

September 2026

16-30 Current Affairs



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Prepared By

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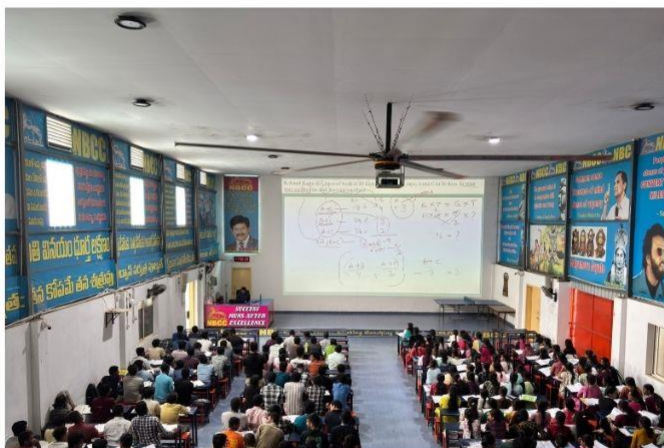
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Behind the
Incidents in
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ప్రియమైన విద్యార్థులారా,

నంద్యాలలో జరుగుతున్న దుర్ఘాటాలు:

1. తమ సంస్థ తప్ప ఇతర సంస్థలన్నీ ఫేక్ మరియు డమ్మీ కోచింగ్ సెంటర్లని అసత్య ప్రచారం చేయడం.
2. వారి సంస్థ విద్యార్థులు తప్ప ఇతర కోచింగ్ సెంటర్ల విద్యార్థులు నంద్యాలలోని హాస్టల్లో ఉండకూడదని బెదిరించడం; దీనిని అమలు చేయడం కోసం తమ సెక్యూరిటీ గార్డులను హాస్టల్కు పంపి ఐడీ కార్డులు తనిఖీ చేయించడం.

ఇటువంటి దుర్ఘాటాలను తట్టుకొని నిలబడి NBCC అద్భుతమైన ఫలితాలను సాధిస్తోందంటే, దాని వెనుక ఉన్న కష్టాన్ని అర్థం చేసుకోండి. సామాజిక స్పృహ, సామాజిక బాధ్యత మరియు వివేకంతో ఆలోచించండి. **రాముడెవరో,** రావణుడెవరో గుర్తించి NBCCని ప్రోత్సహించాలని మా మనవి.

ఆత్మీయ విద్యార్థిగళే,

నంద్యాలదల్లి నడయత్తిరువ అన్యాయగళు:

1. తమ్మ సంస్థేయన్ను హోరతుపడిసి ఇతర సంస్థగళల్లవూ నకలి హాగూ డమ్మీ క్లోజింగ్ సెంటర్గళెందు సుళ్ళు ప్రజార మాడువుదు.
2. తమ్మ సంస్థేయ విద్యార్థిగళన్ను బిట్టు బేరె యావుదే క్లోజింగ్ సెంటర్న విద్యార్థిగళు నంద్యాలద హాస్టల్గళల్లి ఇరబారదెందు బేదరిసువుదు; ఇదన్ను జారిగొళిసలు తమ్మ సేక్యూరిటీ గార్డగళన్ను హాస్టల్గళిగే కళుహిసి ఐడి కార్డగళన్ను పరిశీలిసువుదు.

ఇంతడ దౌజన్యగళన్ను ఎదురిసి నింతు NBCC లుత్తమ ఫలితాంశగళన్ను తరుత్తిదే ఎందరే, అదర హిందిరువ కరిణ పరిశ్రమవన్ను అధ్మమాడికొళ్ళి. సామాజిక ప్రజ్ఞ, సామాజిక జవాబ్దారి హాగూ వివేకదింద యోజిసి. యారు రామ, యారు రావణ ఎంబుదన్ను గ్రహిసి NBCC అన్ను ప్రోత్సహిసబేకాగి నమ్మ వినంతి.

1. G V Satish Sir- Best Picks

1. Government Notifies 0.4% Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on High-Value UPI Merchant Payments from 15 October 2026

- **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)** is the fee a merchant pays to banks and payment service providers for accepting digital payments; the customer does not pay it.
- **Ministry of Finance** gazette notification dated **14 September 2026**.
- **Person-to-Merchant (P2M)** payments above ₹2,000: **0.4% MDR**; payments of ₹75,000 and above capped at ₹300 per transaction.
- **Person-to-Person (P2P)** transfers: **free at any amount**; P2M up to ₹2,000: **zero MDR**.
- **Railways, telecom, insurance, fuel, utilities and agri-inputs**: flat ₹5 above ₹2,000.
- **Capital markets**: **0.02%**, capped at ₹300.
- **Small merchants** with monthly UPI receipts below ₹1 lakh: **exempt**.

2. Retail Inflation Rises to 4.82% in August 2026

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** inflation: **4.82% in August 2026**, up from **4.45% in July 2026**.
- **CPI base year**: 2024=100.
- Under **Section 45ZA** of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act**, the inflation target is **4.00% (±2.00%)**.

3. India and MERCOSUR Sign First Additional Protocol to Their Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)

- **MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market)** members: **Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay**; headquarters **Montevideo**.
- India's **PTA** covers the **four founding members**.

4. World Health Organization (WHO) Validates Chile for Eliminating Dog-Transmitted Rabies

- On **14 September 2026**, **WHO** validated **Chile** as the **first country in South America** to eliminate **dog-transmitted rabies** as a public health problem.
- On **4 March 2026**, **Chile** became the **first country in the Americas** and **second globally** verified as having **eliminated leprosy**.
- **Jordan** was verified by **WHO** in **September 2024** as the **first country in the world** to eliminate **leprosy**.
- **WHO**: established **7 April 1948**; headquarters **Geneva, Switzerland**;

Director-General **Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**.

5. Prime Minister Inaugurates 5th Edition of SEMICON India 2026; Semicon 2.0 Outlay ₹1,27,500 Crore

- **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 1.0** launched on **15 December 2021** with **₹76,000 crore**.
- **ISM 2.0 (Semicon 2.0)**: outlay **₹1,27,500 crore**; **Union Cabinet approval July 2026**.
- Theme: **"Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem"**.
- Mission budget rises from **USD 8 billion (Semicon 1.0)** to **USD 13.5 billion (Semicon 2.0)**.

6. Khalilur Rahman of Bangladesh Is President of the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

- **Khalilur Rahman**, **Foreign Minister of Bangladesh**, is the **second Bangladeshi** to head the **UNGA**, after **Humayun Rashid Choudhury**.
- **First Indian UNGA President**: **Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit**.
- **81st UNGA General Debate theme**: **"Restoring trust, managing transformation: a United Nations that delivers for all"**; addressed by **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar**.
- **9th UN Secretary-General**: **António Guterres (Portugal)**.

7. Nobel Laureate Michael Kremer Appointed Chief Economist of the World Bank Group

- **Michael Kremer** (Professor, **University of Chicago**) named on **16 September 2026** as **Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics, World Bank Group**.
- Won the **2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences** with **Abhijit Banerjee** and **Esther Duflo**.
- Succeeds **Indermit Gill**; takes charge on **1 October 2026**.
- **World Bank**: established **1944**; headquarters **Washington, D.C.**; **14th President Ajay Banga** (first Indian-origin President); **189 member countries** (**Nauru** the 189th).
- **India's Executive Director** at the **World Bank**: **Neelkanth Mishra** (succeeding **Parameswaran Iyer**).
- With the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** (Managing Director **Kristalina Georgieva**), known as the **"Bretton Woods Twins"**.

8. India Ranks 131st in World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Gender Gap Index 2026

- **India: 131st out of 145 economies** (unchanged from 2025); **parity score 64.5%.**
- **Rank 1: Iceland** for the 17th consecutive year (93.0%), the only economy above 90%.
- **Rank 2: Finland (87.2%); Rank 3: Norway (85.7%); Rank 4: Namibia (84.5%)** (top in Africa); **Rank 5: United Kingdom (84.2%).**
- **Bottom three: Chad (last), Iran, Pakistan.**

9. India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to Enter into Force on 20 October 2026

- **New Zealand Parliament** passed legislation for the FTA.
- **100% duty-free access** for Indian exports to New Zealand.
- New Zealand investment commitment: **US\$ 20 billion over 15 years.**
- **New Zealand:** Prime Minister **Christopher Luxon**; capital **Wellington**; currency **New Zealand Dollar.**

10. NITI Aayog's India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2025 (2nd Edition): Delhi Tops

- **IEMI** prepared by **NITI Aayog** with **WRI India.**
- **Delhi** ranked **1st** with **84/100** (up from 77).
- **Top 5: Delhi (84), Maharashtra (78), Karnataka (73), Chandigarh (71), Goa (65).**
- **Manipur (46)** topped the **Hilly and North-Eastern States**; **Karnataka** leads **charging infrastructure readiness.**
- National median score rose from **36 to 40.**

11. Pradhan Mantri (PM) Vishwakarma Yojana Completes 3 Years

- Launched by **PM Narendra Modi** on **17 September 2023 (Vishwakarma Jayanti).**
- **Central Sector Scheme**; outlay **₹13,000 crore** for **FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28**; covers **18 traditional trades.**
- Nodal ministry: **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).**
- Benefits: **5–7 days basic skill training** with **₹500/day stipend**; **₹15,000 toolkit e-voucher**; **collateral-free loans up to ₹3 lakh** at **5%** (Tranche 1: **₹1 lakh/18 months**; Tranche 2: **₹2 lakh/30 months**).

12. Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Wage Ceiling Raised from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000

- **Union Cabinet** raised the **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** wage ceiling to **₹25,000 per month**, effective **17 September 2026.**
- Ceiling of **₹15,000** had applied since **September 2014** (raised then from **₹6,500**).

- **EPFO** covers establishments with **20 or more employees.**

13. Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), August 2026: Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.0%

- **Unemployment Rate (UR): 5.0%** (from 5.1% in July).
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR): 52.8%; Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): 55.6%.**
- **Rural unemployment: 4.1%** (lowest since January 2026); **urban unemployment: 6.8%.**

14. Anant Nag Named Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 Recipient; 72nd National Film Awards

- Veteran **Kannada actor Anant Nag** – **56th recipient** of the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** (instituted **1969**; first recipient **Devika Rani**); **55th recipient** was **Mohanlal.**
- Presented on **22 September 2026** at the **72nd National Film Awards, Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat** – the **first ceremony outside Delhi.**
- **Best Actor (shared): Mammootty** (*Bramayugam*) and **Kartik Aaryan** (*Chandu Champion*).
- **Best Feature Film: Article 370; Best Actress: Yami Gautam.**

15. Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2026 Campaign Launched

- Runs from **17 September to 2 October 2026 (Swachh Bharat Diwas).**
- Theme: "**Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat**".
- **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)** launched on **2 October 2014** (motto "**Ek Kadam Swachhata Ki Ore**"); national **Open Defecation Free (ODF)** status declared on **2 October 2019.**
- **SHS** held every year since **2017.**

16. Dhiraj Bommadevara Wins Gold at the Archery World Cup Final 2026 (Saltillo, Mexico)

- **First Indian male recurve archer** to win gold at the **World Cup Final.**
- **Second Indian individual champion** at the **World Cup Final** after **Dola Banerjee (2007).**

17. GIFT City Climbs to 37th in Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 40); Mumbai 49th

- **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City International Financial Services Centre (GIFT IFSC)** climbed **9 spots** to **37th**; **26th in FinTech.**
- **Mumbai** advanced **3 places** to **49th.**
- **Top 4: New York, London, Hong Kong, Singapore.**

- GIFT City regulated by the **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)**.

18. India and Bhutan Complete Two-Way UPI Connectivity; ₹4,000 Crore Line of Credit

- **Phase II of international Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** launched in Thimphu on 17 September 2026 by Dr S. Jaishankar and Bhutanese PM Tshering Tobgay.
- **54 Made-in-India Electric Vehicles (EVs)** handed over to Bhutan.
- **₹4,000 crore concessional Line of Credit (LoC)** for energy projects in Bhutan; dam work resumed on the **1,200 MW Punatsangchhu-I Hydroelectric Project**.

19. Tavengwa Mukuhani Appointed Deputy Chairperson of the International Cricket Council (ICC)

- **Zimbabwe Cricket Chairman Tavengwa Mukuhani** appointed on 17 September 2026, through November 2027; first Zimbabwean in the post.
- Post fell vacant after **Imran Khwaja (Singapore)** left the ICC Board.
- **ICC: Chairman Jay Shah**; headquarters **Dubai, UAE**; established **1909**.
- **BCCI President: Mithun Manhas** (succeeded **Roger Binny**).

20. Global Agencies Raise India's FY 2026–27 GDP Growth Forecasts

- **Moody's Ratings**: raised to **7.0%** (from 6.0%) on 18 September 2026; sovereign rating **Baa3, Stable**.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**: **7.1%** (from 6.3%) – highest among international agencies.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**: **7.0%**; **S&P Global Ratings**: **7.0%**; **Fitch Ratings**: **6.9%**.
- **RBI projection**: **6.7%**.
- **National Statistical Office (NSO)**: **Q1 FY 2026–27 real GDP growth 7.8%**; FY 2025–26 revised to **7.8%**.

21. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Penalises Three Credit Information Companies (CICs)

- **TransUnion CIBIL**: ₹26.82 lakh; **CRIF High Mark**: ₹6,89,600; **Equifax**: ₹1,19,400.
- Reason: compensation for **delayed correction of credit information** not paid to complainants in time.
- Complaints must be resolved within **30 days**; delay compensation **₹100 per day**.
- India's four CICs: **TransUnion CIBIL, CRIF High Mark, Equifax, Experian**; **RBI**

regulates **CICs**, **SEBI** regulates **Credit Rating Agencies**.

22. Marathi Film "Gondhal" Is India's Official Entry for the 99th Academy Awards (Oscars 2027)

- Directed by **Santosh Davakhar**; selected by the **Film Federation of India (FFI)** on **18 September 2026** from 33 entries.
- Category: **Best International Feature Film**; ceremony on **14 March 2027**.
- **4th Marathi film** as India's entry (after **Shwaas, Harishchandradi Factory, Court**).
- Won **Silver Peacock (Best Director)** at the **56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025**.

23. India Becomes World's Fourth-Largest Holder of Foreign Exchange Reserves

- Reserves rose by **USD 44.9 billion** to a record **USD 785.71 billion** (week ended **4 September 2026**).
- India overtook **Russia**.
- **Top four**: **China, Japan, Switzerland, India**.

24. Warren Buffett Steps Down; Howard G. Buffett Becomes Berkshire Hathaway Chairman

- **Warren Buffett** stepped down as **Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway** on **18 September 2026** and became **Chairman Emeritus**.
- His son **Howard G. Buffett** elected **Chairman**.

25. Exercise Veer Guardian 2026: India–Japan Air Exercise at Jodhpur

- **2nd edition** between the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and **Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF)** at **Air Force Station Jodhpur**, **9–22 September 2026**.
- **First deployment of Japanese F-2A fighters** on Indian soil.
- IAF fielded **Tejas, Su-30MKI and Rafale**.
- Other India–Japan exercises: **Dharma Guardian (Army)**, **Shinyuu Maitri (Air Force)**, **JIMEX (Navy)**.

26. Project Cheetah Completes Four Years

- Launched on **17 September 2022** at **Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh**; cheetah declared extinct in India in **1952**.
- Population as on **17 September 2026**: **52** (including **32 born in India**); **49** in **Kuno**, **3** in **Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary**.
- Translocated from **Namibia (8)**, **South Africa (12)** and **Botswana (9)**.
- Implemented by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**.

27. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) Completes Six Years

- Launched on **10 September 2020** under the **Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying**.
- Total outlay: **₹20,750 crore**; record **₹2,500 crore** in BE 2026–27.
- Fish production: **141.64 lakh tonnes (2019–20)** to record **197.75 lakh tonnes (2024–25)**.
- Fisheries exports: **₹46,663 crore** to **₹73,890 crore (2025–26)**.

28. Biometric Aadhaar Authentication Mandatory for Subsidised LPG from 1 October 2026

- **Biometric Aadhaar Authentication (BAA)** required to book subsidised domestic **Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)** refills.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** subsidised cylinder quota cut from **9 to 4 a year** (June 2026); **₹300** subsidy per cylinder retained.

29. Glaw Lake (Arunachal Pradesh) Becomes India's 101st Ramsar Site

- **Glaw Lake** is **India's 101st Ramsar Site** and **Arunachal Pradesh's first**.
- Located in **Kamlang Tiger Reserve, Lohit district**.

30. Skytrax World Airline Awards 2026

- **World's best airline**: **Singapore Airlines** (6th win), followed by **Qatar Airways** and **Cathay Pacific**.
- **Air India**: **57th globally** (from 84th) – **Best Airline in India and South Asia**.
- **IndiGo**: **Best Low-Cost Airline in India & South Asia** for the **16th time**.

31. Smriti Mandhana Becomes Highest Run-Scorer in Women's International Cricket and Women's T20Is

- Passed **Mithali Raj's 10,868 runs** on **3 September 2026** (**124 vs Hong Kong, Women's Asia Cup, Dubai**).
- Passed **Suzie Bates (4,758)** on **20 September 2026** to become highest run-scorer in **Women's T20 Internationals** (**4,788 runs** in **178 matches**).
- Completed **100 T20I sixes**.

32. DISHA 2.0 Scheme for Access to Justice (2026–2031)

- **Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA) 2.0** – Central Sector Scheme of the **Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice**.
- Period: **1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031**; outlay **₹255 crore** (100% Gross Budgetary Support).
- Components: **Tele-Law, Nyaya Bandhu, Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programme (LLLAP), VIDHI-Sanjeevani**.

- **Tele-Law toll-free number**: **14454**; **Nyaya Setu AI Chatbot** in **22 Indian languages**.
- Target: **3 crore beneficiaries**.

33. Indigenous KAL One-Way Attack (Kamikaze) Drone Tested at Pokhran

- Developed by **IG Defence, Noida**; tested at **Pokhran Field Firing Range, Rajasthan**.
- Range up to **1,000 km**; endurance **7–8 hours**; payload up to **50 kg**; ceiling **5,000 m**.

34. Modified UDAN Scheme: 21 MoUs Signed with States and Union Territories

- **UDAN = Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik** (original scheme began **October 2016**).
- Period: **FY 2026–27 to FY 2035–36**; total outlay **₹28,840 crore**.
- Targets: **100 airports** (₹12,159 crore) and **200 helipads** (₹3,661 crore).
- **Viability Gap Funding (VGF)**: **₹10,043 crore**.

35. ISRO–European Space Agency (ESA) Cooperation Extended to 2032; First International Space Summit in Paris

- **ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan** and **ESA Director General Josef Aschbacher** signed in **Paris** on **10 September 2026**, extending the agreement until **8 January 2032**.
- **Dr. Narayanan** led India at the **first International Space Summit, Paris (9–10 September 2026)**, on invitation of French agency **CNES**.
- Reviewed payload of joint **ISRO–CNES mission TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment)**.

36. Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026: 2nd Multinational Air Exercise at Jodhpur

- Hosted by the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** at **Air Force Station Jodhpur, 26 September to 12 October 2026**.
- Theme: **"Power in Partnership"**.
- Foreign air forces with assets include **Australia, Bangladesh, France, Germany, Sri Lanka, UAE and USA**; **32 nations** as observers.
- France joined through **Mission Pégase 26**.

37. Ayushman Bharat – PM-JAY Completes Eight Years; Arogya Manthan 2026

- **Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)** launched on **23 September 2018** from **Ranchi, Jharkhand**.
- Health cover of **₹5 lakh per family per year**; senior citizens **70+** covered via **Ayushman Vay Vandana Card**.

- Funding: **60:40** (Centre:States); **90:10** for North-Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and J&K.
- **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)** (launched 27 September 2021): **97.8 crore+** ABHA IDs created.
- **Arogya Manthan 2026** inaugurated by J.P. Nadda on 25 September 2026.

38. 22nd India-US Exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 2026'

- Locations: **Foreign Training Node, Auli (Uttarakhand)** and **Mahajan Field Firing Range, Bikaner (Rajasthan)**.
- Other India-US exercises: **Vajra Prahar, Cope India, Malabar, Tiger Triumph**.

39. 20th Asian Games 2026 Held at Aichi-Nagoya, Japan

- Held **19 September – 4 October 2026**; opened by **Emperor Naruhito**.
- Mascot: **Honohon**; slogan: "**Imagine One Asia**".
- **45 countries, 43 sports**; **Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)** made its debut.
- India's flag-bearers: **Manu Bhaker** (shooting) and **Pawan Sehrawat** (kabaddi).
- Organised by the **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**; next edition **Doha 2030**.

40. Asian Games 2026: India's Key Gold Medals and Records

- **Women's Cricket Gold**: India (**Harmanpreet Kaur**) beat **Sri Lanka by 147 runs** – India's biggest win by runs in women's T20Is.
- **Kabaddi double gold**: Men beat **Iran 40–34** (9th gold); Women beat **Iran 37–34**.
- **Neeru Dhanda**: first Indian woman to win individual **Women's Trap gold** (Asian record).
- **Women's 4x400m Relay Gold (3:29.69)** – India's first athletics gold of the Games.
- **Vithya Ramraj** broke **P.T. Usha's 42-year-old 400m hurdles national record (54.75s)**.
- **Gulveer Singh**: three medals – first Indian in **40 years** since **P.T. Usha (1986)**.
- **Suchika Tariyal**: India's **first-ever Asian Games MMA medal** (bronze).

41. India Records Highest-Ever Annual FDI Inflow of \$94.53 Billion in FY 2025-26

- **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow**: **\$94.53 billion** (FY 2024-25: **\$81.0 billion**).
- **Cumulative FDI (FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26)**: **\$843 billion**, **169% higher** than the previous 12 years.

42. India Ranks 31st in WEF Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2026

- Released by **World Economic Forum (WEF)** with **Zurich Insurance Group** on **25 September 2026**; covers **110 economies**.
- **India: 31st** (up from **39th** in 2024); score **4.42/7**; first in **South Asia**.
- **Top five**: **Japan, United States, Spain, Australia, France**.

43. M3M Hurun India Rich List 2026 (15th Edition)

- **1st**: **Gautam Adani** and family – **₹9.23 lakh crore** (reclaimed top spot).
- **2nd**: **Mukesh Ambani** – **₹8.63 lakh crore**;
- **3rd**: **L.N. Mittal** – **₹3.39 lakh crore**.
- **Richest woman**: **Roshni Nadar Malhotra** – **₹2.79 lakh crore**.
- India has a record **391 dollar billionaires**; top city **Mumbai (465)**.

44. Virat Kohli Crosses 15,000 ODI Runs

- **Second batter** after **Sachin Tendulkar (18,426)** to reach **15,000 ODI runs**.
- Achieved on **27 September 2026** vs **West Indies** at **Thiruvananthapuram**; scored **139*** (**55th ODI century**).

45. 46th Chess Olympiad (Samarkand, Uzbekistan); Bodhana Sivanandan Becomes Youngest WGM

- **Open**: **Uzbekistan** gold, **India** silver;
- **Women**: **China** gold, **India** bronze.
- India won the **Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy** for the **third time in a row** (2022, 2024, 2026).
- **11-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan** (Indian-origin, representing **England**) became the **youngest Woman Grandmaster (WGM)** in chess history.

46. Centre Notifies India's First Four Mega Ports

- Notified by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** under **Section 73 of the Indian Ports Act, 2025**.
- **Deendayal Port (Kandla)**, **Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Nhava Sheva)**, **Paradip Port** and **Mundra Port** (only non-major port, run by **Adani Ports**).
- Ports Minister: **Sarbananda Sonowal**.

47. CJI Surya Kant Inaugurates India's First Victim Rights Centre in Patna

- **Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice Surya Kant** inaugurated **India's first Victim Rights Centre (VRC)** on **26 September 2026** at the **Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA)** campus, **Patna**.
- Justice Surya Kant is the **53rd CJI** and the first CJI from **Haryana**.

48. PRAHAAR: India's First National Counter-Terrorism Policy and Strategy

- **PRAHAAR (Policy for Response Against Hostile Activities And Radicalism)** unveiled by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
- Conference inaugurated by **Amit Shah** on **28 September 2026**, **New Delhi**.
- **Seven pillars** including **Prevention, Response, Human Rights, Recovery and Resilience**, through a **whole-of-society approach**.

49. Five New Indian Sites Added to UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List

- India's Tentative List rises to **78 sites/proposals** (announced **29 September 2026**).
- **Bagh Cave Paintings** (Dhar, MP), **Group of Temples of the Chambal Valley** (MP), **Udayagiri Caves** (Vidisha, MP), **Ginnorgarh Fort** (Sehore, MP).
- **Sites of Satyagraha: India–South Africa** serial transnational proposal (7 sites in India, 2 in South Africa).

50. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) Issues India's First Blue Bond SMFCL issued India's first Blue Bond on 28 September 2026.

- To raise up to **₹600 crore** (including **₹500 crore greenshoe option**); **10-year tenor**.

2. Amounts & Agreements

1. India and MERCOSUR Sign First Additional Protocol to Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)

- India and MERCOSUR signed the **First Additional Protocol** to their **Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)**.
- **MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market)** members: **Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay**; headquarters **Montevideo**.
- India's PTA covers the **four founding members**.

2. Six States/Union Territories Sign Kishau Multipurpose Dam Agreement for Yamuna Rejuvenation

- The **Kishau Multipurpose Project** is a long-pending dam on the **Tons River**, a tributary of the **Yamuna**, on the **Himachal Pradesh – Uttarakhand border**.
- Signed by the **Chief Ministers of 6 States/Union Territories: Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi**.

3. Maharashtra Cabinet Approves ₹750 Crore Soft Loan for Cooperative Sugar Mills

- **Maharashtra Cabinet** approved a **₹750 crore soft loan** for **Cooperative Sugar Mills**.

4. India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA): 100% Duty-Free Access; Enters into Force on 20 October 2026

- **New Zealand** to give **duty-free access to 100% of Indian exports**.
- **New Zealand Parliament** passed legislation for the **India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement**.
- The FTA will **enter into force on 20 October 2026**.
- **New Zealand's investment commitment: US\$ 20 billion over 15 years** (committed to facilitate investment into India).
- **3-year work visas** for up to **5,000 Indian professionals** (information technology, healthcare, engineering), as per the rough note.
- **New Zealand: Prime Minister Christopher Luxon (National Party)**; capital **Wellington**; currency **New Zealand Dollar**.

5. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL): ₹15,000 Crore Shipyard at Dugarajapatnam and ₹27,000 Crore Shipbuilding Cluster at Dighi

- **Mazagon Dock** to build a **₹15,000 crore greenfield shipyard** at **Dugarajapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)** to invest **₹27,000 crore** in a **greenfield shipbuilding cluster** at **Dighi, Raigad district, Maharashtra**.

6. United States, Denmark and Greenland Sign Trilateral Defence / "Infinite Life" Arctic Security Agreement

- **United States, Denmark and Greenland** signed a **trilateral defence agreement** – the **"Infinite Life" security agreement (US–Denmark–Greenland Trilateral Arctic Security Agreement)**.
- **Greenland** is an **autonomous territory of Denmark** between **North America and Europe**.

7. Maldives Repays \$150 Million Treasury-Bill Facility to India

- **Maldives** repaid the **\$150 million treasury-bill facility** to **India**.
- **State Bank of India (SBI)** subscribed to **Maldivian treasury bills in 2019**; the facility was **extended six times**.

8. World Bank Group Mobilises a Record \$112 Billion in Private Capital

- **World Bank Group** mobilised a **record \$112 billion in private capital**.

- **World Bank:** established 1944; headquarters Washington, D.C.; President Ajay Banga.
- 9. Saudi Arabia–Pakistan Visa Exemption Agreement**
 - Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a Visa Exemption Agreement.
- 10. US Announces Additional \$31 Million for Nepal Flood Recovery**
 - The United States announced an additional \$31 million for Nepal flood recovery.
- 11. Asian Development Bank (ADB) Approves \$200 Million Loan for Bangladesh Power Distribution Network Enhancement Project**
 - ADB approved a \$200 million loan for the Bangladesh Power Distribution Network Enhancement Project.
 - ADB: established 1966; headquarters Manila, Philippines; 69 members; President Masato Kanda.
- 12. Odisha Approves 27 Industrial Projects Worth ₹2.47 Lakh Crore**
 - Odisha approved 27 industrial projects worth ₹2.47 lakh crore.
- 13. Muthoot FinCorp Named BCCI Title Sponsor for India's Home Cricket**
 - The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced Muthoot FinCorp as title sponsor on 26 September 2026.
 - The deal runs until 31 March 2028 and covers about 35 home international matches plus domestic tournaments.
 - Reported value: about ₹150 crore (around ₹4.85 crore per match).
 - It replaces IDFC FIRST Bank, whose deal ended in August 2026.
 - First series: India v West Indies ODIs from 27 September 2026 at Thiruvananthapuram.
 - Other BCCI partners till March 2028: Campa (beverage), SBI Life (insurance) and ChatGPT (technology).
- 14. Centre Approves ₹50,000 Interest-Free Loan per Barn for FCV Tobacco Growers**
 - Centre approved a ₹50,000 interest-free loan per barn for FCV tobacco growers.
 - FCV tobacco is grown mainly in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- 15. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) Approves ₹17,167 Crore Outer Harbour Project at V.O. Chidambaranar Port**
 - The CCEA approved the ₹17,167 crore Outer Harbour Project at V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu.

16. Ministry of Defence Signs ₹810.79 Crore Contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for SAT-SAAW

- Ministry of Defence signed a ₹810.79 crore contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for 160 Satellite Smart Anti-Airfield Weapons (SAT-SAAW) and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force.
- BDL: established 1970; headquarters Hyderabad; under the Ministry of Defence.

3. Appointments

1. Dr. P. Srihari Appointed Director, Research Centre Imarat (RCI)

- Dr. P. Srihari appointed Director, Research Centre Imarat.
- Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, is a DRDO laboratory.

2. Nobel Laureate Michael Kremer Appointed Chief Economist of the World Bank Group; World Bank Profile

- Michael Kremer, Professor at the University of Chicago, named on 16 September 2026 as Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics, World Bank Group.
- He won the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences with Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo.
- He succeeds Indermit Gill and takes charge on 1 October 2026.
- **World Bank:** established 1944; headquarters Washington, D.C.
- **14th President:** Ajay Banga, the first Indian-origin President.
- Membership: 189 countries; Nauru is the 189th member.
- **India's Executive Director at the World Bank:** Neelkanth Mishra, appointed for three years, succeeding Parameswaran Iyer.
- **Five institutions/arms:**
 - International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
 - International Development Association (IDA)
 - International Finance Corporation (IFC)
 - International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
 - Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

- With the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, Managing Director **Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria)**, it is known as the "**Bretton Woods Twins**".

3. **Khalilur Rahman of Bangladesh is 81st UNGA President**

- **Khalilur Rahman**, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, is President of the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- Second Bangladeshi to head the UNGA, after **Humayun Rashid Choudhury**.
- First Indian UNGA President: **Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit**.
- 9th UN Secretary-General: **António Guterres (Portugal)**.

4. **N. Chandrasekaran Re-appointed Tata Sons Chairman for a Third Term**

- **N. Chandrasekaran** re-appointed **Tata Sons Chairman** for a third term.
- **Noel Tata**, Chairman of **Tata Trusts**.

5. **IFFCO Chairman Dileep Sanghani Elected to the Global Board of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)**

- **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) Chairman Dileep Sanghani** was elected **At-Large Director** for 2026–2030 on the **International Cooperative Alliance Global Board**.
- **Ariel Guarco** was elected **President**.

6. **Luke J. Lindberg Appointed Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)**

- Appointed jointly by **UN Secretary-General António Guterres (Portugal)** and **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Director-General Qu Dongyu (China)**.
- **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)**: established 1961; headquarters **Rome, Italy**; **Nobel Peace Prize 2020**.

7. **Tavengwa Mukuhani Appointed Deputy Chairperson of the International Cricket Council (ICC)**

- **Tavengwa Mukuhani**, Chairman of **Zimbabwe Cricket**, appointed **ICC Deputy Chairperson** on **17 September 2026**, through **November 2027**.
- The post fell vacant when **Imran Khwaja of Singapore** left the **ICC Board**.
- First **Zimbabwean** to hold the post.
- Comes ahead of the **2027 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup**, co-hosted by **Zimbabwe, South Africa and Namibia**, which returns the tournament to **Africa** after **24 years**.

- **International Cricket Council (ICC)**: Chairman **Jay Shah**; headquarters **Dubai, UAE**; established **1909**.
- **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**: President **Mithun Manhas** (succeeded **Roger Binny**), Vice-President **Rajeev Shukla**, Secretary **Devajit Saikia**, Treasurer **A. Raghuram Bhat**.

8. **Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) Reconstituted with 18 Members**

- Reconstituted on **16 September 2026** as an **18-member body**.
- Tenure: **3 years** or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- Chairman: **Shashi Shekhar Vempati**, who succeeded **Prasoon Joshi** in **May 2026**.

9. **Warren Buffett Steps Down; Howard Buffett Named Berkshire Hathaway Chairman**

- **Warren Buffett** stepped down as **Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway** on **18 September 2026** and became **Chairman Emeritus**.
- His son **Howard G. Buffett** was elected **Chairman**.

10. **Sanjukta Parashar Becomes First Woman Inspector General of CoBRA**

- **Sanjukta Parashar** becomes the **first woman Inspector General of CoBRA**.
- **Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA)**: jungle-warfare unit of the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, raised in **2008–09** for **anti-Naxal operations**, under the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
- **CRPF**: formed **1939**; headquarters **New Delhi**; Director General **Gyanendra Pratap Singh**.

11. **Nila Vikhe Patil Elected to Sweden's Riksdag**

- **Nila Vikhe Patil** of the **Green Party** was elected to the **Riksdag (Swedish Parliament)** from **Stockholm** in the **September 2026 election**.
- She has family roots in **Maharashtra**.

12. **Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)**

- **EAC-PM** is chaired by **Suryadevara Mahendra Dev**.

13. **Hansraj Singh Verma Appointed India's Ambassador to Cuba**

- **Hansraj Singh Verma** appointed **India's Ambassador to Cuba**.
- **Cuba**: capital **Havana**; currency **Peso**.

14. **DRDO Chairman (Additional Charge) and Heads of Scientific Organisations**

- **Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh** holds **additional charge** as **Chairman**,

DRDO since 31 May 2026, after Dr. Samir V. Kamat retired.

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):** established 1958; headquarters New Delhi; motto "Balasya Mulam Vigyanam" (the source of strength is science).
- **ISRO Chairman:** Dr. V. Narayanan.
- **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Director General:** Dr. Rajiv Bahl.
- **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Director General:** Dr. Mangi Lal Jat.

15. Jayanti Prasad Given Additional Charge as Chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

- Jayanti Prasad, Whole-Time Member of the IBBI, was given additional charge as Chairperson with effect from 13 September 2026.

16. Rajat Sharma Re-elected President of the News Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA)

- Rajat Sharma, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of India TV, was unanimously re-elected President of NBDA for 2026–27.
- NBDA has 29 member broadcasters.

17. Bangladesh's Foreign Secretary Asad Alam Siam to be Next High Commissioner to India

- Asad Alam Siam, Bangladesh's Foreign Secretary, will be its next High Commissioner to India.

18. Gyanesh Kumar is the 26th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)

- Gyanesh Kumar is the 26th CEC; Election Commissioners are Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi.

19. Mandeep K. Bhandari Appointed Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Chairperson

- Mandeep K. Bhandari appointed CBSE Chairperson.

20. Dinesh Pant and Girija Subramanian Join IRDAI as Whole-Time Members; Dinesh Pant Retires as LIC MD

- Dinesh Pant and Girija Subramanian join the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) as Whole-Time Members.
- IRDAI Chairman: Ajay Seth.
- Dinesh Pant, Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), left office on voluntary retirement with effect from 24 September 2026.

21. Captain Shivani Sehrawat Becomes First Woman Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the Chief of the Army Staff

- Captain Shivani Sehrawat became the first woman ADC to the Chief of the Army Staff, General Dhiraj Seth.
- Navya Shekhawat is the first Indian Army woman officer to serve as ADC to President Droupadi Murmu.

22. Supreme Court Collegium Recommends Three High Court Chief Justices

- Justice Sunita Agarwal – Chief Justice, Gujarat High Court.
- Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya – Chief Justice, Delhi High Court.
- Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh – Chief Justice, Telangana High Court.
- The Centre subsequently notified the appointments, and the three judges took oath on October 6, 2026.

23. Fatima Zahra Mansouri Becomes Morocco's First Woman Prime Minister

- King Mohammed VI appointed Fatima Zahra Mansouri (50), Urban Planning Minister and former Mayor of Marrakech, as Morocco's first woman Prime Minister.
- Morocco – Capital: Rabat.

4. Arts & Culture

- India's public service broadcaster and now functions under Prasar Bharati.

6. Indian Composer Joi Barua Joins "Cosmic Rhapsody", an Arts Project Linked to NASA's COSI Mission

- Assam-born singer-composer Joi Barua composed for "Cosmic Rhapsody", an international orchestral and multimedia project connected with COSI.

7. Marathi Film "Gondhal" is India's Official Entry for Oscars 2027 (99th Academy Awards)

- "Gondhal", a Marathi thriller written and directed by Santosh Davakhar, selected on 18 September 2026 by the Film Federation of India (FFI) out of 33 films/entries.
- It is the entry for the 99th Academy Awards, Los Angeles; Category: Best International Feature Film.
- The 99th Academy Awards are on 14 March 2027.
- 4th Marathi film to be India's official entry, after Shwaas, Harishchandrachhi Factory and Court.
- The film won the Silver Peacock (Best Director) at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025.

- At the 98th edition, **One Battle After Another** won 6 Oscars.
- 8. 17th Kathakali Festival Held in Chennai
 - Theme: "Katha Rasa Sangamam".
- 9. 26th International Hindi Conference at Sri Vijaya Puram
 - Held at Sri Vijaya Puram (formerly Port Blair), Andaman and Nicobar Islands, from 19 to 26 September 2026.
 - The **Srijan Gatha Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to author **Dr. K. Srinivasa Rao**.
- 10. Chandni Chowk Town Hall to Become a Global Heritage Centre
 - Chandni Chowk Town Hall to become a Global Heritage Centre.
- 11. Mizoram Holds Its First 'Pluck & Pay' Festival
 - Mizoram held its first 'Pluck & Pay' Festival.
- 12. Ministry of Culture to Hold BRICS Theatre Festival 2026 in New Delhi
 - Nodal agency and host: National School of Drama (NSD).
 - Theme: "Shared Stories, Shared Futures".
- 13. India's First World-Class Geological Museum at Jabalpur; Shabdalok Language Museum
 - India's First World-Class Geological Museum at Jabalpur.
 - Shabdalok ("Museum of Words"), India's first immersive language museum using AI, AR and VR and showcasing about 380 languages, was inaugurated by **Amit Shah** on July 19, 2026 at **Belvedere House**, National Library, Kolkata.
 - International Museum Day: May 18.
- 14. Jharkhand's Traditional Instrument 'Mandar' Gets GI Tag
 - Jharkhand's traditional instrument 'Mandar' gets **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag.
 - Jharkhand's first GI product: **Sohrai-Khovar painting**.
 - Other recent instrument GI tags: **Sarinda (Tripura)** and **Pepa (Assam)**.
- 15. Five New Indian Sites Added to UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List
 - Five additions take India's UNESCO Tentative List to 78 sites/proposals (announced 29 September 2026 by Union Culture and Tourism Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**):
 - **Bagh Cave Paintings (Dhar, Madhya Pradesh): 9 rock-cut Buddhist caves on the Baghni**

- **River, Vindhyan range; murals of 4th–6th century CE.**
 - **Group of Temples of the Chambal Valley (Madhya Pradesh): Bateshwar, Padavali and Kakanmath (Gurjara-Pratihara and Kachchhapaghata periods).**
 - **Udayagiri Caves (Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh): 20 Gupta-era rock-cut caves (4th–5th century), known for the Varaha relief.**
 - **Ginnorgarh Fort (Sehore, Madhya Pradesh): principal fortified capital of the Raj Gond rulers, within Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary.**
 - **Sites of Satyagraha (India–South Africa serial transnational proposal): 9 components – 7 in India (Mahatma Gandhi Satyagraha Smarak, Sabarmati Ashram, Mani Bhavan, Harijan Sevak Sangh, Sevagram Ashram, Aga Khan Palace, Gandhi Smriti) and 2 in South Africa (Pietermaritzburg Railway Station, Phoenix Settlement).**
16. Books in News
- **"A Century of Service: The RSS in 100 Acts of Seva"** – Author: **Dr. Tamlisai Soundararajan**, former Governor of Telangana and former Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.
 - **"Vishwasanchar Hindutva Ka"** – released by Vice-President **C.P. Radhakrishnan**; published by **Saptahik Vivek**; marks the centenary of the **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)**, founded in 1925 at Nagpur by **Keshav Baliram Hedgewar**.
 - **"The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World"** – by the **Dalai Lama** and **Desmond Tutu** with **Douglas Abrams**; based on talks at **Dharamshala**.
 - **"The Prime Minister's Table: The Era of Nehru to Modi"** – by **Purvi Shridhar** and **Sangeeta Singh**.
 - **"Apnapan: Narendra Modi Sang Mere Anubhav"** – authored by **Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.

5. Awards

1. Department of Financial Services (DFS) Wins Rajbhasha Kirti Award 2025–26

- Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, won 1st Prize for official language implementation (ministry category, fewer than 300 personnel) for 2025–26.

2. 78th Emmy Awards Highlights

- Lead Actor (Drama):** Noah Wyle (*The Pitt*).
- Lead Actress (Drama):** Rhea Seehorn (*Pluribus*).
- Bob Hope Humanitarian Award:** Michael J. Fox, for Parkinson's disease research advocacy.

3. Anant Nag Named Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 Recipient (56th); 72nd National Film Awards

- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest honour in cinema, instituted in 1969.
- Veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag announced on 16 September 2026 as recipient for 2024 (56th Recipient).
- First recipient:** Devika Rani (1969).
- 55th recipient (award year 2023):** Malayalam actor Mohanlal.
- Presented on 22 September 2026 at the 72nd National Film Awards, Kevadia, Gujarat.
- 72nd National Film Awards presented at Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat – the first ceremony outside Delhi.
- Best Actor (shared):** Mammootty for *Bramayugam* (director Rahul Sadasivan) and Kartik Aaryan for *Chandu Champion*.
- Best Feature Film:** *Article 370*; **Best Actress:** Yami Gautam (*Article 370*).

4. Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy Selected for Padmabhushan Guru Dr. Saroja Vaidyanathan Excellence Award 2026

- She is a Bharatanatyam exponent, choreographer and scholar based in Mysuru.

5. Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Announces Memorial Awards for Raja Randhir Singh and Jaspal Rana

- The IOA, led by President P.T. Usha, instituted the Raja Randhir Singh Memorial Trophy (best Indian male athlete) and the Jaspal Rana Memorial Trophy (best Indian female athlete).

- Raja Randhir Singh was Secretary General of the IOA from 1987 to 2012. He died on 27 May 2026, aged 79.
- Shooter and coach Jaspal Rana died in June 2026.

6. Sethuraman Panchanathan Wins the Arthur M. Bueche Award 2026

- Sethuraman Panchanathan wins the Arthur M. Bueche Award 2026.

7. IIT Madras Team Aritra Wins Njord Challenge 2026 in Norway

- Team Aritra from the Department of Ocean Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, won the 2026 edition.
- Members: Aarav Patel, S. Gurukesav and Madhava Sai.

8. Nobel Prize Money Raised to 12 Million SEK for 2026

- The Nobel Foundation raised the prize to 12 million Swedish kronor (SEK) per category for 2026, from SEK 11 million.
- 6 categories: Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, Economic Sciences.

9. Eknath Shinde Receives World Leadership Forum's Statesmanship Award

- Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde received the inaugural Statesmanship Award for Transformative Leadership from the World Leadership Forum.

10. Skytrax World Airline Awards 2026: Singapore Airlines Tops; IndiGo Best Low-Cost Airline in India & South Asia for 16th Time

- World's best airlines (Top 5):** 1. Singapore Airlines (6th win), 2. Qatar Airways, 3. Cathay Pacific, 4. ANA, 5. Turkish Airlines.
- Air India** – 57th globally (up from 84th in 2025) and **Best Airline in India and South Asia**; ranked the second Most Improved Airline.
- IndiGo** – 61st (down from 39th) (2nd in India); named **Best Low-Cost Airline in India & South Asia** for the 16th time.
- IndiGo also won **Best Cabin Crew** and **Cleanest Airline in India & South Asia**.
- Akasa Air** (3rd in India); **Air India Express** (4th in India).

11. Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) Lifetime Contribution Award in Engineering 2026

- Awarded to Dr. V. K. Saraswat.

12. Nagaland Film "Angh" Wins Platform Prize at 51st Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2026

- 'Angh', the debut feature film of Nagaland filmmaker Theja Rio, won the Platform Prize at the 51st TIFF 2026.
- The rough notes describe Angh as set in 1960 in a Konyak village near the India–Myanmar border.

13. Booker Prize 2026 Shortlist Announced

- The six-book shortlist was announced on 22 September 2026; judging panel chaired by Mary Beard.
- Marlon James – *The Disappearing*.
- Douglas Stuart – *John of John*.
- M. John Harrison – *The End of Everything*.
- Luke Kennard – *Black Bag*.
- Rebecca Perry – *May We Feed the King*.
- Elizabeth Strout – *The Things We Never Say*.
- Winner to be announced on 9 November 2026 in London; prize £50,000.

14. Aryadan Muhammed Foundation's Best Public Servant Award 2026

- Awarded to A. Revanth Reddy.

15. Mizoram Farmer Z.T. Lalrithangi (Pi Mari-i) Among FAO's 100 Women Heroes in Agrifood Systems and Rural Development

- Z.T. Lalrithangi (known as Pi Mari-i) of Sangau, Lawngtlai district, Mizoram was selected among the "FAO 100 Women Heroes in Agrifood Systems and Rural Development".
- Selected by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for her strawberry farming.
- 2026 is the International Year of the Woman Farmer and the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.
- FAO: founded 16 October 1945 (observed as World Food Day); Director-General Qu Dongyu; headquarters Rome, Italy.
- FAO honours for India in 2026: Agricola Medal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Rome, 20 May 2026); Soil Farmer Hero recognition to V.T. Valluvan of Pollachi, Tamil Nadu; 100 Women Heroes to Z.T. Lalrithangi.

16. National Lata Mangeskar Award 2026 to Shantanu Moitra

- Music composer Shantanu Moitra received the National Lata Mangeskar Award 2026 from the Madhya Pradesh Government.

17. SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2026 to Sarah Peluse

- Sarah Peluse, Associate Professor of Mathematics, Stanford University, was selected for the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2026.
- Prize: \$10,000 and a citation.

18. Inaugural Cool Leaders Awards

- Presented on September 17, 2026 at the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly in Singapore, by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)-led Cool Coalition.
- Winners: Singapore (passive cooling and heat resilience), UAE (district cooling) and Dong Mingzhu, Chairperson, Gree Electric Appliances (Individual category).
- Global Cooling Pledge (COP28, 2023) targets: cut cooling-related emissions by 68% by 2050 and raise the efficiency of new air conditioners by 50% by 2030.

19. Two Indian Scientists among American Geophysical Union (AGU) 2026 Awardees

- The AGU announced 43 awards for 2026.
- Roxy Mathew Koll (IITM Pune) – Pavel S. Molchanov Climate Communications Prize.
- Neelima Satyam (IIT Indore) – Devendra Lal Memorial Medal.

20. IETE Shri Devi Singh Tyagi Memorial Award 2026 to Dr. C.S. Madhusudan

- Dr. C.S. Madhusudan, Outstanding Scientist, U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), ISRO, received the award for contributions to avionics.

21. Chandra Shekhar Sain Receives Lalit Kala Akademi National Award

- Terracotta and visual artist Chandra Shekhar Sain received the Lalit Kala Akademi National Award at the 65th National Exhibition of Art (NEA) 2026, New Delhi, for his terracotta work "My Entire World – I"; the only awardee from Rajasthan.
- 20 artists received awards; the Akademi received 6,175 artworks from 2,495 artists across 27 States/UTs.

22. Ramon Magsaysay Award 2026 Winners

- Tommy Koh (Singapore), Runa Khan (Bangladesh) and Bo Kyi (Myanmar).

23. India Finishes 10th at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026

- The 48th WorldSkills Competition was held at Shanghai, China.
- India ranked 10th (up from 13th at Lyon 2024) – its first top-10 finish – with 6 Silver Medals and 20 Medals for Excellence.
- Silver medallists: Smriti Nambiar (Bakery), Mohammed Salam (Dental

Prosthetics), **Kovid Ajay Gangrade** (Digital Interactive Media Design), **Parth Vohra** (Industrial Design Technology), **Mehrunissa Begum** (Logistics and Freight Forwarding), **Saniya Joshi** (Retail Sales).

- **Smriti Nambiar** was named “Best of Nation” for India.
- **China** secured 1st place.

6. Banking and Finance

1. NPCI / Government Notifies 0.4% Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on High-Value UPI Merchant Payments from 15 October 2026

- **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)** is the fee paid by merchants to banks and payment service providers for accepting digital payments; **the customer does not pay it.**
- A **Ministry of Finance** gazette notification dated **14 September 2026** kept **RuPay** debit cards and **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** payments **up to ₹2,000 free of charges.**
- **0.4% MDR** on specified **Person-to-Merchant (P2M)** transactions **above ₹2,000**, effective **15 October 2026** (maximum cap: **₹300**).
- P2M payments of **₹75,000 and above**: MDR capped at **₹300 per transaction.**
- **Person-to-Person (P2P)** UPI transfers: **free at any amount.**
- **P2M up to ₹2,000**: **zero MDR.**
- **Railways, telecom, insurance, fuel, utilities and agri-inputs**: **flat ₹5** above ₹2,000.
- **Capital markets** (mutual funds, securities, stockbrokers, dealers): **0.02%**, capped at **₹300.**
- **Small merchants** receiving up to **₹1 lakh per month** via UPI QR (monthly UPI receipts below ₹1 lakh): **0% MDR / exempt.**

2. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Proposes Shorter Disaster Recovery Drills for Market Infrastructure Institutions

- Overall drill session of **at least 4 hours**, including **switchover time.**

3. Bandhan Group Launches "Bandhan Kaamyabi Ka" Campaign Marking 25 Years

- **Bandhan** began as a **microfinance institution in 2001** and became a **universal bank** under the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) 2013 licensing guidelines**, with applications screened by the **Bimal Jalan committee.**
- **Bandhan Bank** started as a universal bank on **August 23, 2015.**
- Headquarters: **Kolkata.**

- **Bandhan Bank MD & CEO: Partha Pratim Sengupta.** Tagline: "**Aapka Bhala, Sabki Bhalai**".
- **Bandhan Group Chairman: Chandra Shekhar Ghosh; Group Managing Director: Arvind Agarwal.**

4. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Launches Official WhatsApp Channel

- **EPFO** launched its **official WhatsApp Channel.**

5. Retail Inflation Rises to 4.82% in August 2026

- Under **Section 45ZA** of the **RBI Act**, the inflation target is **4.00% (±2.00%).**
- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** inflation: **4.82% in August 2026**, up from **4.45% in July 2026.**
- **CPI base is 2024=100.**

6. Union Cabinet Raises Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Wage Ceiling from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000

- The ceiling of **₹15,000 per month** had applied since **September 2014**, when it was raised from **₹6,500.**
- The **EPFO** covers establishments with **20 or more employees.**
- The new ceiling of **₹25,000 per month** took effect on **17 September 2026 (Vishwakarma Jayanti).**

7. RBI Expands Retail Forex Services on Bharat Connect to Six Currencies at Global Fintech Fest 2026

- **FX-Retail** is **RBI's web-based retail forex platform**, launched in **2019.**
- With the existing **US Dollar (USD)**, total supported currencies: **six.**
- **Japanese Yen** is not in this batch; it is planned later with the **Australian, Singapore, Hong Kong and New Zealand dollars.**

8. Fixed Deposit Booking Enabled at Hitachi Money Spot White Label ATMs; Suryoday Small Finance Bank Introduces Online FD Booking

- **White Label ATMs** are owned and run by **non-bank entities licensed by RBI.**
- **Hitachi Payment Services** runs them under the **Money Spot** brand, mainly in **smaller towns.**
- Partners: **Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB)**, fintech **SprintMoney**, and **Hitachi Payment Services.**
- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank** introduced **online FD booking.**

9. NABARD Experience Centre Inaugurated at Head Office, Mumbai

- Inaugurated on **9 September 2026** by **Sanjay Lohiya**, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS).
- Present: **NABARD Chairman Dr Shaji Krishnan V.**
- Location: **NABARD Head Office, Mumbai.**

10. India's FY 2026–27 GDP Growth Forecasts Raised by Global Agencies (Moody's, OECD, ADB, S&P, Fitch)

- On **18 September 2026**, **Moody's Ratings** raised its forecast for India's **real GDP growth in FY 2026–27 to 7.0% from 6.0%**.
 - Reasons cited: **robust domestic consumption and private investment.**
 - **Sovereign rating** kept at **Baa3** with a **Stable outlook.**
- **National Statistical Office (NSO)** data of **31 August 2026** put **Q1 (April–June) FY 2026–27 real GDP growth at 7.8%**, above the Reserve Bank of India's projection of **7.0%**.
- **FY 2025–26 real GDP growth** was revised to **7.8% from 7.7%**.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**: raised by **80 basis points to 7.1% (from 6.3%)** – the **highest among international agencies.**
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**: raised FY27 forecast to **7.0% (from 6.6%)**; FY28 projection of **7.1%** as per the source [Unverified].
- **S&P Global Ratings**: raised to **7.0% (from 6.6%)**.
- **Moody's Ratings**: **7.0%** (raised earlier from 6.0%).
- **Fitch Ratings**: raised by **50 basis points to 6.9%** for FY27 (from 6.4%).
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**: projects FY 2026–27 growth at **6.7% (August 2026 monetary policy).**
- **OECD**: established **1961** (successor to the **OEEC of 1948**); headquarters **Paris, France**; Secretary-General **Mathias Cormann**; **38 members** (**Costa Rica** joined as **38th** in 2021); **India is a Key Partner, not a member.**
- **ADB**: established **19 December 1966**; headquarters **Manila, Philippines**; **69 members**; President **Masato Kanda.**
- **S&P Global and Moody's**: headquartered in **New York**; **Fitch Ratings**: headquartered in **New York and London.**

11. RBI Penalises Credit Information Companies (CICs) – Equifax, TransUnion CIBIL, CRIF High Mark

- **RBI orders dated 31 August 2026** (released **4 September 2026**) imposed penalties on **three Credit Information Companies (CICs).**
- **TransUnion CIBIL**: **₹26.82 lakh (₹26,82,800).**
- **CRIF High Mark**: **₹6,89,600.**
- **Equifax Credit Information Services Private Limited**: **₹1.19 lakh (₹1,19,400).**
- Reason: **failure to credit compensation** to eligible complainants within the prescribed period (compensation for **delayed correction of credit information** was not paid in time).
- **RBI's framework** compensates customers for **delayed updating or rectification of credit information.**
- Complaints must be resolved within **30 calendar days.**
- Delay beyond 30 days: compensation of **₹100 per day**, credited within **5 working days** of resolution.
- **India's four CICs**: **TransUnion CIBIL, CRIF High Mark, Equifax, Experian.**
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** regulates **Credit Rating Agencies**; the **RBI** regulates **CICs.**

12. novio and Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) Launch Co-Branded RuPay Credit Card

- **novio**, the **consumer credit platform** of **Credilio Financial Technologies**, partnered with **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)** to launch a **co-branded RuPay credit card.**
- Variants: **RuPay Select** and **RuPay Platinum.**
- **IOB**: founded on **10 February 1937** by **M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettyar**; headquarters **Chennai**; **MD & CEO Ajay Kumar Srivastava.**

13. India's Textile Exports Rise 16.1% in August 2026

- **August 2026 exports**: **₹29,776 crore** (about **₹29,700 crore**), up **16.1% year-on-year** from **₹25,656 crore.**
- **April–August 2026**: **₹1.43 lakh crore**, growth **10.3%.**

14. India Becomes World's Fourth-Largest Holder of Foreign Exchange Reserves

- Reserves rose by **USD 44.9 billion** to a **record USD 785.71 billion** in the week ended **4 September 2026.**
- **India overtook Russia.**
- **Top four**: **1. China, 2. Japan, 3. Switzerland, 4. India.**

15. Net Direct Tax Collections Rise 13% to ₹12.12 Lakh Crore

- Period: 1 April to 17 September 2026.
- **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT):** established 1964; headquarters New Delhi.
- **Securities Transaction Tax (STT):** ₹40,214 crore, up 53%.

16. RBI Extends Certified-Copy Know Your Customer (KYC) Route to Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)

- The **alternative certification route** already existed for **Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)** and **Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)**.
- On 18 September 2026, the RBI extended it to **FPIs**, effective immediately.

17. RBI Advances Closure of Special FCNR(B) and NRE Deposit Concessions to 31 August 2026

- The end date for the **interest-rate relaxation** on fresh **FCNR(B)** and **NRE deposits** was advanced from 30 September to 31 August 2026.

18. IDFC FIRST Bank Offers Zero Forex Markup on All Credit Cards

- **IDFC FIRST Bank** offers **zero forex markup** on all credit cards.

19. Bank of Baroda (BoB) Launches UPI Global Reverse Acceptance

- **Bank of Baroda** launched **UPI Global Reverse Acceptance** on August 26, 2026.
- Supports **cross-border Person-to-Merchant payments in India** – allows **international visitors** to pay at **BoB UPI QR merchants** in India using their **home-country banking or wallet apps**.

20. Government Revises Export Levies on Diesel, Petrol and ATF (Windfall Tax)

- **Windfall tax:** a levy on **unusually high profits** from sudden price spikes; in India it is charged as **Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED)**.
- First imposed on 1 July 2022, scrapped in 2024, and reintroduced on 27 March 2026 during the **West Asia crisis**.
- Rates are **reviewed every fortnight**.

21. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) Releases "Sources and Methods" for the New GDP Series (Base 2022–23)

- The **new National Accounts series** with **base year 2022–23** replaced the **2011–12 series** on 27 February 2026; it is the **8th base year revision**.
- **Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS):** chaired by **Prof. B. N. Goldar**.

22. Index of Core Industries (ICI): 4.8% Growth in August 2026

- **Core industries** grew 4.8% in August 2026.
- The **ICI** moved to **base 2022–23** on 20 July 2026 (new series released in July 2026, replacing 2011–12) and now covers **nine industries** after **iron ore** was added.
- **Nine core industries:** coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement, electricity, iron ore.
- **Highest weight:** electricity (30.932%); **lowest weight:** fertilisers (2.731%).

23. India's Exports to Core BRICS Partners Rise 34% to \$19.9 Billion

- Figures cover **four founding partners:** China, South Africa, Brazil, Russia.
- **FY 2025–26:** China was India's largest trading partner (\$151.1 billion trade, \$112.16 billion deficit); the United States was second.

24. RBI Issues Final Basel III Market Risk Capital Rules, Effective 1 April 2027

- **RBI** issued **final Basel III market risk capital rules**, effective 1 April 2027.

25. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Introduces "NPS Swasthya" Health Cover within NPS

- **PFRDA** links a **mandatory super top-up health insurance policy** to a **National Pension System (NPS) Swasthya account**.
- Entry age 18–70; renewal up to 85.

26. RBI Orders Removal of Minister Babasaheb Patil from Latur DCCB Board

- **RBI** ordered removal of **Maharashtra Cooperation Minister Babasaheb Patil** and seven other directors of **Latur District Central Cooperative Bank (DCCB)**.
- Reason: **breach of the 10-year maximum director tenure**.

27. PhonePe: UAE In-Principle Approval; UPI 123Pay Limits; UPI Market Ranking

- **PhonePe** received **In-Principle Approval** from the **Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE)** for two licences: **Retail Payment Services and Card Schemes (RPSCS)** and **Stored Value Facilities (SVF)**.
- The **RBI ceiling for UPI 123Pay** (for feature phones) is **₹10,000 per transaction** (raised from ₹5,000 in October 2024).
- **UPI market ranking by volume:** PhonePe (1st), Google Pay (2nd), Paytm (3rd).

28. Samvridhhi Inclusive Growth Network (SIGN) Gets RBI In-Principle Authorisation as Payment Aggregator and PPI Issuer

- **Samvridhhi Inclusive Growth Network Private Limited (SIGN)**, a subsidiary of **MOS Utility Limited**, received **in-principle**

authorisation from the RBI on 19 September 2026 to operate as an Online Payment Aggregator (PA-Online).

- SIGN also received RBI in-principle authorisation to issue **Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs)** on 24 September 2026.

29. RBI Supervisory Data Quality Index (sDQI) – June 2026

- The **sDQI of Scheduled Commercial Banks** rose to **93.3 in June 2026** from **90.7 in March 2026**.
- The index covers **87 scheduled commercial banks** on four parameters: **accuracy, timeliness, completeness and consistency**.
- A score **above 90** is rated "**good**".
- Bank groups: **Small Finance Banks – 93.8 (highest); Public Sector Banks – 93.7; Foreign Banks – 93.7; Private Sector Banks – 92.2**.

30. RBI Directions on Novation of Over-the-Counter (OTC) Derivative Contracts

- **Novation:** replacing one party to an existing contract with a new party.
- **Mark-to-Market:** valuing a contract at current market prices.
- **OTC:** trades negotiated directly between two parties, outside an exchange.
- **Derivative:** an instrument whose value is derived from an underlying asset or benchmark.

31. ICICI Prudential Life Renamed ICICI Life Insurance Limited

- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited** was renamed **ICICI Life Insurance Limited** (effective 22 September 2026) after **Prudential** agreed to cut its stake **below 10%** and be **reclassified from promoter to investor**.
- **ICICI Bank** holds about **52.8%** in the insurer.

32. Mastercard Exits Pine Labs

- **Mastercard**, through **Mastercard Asia/Pacific Pte. Ltd.**, sold its entire **4.31%** stake in **Pine Labs** for **₹933.57 crore**.
- **Pine Labs** is a **Noida-based merchant commerce and Point-of-Sale (PoS) payments company**.

33. RBI Grants Perpetual Validity to RNFI Money's AD-II Licence

- The RBI granted **perpetual validity** to the **Authorised Dealer Category-II (AD-II) foreign exchange licence** of **RNFI Money Private Limited**, a wholly owned subsidiary of **RNFI Services Limited**.

34. SEBI Widens Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) Access to Non-Agricultural Commodity Derivatives

- An **FPI** holds **less than 10%** of the paid-up equity of an Indian company; such flows are often called "**hot money**".
- FPIs may now trade **non-agricultural commodity index derivatives**, whether or not the underlying contracts are **cash-settled**.
- Non-agricultural segments include **bullion (gold, silver)**, **energy (crude oil, natural gas)** and **base metals**, traded on exchanges such as the **Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)**.
- **SEBI** regulates stock and commodity exchanges, depositories, credit rating agencies, **Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)**, **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)** and **Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs)**.
- **SEBI:** set up on **12 April 1988**, statutory powers under the **SEBI Act, 1992**; headquarters **Mumbai**; Chairman **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**.

35. National Stock Exchange (NSE) Lists on BSE After India's Second-Largest IPO

- **India's second-largest IPO** after **Hyundai Motor India (₹27,870 crore, 2024)**; it overtook **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** (about **₹21,000 crore, 2022**).
- **NSE** became the **world's 7th most valued listed exchange** and **Asia's 2nd most valued**, after **Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX)**.
- Exchanges valued above **NSE:** **CME Group (USA, 1st)**, **Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (USA, 2nd)**, **HKEX (3rd)**, **Nasdaq (USA)**, **London Stock Exchange Group (UK)** and **Deutsche Börse (Germany)**.
- **NSE Chairman Injeti Srinivas; Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) Ashishkumar Chauhan**.

36. SEBI Approves Motilal Oswal Custodial Services Private Limited (MOCSP) as Custodian of Securities

- **SEBI** approved **MOCSP** to act as a **Custodian of Securities**.
- **Minimum net worth for custodians** was raised from **₹50 crore** to **₹75 crore** by the **SEBI Custodian (Amendment) Regulations, 2025** (notified **18 September 2025**).

37. IDFC FIRST Bank Enables Direct Tax Payments Through UPI, Cards and Branches

- **IDFC Bank** started banking operations in **2015**; **IDFC FIRST Bank** was formed by its

merger with Capital First in December 2018.

- Headquarters: Mumbai; MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan.

38. Central Bank of India Becomes First Public Sector Bank to Launch Bharat Connect for Business

- Launched on 10 September 2026 at Global Fintech Fest 2026.
- Bharat Connect was earlier called the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS); it was conceptualised by the RBI and is run by NBBL, a subsidiary of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

39. BHIM App Limits

- ₹40,000 per transaction, ₹40,000 per day and a maximum of 10 transactions per day.

40. Centre Cuts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on Edible Oils

- Crude sunflower oil: BCD cut from 10% to Nil.
- Crude soybean oil and crude palm oil: BCD cut from 10% to 5%.
- Refined palm and soybean oil: BCD cut from 32.5% to 27.5%; refined sunflower oil: from 32.5% to 22.5%.
- Effective duty: crude palm and soybean oil 11% (from 16.5%); crude sunflower oil 5.5%; refined palm and soybean oil 30.25%; refined sunflower oil 24.75%.

41. Anti-Dumping Duty on Chinese Decor Paper Extended up to 26 March 2027

- Anti-dumping duty on Chinese decor paper extended up to 26 March 2027.

42. RBI Fixes Ways and Means Advances (WMA) Limit; Centre's Market Borrowing for H2 FY 2026-27

- On 25 September 2026, the RBI, in consultation with the Government of India, set the WMA limit at ₹50,000 crore for October 2026 to March 2027.
- Interest on WMA: Repo Rate.
- Interest on Overdraft: Repo Rate plus 2%.
- WMA is a temporary advance from RBI to the Centre and States to bridge mismatches between receipts and payments.
- Introduced on 1 April 1997 under Section 17(5) of the RBI Act, 1934.
- Advances must be repaid within 90 days (3 months).
- Normal WMA: clean advance at the Repo Rate.
- Special WMA (for States, now called Special Drawing Facility): extra borrowing

against Government Securities, charged at Repo Rate minus 1%.

- A State can be in overdraft for at most 14 consecutive working days and 36 days in a quarter.
- The Centre will borrow ₹7,86,000 crore through dated securities in October 2026–March 2027.
- This includes ₹15,000 crore of Sovereign Green Bonds.
- Full-year borrowing is now ₹15,99,506 crore against the Budget estimate of ₹17,20,000 crore.

43. RBI's Revised Bulk Deposit and Deposit Rate Disclosure Rules from 1 October 2026

- Bulk deposit for Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) and Small Finance Banks: a single rupee term deposit of ₹3 crore and above.
- Bulk deposit for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Local Area Banks (LABs): a single rupee term deposit of ₹1 crore and above.

44. Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 to Come into Force on 1 October 2026

- It replaces the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891.
- "Bankers' books" now cover records in physical, electronic, digital, virtual and cloud-based form, including back-up and disaster recovery sites.

45. India Records Highest-Ever Annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflow of \$94.53 Billion in FY 2025-26

- FDI inflow in FY 2025-26: \$94.53 billion, the highest ever (FY 2024-25: \$81.0 billion).
- Cumulative FDI from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26: \$843 billion, 169% higher than the previous 12 years.

46. Finance Minister Launches IITM Unicorn Frontier Fund-I and Releases Book on UPI

- Fund name: IITM Unicorn Frontier Fund-I, set up by IIT Madras / IIT Madras Research Park with Unicorn India Ventures; approved by SEBI.
- Book released: "Cashless Nation: How UPI Changed Everything" by Dr. Santanu Paul and B. Sambamurthy.

47. RBI Shortens Export Proceeds Realisation Period

- The new Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Goods and Services) Regulations, 2026 take effect on 1 October 2026.

- Export proceeds must be realised within **9 months** (earlier text: **15 months**).
- For exports **invoiced or settled in Indian Rupees: 12 months** (earlier text: **18 months**).

48. Small Finance Banks (SFBs): Key Norms and Ujjivan's Brand Ambassador

- **Priority Sector Lending target for SFBs: 60%.**
- **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR): 3%; Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR): 18%.**
- **Minimum capital as per the source: ₹300 crore.**
- **AU Small Finance Bank** has approval to become a **universal bank**; **Fincare SFB** merged into it.
- **Fino Payments Bank** has approval to convert into an SFB.
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** named actor **R. Madhavan** its **Brand Ambassador** with the campaign "**Nothing Small About Us**".

49. PayGlocal Gets IFSCA In-Principle Approval

- **PayGlocal** received in-principle approval from the **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** to set up a **Payment Service Provider subsidiary** in **GIFT City, Gujarat**.

50. SBI Card Launches FD-Backed Secured "Advantage SBI Card"

- **SBI Card** launched the **fixed deposit-backed secured Advantage SBI Card** on the **SBI YONO app** on **23 September 2026**.
- **Four variants: Elite, Prime, SimplyCLICK, SimplySAVE.**
- **SBI Chairman: C.S. Setty.**

51. RBI Conducts ₹1 Lakh Crore Open Market Operation (OMO) Sale of Government Securities

- The **RBI** announced on **11 September 2026** **OMO sale auctions of Government of India securities** for an aggregate **₹1,00,000 crore (₹1 trillion)** in **FY27**, to **drain surplus liquidity**.
- **Three tranches: ₹50,000 crore (September 17), ₹25,000 crore (September 21) and ₹25,000 crore (September 28, 2026),** through **multi-security auctions** on the **RBI's E-Kuber system**; bonds maturing in **FY2029–FY2032**.

52. National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Raises \$750 Million through Debut Dollar Bond

- **NaBFID** raised **US\$750 million** through its **debut 10-year US Dollar bond** at a coupon of **6.122%.**

53. RBI Bulletin: Private Corporate Capex Seen at ₹3.2 Trillion in FY27

- An article in the **RBI Bulletin (September 2026)** estimates **private corporate capital expenditure** at **₹3.2 lakh crore (₹3.2 trillion)** in **FY27**, up from **₹2.6 lakh crore** in **FY26**.
- **Maharashtra** topped among States in attracting capex projects, followed by **Gujarat**.

54. NRI Deposit Inflows Surge 678% in April–July 2026

- Inflows into **NRI deposit schemes** jumped **678.2% year-on-year** to **US\$36.24 billion** in **April–July 2026 (FY27)**, against **US\$4.66 billion** a year earlier (**RBI data**).
- **Total outstanding NRI deposits** reached **US\$200.89 billion** at **end-July 2026**.

55. IRDAI Releases Consultation Paper "Recalibrating Economics of Insurance Distribution"

- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** released a **two-part public consultation paper** titled "**Recalibrating Economics of Insurance Distribution**".
- **National Insurance Awareness Day** is observed every year on **28 June**.

56. CGTMSE Guarantee Cover Goes Live on TReDS Platforms

- The **Ministry of MSME** made **Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)** cover live on three **Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)** platforms – **M1xchange, RXIL and DTX (KredX)**.
- **Cover: 75% of the amount in default** for eligible invoice discounting where both buyer and seller are **micro or small enterprises**.
- **Maximum revolving exposure: ₹10 crore per MSE buyer and ₹2 crore per MSE seller.**

57. Bank of India (BOI) Launches User-Level Programmable Digital Rupee

- **Bank of India** went live with **User-Level Programmable CBDC and Auto-Issuance** on its **Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)** platform, built by **Montran India**.
- The **Digital Rupee** is issued by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.
- **Montran India CEO: Julie Esca.**
- **Bank of India: founded 7 September 1906; HQ Mumbai; MD & CEO Rajneesh Karnatak.**

58. Fitch Rates Bank of India's USD 1 Billion MTN Programme 'BBB-'

- Bank of India established a USD 1 billion Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) programme.
- Fitch Ratings rates the programme 'BBB-'.

59. UPI: Trinidad and Tobago First Caribbean Nation to Adopt UPI

- Trinidad and Tobago (capital: Port of Spain) is rolling out a UPI-based real-time payments platform under an agreement between NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) and its Ministry of Digital Transformation – the first Caribbean country to adopt UPI.
- Recurring UPI AutoPay transactions up to ₹15,000 do not require additional factor authentication (2FA).

60. ICICI Lombard Launches VIBE Health Insurance Plan for Gen Z

- ICICI Lombard launched VIBE, a health insurance plan for Gen Z (age 18–35) on the IL TakeCare app.
- ICICI Lombard MD & CEO: Sanjeev Mantri; tagline: "Nibhaye Vaade".

61. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) Issues India's First Blue Bond

- SMFCL issued India's first Blue Bond on 28 September 2026, to raise up to ₹600 crore (including a ₹500 crore greenshoe option), with a 10-year tenor.

7. Defence

- Bikaner district (Rajasthan) – desert.
- Other India–US exercises: Vajra Prahar (Special Forces), Cope India (Air Force), Malabar (Navy, multilateral) and Tiger Triumph (tri-service).

17. AIIMS Jammu to be Guarded by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)

- AIIMS Jammu, located at Vijaypur in Samba district, is to be guarded by the CISF because of its location close to the International Border.

18. 24th Edition of India-France Naval Exercise Varuna at Toulon, France

- Guided missile frigate INS Trishul arrived at Toulon.
- 2026 is the India-France Year of Innovation.

19. INS Sudarshini Reaches Alexandria on Lokayan 26

- Indian Navy sail training ship INS Sudarshini arrived at Alexandria, Egypt.

- Lokayan 26 is a 10-month transoceanic expedition that began from Kochi on 20 January 2026.
- Planned coverage: about 22,000 nautical miles, 18 ports, 13 countries.
- The ship made its first Atlantic crossing, from Cape Verde to Antigua (arrived 27 May 2026), and crossed 10,000 nautical miles.
- It took part in the Escale à Sète maritime festival in France.

20. Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth Unveils SAMARTH

- General Dhiraj Seth, the 31st Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), unveiled SAMARTH at the NDTV Defence Summit, New Delhi, on 27 September 2026.
- S – Sustainability; A – Adaptation; M – Modernisation; A – Acceleration; R – Resilience; T – Technology; H – Human-Machine Teaming.
- Army Day: 15 January.

21. QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission

- Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak sailed from Chennai for Perth, Australia on 25 September 2026.
- Six Sea Riders are on board: two each from India and Japan, one each from Australia and the United States.
- The mission was announced at the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi on 26 May 2026.

22. DRDO Missile Test Range at Junput, West Bengal

- The West Bengal Government approved the proposal of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for a weapon and missile test range at Junput, Purba Medinipur district.

23. National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS) Team Climbs 20 Unclimbed Peaks in Ladakh

- A 20-member team of NIMAS, Dirang, was led by Colonel Ranveer Singh Jamwal.
- It climbed 20 previously unclimbed peaks above 6,000 metres in Ladakh in 23 days.

24. Exercise KAZIND-2026 (9th Edition): India–Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise

- The 9th edition of the India–Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND-2026 is being held at Oskemen, Kazakhstan from September 28 to October 11, 2026.
- Kazakhstan: capital Astana; currency Tenge; President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

25. ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2026) and ADMM-Plus Maritime Security Activity at Subic Bay

- INS Sahyadri (Shivalik-class stealth frigate) and INS Kulish (Kora-class missile corvette) participated in the 23rd ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security Joint Cooperation Activity at Subic Bay, Philippines.
- The 2nd edition of AIME opened on 28 September 2026 at Subic Bay, Zambales, Philippines, under the theme "Anchored in Trust, United at Sea", with ASEAN maritime forces.
- ADMM-Plus = ASEAN members + 8 dialogue partners; ASEAN now has 11 members (newest: Timor-Leste); Secretariat: Jakarta.

26. India's Overseas Defence Manufacturing Plant in Morocco

- Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) operates India's first overseas defence manufacturing facility in Morocco to produce the Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP), co-developed with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

27. Second Edition of Naval Commanders' Conference 2026

- Held from 29 September to 1 October 2026 at Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi.

8. International

1. World Health Organization (WHO) Disease-Elimination Certifications: Chile (Rabies) and Jordan (Leprosy)

- On 14 September 2026, the WHO validated Chile as the first country in South America to eliminate dog-transmitted rabies as a public health problem.
- Its count as the 56th rabies-free nation.
- On 4 March 2026, Chile became the first country in the Americas, and the second globally, verified as having eliminated leprosy.
- Jordan was verified by WHO in September 2024 as the first country in the world to eliminate leprosy.
- WHO: established on 7 April 1948 (World Health Day); headquarters Geneva, Switzerland; Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia).

2. International Monetary Fund (IMF): India Can Power the Next Wave of Global Growth

- Nigel Clarke, Deputy Managing Director of the IMF, visited India from 7 to 11 September 2026.

3. United States-India TRUST Initiative

- TRUST = Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology.
- It replaced the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET).

4. India-Bhutan: Two-Way UPI Connectivity, ₹4,000 Crore Line of Credit and 54 Electric Vehicles

- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited Bhutan from 16 to 18 September 2026.
- Phase II of international UPI launched in Thimphu on 17 September 2026 by Dr S. Jaishankar, Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay and Foreign Minister D. N. Dhungyel.
- A Unified Payments Interface (UPI) facility now lets Bhutanese visitors pay in India by scanning Indian QR codes with Bhutanese apps.
- 54 Made-in-India Electric Vehicles (EVs) handed over to Bhutan for green mobility.
- A concessional Line of Credit (LoC) of ₹4,000 crore for energy projects in Bhutan was welcomed during the visit.
- Dam construction resumed on the 1,200 MW Punatsangchhu-I Hydroelectric Project.

5. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

- Established 1957; headquarters Vienna; Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi.

6. Italy Proposes Ban on Burqas and Niqabs in Schools

- Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni announced the proposal on 20 September 2026.

7. India and Japan Prepare for 75 Years of Diplomatic Relations

- Diplomatic relations began on 28 April 1952; the 75th anniversary falls in 2027.
- 2026 is the India-France Year of Innovation.
- 2027 designated the "India-Japan Year of Shared Horizons".
- First India-Japan T20 International played at Sano International Cricket Ground on 22 September 2026 for the Suzuki Cup; India won by 2 runs.
- A Japanese parliamentary delegation led by former Foreign and Defence Minister Taro Kono visited ISRO, the Indian

Institute of Science and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) in Bengaluru.

8. Irish Data Protection Commission (DPC) Fines Google €403 Million

- The Irish DPC fined Google €403 million on 21 September 2026.
- Cause: unlawful location tracking and privacy breaches under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

9. Dubai Declares 10-Day Mourning for Sheikh Ahmed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

- He was the younger brother of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

10. Fiji Declares National HIV Emergency

- Fiji: Pacific island nation; capital Suva.

11. India Co-Hosts Launch of OneSCD Global Partnership on Sickle Cell Disease in New York

- India co-hosted the launch of OneSCD, a Global Partnership to Advance Equity and Transform Sickle Cell Disease Care, in New York.
- Host: Nigeria; India was co-host.
- India was represented by Health Secretary **Punya Salila Srivastava**.
- India's National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission was launched in 2023; target: eliminate the disease as a public health problem by 2047.

12. South Sudan President Salva Kiir Dissolves Transitional Government

- South Sudan President Salva Kiir dissolved the Transitional Government.

13. India Signs the UN Convention against Cybercrime

- India signed the UN Convention against Cybercrime.

14. India and Liberia Launch Group of Friends on Shipping and Seafarers at UN General Assembly (UNGA)

- India is the 2nd-largest supplier of seafarers globally; Liberia has the world's largest ship registry by tonnage.
- Liberia: capital **Monrovia**; currency **Liberian Dollar**; President **Joseph Boakai**.

9. Meetings

1. Piyush Goyal Attends G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in Milwaukee, USA

- Piyush Goyal attended the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in Milwaukee, USA.
- The United States holds the 2026 G20 presidency.

2. 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Cape Town, South Africa

- Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by **Harivansh (Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha)**, accompanied by **P.C. Mody (Secretary General, Rajya Sabha)**.

3. First International Space Summit Held in Paris; ISRO Chairman Leads Indian Delegation

- ISRO Chairman **V. Narayanan** attended the first International Space Summit in Paris on 9–10 September 2026, on the invitation of the French space agency **Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)**.
- Indian delegation led by **Dr V. Narayanan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and Secretary, Department of Space.
- On 11 September, the delegation visited the **CNES Toulouse Space Centre (Paris)** and reviewed the payload for the joint ISRO–CNES satellite mission **TRISHNA**.
- **TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment)** is a joint ISRO–CNES Earth observation mission.

4. 3rd BIMSTEC Conference on Traditional Medicine Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Intellectual Property Rights Held in Goa

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) has seven members: **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand**; secretariat **Dhaka**.
- India announced a **BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Traditional Medicine** at the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok in April 2025.

5. Prime Minister Inaugurates NGT International Conference on "The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics" in New Delhi

- **National Green Tribunal (NGT)**: statutory body established in 2010 (under the NGT Act, 2010) for speedy disposal of cases on environment, forests and natural resources.
- Chairperson (as per the sheet): **Justice Prakash Shrivastava**.
- Nodal ministry: **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)**.

6. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO): Bishkek Summit, Trade Ministers' Meeting and National Coordinators Meeting in Islamabad

- **26th Summit of the SCO: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 31 August – 1 September 2026.**
- Theme: "25 Years of the SCO: Together for Sustainable Peace, Development and Prosperity".
- **Lahore** named SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital for 2026–27.
- **Pakistan** took over the 2026-27 chairmanship from Kyrgyzstan at the Bishkek summit (1 September 2026) and will host the 27th Summit in 2027.
- **25th Meeting of SCO Economic and Trade Ministers: Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 17 September 2026.**
- The next trade ministers' meeting will be held in **Uzbekistan** in 2027.
- The first SCO Council of National Coordinators meeting under Pakistan's chairmanship was held in Islamabad from 28 to 30 September 2026.
- Pakistan will host the SCO Council of Heads of State Summit in August 2027; chairmanship theme: "Turning Vision into Action: Connectivity, Innovation and Shared Prosperity".
- SCO has 10 member states; Belarus became the 10th member in 2024.

7. WWF Global Conservation Conference 2026 Inaugurated in Jaipur

- **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF):** founded 1961 at Morges, Switzerland.
- **Jaipur: 6th in World's Happiest Cities 2026;** hosted the 29th National e-Governance Conference 2026.

8. 3rd National Conference of Heads of Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTF) of States and Union Territories

- **Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah** inaugurated the conference in New Delhi.
- The two-day conference (September 22–23, 2026) was organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).
- Theme: "United Resolve, Shared Responsibility".
- **Telangana ANTF** was felicitated as the best-performing ANTF among States and Union Territories.

9. First V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York

- **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** took part in the first V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York.

- The Visegrád Group (V4) comprises Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

10. First Partners for Multilateralism, International Law, Peace and Prosperity (P4M) Summit

- The first P4M Summit was held at UN Headquarters, New York.

11. G20 Energy Abundance Ministerial in Houston, USA

- Held in Houston, Texas, USA from 14 to 16 September 2026 under the United States G20 Presidency.

12. 9th India International Water Week (IIWW) 2026

- Held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (22–26 September); inaugurated by Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan; organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Minister: C.R. Patil).
- Theme: "Climate Resilient Water Management".
- **Partner countries: Netherlands and Germany.**
- Related schemes: Jal Jeevan Mission (rural tap water, extended to 2028).

13. 2nd Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) in New York

- **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** chaired the meeting.
- FIPIC was formed in 2014; it groups India with 14 Pacific Island Countries.

14. External Affairs Minister Addresses General Debate of the 81st UNGA in New York

- **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** addressed the General Debate of the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- Theme: "Restoring trust, managing transformation: a United Nations that delivers for all".

15. 14th East Asia Summit (EAS) Economic Ministers' Meeting and 23rd ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultation in Manila

- India took part in the meetings in Manila, Philippines.
- **East Asia Summit (EAS):** formed 2005; 19 members (11 ASEAN + 8 partners including India).
- **ASEAN** has 11 members; the newest is Timor-Leste.
- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was founded in 1967 by the Bangkok Declaration (Indonesia,

Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand).

- India became a sectoral dialogue partner in 1992 and a summit-level partner in 2002.

16. 11th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in Doha

- Held in Doha, Qatar.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended as India's Governor.
- Theme: "Tomorrow's Infrastructure: Impact and Innovation".
- AIIB began operations in 2016; headquarters Beijing, China; authorised capital \$100 billion.
- AIIB President: Zou Jiayi.

17. 26th Edition of FICCI FRAMES

- Held on September 29–30, 2026 at the Grand Hyatt, Mumbai.
- Theme: "India's Media Moment: Creating Value in an Age of Infinite Content".
- Ayushmann Khurrana was the FICCI FRAMES Ambassador; Uday Shankar received the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI): founded in 1927 by G.D. Birla and Purshottamdas Thakurdas; HQ: New Delhi; President: Anant Goenka.

18. 14th Meeting of India–UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments (HLJTFI) Held in Mumbai

- The 14th meeting of the India–UAE HLJTFI was held in Mumbai.

19. India at FAO COFO 28 and India's Forest Statistics

- India participated in the 28th Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO 28) and the 10th World Forest Week, 28 September – 2 October 2026, at FAO HQ, Rome, Italy.
- Theme: "Forests and Their Contribution to Food Security, Resilience and Prosperity" [Unverified].
- India's data presented:
 - Forest and tree cover: 82.74 million hectares (25.17% of geographical area) – ISFR 2023: forest cover 71.53 Mha, tree cover 11.20 Mha.
 - FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025: India 9th in forest area and 3rd in net annual forest area gain.

20. India Energy Week (IEW) 2027 to Be Held in Kolkata

- Theme: "Unlocking Innovation. Securing Energy. Shaping Tomorrow."

10. Miscellaneous

1. Important Days and Themes (16–30 September 2026)

National Engineers' Day – 15 September

- Birth anniversary of Sir M. Visvesvaraya.
- It was instituted in 1968. Visvesvaraya received the Bharat Ratna in 1955.

International Day of Democracy – 15 September

- 2026 theme: "Raising Hands and Voices – Fostering Agency and Ownership through Deliberative Democracy."

World Ozone Day – 16 September

- Official name: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.
- 2026 theme: "Global Action for a Cooler Planet".

World Patient Safety Day – 17 September 2026

- Theme 2026: "Safe care for noncommunicable diseases".
- Slogan: "Safe care for life!"

International Equal Pay Day – 18 September

- Observed on 18 September.

World Bamboo Day – 18 September

- Observed on 18 September.

International Red Panda Day – Third Saturday of September (19 September in 2026)

- Observed on the third Saturday of September; 19 September in 2026.

International Talk Like a Pirate Day – 19 September

- Observed on 19 September.

World Cleanup Day 2026 – 20 September

- Theme: "From Clean Plates to Clean Cities".

International Day of Peace 2026 – 21 September

- Theme: "Invest in Peace – For Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day".

World Alzheimer's Day – 21 September

- Theme: "The earlier you know, the more you can do: A dementia diagnosis matters".

World Rhino Day – 22 September

- 2026 theme: "Keep the Five Alive": Black, White, Greater One-Horned, Sumatran and Javan rhinos.
- Assam holds nearly 80% of the world's greater one-horned rhinoceros population (about 3,260 of 4,075), concentrated in Kaziranga National Park.
- Scientific name: Rhinoceros unicornis.

International Day of Sign Languages – 23 September 2026

- 2026 theme: "Declaring Deaf People's Human Rights".

11th Ayurveda Day – 23 September 2026

- Theme: "Ayurveda for a Healthier Tomorrow"; guiding vision "One Health, One Future".
- Organised by the **Ministry of Ayush**; national celebrations were held in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- **Prataprao Jadhav** is Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush.

World Maritime Day – 24 September 2026 (Last Thursday of September)

- Theme (2026 and 2027): "From Policy to Practice: Powering Maritime Excellence".
- **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** Secretary-General: **Arsenio Dominguez**.

Antyodaya Diwas – 25 September

- Observed on 25 September, the birth anniversary of **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya**.
- **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**: Union Minister for Rural Development and for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- **Rajiv Ranjan Singh (Lalan Singh)**: Union Minister for Panchayati Raj.

World Pharmacists Day – 25 September

- Theme: "Empowering pharmacists for healthier futures".

World Lung Day – 25 September

- Theme 2026: "A Lifetime of Lung Health".

International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons – 26 September

- Observed on 26 September.

World Tourism Day 2026 – 27 September;

India's Tourism Sector

- **World Tourism Day** is observed every year on 27 September.
- It was instituted by the **UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)**, now called **UN Tourism**, and first observed in 1980.
- **UN Tourism** is headquartered in **Madrid, Spain**.
- **Host country for 2026: El Salvador**.
- Theme 2026: "Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism".
- **Tourism** contributed 5.22% of India's GDP and supported 8.46 crore jobs in 2023-24.
- India's e-Visa, introduced in 2014 for 43 countries, now covers 172 countries.
- **WEF Travel and Tourism Development Index 2026**: 1. Japan, 2. United States, 3. Spain; India 31st.

- **National Tourism Day in India**: 25 January.
- **PRASAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive)** was launched in 2014-15.
- It was renamed **PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive)** in 2017 to include heritage sites.

International Day for Universal Access to Information – 28 September

- Theme 2026: "Upholding Information Integrity in the Digital Age: The Role of Access to Information in Addressing Information Disorder".

World Rabies Day 2026 – 28 September

- Observed on 28 September, the death anniversary of **Louis Pasteur**, who developed the first rabies vaccine.
- Theme 2026: "Stronger Together".
- (Chile's WHO rabies validation is covered under International Affairs.)

World Heart Day – 29 September

- Theme: "Don't Miss a Beat".

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste – 29 September

- Observed globally on September 29.

International Translation Day – 30 September

- 2026 theme: "Linguistic Diversity and Language Rights", subtitle "The Power of Being Understood".

2. Bay of Bengal Deep Depression and the Name 'Arnab'

- 'Arnab' is the next name on the North Indian Ocean cyclone list; it was contributed by **Bangladesh** and means "ocean" in Bengali.
- **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** Director General: **Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra**, known as the "Cyclone Man of India".
- **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**: founded 23 March 1950; headquarters **Geneva**; 23 March is **World Meteorological Day**.

11. MoUs

1. Department of Rural Development (DoRD) and Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Create "Pension Sakhis"

- DoRD and PFRDA signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**.
- It creates a dedicated community cadre of "Pension Sakhis" under DAY-NRLM.

- Signed by **Amit Shukla (Joint Secretary, DoRD)** and **Sumeet Kaur Kapoor (Executive Director, PFRDA)**, in the presence of **Rohit Kansal (Secretary, DoRD)**.
 - **PFRDA**: established 2003; statutory regulator status in 2014; headquarters New Delhi.
- 2. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) Signs 50:50 Joint Venture with Drydocks World for Kochi Ship Repair Facility**
- CSL signed a **50:50 Joint Venture** with **Drydocks World** for a **Kochi Ship Repair Facility**.
- 3. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Signs MoU with Gulfood Organiser**
- **Gulfood** is a major food trade exhibition held in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates**.
 - India was the **Official Partner Country** at **Gulfood 2026**.
 - **APEDA Chairman: Abhishek Dev**.
- 4. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Signs Two MoUs with IIT Kanpur**
- **First MoU**: six-week residential cybersecurity training through **C3iHub, IIT Kanpur**, for batches of **40 personnel**.
 - **Second MoU**: a **Centre of Excellence in Drone and Anti-Drone Technology** at CISF's training centre in **Behror, Rajasthan**, under a **five-year framework**.
 - **CISF** protects **critical and strategic infrastructure** and has tie-ups with **IIT Madras (Pravartak)**, **IIT Ropar** and the **Drone Federation of India**.
- 5. Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) Signs MoU with the Indian Army**
- **RGU** is a central university at **Rono Hills, Doimukh, near Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- 6. ISRO and European Space Agency (ESA) Extend Cooperation Agreement to 2032**
- **ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan** and **ESA Director General Josef Aschbacher** signed an **exchange of letters** in **Paris, France** on **September 10, 2026**.
 - Extends the **ISRO-ESA Cooperative Agreement** by five years until **January 8, 2032**.
- 7. India and the Netherlands Sign Two MoUs on the Kalpasar Project (Gujarat)**
- **Two tripartite MoUs** were signed on **24 September 2026** on the sidelines of the **9th India International Water Week (IIWW) 2026, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (22-26 September)**.

- **IIWW 2026 theme: "Climate Resilient Water Management"**.
- 8. Ministry of Minority Affairs Signs MoUs with IISc, IIM Bangalore and IIT Madras**
- **Ministry of Minority Affairs** signed MoUs with **IISc, IIM Bangalore and IIT Madras**.
- 9. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and Synergy Marine Group Sign MoU**
- **CSL and Singapore-based Synergy Marine Group** signed the MoU.
- 10. DRDO and CSIR-CGCRI to Develop Lightweight Bulletproof Glass**
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** partnered with **CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI)**, **Kolkata**, on a **₹50 crore, four-year project** to develop **indigenous lightweight bulletproof glass** for **armoured vehicles**.

12. National

- 1. Gujarat Restores 27,652 Hectares of Mangroves under MISHTI**
- **Gujarat** restored **27,652 hectares of mangroves** under **MISHTI**.
 - **Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI)** is a **central scheme** launched on **5 June 2023**.
 - **Union Minister Bhupender Yadav** launched the **Mangrove GIS (Geographic Information System) Portal** at a workshop in **Bhuji, Kutch**.
- 2. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Declares Shahzad Bhatti Network a Terrorist Organisation**
- **MHA** declared the **Shahzad Bhatti Network** a **Terrorist Organisation**.
- 3. Karnataka: Tulu Made Second Additional Administrative Language; Engineers May Use "Er." Prefix; Engineers' Day Made Official State Event**
- On **15 September 2026 (Engineers' Day)** the **Karnataka Government** issued an order allowing engineers to use **"Er."** as a **professional prefix**; **Engineers' Day** made an **official State event**.
 - **Karnataka** had earlier allowed the prefix **"Tr."** for **teachers**.
 - A committee chaired by **educationist M. Mohan Alva** was set up in **2023** to examine official status for **Tulu**.
 - **Tulu** is a **Dravidian language** spoken mainly in **Dakshina Kannada and Udupi (Karnataka)** and **Kasaragod (Kerala)**.

- It approved **Tulu** as the state's second additional administrative language in **Dakshina Kannada** and **Udupi** districts (the coastal **Tulu Nadu**).
- **Kannada** is the official language of **Karnataka**.
- **Governor of Karnataka: Thaawarchand Gehlot. D.K. Shivakumar** became **Chief Minister** on **3 June 2026**.

4. Telangana High Court Disqualifies Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender under the Anti-Defection Law

- **Danam Nagender** won **Khairatabad** in **2023** on a **Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS)** ticket.
- He contested the **2024 Lok Sabha** election from **Secunderabad** as a **Congress** candidate.
- **Anti-defection law: 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985**, which added the **10th Schedule**.
- Applies to **MPs** under **Article 102(2)** and to **MLAs** under **Article 191(2)**.
- **Telangana Assembly Speaker: Gaddam Prasad Kumar**.

5. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Amends Passport Validity Rule for Children below 15

- **Amended Rule 12(1A):** a standard **36-page** ordinary passport for a child **below 15 years** is valid for **5 years** from issue or until the child turns **18**, whichever is earlier.
- **Ordinary adult passports** retain **10-year** validity.

6. World's Highest-Altitude Twin Flower Fields Unveiled in Leh

- Unveiled on **17 September 2026** by **Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena**.
- Technical support came from the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT)**, **Palampur**.

7. India Completes the 2,843 km Dedicated Freight Corridor Network

- India completed the **2,843 km Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC)** network.

8. Indian Railways Approves Mukutban–Gadchandur New Line, Maharashtra

- **Indian Railways** approved the **38.21 km** new line between **Mukutban (Yavatmal district)** and **Gadchandur (Chandrapur district)**, **Maharashtra**.

9. Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2026 in Force from 1 October 2026

- **Registrar General of India: Mritunjay Kumar Narayan. Home Minister: Amit Shah. Home Secretary: Govind Mohan.**
- **Births and deaths** must be reported within **21 days**.
- Delay of **more than 1 year but within 2 years:** order of a **District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or authorised Executive Magistrate**, after verification and fee.
- Delay **beyond 2 years:** order of a **Judicial Magistrate of the First Class**.

10. Odisha Announces 870-Acre "Odisha Silicon Valley" near Cuttack

- **Odisha** announced an **870-acre "Odisha Silicon Valley"** near **Cuttack**.

11. Kavach 4.0: Approvals in Lucknow Division and First Commissioning on South Central Railway; Railway Capex

- **Kavach** is India's **indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP)** system, developed by the **Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO)**.
- **Railways** approved **Kavach 4.0** on **607.7 route km**, **Lucknow Division, North Eastern Railway: ₹252 crore**.
- **Electronic Interlocking** at **7 stations**, **Solapur Division, Central Railway: ₹209 crore**.
- **Railway capital expenditure 2026–27: ₹2,93,030 crore; Railway Safety Fund ₹45,000 crore; Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh ₹10,000 crore**.
- **South Central Railway (SCR)** commissioned **Kavach Version 4.0** over **108 route km** on the **Malkajgiri–Kamareddi** section, **Hyderabad Division – first time on SCR**.

12. Foundation Laid for the Northeast's Largest Power Project at Chapar, Assam

- Foundation laid for the **Northeast's largest power project** at **Chapar, Assam**.

13. "Mann Da Munafa" Door-to-Door Campaign Launched in Punjab

- **Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann** launched the **Aam Aadmi Party's door-to-door** campaign from **Dhuri** on **20 September 2026**.

14. Kerala to be Renamed "Keralam"

- **Parliament** alters a state's name under **Article 3**.
- **Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan; Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar**.

15. Arunachal Pradesh in News: Glaw Lake and Scouts Award

- Chief Minister Pema Khandu; Governor Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik.
- Glaw Lake is India's 101st Ramsar Site and the state's first.
- Glaw Lake lies in Kamlang Tiger Reserve, Lohit district.

16. Dissolution of the Digital Communications Commission (DCC)

- The DCC was the apex inter-departmental decision-making body of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications.

17. 7th Edition of the National Formulary of India (NFI) Released

- The NFI is the reference publication on rational, safe and evidence-based use of medicines, compiled by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), Ghaziabad.
- The release took place during the 6th National Pharmacovigilance Week (17–23 September 2026); theme: "Promoting Rational Use of Medicines through Pharmacovigilance: A Step Towards Safer Healthcare".

18. Telangana Core Urban Region (CURE) Bill Becomes Law

- The Telangana Core Urban Region (Integrated Governance) Bill, 2026 – the CURE Bill – provides a single governance framework for the Hyderabad core urban area of about 2,053 sq km within the Outer Ring Road (ORR).
- Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla.

19. Madhya Pradesh Launches Free Registration of Rural Properties

- Madhya Pradesh is the first State in India to offer free registration of rural properties.

20. ONGC Gas Discovery in Mahanadi Basin under 'Samudra Manthan'

- ONGC made a gas discovery in the Mahanadi Basin under 'Samudra Manthan'.
- Samudra Manthan – National Offshore Exploration Scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet on 31 July 2026 with an outlay of ₹84,084 crore up to FY 2030–31.
- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas: Hardeep Singh Puri.

21. Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve: 3,261 Flowering Plant Species Documented

- The Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve lies in the southern Western Ghats across Kerala and Tamil Nadu; it was notified in 2001.

- It joined the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves in 2016.

22. India Reaffirms Target to Eliminate Hepatitis B and C by 2030

- Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava.

23. Bharat Taxi: India's First Cooperative-Led Ride-Hailing Platform

- Bharat Taxi is run by Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited; principle: "Driver is the Owner".

24. Assam Sets 1 January 2027 Deadline for Paperless e-Office

- The Assam Government set 1 January 2027 as the deadline for all State government offices to move to the paperless e-Office system.
- Assam: Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma; Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya.

25. Environmental Clearance Validity for Ports Extended to 20 Years

- Environmental clearance validity for ports extended to 20 years.

26. Mandatory BIS Certification for Smartphone Screen Protectors

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology notified on 21 September 2026 that screen protectors for smartphones must conform to IS 19348:2025.
- Effective date: 1 April 2027.

27. NCRTC Presents Namu Bharat at InnoTrans 2026, Berlin

- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) presented Namu Bharat, India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), at InnoTrans 2026 in Berlin, Germany.
- NCRTC: formed in 2013 as a joint venture of the Centre and Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan; headquarters New Delhi.

28. Maruti Suzuki's First Green Hydrogen Plant; India's First Hydrogen Train; India's First LNG-Powered Train

- Maruti Suzuki India commissioned its first green hydrogen plant at Manesar, Haryana.
- India's first hydrogen train was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Jind, Haryana on 17 July 2026; regular service began on 19 July 2026.
- Route: 89 km, Jind–Sonipat; operating speed 75 km/h; 10 coaches; capacity about 2,600 passengers.

- Home Minister Amit Shah and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel flagged off India's first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)-powered train at Sabarmati, Ahmedabad.
 - Route: Sabarmati to Mahesana, Gujarat.
- 29. Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) Marks 15th Foundation Day**
- SECI marked its 15th Foundation Day on 20 September 2026.
 - Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; headquarters New Delhi.
- 30. CJI Surya Kant Inaugurates India's First Victim Rights Centre in Patna**
- Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice Surya Kant inaugurated India's first Victim Rights Centre (VRC) on September 26, 2026 at the Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA) campus, Patna, Bihar.
 - Justice Surya Kant is the 53rd Chief Justice of India and the first CJI from Haryana.
- 31. APEDA Flags Off GI-Tagged Gulbarga Tur Dal Export to Maldives**
- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) flagged off 1 Metric Tonne of GI-tagged Gulbarga Tur Dal from Karnataka to the Maldives.
 - APEDA Chairman: Abhishek Dev.
 - A GI registration is valid for 10 years and is renewable; the application fee is ₹1,000.
 - GI tagline: "Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India".
 - Target: 10,000 GI registrations by 2030.
- 32. 138th Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'; Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary (Assam) Highlighted**
- PM Narendra Modi, in the 138th episode of Mann Ki Baat (27 September 2026), marked 10 years of the Army's surgical strikes of 28–29 September 2016.
 - He spoke on the Nasha Mukh Yuva Abhiyan, a 100-week campaign for drug-free youth.
 - He highlighted the return of elephant herds to Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam, after removal of encroachments about three years ago.
- 33. Andhra Pradesh's First Flying Training Organisation at Kurnool**
- Andhra Pradesh's first Flying Training Organisation at Kurnool.
- 34. Centre Notifies India's First Four Mega Ports**
- The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways notified four mega ports under Section 73 of the Indian Ports Act, 2025.
 - Deendayal Port (Kandla), Gujarat.
 - Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Nhava Sheva), Maharashtra.
 - Paradip Port, Odisha.
 - Mundra Port, Gujarat, run by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd; the only non-major port in the list.
 - Ports Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal.
- 35. Dr. Manmohan Singh's Statue Unveiled in Hyderabad**
- Dr. Manmohan Singh's statue unveiled in Hyderabad.
- 36. Nationwide Ban on Herbicide Paraquat Dichloride**
- Paraquat Dichloride is a highly toxic, non-selective herbicide used to kill weeds in agricultural fields.
- 37. AFSPA Extended for Six Months in the Northeast**
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), 1958 for six months from October 1, 2026 (to March 31, 2027).
 - Manipur: entire State, excluding 13 police station areas in 5 valley districts.
 - Nagaland: 9 districts (Dimapur, Niuland, Chumoukedima, Mon, Kiphire, Noklak, Phek, Peren, Meluri) and 21 police station areas in 5 other districts.
 - Arunachal Pradesh: Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts and areas under Namsai, Mahadevpur and Chowkham police stations in Namsai district.
- 38. Telangana Sets Up TG SAFE (Telangana Standards Authority for Food and Essential Drugs); First Director of Drugs Wing Appointed**
- G. Ramdhan took charge on September 28, 2026 as the first Director of the Drugs Wing of TG SAFE.
 - Avinash Mohanty (IPS, 2005 batch) is the Commissioner of TG SAFE.
- 39. India's First Port-Based E-Methanol Plant at Deendayal Port, Kandla**
- Deendayal Port is one of India's three designated Green Hydrogen Hubs (with Paradip and V.O. Chidambaram).
 - India's first bamboo-based bio-ethanol plant: Numaligarh, Golaghat (Assam); first lithium-ion battery plant: Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- 40. Mumbai–Ahmedabad Bullet Train: First Steel Bridge in Maharashtra**

- **National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL)** launched a **100-metre, 1,405 MT steel bridge** over **NH-3 (Nashik Highway)** at **Dive-Anjur village, Bhiwandi, Thane district** on **28 September 2026** – the **first steel bridge in Maharashtra** for the project.
 - Fabricated in **Tiruchirappalli (Trichy), Tamil Nadu**, and transported about **1,300 km**.
- 41. FASTag Annual Pass Crosses 1 Crore Mark**
- The pass, launched on **August 15, 2025**, costs **₹3,075** (revised from **₹3,000** from **April 1, 2026**) for **one year or 200 toll crossings**, whichever is earlier, at about **1,150 fee plazas**; for **non-commercial vehicles**, purchased via the **Rajmargyatra app**.
- 42. NOTTO Organ Allocation Guidelines and Organ Donation Days**
- The **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)** has **removed the earlier 65-year age ceiling**, allowing patients above 65 to register to receive organs from **deceased donors**.
 - **World Organ Donation Day: 13 August.**
 - **Indian Organ Donation Day: 3 August.**
- 43. Supreme Court's National Task Force (NTF) on Student Mental Health in Higher Educational Institutions**
- The **Supreme Court of India** constituted the **NTF** in **March 2025**, headed by **former Supreme Court judge Justice S. Ravindra Bhat**, to address **mental health concerns** and **prevent suicides in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs)**.
 - The **NTF** submitted an **interim report** earlier and is to submit its **final report by 31 October 2026**.
- 44. PRAHAAR – National Counter-Terrorism Policy and Strategy Conference**
- **PRAHAAR (Policy for Response Against Hostile Activities And Radicalism)** is **India's first national counter-terrorism policy and strategy**, unveiled by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
 - **Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation Amit Shah** inaugurated the **Conference on "PRAHAAR – CT Policy and Strategy"** on **28 September 2026** in **New Delhi**.
 - **Seven pillars: Prevention, Response, Aggregating Internal Capacities, Human Rights, Attenuating Conditions for Terrorism, Aligning International Efforts,**

Recovery and Resilience, through a whole-of-society approach.

45. PIL Seeks Safeguards for Children on Social Media

- A **Public Interest Litigation (PIL)** filed by **NGO Just Rights for Children Alliance (JRCA)** sought safeguards for **children below 18** using **social media**, citing risks such as **online grooming, sexual exploitation, sextortion and age-inappropriate content**.
- **Solicitor General: Tushar Mehta.**

46. Delhi Winter Air Pollution Action Plan 2026-27

- **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav** chaired a **high-level meeting** with **Delhi CM Rekha Gupta** on **28 September 2026** to review **Delhi's Air Pollution Mitigation Action Plan**.

47. Arunachal Pradesh's First Kidney Transplant

- Performed on **27 September 2026** at the **Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS), Naharlagun**; announced by **CM Pema Khandu**.

48. First PRAMAAN Certificates under Indian Forest and Wood Certification Scheme

- **Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav** handed over **India's first PRAMAAN certificates** on **29 September 2026** in **New Delhi**.

13. Persons in News

1. Princess Astrid of Norway Passes Away

- **Princess Astrid Maud Ingeborg**, daughter of **King Olav V**.

Former Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Alla Kali Krishna Srinivas (Alla Nani) Passes Away

- **Alla Kali Krishna Srinivas (Alla Nani)**, former **Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**, passed away.

2. Konkani Scholar Narayana Purushothama Mallaya Passes Away

- **Konkani scholar Narayana Purushothama Mallaya** passed away.

3. Zhang Yiming Becomes Asia's Richest Person

- **ByteDance (TikTok) co-founder Zhang Yiming** became **Asia's richest person** with a **net worth above USD 105 billion**.
- He overtook **Gautam Adani**, as per the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index** (reported **16 September 2026**).

4. Notable Obituaries (incl. Vir Chakra Awardee Flight Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke)

- **Flight Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke (87):** Vir Chakra awardee; 1965 War hero, IAF pilot who flew Hawker Hunters; shot down a Pakistani Sabre at Kalaikunda. The rough notes add that he studied at La Martiniere, Lucknow.
- **E. M. Sudarsana Natchiappan (78):** former Union Minister of State (Commerce and Industry) under PM Dr. Manmohan Singh, Congress leader, Lok Sabha MP from Sivaganga (Tamil Nadu), Rajya Sabha member.
- **Mike Burton (79):** three-time Olympic swimming champion (USA); first American with back-to-back 1500 m freestyle golds.
- **Dr. G. Vijayaraghavan (84):** cardiologist, Padma Shri (2009), Vice Chairman of KIMS Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram; pioneer of 2D echocardiography.
- **Piyushbhai Desai (86):** former Chairman, Wagh Bakri Tea Group.

5. Veteran Hindi Film Actor Mushtaq Khan Died

- Known for **Welcome, Gadar: Ek Prem Katha** and **Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke**.

6. Soorya Krishnamoorthy Died

- **Soorya Krishnamoorthy**, former ISRO scientist and founder of the Soorya Stage and Film Society, died in Thiruvananthapuram.

14. Ranks & Reports

1. Ernst & Young – Confederation of Indian Industry (EY-CII) Report: India's Space Economy at ₹4.22 Lakh Crore by 2033

- EY-CII report estimates India's space economy at ₹4.22 lakh crore (\$44 billion) by 2033.

2. India Ranks 131st in World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Gender Gap Index/Report 2026

- **India:** 131st out of 145 economies, rank unchanged from 2025; parity score 64.5%.
- **Rank 1:** Iceland for the 17th consecutive year, with 93.0% parity; the only economy above 90%.
- **Rank 2:** Finland (87.2%); **Rank 3:** Norway (85.7%).
- **Rank 4:** Namibia (84.5%), the top-ranked nation in Africa; it climbed four places.
- **Rank 5:** United Kingdom (84.2%).
- **Bottom three:** Chad (last), Iran, Pakistan.

3. NITI Aayog Releases India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2025, 2nd Edition: Delhi Tops

- The IEMI is prepared by NITI Aayog with WRI India.

- **Overall top performer:** Delhi, with a score of 84/100 (up from 77).
- **Top five:** Delhi (84), Maharashtra (78), Karnataka (73), Chandigarh (71), Goa (65).
- **Large States:** Maharashtra (78) and Karnataka (73).
- **Karnataka leads charging infrastructure readiness.**
- **Hilly and North-Eastern States:** Manipur ranked first (46).
- **Union Territories and City States:** Delhi, Chandigarh (71), Goa (65).
- **National median score** rose from 36 to 40.

4. Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), August 2026: Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.0%

- **Unemployment Rate (UR):** 5.0% in August 2026, down from 5.1% in July.
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** 52.8%, up from 52.5%.
- **Rural WPR:** 55.8%, up from 55.4%; **urban WPR** eased slightly to 47.0%.
- **Rural unemployment** fell to 4.1% from 4.5%, the lowest since January 2026.
- **Urban unemployment** edged up to 6.8% from 6.7%.
- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** 55.6%, up from 55.4% in July.

5. Three IIMs in Top 100 of QS Global Full-Time MBA Rankings 2027; MIT Sloan Ranked First

- **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** released the Global MBA and Business Master's Rankings 2027.
- **Global top four**, all from the United States: 1. MIT Sloan (first time ever), 2. Harvard Business School, 3. Stanford Graduate School of Business, 4. Penn (Wharton).
- **No Indian business school** is in the top tier.
- **Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)** in the top 100: IIM Bangalore — joint 64th, IIM Ahmedabad — joint 70th, IIM Calcutta — 95th.
- **IIM Bangalore** is ranked 8th in Asia.

6. GIFT City Climbs to 37th in Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 40); Mumbai 49th

- **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City International Financial Services Centre (GIFT IFSC)** climbed 9 spots to 37th.
- **26th in FinTech**; among the top 15 in Asia-Pacific.
- **Mumbai** advanced 3 places to 49th.
- **Top 4:** 1. New York, 2. London, 3. Hong Kong, 4. Singapore.
- **GIFT City** is regulated by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).

7. India Rated "Severely Restricted" on Academic Freedom

- The **Academic Freedom Index (AFI)** runs from **0 to 1**; higher means more freedom.
- India's AFI score fell from **0.38 (2022)** to **0.14**.

8. India Ranked First in Global Business Climate Survey 2026

- India ranked **No. 1 among 41 markets** in the **Global Business Climate Survey 2026**.
- The survey is brought out by the **Swedish Chamber of Commerce India (SCCI)** with **Business Sweden**, and reflects the views of **Swedish companies abroad**.

9. Total Fertility Rate (TFR): 1.9 in 2024

- India's TFR was **1.9 in 2024**.

10. RBI Annual Survey on Computer Software and ITES Exports: 2025–26

- As per the **RBI's annual survey on Computer Software and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) Exports: 2025–26**, software services exports rose **8.2%** to **US\$ 221.4 billion** (**US\$ 204.7 billion** in 2024–25).

11. UN Gender Snapshot 2026

- "**The Gender Snapshot 2026**" was released on **17 September 2026** by **UN Women** and the **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)**.
- **Women hold 27.4% of seats in national parliaments in 2026** (22.3% in 2015).
- **UN Women Executive Director: Sima Sami Bahous**; **UN DESA Under-Secretary-General: Li Junhua**.
- India ranks **131st of 145 countries** in the **WEF's Global Gender Gap Index 2026**.

12. Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2026

- The index ranks **1,000 cities** on **Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment and Governance**.
- **Top five**: 1. New York, 2. London, 3. Paris, 4. Seattle, 5. San Francisco.
- India: **91 cities covered** (about **100 Indian cities** as per another listing).
- **Delhi** is the **top Indian city** at **268th** (**Human Capital 13th, Economics 116th**).
- **Bengaluru** – 311th; **Mumbai** – 330th; **Chennai** – 381st; **Hyderabad** – 421st; **Pune** – 427th.

13. Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2027: Two Indian Entries

- Lists **25 destinations** and **25 experiences**; **India** has two entries.
- **Gujarat (destination)**: **Rann of Kutch salt flats**, **Asiatic lions of Gir**, **heritage city**

Ahmedabad and **handicrafts**; capital **Gandhinagar**.

- **Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (experience)**: the "**Toy Train**", running since **1881**.
- India's recent **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**: **Charaideo Moidams, Assam (43rd)**; **Maratha Military Landscapes, 12 forts in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu (44th)**; **Ancient Buddhist Site, Sarnath (45th, 25 July 2026)**.

14. M3M Hurun India Rich List 2026 (15th Edition)

- Released on **23 September 2026**; lists **1,810 individuals** with wealth of **₹1,000 crore or more**.
- **1st: Gautam Adani and family** – **₹9.23 lakh crore** (reclaimed the top spot).
- **2nd: Mukesh Ambani and family** – **₹8.63 lakh crore**.
- **3rd: L.N. Mittal and family** – **₹3.39 lakh crore**.
- **4th: Cyrus S. Poonawalla and family** – **₹3.03 lakh crore**.
- **Richest woman: Roshni Nadar Malhotra and family** – **₹2.79 lakh crore** (5th overall).
- India has a **record 391 dollar billionaires**.
- **Top cities: Mumbai (465), New Delhi (236), Bengaluru (129)**.
- **131 women** feature on the list.

15. India Ranks 31st in WEF Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2026

- The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** released the **TTDI 2026** on **25 September 2026**, with **Zurich Insurance Group**.
- It covers **110 economies**.
- **India: 31st** (up from **39th** in 2024); score **4.42 out of 7**; **first in South Asia**.
- **Top five**: 1. Japan, 2. United States, 3. Spain, 4. Australia, 5. France.
- India has **45 UNESCO World Heritage Sites** (latest: **Sarnath**), **107 National Parks** and **18 Biosphere Reserves**.

16. Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index Q2 2026

- **Top cities**: 1. Tokyo (50.7%), 2. Manila (14.6%), 3. Dubai (10.9%).
- **Mumbai: 8th** (6.2%); **Bengaluru: 12th** (4.5%); **New Delhi: 17th** (3.9%).

15. Schemes and Initiatives

1. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY) Completes Seven Years

- PM-KMY was launched on 12 September 2019 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC); completed 7 years on 12 September 2026.
- It is a voluntary, contributory old-age pension scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs).
- Central Sector Scheme under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Pension Fund Manager: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- Eligibility: cultivable land up to 2 hectares; entry age 18 to 40 years; name in State/UT land records as on 1 August 2019.
- Assured/guaranteed pension: ₹3,000 per month after 60 years of age.
- Monthly contribution: ₹55 to ₹200 depending on entry age, matched equally by the Central Government.
- Family pension: spouse gets 50%, that is ₹1,500 per month.
- State ranking: Haryana 1st (about 5.75 lakh), Bihar 2nd (over 3.46 lakh), then Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh (over 2.5 lakh each), Chhattisgarh (over 2 lakh).

2. Ministry of Jal Shakti Releases "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari – Catch the Rain" Anthem Sung by Shankar Mahadevan

- Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari is a people's-participation initiative for rainwater harvesting, launched in 2024.
- It runs alongside Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain.
- Anthem released on 15 September 2026 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Union Minister C.R. Patil).
- Sung by singer-composer Shankar Mahadevan.
- Central motto: "Catch the Rain – Where It Falls, When It Falls."

3. National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) Dashboard and India Net Zero Portal Launched

- Launched by Kirti Vardhan Singh, Union Minister of State, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- The NAPCC was launched in 2008 with 8 National Missions.
- The eight missions: Solar, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat,

Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture, Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

4. Pradhan Mantri (PM) Vishwakarma Yojana Completes 3 Years

- PM Vishwakarma was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 17 September 2023 (Vishwakarma Jayanti).
- It is a Central Sector Scheme with an outlay of ₹13,000 crore for FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28.
- Covers artisans and craftspeople in 18 traditional trades, including carpenters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, potters, cobblers, tailors, barbers, washermen and fishing-net makers.
- Nodal ministry: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- The scheme completed 3 years on 17 September 2026.
- The 3rd anniversary event was held at Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium, Kolkata, organised by the Ministry of MSME; attended by Union MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi.
- Benefits under the scheme:
 - Basic skill training: 5–7 days with a stipend of ₹500 per day.
 - Toolkit incentive: ₹15,000 digital voucher.
 - Collateral-free loans up to ₹3 lakh at 5% concessional interest:
 - Tranche 1: ₹1 lakh, repayable in 18 months.
 - Tranche 2: ₹2 lakh, repayable in 30 months.

5. Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2026 Campaign Launched on 17 September

- Launched nationwide on 17 September 2026; runs to 2 October 2026 (Swachh Bharat Diwas).
- Theme: "Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat".
- Addressed by Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Patil, Minister of State for Jal Shakti V. Somanna and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu.
- Swachhata Hi Seva has been observed annually since 2017 to mobilise citizen action for cleanliness.
- Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched on 2 October 2014 with the motto "Ek Kadam Swachhata Ki Ore".
- National Open Defecation Free (ODF) status was declared on 2 October 2019.

- Swachh Bharat Diwas is observed on 2 October.

6. Operational Guidelines Launched for Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP) 3.0

- DILRMP modernises and integrates land records.
- Outlay: ₹565.50 crore, 100% Central funding.
- Period: 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- Implementing department: Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

7. Haryana Launches "Har Ghar Diya" under the Nationwide Seva Sankalp Abhiyan

- Seva Sankalp Abhiyan marks Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday and 25 years in public service.
- Haryana's campaign runs from 17 September to 17 October 2026 under Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini.

8. Certificate (Bridge) Course in Primary Teacher Education; PM SHRI Scheme

- Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the six-month Certificate (Bridge) Course in Primary Teacher Education in New Delhi on 16 September 2026.
- PM Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) was launched in 2022 to upgrade 14,500 schools.
- Period: 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- Budget: ₹27,360 crore, with a Central share of ₹18,128 crore.

9. 20th Rozgar Mela: Over 51,000 Appointment Letters Distributed; Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY)

- The 20th Rozgar Mela was held on 19 September 2026 at 45 locations; over 51,000 appointment letters distributed.
- PM-VBRY was approved by the Union Cabinet on 1 July 2025 as the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme.
- PM-VBRY covers jobs created between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2027; the Prime Minister formally launched it on 15 August 2025.

10. Tamil Nadu: Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Breakfast Scheme Extended to Classes 6-8

- The free breakfast scheme began in 2022 for Classes 1-5 and has been renamed after former Chief Minister K. Kamaraj.

11. Tamil Nadu: One-Gram Gold Ring Scheme for Newborns

- Thaimaaman Thanga Mothiram Thittam (Maternal Uncle's Gold Ring Scheme) was launched on 28 September 2026.

12. Operational Guidelines Issued for ₹23,731 Crore GOBARDhan Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved GOBARDhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) on 6 August 2026.
- The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas issued operational guidelines dated 15 September 2026. Minister: Hardeep Singh Puri.
- Outlay: ₹23,731 crore for 2026-27 to 2035-36.
- Capital assistance is capped at ₹30 crore per project for Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plants.
- Producers get assured offtake and an administered price for at least 10 years.

13. Project Cheetah Completes Four Years

- Launched on 17 September 2022 at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- The cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952.
- Population as on 17 September 2026: 52, including 32 born in India.
- 49 are in Kuno National Park and 3 in Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary (both Madhya Pradesh).
- Translocated from Namibia (8), South Africa (12) and Botswana (9).
- Implemented by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).
- International Cheetah Day: 4 December.

14. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) Completes Six Years

- PMMSY was launched on 10 September 2020 under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- Completed 6 years on 10 September 2026.
- Total investment outlay: ₹20,750 crore.
- Record ₹2,500 crore allocated in Budget Estimates 2026-27.
- Fish production: 141.64 lakh tonnes (2019-20) to a record 197.75 lakh tonnes (2024-25).
- Fisheries exports: ₹46,663 crore (2019-20) to ₹73,890 crore (2025-26).
- Sub-scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY): Central Sector sub-scheme, outlay ₹6,000 crore, FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27.

15. Biometric Aadhaar Authentication

Mandatory for Subsidised LPG from 1 October 2026

- In June 2026, the subsidised cylinder quota for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

(PMUY) beneficiaries was cut from 9 to 4 a year; the ₹300 subsidy per cylinder stayed.

- **Biometric Aadhaar Authentication (BAA)** is mandatory from **1 October 2026** to book subsidised domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) refills.

16. Atal Bhujal Yojana and Amrit Sarovar

- **Atal Bhujal Yojana:** ₹6,000 crore (50% Centre, 50% World Bank, about \$450 million) in 7 states: Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Amrit Sarovar:** 75 rejuvenated water bodies per district.

17. DISHA 2.0 Scheme for Access to Justice (2026–2031)

- **Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA) 2.0** is a Central Sector Scheme implemented across India by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Period: 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031 (five years), co-terminus with the 16th Finance Commission cycle.
- **Financial outlay:** ₹255 crore, funded through 100% Gross Budgetary Support of the Government of India.
- **Four components:** Tele-Law, Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services), Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programme (LLLAP) and VIDHI-Sanjeevani.
- **Tele-Law:** free pre-litigation legal advice to marginalised and disadvantaged groups, connecting users to panel lawyers through Common Service Centres (CSCs), a mobile app and toll-free number 14454.
- **Nyaya Sahayaks:** community-based legal facilitators deployed across aspirational blocks.
- **Nyaya Bandhu:** voluntary, free-of-charge (pro bono) legal assistance for persons eligible under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987; pro bono panels set up in 23 High Courts.
- **VIDHI-Sanjeevani:** centralised dashboard for monitoring scheme performance, integrated with the Nyaya Setu AI Chatbot (launched on 29 March 2026), which gives legal assistance by voice and text in 22 Indian languages.
- Target: cumulative outreach of 3 crore beneficiaries across all components; the VIDHI-Sanjeevani component alone is projected to reach 50 lakh beneficiaries over 2026–31.

18. Modified UDAN Scheme: 21 MoUs Signed with States and Union Territories

- UDAN stands for Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik; the original scheme began in October 2016.
- 21 MoUs signed with States and Union Territories.
- Period: FY 2026–27 to FY 2035–36 (10 years); total outlay ₹28,840 crore.
- Targets: 100 airports from unserved airstrips (₹12,159 crore) and 200 helipads (₹3,661 crore).
- **Viability Gap Funding (VGF):** ₹10,043 crore over 10 years; operation and maintenance support about ₹2,577 crore.

19. Ayushman Bharat – PM-JAY Completes Eight Years; Arogya Manthan 2026 (5 Years of ABDM)

- **Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)** was launched on 23 September 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Ranchi, Jharkhand; it completed eight years on 23 September 2026.
- It gives health cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year.
- **Expansions:** all ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers covered in 2024; all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of income, covered from September 2024 through the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card (over 1.36 crore cards issued).
- **Funding pattern:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme – 60:40 between Centre and States; 90:10 for North-Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Budget 2026–27 allocation:** ₹9,500 crore.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM):** launched in October 2021 with an outlay of ₹64,180 crore for 2021–26 for critical care blocks, disease surveillance and public health infrastructure.
- The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was launched nationwide on 27 September 2021.
- **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilisers J.P. Nadda** inaugurated Arogya Manthan 2026 (8 Years of AB PM-JAY and 5 Years of ABDM) on 25 September 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **ABHA** is a 14-digit unique digital health ID used to store and access health records; it

is managed by the National Health Authority (NHA).

- ABDM achievements (as of 1 September 2026):
 - 97.8 crore+ Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHAs) created.
 - 121 crore+ health records linked digitally.

20. Delhi Cabinet Approves 'DURGA' E-Auto Scheme

- DURGA: Driving Upliftment and Rozgar for Women/Transgender Green E-Auto.

21. Uttar Pradesh Launches Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana

- Interest on long-term farm loans from the Uttar Pradesh Sahkari Gram Vikas Bank cut from about 11% to 6%.
- Loans up to ₹6 lakh; the State bears the balance as interest subsidy (up to 5%).

22. Make in India Completes 12 Years

- Make in India was launched on 25 September 2014 covering 25 sectors, and completed 12 years on 25 September 2026.
- Make in India 2.0 covers 27 sectors: 15 manufacturing and 12 services.
- Manufacturing Gross Value Added (GVA) grew at a compound annual rate of 10.88% between 2022-23 and 2025-26 (constant prices).

23. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) Completes 12 Years

- DDU-GKY was launched on 25 September 2014; it completed 12 years on 25 September 2026.
- It provides placement-linked skill training to rural poor youth aged 15 to 35 years.
- Implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development under DAY-NRLM.

24. Prasar Bharati's PB-SHABD News Feed Platform

- PB-SHABD stands for Prasar Bharati – Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination.
- Offers free, logo-free news content (text, audio, video, photos, infographics) in 15 languages.
- Free access runs until March 2027; about 3,600 media organisations are registered.

25. Delhi Launches PM Surya Ghar Registration Portal

- Central subsidy: up to ₹78,000 for rooftop solar up to 3 kW.
- Delhi Government adds a matching ₹78,000; total subsidy ₹1.56 lakh.

- PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana: outlay ₹75,021 crore; target 1 crore households; up to 300 units of free electricity a month.

26. Soil Health Card Scheme

- Launched on 19 February 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Suratgarh, Rajasthan.
- 12 parameters tested: Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur; Zinc, Iron, Copper, Manganese, Boron; and pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Organic Carbon.
- The scheme was merged into Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) from 2022-23.

27. Pashudhan Bima (Livestock Insurance) Portal Launched

- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Rajiv Ranjan Singh (Lalan Singh) launched the Pashudhan Bima Portal in New Delhi.
- Available in 11 regional languages plus Hindi and English (13 languages in total).
- National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) is headquartered at Karnal, Haryana.

28. National Digital Tourism Stack Launched on World Tourism Day

- Union Tourism and Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the National Digital Tourism Stack (NDTS) at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on World Tourism Day (September 27, 2026).

29. Seva First Innovation Challenge (SFIC) – South Zone Launched

- Union Minister of Education Pralhad Joshi launched the SFIC – South Zone on 25 September 2026 at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.

16. Science and Technology

1. Prime Minister Inaugurates 5th Edition of SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi; Semicon 2.0 Outlay ₹1,27,500 Crore

- The Semicon India Programme, run by the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM): ISM 1.0 was launched on 15 December 2021 with ₹76,000 crore (Phase 1 outlay, approved by the Union Cabinet in December 2021).
- ISM 2.0 (Semicon 2.0): enhanced outlay of ₹1,27,500 crore; Union Cabinet approval July 2026.
- Theme: "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem".

- The PM cited the **mission budget** rising from **USD 8 billion (Semicon 1.0)** to **USD 13.5 billion (Semicon 2.0)**.
- 2. Nirmala Sitharaman Launches "Laya" Sanskrit AI Model in Chennai**
- Unveiled by **Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** on **15 September 2026** at **Madras Sanskrit College**.
 - Developed with **US-based Articul8 AI**.
- 3. SPROUT Facility Inaugurated at BRIC-NIPGR**
- **National Institute of Plant Genome Research (BRIC-NIPGR)** is in **New Delhi**.
 - **SPROUT (SpeedSeed Phenotyping and Resource Optimization for Unified Trait Analysis)** inaugurated by **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh**.
- 4. CSIR-NIScPR Adopts SARAL AI**
- **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR)**.
 - **NIScPR** is using **SARAL AI**, an initiative of the **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)**, to convert research published in its journals into **accessible videos**.
 - **NIScPR Director: Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam; ANRF CEO: Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman**.
- 5. India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) Inaugurated at Sambalpur, Odisha**
- Inaugurated virtually by **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh** in the presence of **Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi**.
 - **Odisha's third DWR**, after **Gopalpur and Paradip**.
 - **Mission Mausam** was launched on the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s 150th Foundation Day, 14 January 2025**, with a **₹2,000 crore budget**.
- 6. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Approves AI Centre of Excellence in Bhubaneswar**
- **MeitY** approved an **AI Centre of Excellence in Bhubaneswar**.
- 7. Qdenga Approved as India's First Dengue Vaccine; Launch in First Half of 2027**
- **Qdenga (TAK-003)** is a **live-attenuated tetravalent dengue vaccine** made by **Takeda**.
 - The **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)** approved/authorised it on **21 July 2026** for **ages 4–60**.

- **Dr. Reddy's Laboratories** will distribute it **exclusively in India's private market**.
 - Expected availability: **first half of 2027**.
- 8. New Tiger Cat Species Leopardus tilcayo Identified in Bolivia**
- New species **Leopardus tilcayo**, locally "**Tilcayo**", found in **Bolivia's Yungas cloud forest**.
- 9. ISRO (Advanced) Radar Research Facility under Project NETRA at Chandrapur, Assam**
- **Project NETRA** stands for **Network for Space Object Tracking and Analysis**.
- 10. NASA Identifies the Rare McGetchin Lunar Crater**
- **NASA** identified the **rare McGetchin lunar crater**.
- 11. NIT Srinagar Observatory for Astronomy and Astrophysics (NSOAA)**
- The **National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar** inaugurated the **NSOAA**.
 - It is the **first NIT** to have a **dedicated campus observatory**.
- 12. IIT Delhi Develops India's First Indigenous micro-Graphics Processing Unit (micro-GPU)**
- **IIT Delhi** has an **international campus in Abu Dhabi, UAE**; **IIT Madras** has one in **Zanzibar, Tanzania**.
- 13. Optical Atomic Clock Using Lutetium-176 Ions**
- Researchers at the **Centre for Quantum Technologies (CQT), National University of Singapore (NUS)**, built an **optical atomic clock** using **Lutetium-176 ions**.
- 14. NASA Moves PRIMA Telescope to Phase B**
- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** moved **PRIMA (PRobe far-Infrared Mission for Astrophysics) Telescope** to **Phase B (preliminary design)**.
- 15. Google's Project Suncatcher**
- **Project Suncatcher** is **Google's research project on AI computing in space**.
 - It was launched on **1 October 2026** on **SpaceX's Transporter-18 rideshare mission** from **Vandenberg Space Force Base, California**.
- 16. ISRO to Launch NVS-03 Navigation Satellite**
- **ISRO** is targeting a **mid-October 2026** launch of **NVS-03**, the **third second-generation NavIC satellite**, on a **GSLV Mk II** from **Sriharikota**.
- 17. NASA Announces Uncrewed Starliner-1 Cargo Mission to ISS**
- **NASA** announced (**28 September 2026**) an **uncrewed Starliner-1 cargo mission** to the **International Space Station (ISS)** in

December 2026 / January 2027, followed by crewed Starliner-2 by 2028.

- NASA Administrator: Jared Isaacman.

17. Sports

1. India Wins Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 – Eighth Women's Asia Cup Title

- India beat Sri Lanka by 72 runs in the final at Dubai on 13 September 2026 for its 8th title (4 ODI, 4 T20).
- Player of the Match: Shafali Verma, whose fifty off 24 balls is the fastest in tournament history.
- Shafali Verma was also Player of the Series and top scorer of the tournament (236 runs).
- Deepti Sharma: named top wicket-taker with 14 in the rough notes.

2. Ganges Grandmasters Win Global Chess League 2026

- Ganges Grandmasters (coach Adhiban Baskaran) won in Bengaluru, defeating Alpine APL Pipers 7-5 in the two-leg final.
- Player of the Tournament: Stavroula Tsolakidou.

3. Ten-Member Task Force Formed to Revive Formula 1 in India

- India last hosted a Formula 1 race in 2013.
- On 15 September 2026 the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports constituted a 10-member task force to revive Formula 1 in India.
- Announced by Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.
- Headed by Yugal Kishore Joshi, Programme Director and Adviser, NITI Aayog.

4. Punjab to Host Men's Hockey Asian Champions Trophy 2026

- The Men's Asian Champions Trophy is organised by the Asian Hockey Federation; the 2026 event is the 9th edition.
- India is the most successful team, with 5 titles.
- Punjab will host the tournament for the first time, from 27 October to 5 November 2026.
- Opening ceremony and league matches: Olympian Surjit Hockey Stadium, Jalandhar.
- Semi-finals and final: Mohali.
- Six teams: India, Pakistan, Japan, Malaysia, China and Korea.
- Asian Hockey Federation headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

5. Nairobi to Host World Athletics Championships 2029, the First in Africa

- The World Athletics Championships have never been held in Africa.
- Host sequence: Beijing (2027), Nairobi (2029) (first in Africa), Munich, Germany (2031).
- World Athletics President: Sebastian Coe.

6. Brendan Taylor Sets Record for Longest Men's One Day International (ODI) Career

- Sachin Tendulkar held the record with an ODI career of 22 years and 91 days (1989–2012).
- Zimbabwe's Brendan Taylor now has the longest men's ODI career span: 22 years and 148 days.

7. East Zone Wins Duleep Trophy 2026–27

- Final: East Zone v South Zone, 6–10 September 2026, MA Chidambaram Stadium (Chepauk), Chennai.
- Player of the Match: East Zone captain Ishan Kishan.

8. Dhiraj Bommadevara Wins Gold at the Archery World Cup Final 2026 (Venue: Saltillo, Mexico)

- He is the first Indian male recurve archer to win gold at the World Cup Final.
- Second Indian individual champion at the World Cup Final, after Dola Banerjee (2007) – the only Indian to have won an individual title there before.

9. India Wins the Men's Junior Asia Cup Hockey 2026

- Final on 13 September 2026 at Moqi, China: India beat South Korea 4–1.
- India's sixth title, the most by any team (earlier: 2004, 2008, 2015, 2023, 2024).
- Captain: Anmol Ekka; coach: Frederic Soye.

10. India to Host the 11th Asian Senior Wushu Championship in 2028

- India hosts for the first time; about 500 athletes from 42 nations.
- Bhupender Singh Bajwa nominated to the Executive Committee, Wushu Federation of Asia.

11. Smriti Mandhana Becomes Highest Run-Scorer in Women's T20 Internationals and in Women's International Cricket

- Smriti Mandhana passed Mithali Raj's 10,868 runs on 3 September 2026 (124 against Hong Kong, Women's Asia Cup, Dubai) to become the highest run-scorer in women's international cricket.
- The T20I record was held by New Zealand's Suzie Bates (4,758).

- Mandhana passed Bates on **20 September 2026** in the **Asian Games semi-final against Bangladesh** and ended the innings on **4,788 Twenty20 International (T20I) runs** in **178 matches**.
- Completed **100 T20I sixes**.

12. Jos Buttler Becomes First Batter to 15,000 T20 Runs

- **England's Jos Buttler** reached **15,000 runs** in **Twenty20 cricket** on **17 September 2026**.
- He did so in his **528th match**, against **Sri Lanka** at **Sophia Gardens, Cardiff**.
- He overtook **Kieron Pollard (14,999)**.

13. 20th Asian Games 2026, Aichi-Nagoya, Japan: Overview

- **Asian Games** founded in **1951**; **Guru Dutt Sondhi** is the **Father of the Asian Games**.
- The Asian Games are organised by the **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**; the next edition is **Doha 2030**.
- India hosted in **1951 and 1982**; **Thailand** has hosted **4 times**.
- India's record at **Hangzhou 2022**: **107 medals (28 gold, 38 silver, 41 bronze)**.
- **Host**: **Aichi-Nagoya, Japan**; held from **19 September to 4 October 2026**.
- Opened on **19 September 2026** at the **Mizuho Park Athletic(s) Stadium (Paloma Mizuho Stadium), Nagoya**; declared open by **Emperor Naruhito**.
- **Mascot**: **Honohon (HONOHON)**; **Slogan/motto**: **"Imagine One Asia"**.
- **45 nations/countries and regions, 43 sports, 71 disciplines, 469 medal events**.
- **Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)** made its **Asian Games debut**.
- **India**: **503 athletes (269 men, 234 women)** (not verified; **All India Radio** reports a **501-member contingent**).
- **Flag bearers**: **shooter Manu Bhaker** and **kabaddi player Pawan Sehrawat**.
- **Tajinderpal Singh Toor (shot put)** was first named as a flag bearer; **Pawan Sehrawat** replaced him at the last minute as **Toor's ceremony kit failed to arrive**.
- **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**, led by **President P.T. Usha**, instituted new **IOA trophies** (see **Awards category**).

14. Asian Games 2026: Shooting Medals

- **First medal (20 September)**: **Team Silver, Women's 10m Air Rifle** by **Elavenil Valarivan, Sonam Maskar and Vidarsa K. Vinod** with **1,898.0 points**.

- **China** won the team gold with a **world record 1,904.2**; **Japan** took bronze.

- **Elavenil Valarivan** also won **Silver** in the **Women's 10m Air Rifle Individual** event.
- **Men's 10 m Air Rifle Team (Rudrankksh Patil, Himanshu Dhillon, Parth Mane)**: **Silver**.
- **Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Parinaaz Dhaliwal** won **Bronze** in **Skeet Mixed Team**, **India's first-ever medal** in this event.
- **Suruchi Singh and Kamaljeet** won **Gold** in the **10 m Air Pistol Mixed Team** on **25 September 2026** with **484.6 points**; **South Korea Silver (478.0)**, **Iran Bronze**.
 - Described as **India's first Asian Games gold** in this event and an **Asian record**. [Unverified]
- **Neeru Dhanda** became the **first Indian woman** to win an **individual Women's Trap gold** at the Asian Games, scoring **28 in the final** – a new Asian record; **India's first individual gold** of the Games (and **5th gold overall**).

15. Asian Games 2026: First MMA Medal for India; Wushu Silver

- **Suchika Tariyal** won **Bronze** in the **women's traditional 60 kg MMA** event on **21 September 2026** – **India's first-ever Asian Games medal in MMA**.
- **Prachiti Nagapurkar** of **Nagpur, Maharashtra** became the **first Indian to officiate as an MMA referee** at the Asian Games.
- **Wushu: Naorem Roshibina Devi (Manipur)** reached the final of the **women's 60 kg sanda** and won **Silver**, losing to **China's Zhang Xiaoyu** – her **second successive Asian Games silver**.
 - Her **third straight Asian Games medal**: **Bronze (2018)**, **Silver (Hangzhou)**, **Silver (2026)**.

16. Asian Games 2026: Hockey – Savita Punia Becomes Most-Capped Indian Women's Hockey Player

- **Savita Punia**: **321st international match** in the **17–1 win over Indonesia**, passing **Vandana Katariya (320)**; **most-capped Indian women's hockey player**.

17. Asian Games 2026: India Wins Women's Cricket Gold

- **India**, led by **Harmanpreet Kaur**, beat **Sri Lanka** by **147 runs** in the final on **22 September 2026** at **Korogi Sports Park, Aichi**.

- India's first gold of the 2026 Games and second successive Asian Games gold in women's cricket (after Hangzhou).
- The 147-run margin is India's biggest win by runs in women's Twenty20 Internationals.

18. Asian Games 2026: Mirabai Chanu Wins Silver in Weightlifting

- Mirabai Chanu won silver in the women's 49 kg event.
- Gold: Ri Song Gum (North Korea) – 215 kg; Bronze: Luluk Diana Tri Wijayana (Indonesia).

19. Asian Games 2026: Soft Tennis, Rowing, Badminton and Squash Medals

- Jay Meena (Dewas, Madhya Pradesh) won bronze in men's singles soft tennis.
- Rowing: Satnam Singh and Salman Khan won Bronze in Men's Double Sculls, India's first rowing medal at these Games.
- Badminton: the Indian Men's Team won Bronze after a 1–3 semifinal loss to China (23 September 2026).
 - Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty beat world champions Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang 21-11, 22-20.
 - The pair are former World No. 1, won men's doubles Gold at Hangzhou and the China Masters 2026 title.
- Squash: Anahat Singh and Abhay Singh won Silver in singles on 27 September.
 - Anahat is the first Indian woman to reach an Asian Games squash singles final.

20. Asian Games 2026: Kabaddi Double Gold

- Women's Kabaddi: India beat Iran 37–34 on 26 September 2026 for Gold; India's 4th women's kabaddi gold in 5 editions (4th gold and 5th medal). Captain Pushpa Rana.
- Men's Kabaddi: India, led by Sunil Kumar, beat Iran 40–34 on 26 September 2026 for Gold; India's 9th men's gold and 10th medal overall.

21. Asian Games 2026: Athletics Medals

- Mixed 4x400 m Relay: Silver (3:14.46); team: M.R. Poovamma, Vishal Thennarasu, Vithya Ramraj, Manu T.S.
- Seema Kumari won Bronze in the Women's 10,000 m (32:50.05), India's first medal in the event in 16 years.
- Men's Marathon: Sawan Barwal (Himachal Pradesh) won Silver in 2:11:37, a national record (26 September).

- India's first Asian Games marathon medal in 44 years (since 1982). Gold to Ichitaka Yamashita of Japan and Kartik Karkera's 17th place are as per the source. [Unverified]

- Women's Shot Put: Manpreet Kaur won Bronze with 17.17 m. The Chinese gold and silver winners and "third Indian woman" are as per the source. [Unverified]
- Women's Long Jump: Ancy Sojan (Kerala) won Silver (6.53 m).
- Women's 200 m: Harita Bhadra won Bronze (23.20 s).
- Men's Decathlon: Tejaswin Shankar won Bronze.
- Vithya Ramraj won bronze in Women's 400m Hurdles (28 September 2026) in 54.75 seconds, breaking P.T. Usha's 42-year-old national record of 55.42s (1984 Los Angeles Olympics).
- Women's 4x400m Relay Gold (29 September 2026): Vithya Ramraj, Kiran Pahal, M.R. Poovamma and Prachi Choudhary – 3:29.69; India's first athletics gold of the Games (Bahrain silver, China bronze).

22. Asian Games 2026: Gulveer Singh's Medal Hat-Trick

- Gulveer Singh won three medals: Silver – 10,000m (28:29.38), Silver – 1,500m (3:36.72, personal best) and Bronze – 5,000m (13:32.75).
- First Indian in 40 years to win three medals at a single Asian Games since P.T. Usha (Seoul 1986).

23. England Fast Bowler Mark Wood Announces Retirement from International Cricket

- England fast bowler Mark Wood (aged 36) announced his retirement from international cricket.

24. Indian Tennis Player Parikshit Somani Suspended for Four Years for Doping

- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA): headquarters Montreal, Canada.
- National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA): headquarters New Delhi.

25. Pune to Host the 2032 UCI Road World Championships

- Pune, Maharashtra was awarded the 2032 UCI Road World Championships at the 195th Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) Congress in Montreal, Canada.
- India will host the event for the first time.

26. Shaunae Miller-Uibo Named Ambassador of Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon 2026

- Shauna Miller-Uibo of the Bahamas is the International Event Ambassador.
- She won Olympic gold in the women's 400 m at Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020.

27. 65th Subroto Cup International Football Tournament

- Junior Boys (Under-17): Minerva Public School, Mohali beat MIC EMHSS, Kerala 3–2.
- Junior Girls (Under-17): St. Patrick's High School, Gumla (Jharkhand).
- Sub-Junior Boys (Under-15): Manikpara Vivekananda Vidyapith (West Bengal).

28. 46th Chess Olympiad Held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan

- Open: Gold Uzbekistan, Silver India, Bronze Germany.
- Women: Gold China, Silver Kazakhstan, Bronze India.
- India won the Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy for the best combined result for the third time in a row (2022, 2024, 2026).

29. Bodhana Sivanandan Becomes Youngest Woman Grandmaster (WGM) in Chess History

- 11-year-old Indian-origin Bodhana Sivanandan (representing England) became the youngest WGM in chess history, securing her final norm at the 46th Chess Olympiad.

30. Virat Kohli Crosses 15,000 ODI Runs

- Virat Kohli became the second batter after Sachin Tendulkar (18,426 runs) to score 15,000 ODI runs.
- He did it on 27 September 2026 against West Indies at Greenfield International Stadium, Thiruvananthapuram.
- He made 139 not out, his 55th ODI century; India won by 8 wickets.

31. Spain Wins FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup 2026

- Spain won its 2nd FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup title, beating defending champion North Korea 4–3 on penalties (0–0) in the final at Łódź, Poland on September 27, 2026.
- Colombia won Bronze, beating Italy 4–3 on penalties.

32. USA Wins 11th Consecutive Presidents Cup

- Team USA won its 11th consecutive Presidents Cup title, beating the Internationals 17–13 at Medinah Country Club, Illinois on September 27, 2026.

33. Goa to Host Asian Pencak Silat Championship 2027

- Goa has been selected to host the 4th Junior and 11th Senior Asian Pencak Silat

Championship 2027, scheduled from 19–23 April 2027.

18. Static News

1. Important Days

World 1. India's Border Facts

- Line of Actual Control (LAC): 3,488 km.
- McMahon Line: boundary in the eastern sector (Arunachal Pradesh).
- Longest land border: Bangladesh (4,096 km), followed by China, then Pakistan (3,323 km, Radcliffe Line).

2. NRI Accounts

- Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO): rupee account for income earned in India; interest is taxable.
- Non-Resident External (NRE): rupee account for foreign earnings; interest is tax-free in India.
- Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) [FCNR(B)]: foreign-currency term deposit of 1–5 years.

3. Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) for Banks

- Banks in India must maintain a minimum CRAR of 9% plus a Capital Conservation Buffer (CCB) of 2.5%, i.e. 11.5% in all.

4. The 5 All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) Regulated by the RBI

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- National Housing Bank (NHB).
- Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank).
- National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).

5. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Profile

- Established on 1 April 1935 on the recommendation of the Hilton Young Commission; headquarters Mumbai.
- 26th Governor: Sanjay Malhotra.
- Deputy Governors: Poonam Gupta, Swaminathan Janakiraman (Swaminathan J.), Rohit Jain and Shirish Chandra Murmu.

6. India's Major Ports

- India has 12 major ports in operation (2 ports are under development).

7. India's Installed Nuclear Capacity

- India's installed nuclear capacity: 8.78 GW; target 100 GW by 2047.

- India's first nuclear power station: Tarapur, Maharashtra.
8. Static GK: State-wise Highlights
- Highest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Maharashtra.
 - Highest number of GI tags: Uttar Pradesh.
 - Highest number of Ramsar Sites: Tamil Nadu.
 - Top sugar producers: Uttar Pradesh (1st), Maharashtra (2nd); top coffee producer: Karnataka; top electronics exporter: Tamil Nadu.
9. Static GK: FDI Limits and Aluminium
- FDI limits: private sector banks 74%, public sector banks 20%, LIC 20%, insurance sector 100%.
 - Top aluminium-producing State: Odisha.

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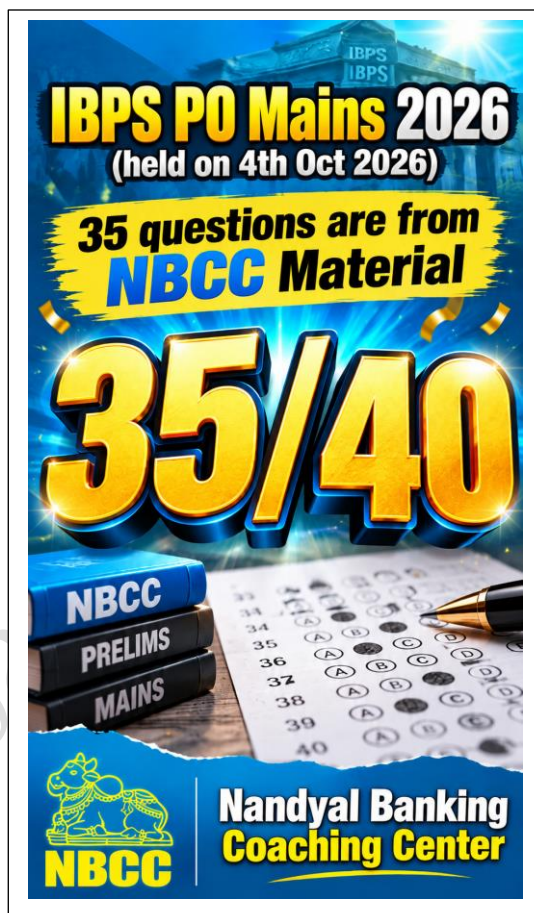


IBPS PO Mains 2026 – GA Coverage Report (40 Questions)

Exam held 4 October 2026 – memory-based GA questions vs NBCC Current Affairs Material (Mar – 15 Sep 2026)

1. Summary

Metric	Value
Total GA questions checked	40
Covered in NBCC material (any file)	35 (87.5%)
– exact / question-ready matches	23
– partial / inferable	12
Not covered	5 (12.5%)
Covered by consolidated May–15 Sep doc alone	22 (55%)
Covered by Sep 1–15 fortnight alone	13
Materials checked	17 files (1 consolidated doc + 14 fortnightly PDFs, Mar–Sep 2026 + 2 daily news files, 16 & 17 Sep 2026)



2. Materials Checked

- Daily News: 16 Sep 2026 and 17 Sep 2026 (Theory) – checked item by item; no additional matches
- Consolidated: Important Current Affairs (May – 15 Sep 2026) – NBCC (.docx), 96 pages
- Mar 1–15, Mar 16–31, Apr 1–15, Apr 16–30 (New)
- May 1–15, May 16–31, Jun 1–15, Jun 16–30
- Jul 1–15, Jul 16–31, Aug 1–15, Aug 16–31, Sep 1–15

3. Questions Covered (35)

Q#	Question – Answer	Fortnightly PDF locations	Consolidated doc	Match
1	World Water Day – 22 March	Mar 16–31 p53 (with 2026 theme)	—	Exact
2	National Space Day – 23 August	Aug 16–31 p6, p29 (3rd National Space Day, theme, BAS 2035); Apr 1–15 p33	p69	Exact
3	72nd National Film Awards – Ekta Nagar, Gujarat	Sep 1–15 p6, p12 (venue shifted to Ekta Nagar; all winners)	p59–60	Exact
4	FASTag Annual Pass – ₹3,075, 1 yr / 200 crossings	Sep 1–15 p24 ("One Tag" facility; Annual Pass FY27 ₹3,075; 200 crossings)	p80	Exact

Q#	Question – Answer	Fortnightly PDF locations	Consolidated doc	Match
5	CBDC / e-Rupee – issued by RBI	Jul 1–15 p15; Jun 1–15 p12 (Digital Rupee expansion to DBT/retail); Aug 1–15 p26; Apr 16–30 p19, p57 (offline CBDC)	p12–13 ("Currency, Coins & CBDC"; e-Rupee)	Partial – issuer/expansion covered; pilot launch dates (Nov/Dec 2022) not stated
6	India–EU FTA concluded – 27 Jan 2026	May 16–31 p16 (India–EU FTA, €20 bn); Mar 1–15 p7 (India–EU MFN status)	—	Partial – FTA discussed; conclusion date not stated
7	Alluri Sitarama Raju Airport – Bhogapuram, AP	Jul 16–31 p25; Aug 1–15 p34	p90	Exact
8	ULI owner – RBI (RBIH)	Jun 1–15 p12 ("RBI... launching a Unified Lending Interface"); Jul 16–31 p21	—	Exact
9	Navratna status – CPCL (28th), GRSE (29th)	Jun 16–30 p6 (CPCL elevated, 28th Navratna); Jul 1–15 p25	p89 (Navratna 29 – GRSE 29th)	Exact
10	C-KYC – CERSAI, 14-digit identifier	Aug 1–15 p22 (CKYCR managed by CERSAI, 14-digit number); Sep 1–15 p17	p11, p34	Exact
11	LIC approved for 9.99% stake in ICICI Bank	Sep 1–15 p14–15 (RBI approval)	—	Exact
12	PM MUDRA eligibility – non-corporate, non-farm; up to ₹20 lakh	Apr 1–15 p44 (collateral-free loans to non-farm, non-corporate micro/small; all 4 slabs); Sep 1–15 p15 (Tarun Plus ₹20 lakh)	p33	Exact
13	"Digital arrest" scam	Apr 16–30 p57, p60 (app that fights "digital arrest" scams)	—	Partial – term appears; definition not given
14	UN Women HQ – New York	Mar 1–15 p50 (UN Women Access to Justice Report)	—	Partial – UN Women covered; HQ not stated
15	UNESCO WHS in India – 45 (Sarnath 45th)	Aug 16–31 p6, p9 ("India now has 45 sites: 37 cultural, 7 natural, 1 mixed"); Sep 1–15 p6, p11; Jul 16–31 p3, p10	p72	Exact
16	RBI liquidity absorption rate – SDF 5.00%	Aug 1–15 p4, p16; Jun 1–15 p3, p11; Jul 1–15 p4, p15; Apr 1–15 p3, p20	p7	Exact
17	UCB PSL target – 60% of ANBC (from 75%)	Aug 16–31 p14 (bank-wise PSL targets: UCBS 60%, reduced from 75%)	p19	Exact
18	DEAF amount transferred via e-Kuber	Jun 16–30 p15 (Depositor Education & Awareness Fund)	—	Partial – DEAF mentioned; e-Kuber not stated
19	Sagar Manthan vessel – built by GRSE, Kolkata	Sep 1–15 p29 ("Ocean Research Vessel Sagar Manthan... built by GRSE")	p89 (GRSE Navratna)	Exact
20	Bank–Indian Army customised credit card – PNB	Aug 16–31 p22 ("PNB and Indian Army sign MoU for premium credit cards")	—	Exact
21	Bank not sponsoring any RRB (P&SB / UCO)	Aug 16–31 p13 (RRB ownership 50:35:15, 43→28 RRBs); May 1–15 p12, p28	p18–19	Partial – RRB structure covered;

Q#	Question – Answer	Fortnightly PDF locations	Consolidated doc	Match
				sponsor-bank list not given
22	ULPIN – 14-digit Bhu-Aadhaar	Mar 16–31 p10 ("14-digit Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN), Bhu-Aadhaar")	—	Exact
23	Indian currency not legal tender	Mar 1–15 p22; May 1–15 p24 (₹2,000 notes remain legal tender); May 1–15 p70 (25 paise coins withdrawn 2011)	p12 (₹2,000 notes remain legal tender)	Partial – ₹2,000 status given; demonetised notes not listed
24	UPI merchant payments launched – Uzbekistan	Sep 1–15 p3, p13 (Uzbekistan 11th country, QR-based UPI)	p22 (UZQR, NIPL–NIPC)	Exact
25	Payments on which TDS applies	Apr 1–15 p22 (10% TDS on interest > ₹5,000, IT Act 2025); Jul 16–31 p18	—	Partial – TDS on interest only
26	Parichha Weir – Jhansi, Betwa; World Heritage Irrigation Structure	Aug 1–15 p16; Aug 16–31 p11	p73	Exact
27	Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar – MoES, 5th edition 12–19 Sep	Sep 1–15 p26 (MoES; 12–19 Sep 2026; 1,138 km coastline)	—	Exact
28	40% GST rate – sin & luxury goods	Apr 1–15 p21 (GST 2.0: 40% slab for sin goods)	p5	Exact
29	Certified carbon credits – BEE (CCTS)	Sep 1–15 p20 (UK approves India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme); Mar 1–15 p38, p53	p52 (carbon pricing report)	Partial – CCTS covered; issuing body (BEE) not named
30	Blockchain – cryptocurrency / distributed ledger	Sep 1–15 p24 (DELTA Act – blockchain land tokenisation); Jul 16–31 p17 (SWIFT blockchain ledger)	—	Partial – blockchain applications mentioned; crypto link not stated
31	Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2026 – Lucknow 1st	Sep 1–15 p7, p25 (full rankings, all 3 categories), p32	p70	Exact
32	FEMA, 1999	Aug 16–31 p5, p13 (EEFC account regulated under FEMA 1999); May 1–15 p22	—	Partial – Act cited; FERA replacement/ED enforcement not stated
33	RBI Currency Chest system	May 1–15 p23 (incentives for currency chests); Jun 1–15 p13	p11 (currency-chest reporting penalty)	Partial – mentioned; definition not given
34	Archery World Cup Final 2026 – Dhiraj Bommadevara	Sep 1–15 p7, p31 (gold, men's recurve, Saltillo)	p85	Exact
35	SHATAYU – "H" = Holistic	May 16–31 p28 (full form: Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility)	—	Exact