

1. PM Modi Chairs 53rd PRAGATI Meeting

- PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) was launched in 2015.
- It is an Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-enabled multi-modal governance platform designed to review central/state projects, promote inter-ministerial coordination and address project delays.

2. The Central Information Commission (CIC) launched APCOMS 2.0 (Appeal and Complaint Management System), an upgraded digital workflow portal.

3. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) released the New SIM Card Rules 2026 on August 24, 2026, under Union Minister for Telecommunications Jyotiraditya Scindia.

- SIM card limits per individual:
 - o Jammu & Kashmir, Assam and the North-Eastern states — maximum 6 SIM cards.
 - o Rest of India — maximum 9 SIM cards.

4. e-Shram Portal Completes 5 Years; Crosses 31.89 Crore Registrations

- Conceptualized during the COVID-19 pandemic and officially launched on August 26, 2021.
- Registered workers receive a 12-digit Universal Account Number (UAN).
- Managed by the Ministry of Labour and Employment under Minister Mansukh Mandaviya (who also holds the Sports portfolio).

5. National Space Day Observed on 23 August

6. SEBI to Launch IT Resilience Index (ITRI) for Market Infrastructure Institutions

7. Vietnamese electric automobile manufacturer VinFast India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Federal Bank for dealer inventory financing

8. Aditya Birla Health Insurance collaborated with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to offer dedicated health insurance policies.

9. Paul Merchants Finance Private Limited, a diversified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), launched "Loan Against Silver" from Chandigarh.

- Becomes the first NBFC to open an exclusive silver-only loan branch.

10. Citi Group entered a strategic partnership with Axis Bank to finance Non-Resident Indian (NRI) investments into Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) deposits.

11. The Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) approved a proposal by the Ministry of Civil Aviation to privatize 11 airports.

- Divided into 5 operational bundles:

1. Amritsar and Kangra-Gaggal
2. Varanasi, Gaya and Kushinagar
3. Bhubaneswar and Hubballi
4. Raipur and Aurangabad
5. Tiruchirappalli (Trichy) and Tirupati

12. INS Arisudan is the fourth indigenous nuclear submarine under the ATV (Advanced Technology Vessel) Project.

- India's indigenous nuclear submarine timeline:
 - o INS Arihant — commissioned in 2016
 - o INS Arighat — commissioned in 2024
 - o INS Aridhaman — commissioned in 2026
 - o INS Arisudan — expected commissioning into the Indian Navy in 2027

13. DSV Nipun — Diving Support Vessel to Be Commissioned on 31 August 2026

- DSV Nipun developed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam.

14. Hyderabad-based startup incubator T-Hub signed a partnership with the Central Command of the Indian Army to support and promote defence startups.

15. Amit Shah Inaugurates 9th National Security Strategies Conference

- Held in New Delhi, inaugurated by Home Minister Amit Shah and organized by the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

16. The National Security Guard (NSG) launched its first 12-week all-women commando conversion course at Manesar, Haryana

17. Egypt–China Launch "Eagles of Civilization 2026" Air Exercise

18. PLFS(Periodic Labour Force Survey) 16th Monthly Bulletin (July 2026): Unemployment Falls to 5.1%

- Overall UR: dropped to 5.1% in July (from 5.5% in June).
- Rural UR: dropped to 4.5% (from 5.0%).
- Urban UR: 6.7%.
- Male UR: dropped to 5.0% (from 5.3%).
- Female UR: dropped to 5.4% (from 5.9%).

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

- Overall LFPR: rose to 55.4% — an increase of 1 percentage point.
- Rural LFPR: reached 58% — up 1.4 percentage points from 56.6%.
- Urban LFPR: saw a marginal increase.

20. Vice President CP Radhakrishnan launched India's first non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrid seed at Musunuru, Eluru district, Andhra Pradesh.

21. GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) Profile

- Established on May 25, 1981, in Abu Dhabi.
- A 6-nation union: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain.
- Administrative centre: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

22. Thailand enacted a new amnesty law titled "Promoting a Peaceful Society BE 2569 (2026)".

- Thailand Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul
- Purpose: to resolve cases arising from internal political conflicts and crises between January 1, 2005 and July 16, 2025.

23. Sibi George, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), represented India at Uruguay's National Day (Independence Day) celebrations on August 25

24. FIFA World Cup 2030

- Morocco, Spain and Portugal are the official co-hosts.
- The first three matches of the 2030 FIFA World Cup will be hosted in Uruguay, Argentina and Paraguay to mark the 100th anniversary of the first World Cup, held in Uruguay in 1930.

25. New Zealand Introduces Online Safety (Minimum Age and Child Safety Risk Assessment) Bill to Restrict Social Media for Under-16s

- New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon introduced the Online Safety Minimum Age Child Safety Risk Assessment Bill.
- Purpose: to restrict high-risk social media platforms for children under 16.
- Australia was the first country to put a nationwide age-restriction ban on social media.

26. West Bengal will reserve 20 per cent of posts in the state police, fire and emergency services, forest department and civil defence for retired Agniveers.

27. Uttarakhand: UCC Implementation, High Court Shift and "fully literate,"

- Uniform Civil Code (UCC): Uttarakhand became the first state to implement the UCC on January 27, 2025.
- High Court relocation: the Uttarakhand High Court is being shifted from Nainital to Haldwani.
- "fully literate," the 6th state, at a literacy rate above 98%, approved by the Governor on 8 July 2026.
- Leadership: Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami; Governor Gurmit Singh

28. Kerala Celebrates Onam Harvest Festival

29. 2028 Indian Open Badminton Shifted from Delhi to Guwahati

30. Asian Junior Chess Championship 2026 Held in Mumbai

- Vignesh Vermula (India) won the Open Blitz title
- Girls' Blitz Title Winner: Saranya Devi (India)

31. 19-year-old Indian Grandmaster (GM) Pranesh M, from Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, won the Kanizsa Open Chess Tournament in Hungary.

32. 20th Asian Games to Be Held at Aichi-Nagoya, Japan

- Theme: "Imagine One Asia".
- Mascot: "Honohon", inspired by the mythical creature "Shachihoko" — a carp body with a tiger head.

33. Kaziah Liz Mejo of Kerala Crowned Miss Universe India 2026

- She is the first woman from Kerala to win this title.
- She will represent India at the 75th Miss Universe pageant in San Juan, Puerto Rico in November 2026.
- 1st Runner-up: Vaishnavi Ganesh (Tamil Nadu), will also represent India at Miss International 2026 as Miss International India
- 2nd Runner-up: Anushree Satwalkar (Gujarat), who also holds Miss International India 2026 in some sources.
- 3rd Runner-up: Tejaswini Srivastava (Maharashtra)

34. The Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting won seven awards at 46th FIP Excellence Awards

35. Lakshmanan Meyyappan Sets Guinness World Record as Youngest Male Chartered Accountant at 16 years and 141 days.

36. Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary Emerges as Key Nesting Ground for Black-Necked Stork

- Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary is located in Jamnagar, Gujarat

37. World Water Week 2026 Observed from 23–27 August (Theme: "Water for People and Progress".)

38. Book titled "Africa Before America"

- Author: Dr. Arindam Chaudhuri, founder of IIPM.

Previous Works by the Author

- "2047: A Roadmap to Beating USA and China"
- "Planning India"
- 'The Great Indian Dream'.

39. Veteran Filmmaker Kuku Kohli Passes Away (His real name was Avtar Kohli.)