

1. World Tourism Day 2026 and 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.

2. 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".

3. World Rabies Day 2026 and Disease Elimination Milestones

- World Rabies Day is observed on 28 September, the death anniversary of Louis Pasteur, who developed the first rabies vaccine.
- Theme 2026: "Stronger Together".
- Chile: validated by WHO on 14 September 2026; first country in South America. Its count as the 56th rabies-free nation
- Leprosy: Jordan was verified leprosy-free by WHO in 2024; Chile in 2026.
- WHO was established on 7 April 1948 (World Health Day); headquarters Geneva, Switzerland; Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia).

4. India Signs the UN Convention against Cybercrime

5. The 11th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) was 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.

6. The Ministry of Culture will hold the BRICS Theatre Festival 2026 in New Delhi

- Nodal agency and host: National School of Drama (NSD).
- Theme: "Shared Stories, Shared Futures".

7. 138th Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'

- He marked 10 years of the Army's surgical strikes of 28–29 September 2016.
- He spoke on the Nasha Mukt Yuva Abhiyan, a 100-week campaign for drug-free youth.

8. 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.

9. Andhra Pradesh's First Flying Training Organisation at Kurnool

10. 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.

11. Captain Shivani Sehrawat became the first woman Aide-de-Camp (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.

12. Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is holding the second edition of the multinational air exercise Tarang Shakti at Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- Theme: "Power in Partnership".
- Eight countries take part with air assets: Australia, Bangladesh, France, Germany, Greece, Sri Lanka, UAE and USA.
- 32 countries attend as observers.
- Chief of the Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh; Air Force Day: 8 October.

13. France's Mission Pégase 26

- Mission Pégase 26 is the seventh long-range air projection mission of the French Air and Space Force
- The contingent reached Jodhpur on 25 September 2026 to join Tarang Shakti.

14. 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.

15. 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

16. NIMAS Team Climbs 20 Unclimbed Peaks in Ladakh

- A 20-member team of the National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS), Dirang, was led by Colonel Ranveer Singh Jamwal.
- It climbed 20 previously unclimbed peaks above 6,000 metres in Ladakh in 23 days.

17. 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.

18. Centre's Market Borrowing and WMA Limit for H2 FY 2026-27

- 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.
- Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit for the period: ₹50,000 crore.
- A State can be in overdraft for at most 14 consecutive working days and 36 days in a quarter.

19. 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).

20. Small Finance Banks: Key Norms and Ujjivan's Brand Ambassador

- Priority Sector Lending target for Small Finance Banks (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".

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. Dinesh Pant, Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), left office on voluntary retirement with effect from 24 September 2026.

24. India's First LNG-Powered Train

- 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
- India's first hydrogen train was flagged off on 17 July 2026 on the Jind–Sonipat route, Haryana

25. 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.
- About 100 Indian cities are covered.
- Delhi 268th, Bengaluru 311th, Mumbai 330th, Chennai 381st, Hyderabad 421st.

26. Asian Games 2026: Athletics and Squash Medals for India

- 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.
- 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.

27. Asian Games 2026: Kabaddi Double Gold

- Men: India beat Iran 40–34 on 26 September 2026; captain Sunil Kumar; India's 9th gold and 10th medal.
- Women: India beat Iran 37–34; India's 4th gold and 5th medal

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. 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.

30. Dr. Manmohan Singh's Statue Unveiled in Hyderabad

31. Books in News

- "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.
- "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.