1. President Droupadi Murmu accepted the resignation of Dr. L. Murugan, Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs

2. Dr. Sudha Yadav took oath as Governor of Karnataka on 16 October 2026.

- Oath administered by Justice Vibhu Bakhru, Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court.

3. Subhash Chandra Lal (SCL) Das Appointed Chairperson of Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)

- FSIB was set up in 2022 (notified 1 July 2022) under the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, replacing the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) (set up in 2016).

4. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar was appointed full-time Governor of Tamil Nadu

5. Om Prakash Mathur, transferred from Sikkim, appointed Governor of Kerala; sworn in as the 29th Governor on 23 October 2026.

6. Dushyant Gautam appointed Governor of Sikkim.

7. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) mandated Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) across all telecom operators from 1 November 2026, enabled by default.

- Callers can hide their name through Calling Line Identification Restriction (CLIR).

8. Piyush Goyal launched the National Strategic Trade Command Centre (NSTCC) at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi (15 October 2026); developed by the Department of Commerce.

9. Sankoo Notified as Ladakh's 8th District

- Ladakh became a Union Territory without a legislature on 31 October 2019 under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019
- Landmarks: Hemis National Park and Pangong Tso lake.
- Lt. Stanzin Tsangyang (Zanskar) became Kargil's first woman Army officer, commissioned at OTA Chennai on 5 September 2026.
- State bird: Black-necked Crane; state animal: Snow Leopard (declared 1 September 2021).

10. Bathukamma Floral Festival Celebrated in Telangana

11. Northeast's First Multi-Country Visa Application Centre Opens in Guwahati

12. Direct Tax Collections Rise 14.89% to ₹16.03 Lakh Crore (as of 14 October 2026)

13. The RBI Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) (5–7 October 2026) unanimously raised the repo rate by 25 basis points, from 5.25% to 5.50%; stance changed from neutral to "calibrated tightening".

- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 5.25%; Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) and Bank Rate: 5.75%.
- RBI projections for FY27: GDP growth 7.1%; CPI inflation 5.2%.

14. NovaFusion Capital, the lending arm of Astranova Mobility, received a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) licence from the RBI within 90 days of application (announced 14 October 2026); it targets ₹5,000 crore AUM in 5 years for commercial EV lending (CEO: Shraddha Srimal).

15. Pakistan to Chair IMF and World Bank Boards of Governors in 2027

- Pakistan will chair the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) in 2027 – its first time since 1953.
- Pakistan holds the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) chairmanship for 2026-27 and will host the 2027 SCO Summit; Lahore is the SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital 2026-27.

16. The 7th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) was held in Baku, Azerbaijan

17. Henley Passport Index (October 2026): India Ranked 84th

- India ranked 84th with visa-free/visa-on-arrival access to 55 destinations, sharing the rank with Algeria and Mauritania
- Top ranks: 1st – Singapore (193); 2nd – Japan, South Korea and UAE (188); 3rd – Sweden (187); joint 4th – France, Germany, Italy and Spain (186); UK – 6th; USA – 10th.

18. : India–UK Naval Exercise KONKAN-26 Held off Plymouth, UK

- India–UK exercises: KONKAN (Navy; held since 2004), Ajeya Warrior (Army), Indradhanush (Air Force).

Prepared by G V Satish, Director, NBCC

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19. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Government of Japan and AM Green Ammonia (India) Pvt Ltd signed a financing agreement (ADB release dated 15 October 2026, Manila) for a green ammonia plant at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

- ADB: Founded on 19 December 1966; HQ: Manila, Philippines; President: Masato Kanda; 69 members (newest: Israel, September 2024);
- ADB projects India's FY27 GDP growth at 7.0%.
- Green Hydrogen Hub ports: V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port (Thoothukudi), Deendayal Port (Kandla) and Paradip Port (Odisha).

20. BharatPe Deploys Agentic AI on "BharatPe for Business" App

- BharatPe operates as a Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) under the Unified Payments Interface (UPI); PhonePe is the largest TPAP (about 47% of UPI volume).

21. Tamil Nadu Exports Organic Palmyra Jaggery Powder to Bulgaria

- Bulgaria: Capital – Sofia; IMF MD Kristalina Georgieva is from Bulgaria.

22. Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for September 2026: Urban Female LFPR at 25.9%

- Urban female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): 25.9% – highest since October 2025 (August 2026: 25.4%).
- Overall LFPR (age 15+): 55.5%.
- Urban Worker Population Ratio (WPR): 47.2%.
- Unemployment Rate: 5.0%, down 0.2 percentage points from 5.2% in September 2025 (unchanged from August 2026); urban: 6.9%, rural: 4.2%.
- Urban female unemployment: 9.2%; rural female unemployment: 3.9% (lowest in 2026).

23. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October)

- Theme (2026–2028): "United for Peace and Human Rights"; 2026 focus: "Safe Homes for All" (adequate housing).
- United Nations: Established 24 October 1945; HQ: New York; Secretary-General: António Guterres (9th SG, Portugal; term ends 31 December 2026).
- President of the 81st UNGA: Khalilur Rahman (Bangladesh), the 2nd Bangladeshi after Humayun Rasheed Choudhury.
- Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (1953) is the only Indian and the first woman to serve as UNGA President.

24. World Trauma Day is observed globally on 17 October

25. Global Handwashing Day (15 October): Theme: "Be a Handwashing Hero"

26. Vishvajit More and Amruta Pujari Win Silver at U-23 World Wrestling Championships

27. "Test Twenty" Mixed-Gender Cricket Tournament in Sri Lanka

28. Raji Doshi Wins 3M Young Scientist Challenge 2026

- Raji Doshi, a 13-year-old Indian-origin 8th grader from Farmington, Connecticut, USA, was named "America's Top Young Scientist" and won $25,000.

29. Veteran Marathi actress and Lavani artist Madhu Kambikar died

30. Veteran Music Composer Deva Passes Away

- The title "Thenisai Thendral" was conferred by M. S. Viswanathan.

Important Questions and Answers

1. **Who took oath as Governor of Karnataka on 16 October 2026?**
   Dr. Sudha Yadav
2. **Who was appointed Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)?**
   Subhash Chandra Lal (SCL) Das
3. **The FSIB replaced which body?**
   Banks Board Bureau (BBB)
4. **Who was appointed Governor of Kerala?**
   Om Prakash Mathur

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5. **Who was appointed Governor of Sikkim?**
   Dushyant Gautam
6. **From which date must all telecom operators provide Calling Name Presentation (CNAP)?**
   1 November 2026
7. **Which place was notified as Ladakh's 8th district?**
   Sankoo
8. **What is the repo rate after the October 2026 RBI policy?**
   5.50%
9. **What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index (October 2026)?**
   84th
10. **Which country tops the Henley Passport Index (October 2026)?**
    Singapore
11. **Where was the 7th CICA Summit held?**
    Baku, Azerbaijan
12. **What is the name of the India–UK naval exercise?**
    KONKAN
13. **Where is the headquarters of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)?**
    Manila, Philippines
14. **Who is the only Indian to have served as UNGA President?**
    Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (1953)
15. **Who won the 3M Young Scientist Challenge 2026?**
    Raji Doshi

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