1. Bank of Baroda (BoB) launched NBFC operations of its wholly owned subsidiary bob Securities & Giltedge Limited

- BoB: founded 1908; HQ: Vadodara, Gujarat; MD & CEO: Dr. Debadatta Chand; 2nd PSB (after SBI, 2008) to sponsor a pension fund; offers the "bob Women Sapphire" savings account.

2. "YONO Bharat": SBI is developing a simplified YONO for financial-inclusion customers and feature-phone users (announced by Chairman C. S. Setty; launch in 6–12 months).

3. CyRIS: SBI's cybersecurity Centre of Excellence was inaugurated on 26 October 2026 in Mumbai by Sanjay Lohiya (Secretary, Department of Financial Services) with Chairman Challa Sreenivasulu Setty; built on 3 pillars – Think, Innovate, Defend; focus on AI security, digital forensics, malware analysis, ethical hacking, threat intelligence and quantum-safe technology.

4. RBI Fixes Premature Redemption Price for SGB 2020-21 Series I

- As Per RBI's press release of 27 October 2026, premature redemption of SGB 2020-21 Series I fell due on 28 October 2026 at ₹14,159 per unit (1 unit = 1 gram of gold).
- SGBs are issued by the RBI on behalf of the Government of India; tenure 8 years, with early exit from the 5th year.

5. RELIEF (Resilience and Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) Scheme Component II Extended to 31 March 2027

- Component II: 95% cover for FCL, LCL and refrigerated containers (energy shipments excluded); Egypt and Jordan added as eligible destinations.

6. National Saras Mela Held in Vijayawada

- Held in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh – the first time outside Delhi-NCR – under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), showcasing products of women SHGs and supporting the Lakhpati Didi initiative.

7. Mission Mausam: approved in September 2024, outlay ₹2,000 crore over 2 years, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

8. ISRO Plans 4 Launch Pads by 2029; Gaganyaan and Chandrayaan-5 Roadmap

- ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan said (24 October 2026, Chennai) ISRO will have 4 functional launch pads by 2029.
- A 2,000-acre spaceport for Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) is being built at Kulasekarapattinam, Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu.
- Gaganyaan: first uncrewed test flight within about 2 months, followed by 2 more uncrewed flights before the crewed mission.
- Chandrayaan-5: with Japan's JAXA; a 350 kg rover to conduct 100 days of surface experiments.

9. IIT Ropar Introduces PhD without Thesis

- IIT Hyderabad introduced a credit course on "Goodness".

10. Very Severe Cyclonic Storm "Arnab" Hits Andhra Pradesh Coast

- Cyclone "Arnab" (pronounced "Ornab"; meaning sea/ocean in Bengali; name suggested by Bangladesh)

11. PM Modi praised the Nav-Trinjan initiative in the 139th episode of Mann Ki Baat (25 October 2026) – promoting chemical-free organic cotton farming and dye-free handloom weaving in the Malwa region of Punjab.

12. Keralam Approves India's First Cooperative-Sector Airline "Co-Keralam"

13. Tribal enterprise Shabari Naturals won the G-Mark (Good Design Award) of the Japan Institute of Design Promotion (JDP), Tokyo

14. India–Sri Lanka Digital Heritage Project SAMHiTA

- SAMHiTA (South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive) was launched at Gangaramaya Temple, Colombo, Sri Lanka to digitise 100 ancient manuscripts by end-November 2026.
- A manuscript is generally defined as a handwritten document at least 75 years old (National Mission for Manuscripts).
- India's national manuscript mission: Gyan Bharatam (₹482.85 crore, 2024–2031, Ministry of Culture).

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15. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh led India at the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), 28–29 October 2026, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, Philippines; theme: "Navigating Our Future, Together".

16. Naval and Military Engagements: INS Trishul, Garuda Shakti, Keen Sword

- INS Trishul made a port call at Civitavecchia, Italy (around 26 October 2026) after a PASSEX with Italian ship Carlo Margottini; earlier it took part in KONKAN (Royal Navy, Plymouth) and Varuna (French Navy, Toulon).
- Exercise Garuda Shakti (India–Indonesia special forces; 12th edition [Unverified: reported as 11th by some sources]) – 27 October–6 November 2026 at Banyuwangi, East Java, focusing on jungle special operations.
- ICGS Shaunak visited Jakarta (17–19 October 2026); the Indian Coast Guard–Bakamla MoU was renewed for 3 years.
- Keen Sword: biennial Japan–US exercise (2026 edition: 19–29 October, about 56,000 personnel).

17. 80th Infantry Day (Shaurya Diwas) – 27 October

18. Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 (26 October – 1 November)

- Observed by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) from 26 October to 1 November 2026; theme: "Probity for Prosperity" (Satyanishtha Se Samriddhi).
- CVC: set up in 1964 on the recommendation of the K. Santhanam Committee; statutory status under the CVC Act, 2003.

19. Arif Mohammed Khan (former Governor of Bihar and Kerala) released the English translation of "The Story of Vande Mataram" on 26 October 2026 in New Delhi – originally written in Malayalam by RSS leader Ranga Hari, translated by Dr. Mercy Jill.

20. Global Media and Information Literacy Week: 24–31 October; theme "We All Play a Part: Media and Information Literacy for the People".

21. 2026 Grand Slam singles champions:

– Men: Australian Open – Carlos Alcaraz; French Open and US Open – Alexander Zverev; Wimbledon – Jannik Sinner.
– Women: Australian Open and US Open – Elena Rybakina; French Open – Mirra Andreeva; Wimbledon – Linda Nosková.

22. Yasuo Fukuda, former Prime Minister of Japan (2007–2008), died

Important Questions and Answers

1. **Which bank launched the NBFC operations of its subsidiary bob Securities & Giltedge Limited?**
   Bank of Baroda
2. **Where is the headquarters of Bank of Baroda?**
   Vadodara, Gujarat
3. **What is the name of SBI's simplified YONO app for feature-phone users?**
   YONO Bharat
4. **What is the name of SBI's cybersecurity Centre of Excellence?**
   CyRIS
5. **What is the premature redemption price for SGB 2020-21 Series I?**
   ₹14,159 per gram
6. **Where was the National Saras Mela held for the first time outside Delhi-NCR?**
   Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
7. **Where is the SSLV spaceport being built?**
   Kulasekarapattinam, Thoothukudi (Tamil Nadu)

Prepared by G V Satish, Director, NBCC

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8. **With which country's space agency will India carry out Chandrayaan-5?**
   Japan (JAXA)
9. **Which IIT introduced a PhD without a thesis?**
   IIT Ropar
10. **Which country suggested the name of Cyclone "Arnab"?**
    Bangladesh
11. **What is India's first cooperative-sector airline?**
    Co-Keralam
12. **Where was the 13th ADMM-Plus meeting held?**
    Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, Philippines
13. **Which two countries take part in Exercise Garuda Shakti?**
    India and Indonesia
14. **When is Infantry Day observed?**
    27 October
15. **On whose recommendation was the CVC set up in 1964?**
    K. Santhanam Committee

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