established in 2014, this initiative is rooted in human rights, public education, and the celebration of diversity.
June 14	World Blood Donor Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Blood Donor Day 2025, observed globally on June 14, honours voluntary blood donors and raises awareness about the importance of safe, regular blood donations. With the theme "Give Blood, Give Hope," this year's observance highlights how each unit of donated blood brings healing and hope to those in need. Established by the WHO in 2004, the day also commemorates the birthday of Karl Landsteiner, who discovered the ABO blood group system.
June 15	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2025, observed on June 15, aims to address the often-overlooked issue of abuse against older adults, including physical, emotional, financial, and sexual mistreatment. Launched by WHO and INPEA in 2006 and later recognised by the United Nations, the day is marked with global advocacy and community action. Wearing purple, sharing resources, and checking in on elders are simple yet powerful ways to participate.
June 16	International Domestic Workers' Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Domestic Workers' Day 2025, observed on June 16, underscores the urgent need for decent work, fair wages, social protection, and legal rights for millions of domestic workers, especially women and migrants. With only 39 countries ratifying ILO Convention 189, the global community is called to action to recognise domestic work as real work, implement strong laws, and invest in the care economy, in line with the 2024 ILO Resolution—ensuring dignity, justice, and equality for all.
June 16	International Day of Family Remittances 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of Family Remittances 2025, observed on June 16, recognises the vital financial contributions of migrant workers to their families and communities. The 2025 theme, "Remittances financing development," reaffirms the global commitment to leveraging remittances as tools for sustainable development.
June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2025, observed on June 17, focuses on the theme "Restore the Land. Unlock the Opportunities." It draws attention to the urgent need for land restoration, especially with over 1.5 billion hectares needing revival by 2030. As a global observance driven by the UNCCD, it emphasizes the economic and environmental significance of healthy land and encourages nations like India to scale up sustainable land management, afforestation, and community-led resilience to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.





Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
18 June	International Day for Countering Hate Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the International Day for Countering Hate Speech (18 June), global attention turned toward combating the escalating threat of online hate speech. Prominent among voices calling for action was Nazia Rehman, Chair of the Congress Social Inclusion Committee (UK), who emphasized the need for local and regional authorities to adopt practical countermeasures.
June 19	11th International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 19, 2025, the world observes the 11th International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, under the theme "Breaking the Cycle, Healing the Scars." The United Nations uses this day to highlight the intergenerational trauma caused by conflict-related sexual violence, such as rape, sexual slavery, and forced marriage. Originating from UNSC Resolution 1820 (2008), this day seeks to end the impunity surrounding war-related sexual crimes, support survivors, and campaign for #EndRapeInWar through global awareness, healing initiatives, and justice reform.
June 20	World Refugee Day 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Refugee Day 2025, observed on June 20, reaffirms the global commitment to uphold the rights and dignity of refugees. Under the theme "Solidarity with Refugees", this year's observance emphasizes inclusion, fair work opportunities, and equal treatment for the forcibly displaced. It urges governments, employers, and communities to recognize refugees not just as survivors, but as active contributors to economic and social progress. With record levels of displacement worldwide, the day calls for action-oriented solidarity, ensuring that refugees thrive, not just survive.
June 23	United Nations Public Service Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every year on June 23, the world marks United Nations Public Service Day to honor the contributions of public servants and promote effective, inclusive governance. Established by UNGA Resolution 57/277 in 2002, the day celebrates innovation, encourages youth participation in governance, and underscores the role of public institutions in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
June 23	International Olympic Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observed every year on June 23, International Olympic Day celebrates the founding of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894 by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, promoting Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect. First celebrated in 1948, it has grown into a global movement to inspire physical activity, sportsmanship, and healthy lifestyles. The 2025 theme, "Let's Move?", launched by the IOC and WHO, calls on everyone to combat inactivity through simple, inclusive forms of movement, encouraging a more active and balanced life for all.
June 23	International Widows Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Widows Day, observed annually on June 23, highlights the challenges faced by widows globally, including discrimination, poverty, and social exclusion. Launched by the Loomba Foundation in 2005 and recognized by the UN in 2010, the day promotes legal rights, economic empowerment, and social inclusion for widows. The anticipated 2025 theme, "Empowering Widows Through Legal Rights and Inclusive Development", underscores the need for legal reforms, vocational support, and gender equality to advance SDG 1, 5, and 8.





Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description
June 24	International Day of Women in Diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of Women in Diplomacy (IDWD), observed on June 24, celebrates the vital role of women in diplomacy and calls for gender equality in global governance. Established by the UNGA in 2022, the 2025 theme—“<i>Eliminating Structural Barriers to Women’s Leadership in Diplomacy</i>”—urges reforms like gender-balanced ministries, anti-harassment policies, and leadership quotas. Despite progress, only 25 countries have female heads of state, and just 22.9% of cabinet positions are held by women. The day supports SDG 5, 16, and 17, promoting inclusive peacebuilding, diverse leadership, and institutional change.
June 25	Day of the Seafarer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 25, the world marks the Day of the Seafarer, honoring the vital role of seafarers in sustaining global trade and economies. This year’s theme, ‘My Harassment-Free Ship’, led by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), calls for a zero-tolerance stance against bullying, harassment, and discrimination at sea. The campaign urges a cultural shift across the maritime industry, championing safety, equality, and dignity for all, and empowering seafarers to demand and create respectful, inclusive workplaces on every vessel.
June 27	International Day of Deafblindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of Deafblindness, observed annually on June 27, commemorates the birth of Helen Keller, the first deafblind person to earn a degree and a global symbol of disability rights. Recognized by the UN through Resolution A/RES/79/294, the day highlights deafblindness as a distinct disability requiring specialized support, interpreter-guides, and inclusive policies. It aims to raise awareness, promote independence, and ensure equal access to services for the deafblind community worldwide.
June 27	International Day of Deafblindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of Deafblindness, observed on June 27, honors the birth anniversary of Helen Keller and recognizes deafblindness as a unique disability involving combined vision and hearing loss. Proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in Resolution A/RES/79/294, the day calls for inclusive support systems, policy recognition, and access to specialized interpreters, aiming to ensure the rights, independence, and visibility of the deafblind community globally.
29 June	International Day of the Tropics 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Day of the Tropics 2025, observed on 29 June, marks its 9th annual celebration to recognize the importance of tropical regions in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Initiated by the United Nations through Resolution A/RES/70/267, this day highlights the biodiversity, cultural richness, and development challenges of the tropical zone, which covers 40% of the Earth’s surface and hosts 80% of global biodiversity. It serves as a global platform to raise awareness, promote sustainable practices, and address issues like climate change, deforestation, and urbanization affecting these vital regions.
29th June	National Statistics Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India celebrates National Statistics Day every year on 29th June to honor Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, the father of Indian statistics, for his contributions like the Mahalanobis Distance, Five-Year Plans, and founding the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and National Sample Survey (NSS). First observed in 2007, the day promotes data-driven decision-making, statistical literacy, and emphasizes the role of statistics in governance, policy formulation, and inclusive development, while encouraging youth participation and strengthening data systems for India’s future.





Obituaries (National/International)

Obituaries (National/International) of November 2025

S.No.	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Age	Key Notes
1	Sulakshana Pandit	Singer & Actress	Mumbai, Maharashtra	71	Veteran playback singer-actress of 1970s–80s; known for classical voice and Hindi film hits.
2	Saalumarada Thimmakka	Environmentalist	Gubbi Taluk, Karnataka	114	Known as "Vriksha Mathe" ; planted 385 banyan trees; Padma Shri awardee.
3	Kamini Kaushal	Actress	Lahore (Undivided India)	98	Star of <i>Neecha Nagar</i> ; 70+ year film career; Padma Shri recipient.
4	Arunachalam Vellayan	Industrialist	Tamil Nadu (Chennai)	72	Chairman Emeritus, Coromandel International & former Murugappa Group head.
5	Dharmendra (D. K. K. Deol)	Bollywood Actor	Nasrali, Punjab	89	"He-Man of Bollywood" ; 300+ films; last film <i>Ikkis</i> (2025).
6	Kumari Kamala (Kamala Laxmi Narayanan)	Bharatanatyam Exponent	Mayuram (Mayiladuthurai), Tamil Nadu	91	Global ambassador of Bharatanatyam; child prodigy; Padma Shri.
7	Charles Coste	Olympic Cyclist	Ollioules, France	101	Won 1948 Olympic Gold in cycling for France.
8	Kim Yong Nam	Politician	Heijo (Pyongyang), North Korea	97	Former President of the Presidium (1998–2019); top DPRK statesman.
9	Gopichand Hinduja	Business Leader	Karachi (Undivided India)	85	Chairman, Hinduja Group ; UK's richest Indian-origin businessman.
10	Lee Soon Jae	Actor	South Korea	91	Veteran actor with 70-year career; known for <i>Unstoppable High Kick</i> , <i>Dear My Friends</i> .
11	Udo Kier	Actor	Cologne, Germany	81	Cult cinema icon; 250+ films; known for <i>Blade</i> , <i>Suspiria</i> , <i>Mark of the Devil</i> .
12	Viola Ford Fletcher ("Mother Fletcher")	Historical Figure	Oklahoma, USA	111	Last survivor of 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre ; testified before US Congress; author of <i>Don't Let Them Bury My Story</i> .

Obituaries (National/International) of October 2025

S.No.	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
1	Dr. G. G. Parikh	Gandhian Socialist & Freedom Fighter	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Passed away at 100 on Oct 2, 2025 ; known as the "Saint of the Socialists" ; active in Quit India Movement (1942) ; lifelong advocate of social justice & Gandhian principles .
2	Pandit Chhannulal Mishra	Hindustani Classical Music (Banaras Gharana)	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	Passed away at 89 in Mirzapur; Padma Bhushan awardee; famous for Khyal and Thumri renditions blending classical and folk traditions.
3	Varinder Singh Ghuman	Actor & Professional Bodybuilder	Amritsar, Punjab	Passed away on Oct 9, 2025 aged 41 ; Mr. India 2009 winner; noted for vegetarian bodybuilding advocacy ; acted in Tiger 3 , <i>Roar: Tigers of Sundarbans</i> , and <i>Marjaavaan</i> .
4	Pankaj Dheer	Actor (Television & Film)	Mumbai, Maharashtra	Died on Oct 15, 2025 at 68 ; iconic as Karna in Mahabharat (B.R. Chopra) ; featured in Baadshah (1999) & Zameen (2003) ; remembered for his legacy in Indian television mythology .
5	Asrani	Veteran Bollywood Actor & Comedian	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Passed away at 84 ; beloved for comic roles and his "British-era jailer" in <i>Sholay</i> ; contributed to 300+ films in Hindi cinema.



S.No.	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
6	Diane Keaton	Hollywood Actress & Oscar Winner	Los Angeles, USA	Died at 79 in California; born Jan 5, 1946 ; won Academy Award for Best Actress (<i>Annie Hall</i>); acclaimed for <i>The Godfather</i> and <i>Something's Gotta Give</i> .
7	Ravi Sitaram Naik	Politician, Former CM of Goa	Ponda, Goa	Passed away aged 79 ; served as Goa CM (1991–94) & Agriculture Minister ; known for contributions to Goa's rural and agricultural development .
8	Dr. Eknath Vasant Chitnis	Space Scientist	Kolhapur, Maharashtra	Died at 100 in Pune; architect of India's early space programme , collaborated with Dr. Vikram Sarabhai ; pioneer of ISRO's foundational projects .
9	Chen-Ning Yang	Theoretical Physicist & Nobel Laureate	Hofei, Anhwei, China	Passed away at 103 in Beijing; Nobel Prize in Physics (1957) for Parity Violation Theory ; key contributor to quantum field theory .
10	Dr. K. Mathangi Ramakrishnan	Plastic Surgeon & Medical Innovator	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Died aged 91 on Oct 27, 2025 ; founded first government burns unit in South India ; Padma Shri (2002) recipient; innovated collagen membrane for burn treatment .
11	Rishabh Tandon	Singer & Music Composer	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Passed away at 35 due to a heart attack; known for hit song " Yeh Ashiqui " and contributions to indie music and playback singing .
12	Piyush Pandey	Advertising Legend	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Passed away in 2025; called the " Father of Indian Advertising "; joined Ogilvy India in 1982 ; led iconic ad campaigns and revolutionized Indian ad storytelling .

Obituaries (National/International) of September 2025

- **Fashion Icon Passes Away:** Legendary Italian fashion designer Giorgio Armani dies at 91, known globally as "Re Giorgio" for building a €2.3 billion fashion empire with signature modern Italian elegance.
- **Bharatanatyam Legend Passes Away:** Sarada Hoffman, foundational Kalakshetra guru and Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee, dies at 96 in California on September 14.
- Legendary actor-director **Robert Redford** dies at **89**, remembered for contributions to **cinema and activism**.
- **Former Meghalaya CM D.D. Lapang Dies:** Respected political leader who served as Chief Minister four times between 1992-2008 passes away at 91 in Shillong, remembered for consensus-building.
- **Boxing Legend Ricky Hatton Dies:** British world champion boxer "The Hitman" dies at 46 with legacy of 45 wins in 48 bouts, remembered for mental health advocacy.
- **Zubeen Garg,** Assamese music legend, died at **52** in a **scuba diving accident**, remembered for hits like "**Ya Ali**" and his massive cultural legacy.
- **Dr. S. L. Bhyrappa Passes Away:** Renowned Kannada novelist and Padma Bhushan recipient Dr. S. L. Bhyrappa dies at 94 in Bengaluru due to cardiac arrest.
- The cricketing world mourns the death of **Harold Dennis "Dickie" Bird**, one of the most respected and beloved umpires in the history of the sport.

Obituaries (National/International) of August 2025

NATIONAL

S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
1	Shibu Soren	Politics (Tribal Leader, JMM Founder)	Nemra, Jharkhand	Passed away on August 4, 2025 , aged 81 ; known as " Dishom Guru "; played a key role in the creation of Jharkhand ; served three terms as CM .
2	Satya Pal Malik	Politics (Former Governor)	Hisawada, Uttar Pradesh	Died on August 5, 2025 , aged 79 ; last Governor of J&K during Article 370 abrogation ; also served as Governor of Goa, Meghalaya, Bihar .
3	La Ganesan	Politics	Tamil Nadu, India	Former Governor of Nagaland & Manipur, ex-Rajya Sabha MP, promoter of Tamil culture
4	Jaswinder Bhalla (65)	Punjabi Comedian & Actor	Ludhiana, Punjab	Cultural icon of Punjabi cinema; famous for <i>Carry On Jatta</i> , <i>Gaddi Chaldi Hai Chhalla Maarke</i> ; known for wit & social satire.



S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
5	Achyut Potdar (91)	Hindi & Marathi Actor	Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	Appeared in 125+ films (3 <i>Idiots</i> , <i>Tezaab</i> , <i>Rangeela</i>); known for his famous line "Kehna kya chahte ho?"; transitioned from Marathi theatre to cinema.

INTERNATIONAL

S.No	PERSON NAME	FIELD	BORN PLACE	KEY NOTES
1	Hiromasa Urakawa	Boxing	Japan	Died from brain injuries post-knockout; third boxing fatality in 2025
2	Dr Vece Paes	Sports Medicine / Hockey	India	Olympic hockey medallist, noted sports doctor, father of Leander Paes
3	Bob Simpson (89)	Cricketer & Coach	Sydney, Australia	Played 62 Tests (1957–1978); scored 4,869 runs, 10 centuries; Ashes & World Cup-winning captain; inducted into Australian Cricket Hall of Fame.
4	Judge Frank Caprio (88)	Judge & TV Personality	Providence, Rhode Island, USA	Known as the "Nicest Judge in the World"; star of <i>Caught in Providence</i> ; served nearly 40 years in court; social media sensation for his compassionate judgments.

Obituaries (National/International) of July 2025

NATIONAL

S.No	PERSON NAME	FIELD	BORN PLACE	KEY NOTES
1	Dr. BV Pattabhiram	Hypnotist, Psychologist, Motivational Speaker	India	Passed away at 75 in Hyderabad due to cardiac arrest; pioneer in hypnosis and mental wellness; conducted global workshops; founded India's first magic school; received honorary doctorate.
2	Peter Rufai	Football (Goalkeeper)	Nigeria	Known as Dodo Mayana; AFCON 1994 winner; played in 1994 & 1998 FIFA World Cups; earned 65 international caps; admired for calm, confident style; passed away July 4, 2025, aged 61; sixth loss among Nigeria's golden 1994 squad.
3	Vatsala	Wildlife (Elephant Conservation)	Nilambur forests, Kerala	Asia's oldest living elephant (100+ years); worked in timber trade; relocated to MP in 1971, Panna Tiger Reserve in 1993; key in tiger tracking & forest patrols; retired 2003 but mentored younger elephants; symbol of wildlife conservation; died July 8, 2025.
4	Charupara Ravi	Politics (Socialist Leader)	Kerala	RJD State Vice-President; began activism at 18 with ISO; led Yuva Janatha during Janata Party rise in 1977; contested in 1980, 1996, and 2011 Kerala Assembly polls; respected for grassroots activism and dedication to socialist ideals; died July 8, 2025, aged 77.
5	Bismillah Jan Shinwari	Cricket Umpiring	Nangarhar province, Afghanistan	ICC International Panel umpire; debuted 2017 in Afghanistan vs Ireland ODI; officiated 34 ODIs, 26 T20Is, and many domestic matches; known for fairness and precision; died July 7, 2025, aged 41, during surgery; funeral held July 8, 2025.
6	N. Tippanna	Law & Politics	Turuvanur, Karnataka	Veteran leader; Chairman of Karnataka Legislative Council; JD(S) State Unit head; championed education in Ballari; influential in Veerashaiva-Lingayat community; 60-year public career; died July 11, 2025, aged 97; funeral July 12, 2025, in Chitradurga district.



S.No	PERSON NAME	FIELD	BORN PLACE	KEY NOTES
7	Kota Srinivasa Rao	Telugu cinema actor, former Andhra MLA	Andhra Pradesh, India	Legendary actor with a 40+ year career; played diverse roles; honoured with many awards; major loss to cinema and politics.
8	B. Saroja Devi	Indian cinema actress	Bengaluru, Karnataka, India	Starred in 190+ films across Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Hindi; recipient of Padma Bhushan; remembered for beauty, talent, grace.
9	Muhammadu Buhari	Politician, former Nigerian President	Daura, Katsina State, Nigeria	Military ruler turned elected president (2015–2023); focused on security & anti-corruption; significant figure in Nigerian politics.
10	Fauja Singh	Marathon runner	Beas Pind, Punjab, India	World's oldest marathon runner; began running at 89; completed many international marathons; symbol of resilience and positivity.
11	Andrea Gibson	Poet, activist	Calais, Maine, USA	Queer poet, former Colorado Poet Laureate; wrote on gender identity, love, cancer survival; subject of award-winning documentary.
12	Felix Baumgartner	Extreme sports, skydiver	Salzburg, Austria	First to break sound barrier in free fall (2012 jump); set global records; inspired aerospace and extreme sports advancements.

INTERNATIONAL

S.No	PERSON NAME	FIELD	BORN PLACE	KEY NOTES
1	Julian McMahon	Actor	Australia	Passed away at 56 in Florida after cancer battle; known for roles in Fantastic Four, Nip/Tuck, Charmed; son of former Australian PM Billy McMahon; last appeared in Netflix's The Residence.
2	Alan Bergman	Oscar-winning Lyricist	Brooklyn, New York, USA	Won 3 Academy Awards, 16 nominations; collaborated with Marilyn Bergman, Barbra Streisand, Michel Legrand; wrote classics like The Way We Were and Nice 'n' Easy; shaped Hollywood's musical legacy.
3	V.S. Achuthanandan	Politician (Former Kerala CM, CPI(M) Leader)	Alappuzha, Kerala, India	Rose from coir worker to CM; championed land reforms, farmers' rights, anti-corruption; part of CPI(M) formation in 1964; known for oratory, simplicity, and ethical leadership.
4	Hulk Hogan	Professional Wrestler, Entertainer	Augusta, Georgia, USA	WWE icon, 2-time Hall of Famer; transformed pro wrestling in the 1980s; headlined 8 WrestleMania main events; famous for "Hulkamania" catchphrases; also actor and pop culture figure.

Obituaries (National/International) of June 2025

NATIONAL

S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
1	Vikram Sugumaran	Tamil Filmmaker	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died at age 47 due to cardiac arrest while traveling from Madurai to Chennai. Directed Madha Yaanai Koottam, contributed to Aadukalam, completed Raavana Kottam, and was working on Therum Porum. Known for realistic rural dramas; started career under Balu Mahendra. Widely mourned in Tamil film industry.
2	Daji Panshikar	Marathi Scholar & Literary Figure	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed away at 92 in Thane. Expert on Mahabharata, Bhavarth Ramayan, and Eknaathi Bhagwat. Contributed to Maharashtra's theatre; praised by CM Devendra Fadnavis.



S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
3	Vijay Rupani	Politician (Former Gujarat CM)	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died in Air India 171 crash. Former CM of Gujarat (2016–2021), BJP vice-president. Known for humility, political resilience, and service during Emergency and beyond.
4	Ustad Ghulam Nabi Shah	Kashmiri Folk Musician	Dangiawacha, Rafiabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known as Hamle Bulbul; passed away on June 11, 2025. Worked 30+ years in J&K Info Dept., mastered sarangi, Bacha Nagma, and glass dance. Recipient of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Abdullah Award.
5	Bill Atkinson	Software Pioneer	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died on June 5, 2025, at 74. Created QuickDraw, key to Apple Lisa and Macintosh. Introduced GUI elements like pull-down menus. Revolutionized user-friendly computing.
6	Nellai Su. Muthu	Former ISRO Scientist & Tamil Author	Tirunelveli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died June 16, 2025, in Thiruvananthapuram at 74. Served at Satish Dhawan Space Centre; worked with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. Authored 170+ books including Vinveli 2057.
7	Maruti Chitampalli	Environmentalism, Padma Shri Awardee	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died in Solapur at age 93. Served 36 years in Forest Dept; authored Pakshikosha, Pashukosha, Matsyakosha. Called Aranya Rishi, fluent in 13 languages.
8	Dilip Doshi	Cricketer	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died in London at age 77. Took 114 Test wickets; known for classical spin. Played with a broken toe in 1981 Melbourne Test. Wrote autobiography Spin Punch.
9	Shefali Jariwala	Actress, Dancer	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died suddenly at age 42 in Mumbai. Famous for Kaanta Laga and Bigg Boss 13. Cause under investigation; postmortem at Cooper Hospital.

INTERNATIONAL

S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
1	Étienne-Émile Baulieu	French Biochemist	France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Died at age 98. Inventor of RU-486 (mifepristone), enabling safe medical abortion. Specialized in DHEA and progesterone studies. Advocated for reproductive rights and aging research. Considered a scientific visionary and humanitarian.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of November 2025

- Mahi River – Unique Geographic Feature:** The Mahi River is the only river in India that crosses the Tropic of Cancer twice, originating in Madhya Pradesh and flowing through Rajasthan and Gujarat before meeting the Arabian Sea, known for its irregular path due to geological factors.
- Jigme Singye Wangchuck – Visionary King of Bhutan:** The Fourth King of Bhutan is credited with introducing the Gross National Happiness (GNH) concept, modernising Bhutan while preserving its culture and environment, and

strengthening India–Bhutan relations through economic and hydropower cooperation.

- Suez Canal Facts:** The 193 km long Suez Canal in Egypt connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea, providing the shortest maritime route between Europe and Asia and handling 12% of global trade annually since its completion in 1869.
- Cambridge Dictionary** has announced ‘parasocial’ as its **Word of the Year 2025**, highlighting the growing global trend of one-sided emotional connections people form with celebrities, influencers, fictional characters, and Artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots.



Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of October 2025

- **Aurangabad Railway Station Gets New Identity:** Station officially renamed Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Railway Station with new code CPSN under South Central Railway, honoring Maratha heritage through gazette notification issued 15 October 2025.
- **India's First Volcano Tourism Initiative:** Passenger vessel 'Sindhu' completes maiden civilian voyage to Barren Island with 500 passengers, marking India's first structured tourism to the country's only active volcano located 140 km from Port Blair.
- **Maritime Heritage Complex Logo Unveiled:** Ministry of Ports launched National Maritime Heritage Complex logo on 28 October 2025 during India Maritime Week in Mumbai, complex to be built at Lothal, Gujarat.
- **GI-Tagged Lime Exports to UK:** India exported Indi Lime from Karnataka and Puliyanakudi Lime from Tamil Nadu to the UK for the first time, facilitated by APEDA to boost farmer income and promote geographical indication products.
- **All Top 40 Polluted Cities from India:** Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan topped the world's pollution list with AQI 830, while Delhi ranked 13th with AQI above 400, highlighting worsening air quality crisis from stubble burning and emissions.
- **Dictionary.com Names "67" Word of the Year:** For the first time, a number received Word of the Year designation, symbolizing Gen Z internet culture and "brainrot" slang used to express vibes and emotions in digital meme culture evolution.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of September 2025

- **Rare Dragonfly Rediscovery:** *Crocothemis erythraea*, usually seen in Europe and Himalayas, reconfirmed in Western Ghats (Kerala & Tamil Nadu) above 550m; likely a relic species from the Ice Age, highlighting biodiversity richness and fragility of Shola-grassland ecosystems.

RANKERS ^A

BATCH

FOR MAINS

FOR IBPS RRB PO 2025

Starts: 2 Dec, 2025 | 10 am - 7 pm

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of August 2025

- To mark **50 years of the iconic film *Sholay***, the Maharashtra Postal Circle released **special picture postcards**, a **presentation pack**, and an **exclusive golden cancellation on Independence Day 2025**. The commemorative items were unveiled by **Amitabh Singh**, Chief Postmaster General, and presented to **director Ramesh Sippy**. The event, attended by film and postal dignitaries, drew **philatelists and cinema lovers**, showcasing the film's **enduring cultural impact**. India Post has previously honoured **sports icons** like **chess champion D Gukesh** and **India's 2025 Cricket Champions Trophy** win with similar **special cancellations**.
- **M.S. Swaminathan**, known as the "**Man who fed India**," played a pivotal role in India's **Green Revolution**, transforming the country from **food dependency** under **PL 480** imports to self-sufficiency by introducing **dwarf wheat varieties** with seeds from **Norman Borlaug**. Despite **bureaucratic delays** and **political opposition**, strong leadership by **Prime Ministers Shastri and Indira Gandhi** backed his efforts, leading to a major increase in wheat production by 1968. His legacy highlights the critical importance of **scientific innovation**, **political will**, and **institutional support**. Today, challenges like **climate change**, **low R&D funding**, and **lack of institutional autonomy** threaten progress, emphasizing the need for closer engagement between **scientists and policymakers** to secure India's agricultural future.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of July 2025

- **Warren Buffett**, the legendary investor and CEO of **Berkshire Hathaway**, has donated **\$6 billion** in **Class B stock** to five major **philanthropic foundations**, including the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Trust**. The move brings his **total charitable contributions** since 2006 to **around \$60 billion**. This donation highlights his ongoing commitment to **giving away 99.5% of his fortune**. The **foundations** receiving the donations are known for their work in **global health**, **education**, **poverty reduction**, and **social equity**, making this announcement a significant event in the **world of philanthropy and social impact**.
- In a **pioneering step** towards eradicating **tuberculosis (TB)**, **Puducherry** has become the **first Union Territory** in India to link **TB screening** with the **Family Adoption Programme**. Under this **National Medical Commission** initiative, **medical students** adopt 3–5 families and monitor their health over three years. In Puducherry, this outreach now includes **routine TB checks** for all family members. If symptoms are detected, students help with **diagnosis and treatment**, enhancing **early detection** and **access to care**.



- In a **landmark breakthrough** in **archaeology** and **genetics**, scientists have successfully sequenced the **first complete genome** of an **ancient Egyptian**, marking a major step in understanding **early human populations**. Published on **July 2, 2025**, in the journal **Nature**, the study details DNA extracted from a man buried in **Nuwayrat**, around **4,500 years ago** during Egypt's **Old Kingdom** period. The individual, likely a **physically laboring male** aged **44–64 years**, had **brown eyes, brown hair, dark skin**, and lived a relatively **affluent life**, as suggested by the **tomb style**.
- **Sundar Pichai**, CEO of **Alphabet Inc.**, has reached a **net worth of \$1.1 billion**, driven by **Alphabet's soaring stock** and **heavy AI investments**. His rise—from a modest background in **Tamil Nadu** to leading one of the world's biggest tech companies—illustrates the power of strategic leadership and innovation. With only **0.02% stock ownership**, Pichai's wealth stems largely from **stock sales** and compensation, alongside his pivotal role in Alphabet's **AI infrastructure boom**. **DeepMind's acquisition**, a **120% stock rise**, and **\$50 billion AI investment in 2024** were key factors.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs | One-Liners of June 2025

- **Elon Musk's X** has introduced **XChat**, a secure, cross-platform messaging app currently in beta for paid subscribers. Equipped with **Bitcoin-like encryption**, **disappearing messages**, and **audio/video calling**, the app represents Musk's push to rival platforms like WhatsApp, Telegram, and WeChat. It reflects his broader vision to turn X into a **super app** with integrated services, potentially

including AI-powered tools like **Grok AI** in the future.

- Famed investor and billionaire philanthropist **Warren Buffett, Chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway**, has announced a massive **\$6 billion donation in company stock** to five charitable foundations. The latest act of generosity, revealed on June 27, 2025, brings his total donations since 2006 to approximately \$60 billion. The bulk of this donation will benefit the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Trust, along with foundations closely connected to Buffett's family.
- Chief Election Commissioner **Gyanesh Kumar** emphasized the transparency and rigor of India's electoral roll system while addressing the **Stockholm International Conference** on Electoral Integrity in Sweden. He highlighted how India, since 1960, has ensured that electoral rolls are shared annually with all recognised political parties, allowing for claims, objections, and appeals—a process that reinforces trust and integrity in the world's largest democracy.

