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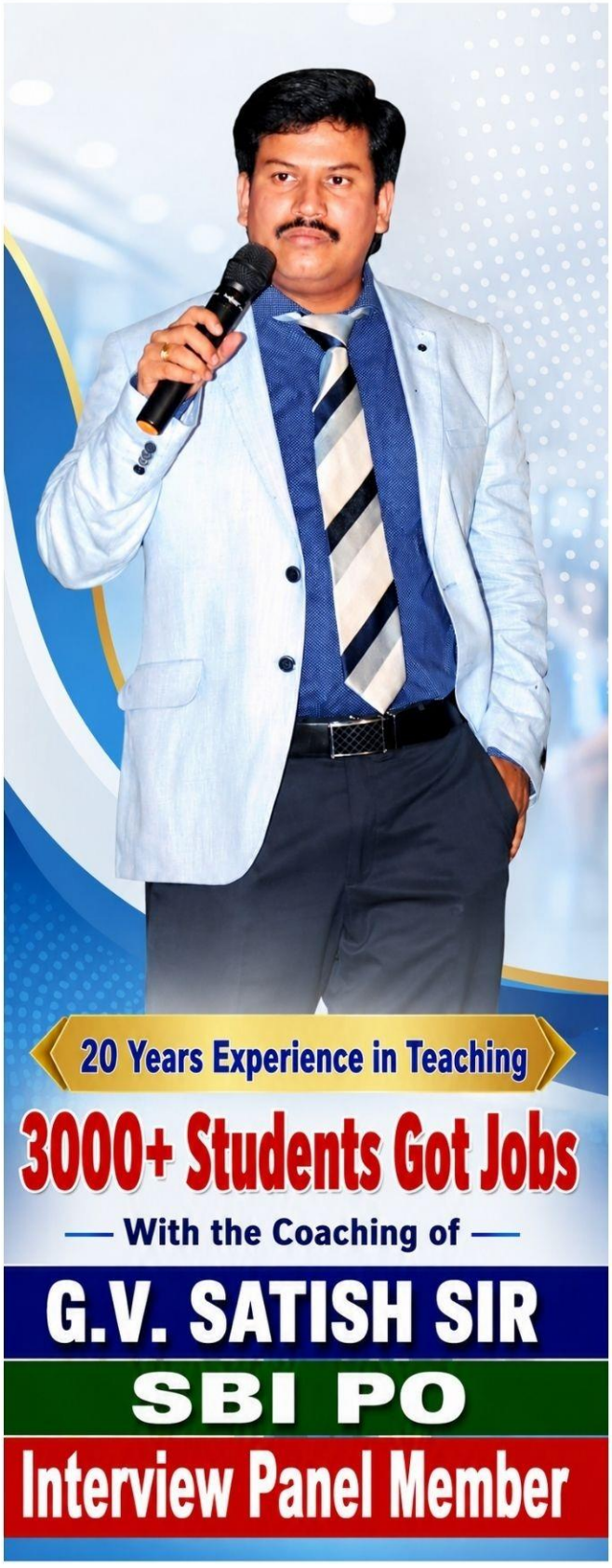
IMPORTANT & EXPECTED

NBCC CURRENT AFFAIRS

(July to 15 November 2026)







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IMPORTANT & EXPECTED NBCC CURRENT AFFAIRS

(JULY to 15 NOVEMBER 2026)

Topic-wise Consolidated Material | ★= highest exam probability | 1000 Most Expected GA Questions

ప్రియమైన విద్యార్థులారా,

నంద్యాలలో జరుగుతున్న దుర్మార్గాలు:

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

ఇటువంటి దుర్మార్గాలను 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.

ಆತ್ಮೀಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳೇ,

ನಂದ್ಯಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅನ್ಯಾಯಗಳು:

1. ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಇತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೆಲ್ಲವೂ ನಕಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಡಮ್ಮಿ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳೆಂದು ಸುಳ್ಳು ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಮಾಡುವುದು.
2. ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಬೇರೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ನ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ನಂದ್ಯಾಲದ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರಬಾರದೆಂದು ಬೆದರಿಸುವುದು; ಇದನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸಲು ತಮ್ಮ ಸೆಕ್ಯೂರಿಟಿ ಗಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿ ಐಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು.

ಇಂತಹ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿ ನಿಂತು NBCC ಉತ್ತಮ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ತರುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದರೆ, ಅದರ ಹಿಂದಿರುವ ಕಠಿಣ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಅರ್ಥಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞೆ, ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವೇಕದಿಂದ ಯೋಚಿಸಿ. ಯಾರು ರಾಮ, ಯಾರು ರಾವಣ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಗ್ರಹಿಸಿ NBCC ಅನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ನಮ್ಮ ವಿನಂತಿ.

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PART A — ECONOMY & INDICATORS

Key Data at a Glance

Inflation 2026 (CPI base 2024; WPI base 2022-23)

Month	CPI	WPI
June	4.38%	9.87%
July	4.45%	9.78%
August	4.83%	9.92%
September	5.54%	11.39%
October	6.09%	—

Gross GST Collections 2026

Month	Gross GST	Growth
June	₹1.95 lakh cr	14%
July	₹2.11 lakh cr	15.4%
August	₹1,99,853 cr	14.8%
September	₹2,03,521 cr	14.7%
October	₹2.31 lakh cr	22.9%
Record: April 2026	₹2,43,930 cr	—

UPI Monthly Transactions 2026 (NPCI)

Month	Volume	Value
July	23.66 bn	₹29.88 lakh cr
August	24.51 bn	₹29.82 lakh cr
September	24.07 bn	₹29.37 lakh cr
October	25.47 bn (record)	—

FY27 GDP Growth Projections (as reported Jul–Nov 2026)

Agency	FY27
OECD	7.1%
World Bank (Oct)	7.1%
Fitch Solutions (BMI)	7.5%
IMF (Oct)	7.0%
Moody's (Sep/Nov)	7.0%
ADB (ADO Sep 2026)	7.0%
India Ratings	6.8%
RBI (Aug)	6.7%
S&P	6.6%
Q1 FY27 actual (NSO)	7.8%

RBI Policy Rates

Item	Rate
Repo (63rd MPC, 7 Oct 2026)	5.50% (+25 bps)
SDF	5.25%
Stance	Calibrated tightening
Earlier (62nd MPC)	Repo 5.25%, neutral

1. GDP & Growth Projections

1. ★ India's External Debt Climbs to $762.8 Billion

- According to reports released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), India's total external debt climbed to $762.8 billion at the end of March 2026.
- The external Debt-to-GDP Ratio rose to 20.8% (from 19.8% in the previous year).
- The Debt Service Ratio improved significantly, falling to 5.8% from 6.6% the previous year, indicating improved sustainability.

2. ★ RBI Releases 101st Survey of Professional Forecasters (SPF) — FY27 GDP Growth at 6.6%

- The Survey of Professional Forecasters (SPF) is a bi-monthly macroeconomic survey conducted by the RBI since 2007. (SPF forecast ≠ RBI MPC forecast.)
- FY27 GDP Growth: Projected at 6.6% (revised upward from 6.5%).
- This projection is distinct from the RBI Monetary Policy Committee's official forecast of 6.7%.

3. ★ India GDP Growth Projections FY27 & S&P Sovereign Rating

- FM Nirmala Sitharaman (Chicago): 7%; India Ratings 6.8%; RBI 6.7%; World Bank/ADB/S&P 6.6%; IMF & Fitch 6.4%; actual FY26 growth 7.6%.

4. ★ India's GDP Grows 7.8% in Q1 FY 2026–27; Growth Projections

- India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 7.8% in Q1 (April–June) of FY 2026–27.
  - Real GDP (Q1): ₹81.36 lakh crore
  - Nominal GDP (Q1): ₹88.27 lakh crore, up 10.3%
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had projected 7% for the April–June quarter.
- The RBI raised its full-year FY27 forecast to 6.7%, up from 6.6%.
- Other GDP projections:
  - Fitch: 6.4%

5. ★ India's Sovereign Credit Ratings: JCR Upgrade; S&P Retains 'BBB'

- The Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) upgraded India's sovereign credit rating to 'A-' from 'BBB+', with a Stable outlook.
- JCR also raised India's Country Ceiling to 'A'.
- S&P retained India's 'BBB' sovereign rating with a stable outlook.
- o This was its first annual review since the August 2025 upgrade, which was the first in 18 years.

6. ★ 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.
- FY 2025–26 real GDP growth was revised to 7.8% from 7.7%.

7. India's External Debt (End-March 2026)

- Total external debt: $762.8 billion (also stated as $762 billion) — up $26.3 billion in one year.

8. SBI EcoWrap Projects 8% GDP Growth in Q1 FY27

- SBI's Economic Research Department projected India's GDP to grow 8.0% in the first quarter of FY27.

9. India's Central Government Debt-to-GDP Ratio Reaches 58.2% in FY 2025-26

10. India's GDP Growth Projections for FY 202627

- India Ratings projected India's GDP growth rate for FY 2026-27 at 6.8%, up from 6.7%.
- For comparison, actual GDP growth in FY 202526 stood at 7.6%.

11. RBL Bank (Ratnakar Bank Limited) — Moody's Rating, Emirates NBD Stake and EEFC Account

- Moody's assigned RBL Bank a similar 'Baa2' rating, equivalent to BBB.

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12. 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.

13. 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-'.

14. Ministry of Finance Projects 7.3% GDP Growth for Q2 FY27; Exports Data

- The Ministry of Finance, in its September Monthly Economic Review, projected real GDP growth of 7.3% for Q2 FY27, after 7.8% in Q1 FY27 (NSO).

15. India's External Debt Rises to US$ 778.2 Billion at End-June 2026

- RBI data (30 September 2026): up US$ 15.4 billion from US$ 762.8 billion at end-March 2026.

16. Economy Indicators

- Fiscal deficit April–September 2026 (H1 FY 2026-27): ₹7,14,413 crore (₹7.14 lakh crore), 42.1% of target; FY27 target ₹16,95,768 crore (₹16.96 lakh crore), 4.3% of GDP

2. Inflation — CPI, WPI

1. ★ Retail Inflation Crosses Medium-Term Target & WPI-to-PPI Transition Announced

- India's retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), reached 4.38% in June 2026, crossing the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 4% medium-term target for the first time since January 2025.

2. ★ Base Year Revised to 2022–23 for IIP, WPI and Core Industries

- Index of Industrial Production (IIP) rose to 7.3% in June 2026 — a 23-month high; base year updated to 2022–23.
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation stood at 9.87% in June 2026 (index score 110.2); new base year 2022–23 launched on 15 June, replacing 2011–12.

3. ★ WPI Inflation at 9.78% in July 2026

- WPI inflation stood at 9.78% in July 2026 (vs 9.87% in June).
- WPI data is compiled monthly by the Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- New series with base year 2022-23, released 15 June 2026, replacing 2011-12.
- WPI is slated to be replaced by the Producer Price Index (PPI) after 5 years.

4. ★ Inflation Rises in September 2026: CPI 5.54%, WPI 11.39%

- Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation was 5.54% (from 4.83% in August), released by the NSO, MoSPI on 12 October 2026. New base year: 2024=100.
- Rural 6.08%, Urban 4.88%, food inflation 7.74%.
- Highest: Tamil Nadu (6.81%); lowest: Mizoram (2.85%).
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation was 11.39% (from 9.92% in August).
- CPI base year: 2024=100.

5. India's Inflation Data (June 2026) & WPI-toPPI Transition

- Retail inflation (CPI) rose to 4.38% in June 2026 (up from 3.93% in May) — crossing the RBI's 4% medium-term target for the first time since January 2025.

6. Economic Indicators & Macro Data

- WPI Inflation for June 2026 at 9.87% (Index score: 110.2) under the new base year 2022–23, launched 15 June, replacing the 2011–12 series.

3. Other Indicators — IIP, Core, PMI, PLFS, ASI

1. IIP, ISP & Growth Forecasts

- India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 5.1% in May 2026 (up from 4.9% in April 2026); released by MoSPI

2. Index of Core Industries (ICI) Grows 7.9% in September 2026

- 9 core industries (weights): Electricity (30.93%), Refinery Products (22.57%), Steel (17.58%), Crude Oil (7.43%), Coal (5.60%), Iron Ore (4.91%, newly added).

3. Index of Industrial Production (IIP) Grows 6.7% in September 2026

- MoSPI revised the IIP base year from 2011–12 to 2022–23; the first release under the new series came on 1 June 2026 (April 2026 data).

4. GST Collections & GST Council

1. ★ GST 2.0, 9th Anniversary & Record Collections

- GST is an indirect tax that replaced 17 different indirect taxes, introduced on the recommendation of the Kelkar Committee
- First introduced as Bill 122 in 2016; became the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act (of 2017); Assam — first state to pass/ratify the GST bill
- Divisions: CGST, SGST, IGST.

2. ★ Gross GST Collections for July 2026 and Rate Restructuring

- Gross GST collection for July 2026 reached ₹2.11 lakh crore, up 15.4%.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) was implemented on 1 July 2017, celebrated as GST Day.
- Following recommendations of the 56th GST Council meeting, the active GST tax slabs are now consolidated into: Nil, 5%, 18% and 40%.
- The 40% rate applies to sin and luxury goods.

3. ★ Gross GST Collection Reaches ₹1,99,853 Crore in August 2026

- Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue for August 2026 was ₹1,99,853 crore.
- This is up 14.8% year-on-year (YoY) from August 2025 (₹1,74,116 crore).
- State performance:
  - Maharashtra leads total monthly GST collections, followed by Karnataka and Gujarat.

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4. ★ 57th GST Council Meeting: Decriminalisation and Ease-of-Compliance Reforms; No Change in GST Rates

- The 57th GST Council meeting, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, was held on October 8, 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council is a constitutional body under Article 279A.
- Refund applications to be acknowledged within 10 days (instead of 15).

5. ★ GST Collections Rise 22.9% to Over ₹2.31 Lakh Crore in October 2026

- Second-highest monthly collection, after the record ₹2.43 lakh crore in April 2026.
- GST (Goods and Services Tax) taxpayer base reaches 1.71 crore – as of 31 October 2026 (from about 1.57 crore)
- France was the first country to adopt GST (1954). Minimum penalty for non-compliance: ₹10,000.

6. UCO Bank and ScoreMe Launch 'GST Smart'

- UCO Bank and ScoreMe launched 'GST Smart', a digital lending platform.
- UCO Bank facts:

7. Gross GST Collection for September 2026 at ₹2,03,521 Crore, up 14.7% YoY

- Gross GST collection: ₹2,03,521 crore in September 2026, up 14.7% year-on-year.
- Record collection: ₹2,43,930 crore in April 2026.

8. New 12-State GST Standing Committee of Officers Constituted

- A Standing Committee of Officers comprising tax officials from 12 States has been constituted under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) framework (announced on 13 October 2026).

5. Forex, Trade & External Sector

1. ★ Fitch Maintains India's Sovereign Rating at 'BBB-'; FDI Limits in Financial Services

- Fitch Ratings maintained India's sovereign credit rating at 'BBB-' — the lowest investment grade — with a stable/robust outlook.
- It projected a GDP growth rate of 6.4% for the current financial year and over the medium term (3–5 years); the 6.4% is Fitch's FY27 full-year forecast.
- FDI Limits in Financial Services:

2. ★ India Becomes World's 4th Largest Forex Reserve Holder

- India's Foreign Exchange (Forex) Reserves reached an all-time high of $785.706 billion.
- India now ranks 4th, behind China, Japan and Switzerland.
- India's Foreign Exchange (Forex) Reserves hit a record high of $785.706 billion.
- Only China, Japan and Switzerland hold more.

3. ★ 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.
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow: $94.53 billion (FY 2024-25: $81.0 billion).

4. ★ 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.
- Top four: China, Japan, Switzerland, India.

5. Sector FDI Caps

- E-commerce — 100%; Public Sector Banks / LIC — 20%; Private Banks — 74%; Insurance / NBFCs / White-Label ATMs — 100%.

6. RBI Forex Intervention and Net Open Position (NOP) Capping

- Capped the Net Open Position (NOP) in foreign currency for banks at $100 million.

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.

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

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

9. India's Forex Reserves Fall US$ 12.952 Billion to US$ 734.61 Billion

- India's forex reserves fell by US$ 12.952 billion to US$ 734.61 billion (week ended 2 October 2026).

10. RBI Tightens Rules on Rupee Forex Derivatives; Introduces 20% Foreign Exchange Risk Reserve (FERR)

- Limit for hedging without proof of underlying exposure cut from US$ 100 million to US$ 5 million.

6. Fiscal, Tax & Budget

1. ★ Net Direct Tax Collections Rise 16.4%; CBDT Notifies CII at 384

- Net direct tax collection reached ₹6.51 lakh crore — a 16.4% year-on-year growth in Q1 of FY 2026–27.
- Gross collections: ₹7.74 lakh crore; refunds disbursed: ₹1.22 lakh crore.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) notified the Cost Inflation Index (CII) for FY 2026–27 at 384 points (base year 2001–02 = 100).

2. ★ Centre Releases ₹1,09,019 Crore Tax Devolution Instalment to States (5 November 2026)

- Major State Allocations: Uttar Pradesh – ₹19,208 crore (highest); Bihar – ₹10,845 crore; Madhya Pradesh – ₹8,010 crore; Sikkim – ₹365 crore (lowest).
- Finance Commission is constituted by the President every 5 years under Article 280.
- The amount is distributed over 14 instalments during the financial year.

3. Fiscal & Trade Data

- Combined fiscal deficit of all Indian states rose to 3.3% of GSDP in FY25 (from 2.9% in FY24); the Finance Commission set an individual state ceiling of 3% of GSDP by FY31.

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4. CBDT Notifies Cost Inflation Index (CII) at 384 for FY 2026–27

- The Cost Inflation Index (CII) is used to compute indexed cost for long-term capital assets, with base year 2001–02 = 100.

5. 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.

6. Centre's Fiscal Deficit for April–August 2026 at 41.9% of FY27 BE

- The Centre's fiscal deficit for April–August 2026 was ₹7,10,249 crore (₹7.10 lakh crore) – 41.9% of the FY27 Budget Estimate (BE).

7. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports revised the Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSF) Scheme for the 16th Finance Commission cycle (2026-27 to 2030-31) with a total outlay of ₹7,386.74 crore.

8. Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Notification 136/2026 (19 October 2026) exempts interest on New Development Bank (NDB) Maharaja bonds from TDS under Section 393(1) (residents) and Section 393(2) (FIIs) of the Income-tax Act, 2025, for bonds issued from tax year 2026-27.

- Masala bonds: rupee-denominated bonds issued offshore; Maharaja bonds: rupee bonds issued in India by foreign entities/multilaterals

PART B — RBI & BANKING REGULATION

1. RBI Monetary Policy & MPC

1. ★ 62nd RBI Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Keeps Repo Rate Unchanged at 5.25%

- This was the 3rd Bi-monthly meeting of FY 2026-27, chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- Rates kept unchanged by a unanimous 6-0 vote, maintaining a Neutral stance.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) consists of 6 members: 3 from RBI — Sanjay Malhotra, Punam Gupta, Indranil Bhattacharya
- Policy Rates (All Unchanged):

2. ★ RBI MPC Raises Repo Rate by 25 bps to 5.50%; Stance Shifts to "Calibrated Tightening"

- The 63rd meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) – 4th bi-monthly review of FY 2026–27 – was held from 5–7 October 2026, chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra
- First hike since February 2023.
- Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) corridor:
  - Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) (floor): 5.25%.
  - Policy Repo Rate: 5.50%.

2. RBI — Directions, Frameworks & Actions

1. ★ RBI Introduces New Money Market Guidelines & Scale-Based Regulations for NBFCs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introduced a new framework for the Call, Notice, and Term Money markets.
- Under updated Scale-Based Regulations (SBR), any NBFC with an asset size of ₹1,00,000 crore or above automatically enters the "Upper Layer" and must list on stock exchanges within 3 years.

2. ★ RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (IOS) 2026

- An Ombudsman ("Lokpal") is an officer/committee appointed by the RBI to resolve customer complaints regarding banks, NBFCs, and digital payments
- Complaint process: customer first complains to the bank/regulated entity → bank gets 30 days to resolve → if unresolved/unsatisfactory.
- No upper limit on the dispute amount (even cases exceeding ₹1 crore accepted).

3. ★ RBI — Other Regulatory Actions

- RBI issued a circular instructing banks to stop charging customers for SMS alerts related to compliance, awareness, and promotional purposes.
- RBI launched the Framework for Responsible and Ethical Governance of AI (Free AI) for banks; advisory committee headed by Pushpak Bhattacharyya.

4. ★ RBI Removes Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934

- PPBL's licence was cancelled on 24 April 2026 under Section 22(4) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- The Delhi High Court ordered its winding up (8 and 22 July 2026); former SBI Chief General Manager Girikumar M. Nair appointed official liquidator.

5. ★ RBI Notifies Specified Non-Financial Assets (SNFA) Framework

- Specified Non-Financial Assets (SNFA) covers immovable properties acquired by lenders from defaulting borrowers.
- Rules take effect from 1 October 2026, with a 1year transition period till 30 September 2027 for legacy assets.
- Excludes: Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Payment Banks.

6. ★ RBI Launches Household Surveys; Financial Inclusion Index Reaches 70

- India's Financial Inclusion Index (FIIndex):
  - 43.4 in 2017
  - 67 in the previous period (March 2025)
  - 70 as of March 2026
- The RBI launched three surveys:
  - Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH), across 19 major cities
  - Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS), across 19 cities
  - It was 67 in March 2025 and 43.4 in 2017.

7. ★ RBI Plans Polymer (Plastic) Banknotes

- Indian banknotes are currently printed on cotton rag paper; Australia was the first nation to adopt polymer notes.
- RBI and Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) are exploring the transition; pilot will cover ₹10 and ₹20 denominations.

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- Printing presses (4): Mysore and Salboni (BRBNMPL/RBI); Dewas and Nasik (SPMCIL/Government).

8. ★ RBI Issues Bulk Deposit and Uniform Deposit Rate Rules Effective 1 October 2026

- Bulk Deposit Definition:
  - For Commercial Banks and Small Finance Banks (SFBs) — single term deposits of ₹3 crore and above
  - For Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) — threshold is ₹1 crore and above
- Banks are permitted to vary interest rates only on bulk deposits (₹3 crore or more).
- There are currently 11 operational SFBs in India.

9. ★ RBI Defers Basel III Pillar 3 Norms and Consolidates Master Directions

- Implementation extended from the quarter ending 30 September 2026 to 1 April 2027.
- First quarterly disclosure now for the period ending 30 June 2027; annual disclosure 31 March 2028.
- Three Pillars: Pillar 1 — Minimum Capital Requirements; Pillar 2 — Supervisory Review; Pillar 3 — Market Discipline.
- The Three Pillars:

10. ★ RBI Updates NBFC Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) Upper Layer List — Expanded to 17 for FY27

- Under the Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) framework, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) are categorized into four layers: Base, Middle, Upper and Top.
- The Top Layer remains vacant, as it is reserved for companies carrying extreme systemic risks.
- The RBI retained Tata Sons in the list.
- Newly Added Companies:

11. ★ RBI to Restart On-Tap Licensing of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs)

- Fresh licensing of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) was halted in 2004; RBI is now planning to restart licensing after a gap of more than two decades.
- Licensing will be restarted under an "OnTap" window — eligible cooperative societies can submit applications at any time.
  - Minimum Net Worth — at least ₹300 crore

12. ★ 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.
- Monisha Chakraborty was appointed as Executive Director (ED) of the RBI, effective 3 August 2026.

13. ★ TReDS Platform Made Mandatory for CPSEs to Settle MSME Invoices

- Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) has been regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) since 2017.
- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) made it mandatory for all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to settle invoices of MSME suppliers through RBIauthorised TReDS platforms.

14. ★ RBI Monthly Bulletin — NRI Deposits, LRS and Rate Caps

- NRI deposit inflows fell 23.24% to $2.78 billion (Q1 FY27); cumulative $168.51 billion.
- Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) outflows up 4.5% to $7.23 billion; limit $250,000/year (launched 2004).
- Interest-rate caps on FCNR(B) and NRE deposits restored from 1 September 2026.
- VRRR auction ₹1,34,625 crore on 31 Aug 2026; cut-off 5.24%; 15-day tenor.

15. ★ 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%.
- Introduced on 1 April 1997 under Section 17(5) of the RBI Act, 1934.

16. ★ 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.
- Auction on 13 October 2026 on the E-Kuber platform, to absorb surplus liquidity.
- On 8 October 2026, net liquidity absorbed by RBI stood at ₹3,88,015.90 crore.

17. ★ 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).

18. ★ RBI Issues Leverage Ratio Directions under Basel III

- Minimum leverage ratio: 4% for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs); 3.5% for other commercial banks (Indian branches of G-SIBs: 3.5% plus G-SIB buffer).
- Leverage Ratio = Tier-1 Capital ÷ Total Exposure – a non-risk-based backstop to risk-based capital requirements.

19. ★ RBI Notifies Basel III Standardised Approach for Operational Risk

- The Standardised Approach (SA) for operational risk applies from 1 April 2027 to all commercial banks except Small Finance Banks (SFBs).
- Provides indicative mapping of Business Indicator (BI) components; Loss Component = 15 × average annual operational risk losses (net of recoveries)

20. ★ RBI Releases Draft Priority Sector Lending (PSL) Directions, 2026

- Overall PSL target: 40% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent of Off-Balance Sheet

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Exposure (CEOBE), whichever is higher – for domestic commercial banks and foreign banks with 20 or more branches.
- Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs): 60% of ANBC (unchanged).
- Proposed loan limits:
  - Food Processing: ₹100 crore per borrower.

21. ★ RBI Issues Consolidated Domestic Money Transfer Directions, 2026
- Cash pay-out to non-account holders (via ATMs / Business Correspondents): up to ₹10,000 per transaction and ₹25,000 per month per beneficiary.
- Walk-in NEFT cash remittance at branches: up to ₹50,000 per transaction.
- Cash pay-in via BCs/cardless ATMs: ₹5,000 per transaction and ₹25,000 per month per remitter.

22. RBI Introduces New Money Market Guidelines (Call, Notice & Term Money)
- Money Market: where financial institutions borrow/lend to manage short-term liquidity, such as maintaining Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) requirements to avoid heavy RBI penalties.

23. RBI Scale-Based Regulations (SBR) for NBFCs Revised
- Any NBFC with an asset size of ₹1,00,000 crore or above automatically joins the Upper Layer.

24. RBI Penalties on Bank of Baroda & GIC Housing Finance
- Bank of Baroda (BoB): fined ₹63.6 lakh for violating Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines and the "Fair Practices Code for Lenders".

25. RBI — Penalties, Licences & Registrations
- RBI cancelled the banking licence of Sri Mahalakshmi Urban Co-operative Credit Bank, located at Gokak, Karnataka.

26. RBI Proposes New Securitisation Rules — Minimum Investment of ₹1 Crore
- The RBI proposed a mandatory minimum investment of ₹1 Crore for any investor purchasing securitisation notes.

27. RBI Framework on Unauthorized Electronic Transactions — Effective 1 January 2027
- Where fraud results from customer negligence — such as sharing a PIN, OTP or password — the customer bears the loss not covered by compensation until the transaction is reported. Losses occurring after reporting are borne by the bank.

28. RBI Issues Amended Basel III Pillar 3 Disclosure Norms for Banks
- The RBI issued 10 amendments under the Basel III Pillar 3 disclosure framework.

29. RBI Issues Directions on Digital Banking Channels and Infrastructure
- Banks offering view-only or transactional digital banking must operate on Core Banking Solutions (CBS).

30. RBI Issues Priority Sector Lending (PSL) Second Amendment Directions — FCNR(B) Deposits Exempted from ANBC
- A bank's Priority Sector Lending (PSL) target is calculated on the basis of its Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC).

31. RBI Issues Draft Capital Adequacy (11th Amendment) Directions — DSIB and Leverage Ratio Norms
- The 11th Amendment aligns capital adequacy rules with Basel III standards and goes into effect on 1 April 2027.

32. Financial Inclusion and Banking Outreach — 99.92% Village Coverage Achieved
- Village Coverage: 99.92% of inhabited Indian villages — 6,01,328 out of 6,01,868 villages — now have a physical bank branch or banking outlet within a 5 km radius.

33. RBI Draft Guidelines on Concentration Risk for Rural Cooperative Banks (RCBs)
- Effective Date: 1 April 2027. Applicability: State Cooperative Banks and Central Cooperative Banks.

34. Lok Sabha Passes MSME Development (Amendment) Bill 2026
- The Bill amends the MSME Development Act, 2006.
- RBI issued TReDS (Trade Receivables Discounting System) guidelines in 2014.

35. RBI Grants Perpetual Authorised Dealer Category-II (AD-II) Licences
- Neo Forex and Global Pay secured perpetual Authorized Dealer Category 2 (AD2) licences from the RBI.

36. RBI Schedules ₹1,34,625 Crore Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) Auction
- The RBI scheduled a Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) auction worth ₹1,34,625 crore on August 31, 2026; Cut-off Rate: 5.24%.

37. Priority Sector Lending (PSL) Targets & Proposed 2% Climate Transition Finance SubTarget
- Public sector banks proposed that the RBI introduce a 2% sub-target for Climate Transition Finance within the overall 40% PSL framework.

38. Outward Remittances Under LRS Rise 4.5% to $7.23 Billion in Q1 FY 2026-27
- The Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was launched by the RBI in 2004.

39. RBI Mandates Reporting of AI/Cybersecurity Incidents Within 6 Hours
- The RBI mandated that banks report AI and cybersecurity incidents within 6 hours.

40. Banking Operational Rules
- Ombudsman: 30 days is mainly the period after which a complainant can approach the RBI if the regulated entity has not replied.
- Certificates of Deposit: minimum 7 days.

41. RBI Additional Factor of Authentication Exemption Threshold
- The RBI's general additional-factor-ofauthentication (AFA) exemption threshold is ₹15,000.

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42. Coastal Local Area Bank Becomes a Scheduled Bank

- Vijayawada-based Coastal Local Area Bank (LAB) was included in the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934, making it a Scheduled Bank.

43. RBI Minimum CRAR for Scheduled Commercial Banks Is 9%

- The RBI mandates a minimum regulatory Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 9% for SCBs.

44. RBI Proposes Targeted Account Freezing Framework for Cyber Fraud Cases

- The RBI invited comments until 2 October 2026.
- Proposed start date: 1 April 2027.
- Timelines:

45. 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.

46. 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.

47. 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.
- A score above 90 is rated "good".

48. 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.

49. Key Data from RBI Governor's Monetary Policy Statement (7 October 2026)

- Bank credit growth: 18.1% year-on-year (YoY) (as of 15 September 2026); system-level Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR): 17.87% (June 2026).

50. RBI Imposes All-Inclusive Directions on Two Co-operative Banks; Withdrawals Barred

- Banks: The Tiruvalla Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd., Tiruvalla (Kerala) and Sri Mahatma Basaveshwar Co-operative Bank Ltd., Afzalpur (Karnataka).

51. RBI Makes Account Aggregators Interoperable; Bank Deposits to Be Added to CAS

- Announced on 7 October 2026: customers can share data from any information provider through the Account Aggregator (AA) of their choice.

52. RBI Master Circular on Credit Facilities for SCs and STs

- DAY-NRLM: at least 50% of beneficiaries to be SC/ST.

53. RBI Internal Ombudsman Framework and Grievance Redress

- Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS) 2026 (in force from 1 July 2026): customer must give the entity 30 days.

54. RBI Grants Indiabulls Ltd Registration as a Core Investment Company (CIC)

- Indiabulls Ltd (formerly Yaari Digital Integrated Services Ltd) got RBI registration as a Core Investment Company (CIC).

55. Banks Park ₹1,39,360 Crore with RBI under SDF

- On 10 October 2026, banks parked ₹1,39,360 crore with RBI under the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) at 5.25%; Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate: 5.75%

56. RBI Raises Daily Minimum CRR Maintenance Requirement from 90% to 99%

- The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) rate remains unchanged at 3% of Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL).

57. Centre Cuts FY 2026–27 Gross Market Borrowing to ₹15.99 Lakh Crore

- The Ministry of Finance, in consultation with the RBI (around 25 September 2026), cut gross market borrowing for FY 2026–27 from ₹17.20 lakh crore (Budget Estimates – BE) to ₹15,99,506 crore.

58. RBI Fixes Premature Redemption Price of SGB 2019–20 Series V

- RBI fixed the premature redemption price of Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) 2019–20 Series V at ₹14,725 per unit. Net Direct Tax Collections Rise 13.21% to ₹13.38 Lakh Crore

59. RBI Imposes Monetary Penalties on Three NBFCs

- Ola Financial Services Pvt Ltd: Penalty of ₹3.10 lakh (order dated September 24, 2026) for not complying with Know Your Customer (KYC) directions – failure to categorise certain customers into low, medium and high-risk categories.

60. RBI Penalises Monghyr-Jamui Central Cooperative Bank

- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of ₹5 lakh on The Monghyr-Jamui Central Co-operative Bank Ltd, Bihar, for not uploading KYC (Know Your Customer) records to the Central KYC Records Registry (CKYCR) on time.

61. RBI Cancels Certificates of Registration (CoR) of 13 NBFCs

- Cancelled under Section 45-IA(6) of the RBI Act, 1934; 11 of the 13 are in West Bengal and 2 in Chennai.
- NBFC – Non-Banking Financial Company.

62. RBI Data on Bank Credit and Deposits (as of 30 September 2026)

- RBI Weekly Statistical Supplement: bank credit up 19.4%, deposits up 17.8% YoY.

63. RBI Opens Special Dollar Window for IOC, HPCL and BPCL

- From 12 October 2026, RBI will sell US dollars through designated banks to meet the entire daily dollar needs of the three oil marketing companies, until further notice.

64. RBI Payment Systems: e-Kuber, NEFT and RTGS

- e-Kuber: RBI's Core Banking Solution (CBS), implemented in 2012; used for government accounts, G-Sec auctions and inter-bank settlements.

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65. 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).

66. RBI Imposes Restrictions on Puducherry Co-operative Urban Bank

- The RBI issued directions on 19 October 2026 under Section 35A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, effective from close of business 21 October 2026 for 6 months.

67. RBI Fixes Premature Redemption Prices of Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs)

- SGB Scheme: Launched in November 2015; bonds are issued by the RBI on behalf of the Government of India.

68. The RBI extended directions on The Konark Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ulhasnagar (Maharashtra) by 3 months, till 23 January 2027

69. RBI Census on Foreign Liabilities and Assets (FLA) of Indian Direct Investment Entities, 2025–26 (Provisional)

- Top FDI sources: United States (16.5%), Mauritius (14.5%), Singapore (13.7%), United Kingdom (10.8%).

70. FIMMDA – RBI-Recognised Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for Financial Markets

- Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association of India: incorporated 1998, Mumbai; recognised as SRO on 7 May 2025; Chairman Shamsher Singh.

71. RBI Master Directions on Cyber Security for Non-Bank Payment System Operators (PSOs)

- Minimum 12-hour cooling period after a customer changes the mobile number/email linked to a payment instrument.

PART C — BANKS

1. State Bank of India

1. ★ SBI Posts Highest-Ever Quarterly Net Profit of ₹21,121 Crore in Q1 FY 2026-27

- Represents a 10.2% growth over the ₹19,160 crore net profit recorded in the same quarter of FY 2025-26.
- Net Interest Income (NII): ₹46,992 crore.
- Operating Profit grew 9.8% to ₹33,529 crore (from ₹30,544 crore).
- SBI paid a dividend of ₹8,813 crore to the Government of India.
- Net Profit: ₹21,121 crore.

2. D-SIB Capital Mandates & SBI Updates

- HDFC Bank, SBI and ICICI Bank are all designated Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) — framework established in 2014.

3. Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act — Major Provisions and 2026 Changes

- FCRA is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and governs foreign donations to non-profits.

4. Bank Credit Growth Outpaces Deposit Growth — SBI Research

- As per SBI Research, Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) achieved credit growth of 18.6%, against deposit growth of 13.3%.

5. India Digital Payment Intelligence Corporation (IDPIC)

- IDPIC was formed to prevent cyber and payment frauds.

6. SBI Uses AI for Cheque Processing and MSME Underwriting

- SBI is shifting its cheque processing system and backend offices to Artificial Intelligence (AI) to automate repetitive, back-office, high-volume tasks.

7. SBI Caps Free Cash Withdrawals on ZeroBalance BSBDA and PMJDY Accounts

- The change applies to zero-balance Basic Savings Bank Deposit Accounts (BSBDA) and Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts.

8. SBI BSBD / Jan Dhan Account Withdrawal Rules

- State Bank of India (SBI) Basic Savings Bank Deposit (BSBD) / Jan Dhan account rules:

9. Banking Updates

- Domestic Systemically Important Banks (DSIBs): SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank.
- Axis Bank:
- HDFC Bank: Launched "Max for Her" and "Max for Seniors" savings accounts (August 2026).

10. SBI Buys ~40% of Reliance Industries' ₹13,000 Crore Bond Issue

- State Bank of India (SBI) bought about ₹5,000 crore (~40%) of Reliance Industries Ltd's (RIL) ₹13,000 crore 10-year bond issue (base ₹12,000 crore + ₹1,000 crore greenshoe) at a 7.90% coupon, completed on September 30, 2026.

11. State Bank of India (SBI) told stock exchanges on 21 October 2026 that 3,897 customer records containing personal information were among about 3.75 lakh records found on the dark web.

12. Bihar Launches 100-Point Performance Index for Banks

- IDFC First Bank ranked 1st with 74 points, followed by J&K Bank and RBL Bank (68 each) and HDFC Bank (65).

2. Public Sector Banks

1. ★ Public Sector Banks (PSBs) Post Record Net Profit of ₹1.98 Lakh Crore in FY26

- Gross Non-Performing Asset (NPA) ratio dropped to a 10-year (decadal) low of 1.9%.
- Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) reached 16.6% (requirement 11.5%).
- SBI paid the highest PSU dividend — ₹8,813 crore, followed by Bank of Baroda (₹2,811 crore), Punjab National Bank (₹2,416 crore), Canara Bank (₹2,397 crore).

2. Indian Banks Write Off ₹9.95 Lakh Crore of Loans in 12 Years

- Indian banks have written off loans worth approximately ₹9.95 lakh crore given to large corporates and services over the last 12 financial years.

3. 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.

4. 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

5. Other Banking & Corporate News

- CCI approved Kotak Mahindra Bank's acquisition of Deutsche Bank's India business.
- Patna Municipal Corporation listed Bihar's first municipal bond on NSE.

6. Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) and Insurers

- Additional CET-1 requirement: SBI – 0.80% (Bucket 4); HDFC Bank – 0.40% (Bucket 2); ICICI Bank – 0.20% (Bucket 1).

3. Private & Foreign Banks

1. ★ Bank Product Launches & Milestones

- Paisabazaar & SBM Bank India launched the "Paisa Plus" secured credit card.
- HDFC Bank launched "Neev" — an AIpowered real-time fraud monitoring and detection platform.
- Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) launched four premium credit cards on the Visa platform: Aura (Visa Platinum), Samara (Visa Signature), Altura (Visa Infinite).

2. ★ HSBC India Commits ₹200 Crore for Financial Literacy

- HSBC India will invest ₹200 crore over 4 years (2026–2030) to expand financial literacy.
- HSBC in India since 1853; HQ: Mumbai; CEO: Hitendra Dave; installed India's first ATM in 1987.
- RBI Financial Literacy Week 2026 (9–13 February): "KYC – Your First Step to Safe Banking".
- HSBC India CEO: Hitendra Dave; HSBC Holdings
  - HQ London.

3. Banks Collect Record Minimum Balance Penalties in FY25–26

- Private Sector Banks collected ₹4,948.71 crore in minimum balance penalties in FY25–26.
- Public Sector Banks (PSBs) collected ₹2,137.92 crore.

4. HDFC Bank Launches "Max for Seniors" and "Max for Her" Savings Accounts

- HDFC Bank launched two customised savings account variants with specialised insurance and health benefits.

5. IDFC First Bank — S&P Assigns 'BBB-' LongTerm and 'A-3' Short-Term Rating

- S&P assigned IDFC First Bank a 'BBB-' longterm and 'A-3' short-term rating — the lowest investment grade.

6. IndusInd Bank Launches OD and CC-Linked Corporate Credit Card

- IndusInd Bank launched a Corporate Credit Card linked to Overdraft (OD) and Cash Credit (CC).

7. ICICI Bank Raises Stake in ICICI Prudential Life Insurance to 52.84%

- ICICI Bank acquired an additional 2% stake in ICICI Prudential Life Insurance for ₹1,470 crore.
- This raised its holding to 52.84%.

8. Amazon Pay and Kotak Mahindra Bank Launch Business Credit Card

- Amazon Pay and Kotak Mahindra Bank launched a Business Credit Card.

9. 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.

10. 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.

4. SFBs, Payments Banks, RRBs & Co-operative Banks

1. ★ AU Small Finance Bank Receives Approval to Transition to Universal Bank

- AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB), headquartered in Jaipur, Rajasthan, became the first Small Finance Bank in India to receive in-principle approval from the RBI to transition into a Universal Bank.

2. ★ Small Finance Bank (SFB) Facts

- Capital Small Finance Bank – India's first SFB; AU SFB – first SFB approved to become a universal bank.
- PSL target for SFBs cut from 75% to 60% (June 2025, effective FY 2025-26).
- Payments banks with 5 years of operations can apply to convert into SFBs (December 2019 on-tap guidelines).
- FDI in SFBs capped at 74%.

3. ★ Regional Rural Banks (RRBs): 10.3% Credit Growth, Record Net Profit & PSL Performance

- Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are owned 50% by the Central Government, 35% by the Sponsor Bank and 15% by the State Government.
- Under the "One State, One RRB" initiative, the number of RRBs was consolidated from 43 down to 28 as of 1 May 2025.
- RRBs disbursed ₹3.49 lakh crore in loans specifically to weaker sections.

4. ★ "Utkarsh" Reform Agenda: All 28 RRBs to Set Up Cyber Security Operation Centres

- Under the Utkarsh RRB reform agenda for FY27 (unveiled by DFS Secretary Sanjay Lohiya around 21 October 2026), all 28 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) will set up Cyber Security Operation Centres (CSOCs) and conduct Vulnerability Assessment & Penetration Testing (VAPT).

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5. Digital Banking Units (DBUs) vs. Digital Banks / Neo Banks

- Digital Banking Units (DBUs): Physical self-service branches featuring digital kiosks, ATMs, and passbook/bill payment machines, managed by senior bank officials.

6. Regulatory Framework of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) — Tiers, CRAR and Net Worth

- Dual Regulation:
- The Four Tiers of UCBs:

7. Payments Bank Regulatory Framework

- Payments Banks may accept demand deposits (savings/current), not conventional term deposits, and the end-of-day balance limit is ₹2 lakh per individual customer.

8. NUCFDC Head Office to Shift from Delhi to Maharashtra

- The National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) is the umbrella organisation providing common technology and training to UCBs.

9. India Post Payments Bank Marks 9th Foundation Day; Launches DakPay Soundbox

- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was established on September 1, 2018, under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications.

10. Payments Banks Framework; Fino Payments Bank

- RBI approved Rishi Gupta's reappointment as MD & CEO of Fino for 3 years from 2 May 2026.
- Not allowed: loans, credit cards, term deposits and NRI deposits.

5. Banking & Financial Sector Appointments

1. ★ Banking & Financial Sector Appointments

- J. Ravi Shankar was appointed Executive Director (ED) of the RBI on July 1, 2026, overseeing the Department of Statistics and Information Management.
- Rajiv Kumar (former Chief Election Commissioner of India) was appointed to HDFC Bank — described in the source as Independent Director in one entry and Chairman in another.

2. ★ NPCI MD & CEO Dilip Asbe Appointed to SWIFT Supervisory Board

- SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication): founded in 1973; HQ: La Hulpe, Belgium
- NPCI: incorporated in December 2008 under the guidance of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI): set up 2008; HQ Mumbai.

3. ★ RBI Central Board — New Part-Time NonOfficial Directors Appointed

- The Government appointed former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman S. Somanath and reappointed Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra as Part-Time NonOfficial Directors on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Central Board.
- Three new Part-Time Directors appointed to the RBI Central Board:

4. ★ Neelkanth Mishra Is World Bank Executive Director for India

- Neelkanth Mishra is the World Bank Executive Director for India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.
- He succeeded Parameswaran Iyer.

5. ★ 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.
- He won the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences with Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo.
- World Bank: established 1944; headquarters Washington, D.C.

6. ★ Anup Bagchi to Head HDFC Bank; Sidharatha Mishra to Head ICICI Prudential Life

- RBI approved Anup Bagchi as MD & CEO of HDFC Bank for 3 years from 27 October 2026. He succeeds Sashidhar Jagdishan.
- Sidharatha Mishra will become MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance for 5 years from 14 October 2026, succeeding Bagchi.
- Succeeds Sashidhar Jagdishan, whose term ends 26 October 2026.

7. Ashish Singh Appointed MD & CEO of Manappuram Finance

- Manappuram Finance appointed Ashish Singh as its next Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for a 5-year tenure starting January 1, 2027.

8. Shabnam Sinha Appointed Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank

- Shabnam Sinha was appointed Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank.

9. RBI Approves Carol Furtado as Interim MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved Carol Furtado as Interim MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB).

10. Suman Ray Appointed Executive Director of RBI

- Suman Ray was appointed Executive Director (ED) of the RBI, effective September 1, 2026.

11. Yuko Keicho Appointed Vice President and Auditor General of World Bank Group

- Yuko Keicho was appointed Vice President and Auditor General of the World Bank Group.

12. 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.

13. Dr Tamboli Ayyaj Fakirbhai Appointed Executive Director of IRDAI

- Dr Tamboli Ayyaj Fakirbhai appointed Executive Director of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for a 5year term.

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14. RBI Approves Anup Kumar Saha as MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved Anup Kumar Saha as MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank.

15. Ashis Kumar Becomes MD & CEO of LIC Mutual Fund

- Ashis Kumar became MD & CEO of LIC Mutual Fund (26 September 2026); earlier its Chief Operating Officer.

16. Karnataka Bank (MD & CEO: Raghavendra S. Bhat) launched "Nava Dhamaka 2026 – Enhancing Banking Experience" on 15 October 2026 in Bengaluru, with 9 products across payments, digital channels, credit and investment.

17. Dinesh Kumar Khara, former SBI Chairman, appointed Independent Director of Piramal Finance Board

18. RBI Approves Shankaran as Whole-Time Director of City Union Bank for 3 Years

6. Other Banking & Finance News

1. ★ Small Savings Interest Rates Unchanged for October–December 2026 (Q3 FY 2026–27); PPF Stays at 7.1%

- Decided by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance:
- Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS) and Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY): 8.2%.
  - Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY): 8.2%.
  - National Savings Certificate (NSC): 7.7%.
  - Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP): 7.5% (doubles in 115 months).

2. ★ Bank Deposit Growth Surges to 15.4% — Highest Since December 2016

- Bank deposit growth in India surged to 15.4% as of 31 July 2026, the highest rate since December 2016.
- Total banking deposits stood at ₹269.41 lakh crore, reflecting an inflow of ₹6.61 lakh crore over the preceding 15 days.
- Credit Growth Rate: Bank credit (loans) grew by 19.3%, the highest rate since May 2024.

3. ★ PMJDY Completes 12 Years; Accounts Reach 59.09 Crore

- August 28, 2026 marks the 12th anniversary of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched on August 28, 2014, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Celebrated as the world's most successful and largest financial inclusion initiative.
- Managed by the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance.
- Overdraft (OD) Facility:

4. ★ FAST DS — Foreign Assets of Small Taxpayers Disclosure Scheme

- The government introduced the FAST DS (Foreign Assets of Small Taxpayers Disclosure Scheme) — a one-time voluntary window for small taxpayers to report previously undisclosed foreign income or assets.
- One-time voluntary window for undisclosed foreign assets.

5. ★ Sagarmala Finance Corporation Launches India's First Blue Bond

- Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd, India's first maritime-focused lender, launched India's first blue bond on September 28, 2026.
- Target ₹600 crore (including ₹500 crore greenshoe), 10-year tenor.

6. Banking Sector — NPAs & Write-Offs

- Domestic banks (public, private, and foreign) wrote off ₹1.28 lakh crore in bad loans during FY26 (private sector banks wrote off 49.7% of gross NPAs).

7. Legal Recovery Mechanisms & Financial Thresholds

- Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) — minimum dispute threshold: ₹20 Lakhs.

8. Priority Sector & Agricultural Credit

- Priority Sector Lending (PSL): SCBs must allocate 40% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) to PSL, including 18% to Agriculture and 10% to Small & Marginal Farmers.

9. SWIFT & Cross-Border Payments

- SWIFT announced a blockchain-based shared ledger system enabling 24/7 cross-border settlements via tokenised deposits.

10. India Post Records Highest-Ever Q1 Revenue in FY 2026–27

- India Post operates under the Ministry of Communications; Union Minister of Communications — Jyotiraditya Scindia.

11. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) — 58.77 Crore Accounts Opened

- 58.77 crore accounts opened under PMJDY.
- These accounts hold a combined balance of ₹3,12,414 crore.

12. ECLGS 5.0 Launched with Loan Disbursal Target of ₹2.55 Lakh Crore

- ECLGS (Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme) 5.0 launched.
- Borrowers up to ₹100 crore receive 100% credit guarantee coverage.

13. Government Disinvestment and Asset Monetisation — ₹59,082.95 Crore Raised in FY27

- Budget Target: Set at ₹80,000 crore.
- Amount Raised to Date: ₹59,082.95 crore.

14. Exim Bank Designated Implementing Agency for Interest Subvention Scheme

- Exim Bank Profile: the Export-Import (Exim) Bank was established in September 1981, is wholly owned by the government, and is headquartered in Mumbai.

15. Paul Merchants Finance Launches "Loan Against Silver" from Chandigarh

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

16. Currency in Circulation Data — Jakarta Cash Management Conference

- The Jakarta Cash Management Conference was hosted by the Bank of Indonesia in Jakarta.

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17. India's Sugar Industry Performance & DutyFree Raw Sugar Import

- The Central Government approved the dutyfree import of up to 10 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of raw sugar until 31 October 2026.

18. Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)

- The Standing Committee on Finance, headed by B. Mahtab, recommended that MDR (Merchant Discount Rate) apply only to highvalue Person-to-Merchant (P2M) transactions exceeding ₹2,000, leaving smaller transactions free.

19. Index of Services Production (ISP) – June 2026 Data Released

- The Index of Services Production (ISP) has base year 2024–25.
- The top-performing sub-sectors, all with double-digit growth, were:

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

- Figures cover four founding partners: China, South Africa, Brazil, Russia.

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

- Core industries grew 4.8% in August 2026.
- Highest weight: electricity (30.932%); lowest weight: fertilisers (2.731%).

PART D — PAYMENTS & FINTECH

1. NPCI, UPI & RuPay

1. ★ UPI Expansion: Greece Adopts UPI; NPCI Launches UPI FX

- Greece became the 10th country globally and the 2nd European country (after France) to adopt India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- Cambodia was confirmed as the 9th country to adopt the payment system.

2. ★ UPI Crosses 55.49 Crore Users and 731 Live Banks

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was launched in 2016.
- Active user base reached 55.49 crore; 731 banks live on the network.
- FY26 volumes: 24,161.69 crore transactions valued at ₹314.23 lakh crore.
- International QR payments active in 9 countries; P2P remittances supported in Singapore, Greece and Nepal.
- Active UPI user base reached 55.49 crore in FY26.

3. ★ UPI Records All-Time High of 23.66 Billion Transactions in July 2026

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was launched on 11 April 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- NPCI data revealed July 2026 recorded an all-time high of 23.66 billion monthly transactions with a total value of ₹29.88 lakh crore.
  - PhonePe: Leads the UPI ecosystem with 10.85 billion transactions

4. ★ UPI Celebrates 10th Anniversary

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was launched on 25 August 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) under the RBI.
- NPCI Profile: established in 2008 in Mumbai.
- Global Presence: UPI is now active and operational across 11 countries:
  - 1st country — Bhutan
  - 9th country — Cambodia
  - 10th country — Greece (the second European nation after France)

5. ★ Digital Fraud: 5,85,751 Online Fraud Cases in 5 Years & "MuleHunter.AI"

- Over the last 5 financial years, 5,85,751 online fraud cases were recorded, involving ₹3,590 crore.
- To combat this, the RBI and NPCI established the Digital Payments Intelligence Platform (DPIP). Introduced "MuleHunter.AI".
- Mule accounts are accounts owned by one individual but operated by fraudsters to launder money.

6. ★ UPI Performance Metrics (July 2026)

- Monthly transactions (July 2026): total UPI volume stood at 23.66 billion transactions, with a total transaction value of ₹29.88 lakh crore.
- UPI market share (July 2026):
  - PhonePe: 10.86 billion transactions; 45.89% market share by volume (also stated as "over 45%") and 48.33% by value.
  - Paytm: Third, with 8.05% market share by volume (also stated as "about 8%").

7. ★ UPI Records Highest-Ever 24.51 Billion Transactions in August 2026

- UPI processed 24.51 billion transactions worth ₹29.82 lakh crore.
- UPI now operates in 11 international countries.
- UPI processed a record 24.51 billion (24,510 million) transactions worth ₹29.82 lakh crore in August 2026.

8. ★ Uzbekistan Becomes 11th Country to Adopt QR-Based UPI Payments

- Uzbekistan became the 11th country to adopt QR-based Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments, extending India's digital payment footprint into Central Asia.
- The 10 countries already using QR-based UPI payments are Bhutan (the first to adopt), Nepal, Singapore, France, Mauritius, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Greece and the UAE.

9. ★ 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.
- 0.4% MDR on specified Person-toMerchant (P2M) transactions above ₹2,000, effective 15 October 2026 (maximum cap: ₹300).

10. UPI Global Expansion — Greece 10th Country; UPI FX Launch

- UPI is now live in Greece — the 10th country to adopt it (Cambodia was 9th); Greece is the 2nd European country — France was the 1st European nation (launched at the Eiffel Tower, Paris; Nice is the second French city).

11. Prepaid & Card Innovations

- EnKash launched India's first UPI-enabled prepaid digital meal card on the RuPay network; monthly tax-free meal allowance limit: ₹8,800; annual cap: ₹105,600.

12. UPI Crosses 731 Live Banks; Complete Transaction Limit Framework

- Live Banks: 731 banks are live on the UPI network as of 2026.
- Person-to-Merchant (P2M): capped at ₹5 lakh per transaction.

13. Taxation and Other Laws Amendment Bill Passed — Legal Framework for UPI MDR Created

- Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) is a processing fee paid by merchants to banks and payment service providers for digital transactions.

14. UPI Features, Transaction Limits and Global Expansion

- Offline POS UPI Limit: up to ₹2,000.
- UPI Lite X (offline): transactions up to ₹500; UPI Lite (online): up to ₹1,000 without a PIN.

15. Bank of Baroda Introduces UPI Global QR Payment System

- Bank of Baroda (BoB) introduced the UPI Global QR Payment system, also referred to as UPI Global Reverse Acceptance.

16. NPCI Unveils UPI Tap & Pay and "MyUPI" AI Payment Assistant; NFC Payment Limits

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) unveiled UPI Tap & Pay and "MyUPI", an AI payment assistant, at Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026.

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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).

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

- Bank of Baroda launched UPI Global Reverse Acceptance on August 26, 2026.

21. UPI Records 24.07 Billion Transactions Worth ₹29.37 Lakh Crore in September 2026

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) processed 24.07 billion transactions worth ₹29.37 lakh crore in September 2026.

22. UPI 30% Market Share Cap: Deadline 31 December 2026

- Third-Party Application Providers (TPAPs) on Unified Payments Interface (UPI), such as PhonePe, must bring their market share below 30% by 31 December 2026.

23. NPCI Defers 0.4% MDR on Select UPI Merchant Payments above ₹2,000 until after Diwali

- The charge was to start on 15 October 2026; new date to be notified separately; person-toperson (P2P) payments remain free.

24. Third-Party Application Providers (TPAPs) must limit their share of UPI transaction volume to 30% by 31 December 2026, as per the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

25. Payment Limits, Women's Savings Account and Credit Instruments

- Contactless (NFC) card payments without PIN: up to ₹5,000 (since 1 January 2021).

26. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Enabled at Burj Khalifa and Resorts World Sentosa

- Burj Khalifa ("At the Top") via NEOPAY and Emaar Entertainment – first UAE attraction to accept UPI for e-commerce (announced by NPCI International Payments Ltd – NIPL).

2. Digital Payments, Fintech & Cyber Fraud

1. Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) — Digital Rupee (e-Rupi)

- e-Rupi wallet: no minimum balance; maximum holding balance ₹1 lakh.

2. Banking Frauds and Recovery Data Presented in Lok Sabha

- Banks and financial institutions reported frauds involving an aggregate amount of ₹1,42,112 crore during the last five financial years.

3. Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli — First UTs with Full CBDC Food-Subsidy Delivery

- Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli became the first Union Territories with full CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency) food-subsidy delivery.

PART E — CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE & PENSION

1. SEBI

1. ★ SEBI Amends Share Buyback, Conflict of Interest, and FPI Fee Rules

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) announced that listed companies can execute open market share buybacks during normal exchange hours (9:00 AM to 4:30 PM) starting August 1, 2026. The entire buyback process must be completed within 66 working days (down from 6 months) and is capped at

less than 15% of aggregate paid-up capital and free reserves.

2. ★ SEBI Revises Margin Trading Facility (MTF) Norms for Stockbrokers

- SEBI raised the minimum net worth requirement to ₹5 crore (up from ₹3 crore) for stockbrokers offering MTF.
- Entity eligibility: Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) are newly permitted to provide MTF services to clients.
- Brokers permitted to issue Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs).

3. ★ SEBI Introduces Colour-Coded "Credit Risk-oMeter" for Debt Securities

- Circular dated 7 October 2026; 6 risk levels from "Lowest credit risk" to "High to Very high risk of Default".
- Must be shown in offer documents, advertisements and on Online Bond Platform Provider (OBPP) websites; where there are multiple ratings, the lowest rating applies.
- Six Colour-Coded Risk Levels:
  - Chartreuse — Very Low

4. ★ SEBI Introduces "Garuda" Framework for Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)

- GARUDA stands for Green Channel Alternative Investment Fund Roll out upon Document Acknowledgement.
- SEBI introduced the Garuda framework/mechanism to speed up and streamline the launch of Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) schemes.
- Launch Timelines:

5. ★ SEBI in News — IPO Rank, Credit Risk-oMeter, ITRI

- SEBI Annual Report: India 1st globally in number of IPOs, 3rd in capital raised.
- Proposed colour-coded "Credit Risk-oMeter" (AAA — Irish Green; AA — Chartreuse; B/C/D — Red).
- IT Resilience Index (ITRI) for Market Infrastructure Institutions; OBPPs allowed to offer GIFT City IFSC bonds.

6. ★ SEBI Approves NSE IPO – India's LargestEver Public Issue

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved the National Stock Exchange (NSE) Initial Public Offering (IPO).
- At ₹30,000 crore, it will be India's largestever public issue.
- At ₹30,000 crore, it is set to become India's largest-ever public issue.

7. SEBI Regulatory Updates

- Expert Working Group on Debenture Trustees formed to review/modernize the 1993 regulations: Chairperson — Ananta Barua (former Whole-Time Member of SEBI)

8. SEBI Imposes Financial Disincentives on NSE SEBI imposed a ₹6.04 Crore financial disincentive on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) over two distinct technical glitches, including a technical glitch that occurred in April 2024 regarding a specific stock.

- Investor Protection Fund allocation: Depositories permitted to utilise up to 5% of interest or income earned from IPF investments for administrative and operational expenses.

9. SEBI Simplifies Transmission of Securities to Nominees

- Nominees can now claim assets without producing a legal will or probate.

10. SEBI Notifies Code of Conduct for Board Members

- Whole-Time Members are prohibited from making fresh equity or commodity investments during their tenure.
- Personal gifts exceeding ₹500 must be declared.

11. SEBI Proposes Mutual Fund-Only Portfolio Management Services (PMS)

- Standard Portfolio Management Services (PMS) require a minimum ticket size of ₹50 lakh and a provider net worth of ₹5 crore.

12. SEBI Directs Market Infrastructure Institutions to Resolve Investor Disputes Directly

- Disputes submitted via SCORES 2.0 must be resolved within 21 days.

13. SEBI (Custodian) Amendment Regulations, 2026

- Effective date: 1 October 2026.
- Fee restructuring: Custodian fee payments moved from an annual schedule to a monthly schedule.

14. SEBI Relaxes Financial Reporting Timelines for Municipal Bonds

- SEBI relaxed financial reporting timelines for listed municipalities issuing debt securities, commonly known as Municipal Bonds or "Muni Bonds".

15. SEBI Imposes ₹1.48 Crore Penalty on Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL)

- Reason for penalty: The company used its corporate assets/property as security/collateral to arrange bank loans for its shareholders.

16. SEBI Allows Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) to Offer GIFT City IFSC Bonds

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) to offer regulated securities/bonds issued in GIFT City IFSC.

17. SEBI Frameworks & Digital Platforms (ITRI, FIRE); RBI "Kill Switch"

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) frameworks:
- SEBI auxiliary digital platforms:

18. 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".

19. SEBI Approves Motilal Oswal Custodial Services Private Limited (MOCSPL) as Custodian of Securities

- SEBI approved MOCSPL to act as a Custodian of Securities.

20. SEBI Notifies SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 2026, Replacing the 2020 Regulations

- Notified on 12 October 2026; effective 1 April 2027.

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21. SEBI Grants NOC to NSE for Corporate Bond Index Futures

- SEBI granted a No Objection Certificate (NOC) to the National Stock Exchange (NSE) to launch Corporate Bond Index Futures.

22. SEBI Launches "Project Jagrook" and "Samajh Se Investing Simple" Campaign

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a circular on October 1, 2026 for Project Jagrook

23. Mumbai-based advisory firm 1 Finance received SEBI in-principle approval (around 21 October 2026) for a Mutual Fund Lite (MF Lite) AMC for passive products (index funds and ETFs); it could become India's first MF Lite AMC.

24. Larsen & Toubro (L&T) became India's first private-sector company to issue tokenised bonds on 9 September 2026 – ₹500 crore, 3-year tenor, under SEBI's framework on the NSE platform.

25. SEBI Proposes Stricter Profitability Norms for SME IPOs

- Proposed raising the eligibility requirement to a minimum average annual operating profit of ₹3 crore over the preceding 3 financial years for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) launching an Initial Public Offer (IPO).

26. SEBI Actions

- ₹1 crore penalty on CDSL (Central Depository Services (India) Ltd), based on FY 2023-24 inspection. Lapses:
- Upstox granted licence as Online Bond Platform Provider (OBPP).

2. Stock Exchanges, Mutual Funds, IFSCA & GIFT City

1. ★ Jio Platforms Lists at 21.36% Premium after India's Largest-Ever IPO

- Jio Platforms Ltd listed on the BSE and National Stock Exchange (NSE) on 28 October 2026.
- Price band ₹1,065–1,119; issue price ₹1,119; listed at ₹1,358 on both exchanges — a 21.36% listing premium.
- Jio Platforms became India's 2nd most valuable listed company, after Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), overtaking Bharti Airtel.

2. IFSCA Grants Investment Banking Licence to Nexent Capital IFSC

- The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) granted an investment banking licence to Nexent Capital IFSC.

3. Niyo Gets IFSCA Payment Service Provider Licence for GIFT City

- Niyo received an International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) Payment Service Provider (PSP) licence for GIFT City.

4. 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).

5. 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.

6. NABKISAN Lists India's First WASH-Focused Social Bond on NSE, Raises ₹180 Crore

- NABKISAN Finance Ltd, an NBFC subsidiary of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), raised ₹180 crore through India's first social bond dedicated to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), listed on the National Stock Exchange (NSE).

7. Cross-border payments firm Skydo received final Payment Service Provider (PSP) authorisation from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to operate in GIFT City, Gujarat

3. IRDAI & Insurance

1. ★ LIC Disinvestment Through Offer for Sale (OFS)

- The Disinvestment Plan: To meet the statutory 10% public shareholding requirement by the deadline of 16 May 2027, the government is offloading up to 6.5% of its stake via an Offer for Sale (OFS).
- Current Shareholding: The Government of India holds 96.5% of LIC, while public shareholding stands at 3.5%.

2. ★ IRDAI Bars Four Insurers from Opening New Branches for 6 Months

- General Insurers — 6-Month Ban: IRDAI barred Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company and Acko General Insurance from establishing any new places of business or branches for 6 months.
- Reason: non-compliance with / exceeding the specified Expenses of Management (EoM) limits relative to premium income — e.g.

3. ★ IRDAI Launches Public Insurance Registry (PIR)

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) launched the Public Insurance Registry (PIR) as Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).
- It supports the goal of "Insurance for All by 2047". The PIR tracks ₹8,973.89 crore of unclaimed insurance funds, as of 28 February 2026.
- It supports "Insurance for All by 2047".
- IRDAI facts:
  - Members: 10

4. ★ IRDAI Declares November 2026 as "Grievance Resolution Month"

- Insurance Ombudsman: governed by the Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017 (under Section 24 of the IRDA Act, 1999)
- IRDAI: HQ Hyderabad, Telangana; established under the IRDA Act, 1999; Chairman: Ajay Seth (since August 2025).

5. Insurance Sector Updates

- IRDAI granted a Standalone Health Insurance license to Prudential HCL Health Insurance — a JV between UK's Prudential Group (70%) and HCL Group's promoter company Vamsundri Instruments (30%); IRDAI's third registration of 2026, taking total Standalone Health Insurers (SAHIs) to eight.

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6. Repco Bank, SBI and LIC Pay Dividends to the Government of India

- Repco Bank presented a dividend cheque of ₹22.90 crore to Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

7. LIC Gets RBI Approval for Up to 9.99% Stake in ICICI Bank

- The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) obtained RBI approval to acquire up to a 9.99% stake in ICICI Bank.

8. IRDAI Imposes ₹1 Crore Penalties on ICICI Lombard and IndusInd Bank

- IRDAI fined ICICI Lombard General Insurance ₹1 crore for corporate governance and outsourcing noncompliance.

9. 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".

10. LIC Launches Three New Plans (On Sale from 19 October 2026)

- New Jeevan Dhara-II (Plan 892) – deferred annuity plan with guaranteed annuity rates for life.

11. The National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) launched two equity indices on 22 October 2026 in New Delhi

- NDEX: 20 large, liquid stocks from the top 60 NSE-listed companies.

12. IRDAI Updates

- Transfer of shares in insurance companies: prior approval needed only above 5% of paid-up capital in a year (earlier 1%)
- Four-layer motor insurance structure from 15 December 2026.

4. Pension, EPFO & Labour

1. ★ PFRDA Streamlines NPS into 5 Risk Tiers

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) reorganised the National Pension System (NPS) into 5 risk tiers:
  - Category A – Very High Risk: 80– 100% equity
  - Category C – Moderate Risk: 35– 60% equity
  - Category D – Low Risk: 10–35% equity
  - Category B – High Risk: 60–80%
  - Category E – Very Low Risk: 0– 10%

2. ★ PFRDA Approves Bank of Baroda as Pension Fund Sponsor; BoB Sets Up Pension Fund Company and Launches bob World 2.0

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) approved Bank of Baroda (BoB) as a Pension Fund sponsor under Section 27 of the PFRDA Act, 2013.
- Certificate handed over by DFS Secretary Sanjay Lohiya on October 1, 2026 (NPS Divas).

3. ★ The Union Cabinet raised the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) statutory wage ceiling for mandatory coverage from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000 per month (reported 16 September 2026), effective 17 September 2026.

4. ★ PFRDA Launches "NPS Central"; Bank of Baroda Sponsors Pension Fund

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) launched "NPS Central" on NPS Diwas (1 October 2026)
- Bank of Baroda became the 2nd public sector bank (after SBI) to sponsor a pension fund – BoB Pension Fund Management Co. Ltd (BoB 80.10%, Baroda BNP Paribas AMC 19.90%).

5. ★ The Union Cabinet approved a 3% hike in Dearness Allowance (DA) for Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) for pensioners – from 60% to 63% of basic pay/pension.

6. ★ Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Celebrates 74th Foundation Day (1 November 2026, New Delhi)

- Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched EPFO's verified WhatsApp service.
- Auto-settlement: Aadhaar-verified inoperative EPF accounts holding up to ₹1,000 credited directly to the member's Aadhaar-seeded bank account without a claim.

7. EPFO Updates

- EPF members must maintain a minimum 25% balance (employee + employer shares); partial withdrawals for medical treatment, education.
- EPF interest rate: set/maintained at 8.25%.

8. Other Bank & NBFC Developments

- AU SFB became the first Small Finance Bank to secure RBI in-principle approval to convert into a Universal Bank.

9. Pension Sector

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) regulates the National Pension System (NPS) and the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
- Eligibility conditions for applicants:

10. 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.

PART F — DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

1. NABARD, SIDBI, EXIM, NHB, NaBFID & Other DFIs

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

- National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) raised US$ 750 million in its debut 10-year dollar bond at 6.122%.

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2. ★ Stand-Up India Scheme Extended till 31 March 2031 with ₹4,111 Crore Guarantee Corpus

- Launched on 5 April 2016 by PM Narendra Modi; nodal: Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance.
- Beneficiaries: Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and women entrepreneurs setting up greenfield (first-time) enterprises in manufacturing, services.

3. ★ Union Cabinet Extends Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU) till 31 March 2031

- On 11 November 2026, the Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved continuation of CGFMU for five years (FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31).
- Approved corpus: ₹5,000 crore – expected to facilitate PMMY loans of about ₹12.6 lakh crore over five years.
- Annual guarantee fee cut from 1% to 0.75% per annum.

4. NABARD — "Gramodyan" & 45th Foundation Day

- NABARD launched the "Gramodyan" program on its 45th Foundation Day (12th July).

5. SIDBI Posts Highest-Ever Net Profit of ₹5,493 Crore; Holds Conclave with 28 RRBs

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) registered its highest-ever net profit of ₹5,493 crore in FY 2025–26, a 14.2% growth year-on-year.

6. NABARD Launches RSVC "Amrit" Platform for Rural Innovation

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched the RSVC "Amrit" platform for Rural Innovation.

7. MSMEs, SIDBI and Mudra Loans

- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) contribute 31.1% of India's GDP.
- Mudra Loans: the "Tarun Plus" loan category limit was raised to ₹20 lakh.

8. NABARD Experience Centre Inaugurated at Head Office, Mumbai

- Inaugurated on 9 September 2026 by Sanjay Lohiya, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS).
- Location: NABARD Head Office, Mumbai.

9. RBI Gives No-Objection Certificate for Merger of REC Ltd into Power Finance Corporation (PFC)

- RBI gave a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) for the merger of REC Ltd into Power Finance Corporation (PFC).

10. NABKISAN Finance Ltd (NABARD subsidiary) listed India's first Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Social Bond of ₹180 crore on NSE on 2 October 2026.

11. The RBI issued a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the merger of REC Limited (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation) into Power Finance Corporation (PFC).

PART G — GOVERNMENT, POLICY & SCHEMES

1. Union Cabinet Approvals

1. ★ Odisha Cabinet Approves ₹2,295 Crore Deep Sea Fishing Mission

- The Odisha Cabinet approved a ₹2,295 crore Deep Sea Fishing Mission for a 10-year implementation span (2026 to 2036) to transform the state into a premier marine export hub.
- The initiative was officially launched by Vice President CP Radhakrishnan in Bhubaneswar.

2. ★ Viksit UDAN (Modified UDAN Scheme)

- PM Modi launched the next phase of Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) — officially the Modified UDAN Scheme or "Viksit UDAN" — approved by the Union Cabinet with an outlay of ₹28,840 crore over 10 years (FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36).
- The program is backed by a financial outlay of ₹28,840 crore over a 10-year period (FY 202627 to FY 2035-36).

3. ★ Union Cabinet Approves ₹62,500 Crore National Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved a new Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme with a budget of ₹62,500 crore, notified by MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and IT).
- Term: 5 years, from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31, running from 1 April 2026 (FY27 to FY31).
- Notified by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

4. ★ Union Cabinet Approves Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) for Floating Solar Projects

- Budget of ₹5,070 crore.
- Implementation Period: 5 years, with projects being sanctioned from FY 2026-27 to FY 203031; approved to run from 2026 to 2030-31.
- Capacity Target: Aims to set up 5,000 MW of floating solar power capacity, along with 10,000 MWh of energy storage.

5. ★ Union Cabinet Extends Khelo India Scheme; Khelo India 2.0 Approved

- The Union Cabinet extended the Khelo India Scheme for 5 years, from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- Allocated budget: ₹29,054 crore.
- The Union Cabinet approved a financial outlay of ₹36,441 crore to expand the Khelo India scheme and enhance support for National Sports Federations.

6. ★ Union Cabinet Approves Samudra Manthan Scheme (National Offshore Exploration Scheme)

- Purpose: To study, explore and tap oil and natural gas reserves within India's offshore basins, specifically focusing on deep-water and ultra-deep-water regions.

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- Implemented by: The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- Timeline: The programme will run up to FY 2030–31.
  - Krishna Godavari Basin
  - Mahanadi Basin

7. ★ Cabinet Approves National Circular BioEnergy Scheme (Expanded Gobardhan Scheme) — ₹23,731 Crore

- The Gobardhan (Galvanizing Organic BioAgro Resources Dhan) scheme was originally launched in 2018 as a component of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin).
- Its primary goal is to manage organic waste, such as cattle dung and composite waste, by converting it into Compressed Biogas (CBG) and bio-slurry.

8. ★ Union Cabinet Approves 5-Year Extension of PM-KISAN Scheme

- The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is an income support scheme for landholding farmer families.
- It was first launched in 2019, with retrograded (retrospective) effect from 2018.
- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of PM-KISAN for 5 years, extending from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- Budget allocation: ₹3,15,614 crore.

9. ★ Urban Challenge Fund Approved; ADB Sanctions $1 Billion for Urban Transformation

- Union Cabinet approved the Urban Challenge Fund in FY26 with central assistance of ₹1 lakh crore.
- Targets total investment of ₹4 lakh crore over 5 years, extendable to FY 2033–34.
- Cost sharing: 25% Centre, 25% States/UTs (including private participation), 50% marketraised.
- Central assistance: ₹1 lakh crore.

10. ★ National Green Hydrogen Mission: Targets and State Policies

- Approved by the Union Cabinet on 4 January 2023 under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), with an initial outlay of ₹19,744 crore.
- Target: green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) per annum by 2030.
- Supports India's target of Net-Zero emissions by 2070.
- Target: 5 MMTPA green hydrogen by 2030.

11. ★ Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) Completes One Year; Gaya (Bihar) Tops District Rankings

- Launched by PM Modi on 11 October 2025; approved by the Union Cabinet on 16 July 2025 for 6 years.
- Covers 100 Aspirational Agricultural Districts by converging 36 central schemes of 11 Ministries/Departments; progress tracked on 121 indicators.
- Launched by PM Modi on 11 October 2025 for 6 years.

12. ★ Union Cabinet Approves PM-DHARA Scheme for Renewable Energy Transmission

- Full Form: PM – Developing Harmonized and Accelerated Renewable-energy Access (PMDHARA).
- Total Outlay: ₹1,86,405 crore; Central Financial Support: ₹54,082 crore.
- Aims to build transmission infrastructure to evacuate 135 GW of renewable energy across States and Union Territories under Phase-3 of the Green Energy Corridor (GEC).

13. ★ Cabinet Approves ₹53,428 Crore for National Social Assistance Programme, Renamed "Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana"

- Period: 2026–27 to 2030–31; covers about 3.20 crore beneficiaries in all 36 States/UTs.
- Disability pension renamed PM Divyangjan Pension Yojana – ₹375 per month up to age 79 and ₹625 per month from age 80; disability threshold lowered from 80% to 40%.

14. ★ Cabinet Approves 78 Days' Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) for Railway Employees

- Cabinet approved 78 days' Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) for Railway employees.
- Outlay: ₹2,009.61 crore for about 11.4 lakh nongazetted employees.
- Maximum ₹17,951 per employee for performance in 2025–26.
- Financial outlay: ₹2,009.61 crore, benefiting 11,40,770 Railway employees.

15. ★ Cabinet Approves Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM-VGSY)

- The 16th Finance Commission recommended about ₹4.35 lakh crore in grants to Rural Local Bodies for 2026-31.
- Panchayati Raj institutions derive from the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.
- Approved on 28 October 2026 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for FY 2026-27 to 2030-31, aligned with the 16th Finance Commission period.

16. ★ Cabinet Approves ₹10,000 Crore Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS)

- OPEX support: ₹8,891 crore – ₹49,500 per 20-ft and ₹86,625 per 40-ft container.
- Interest subvention: ₹859 crore (3% per annum on term loans); testing & certification: ₹150 crore.
- Target: raise India's annual container manufacturing capacity about tenfold, from about 70,000 TEU to 7.5 lakh TEU (7,50,000 TEU).

17. ★ The Union Cabinet Extends National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) for 2026-27 to 2030-31 with a total outlay of ₹53,428 crore.

- The programme has been renamed the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana
- Renamed sub-schemes:
  - Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) → Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana.

18. ★ Union Cabinet Decisions of 4 November 2026

- VGF for Energy Storage: ₹14,500 crore Viability Gap Funding for 92 GWh (Gigawatt-hour) of grid-scale energy storage (FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31)
- Critical Mineral Processing: ₹2,814 crore Capital Expenditure (CapEx) Support Scheme for domestic processing of critical minerals (lithium and nickel).

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19. Union Cabinet Approves ₹30,000 Crore Expansion of NIIF

- The Union Cabinet approved an additional allocation of ₹30,000 crore for the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF).

20. Delhi Cabinet Approves 'Delhi Lakshmi Yojana' for EWS Women

- Financial Support: monthly financial assistance of ₹2,500 directly to eligible EWS (Economically Weaker Section) women.

21. 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.

22. Union Cabinet Approves ₹10,000 Crore SME Growth Fund (SGF)

- Union Cabinet approved the ₹10,000 crore SME Growth Fund (SGF).
- Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) minimum investment: ₹1 crore.

23. Union Cabinet Approves Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITLA)

- Approved on 6 October 2026 (briefed by Ashwini Vaishnaw); an apex body complementing the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and the National Logistics Policy 2022.

24. Cabinet Approves Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme

- Approved on 28 October 2026 with an outlay of ₹1,856.67 crore for 2026 to 2033-34, implementing a Union Budget 2026-27 announcement.

25. The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, headed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approved the PRAGATI Park

- PRAGATI = Platform for Robotics and AI Growth Through Technology and Innovation.

2. Parliament, Acts, Bills & Judiciary

1. ★ Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G Act) Launches

- The Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G Act) officially replaced the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on July 1, 2026.

2. ★ Key Bills Passed in Parliament — August 2026

- Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Bill: repeals the ISI Act, 1959, converting ISI from a registered society into a statutory body corporate.
- Kerala Name Change Bill: renames the state "Keralam", enacted under Article 3 of the Constitution.
- Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026: replaces the 135-year-old Bankers' Books Evidence Act of 1891.

3. ★ 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.

4. ★ VB-G RAM G Act, 2025: 375 Permissible Works Notified

- Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Act, 2025: Notified on May 11, 2026, effective/in force nationwide from July 1, 2026.
- Replaces/replaced the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.
- Guaranteed work raised from 100 to 125 days of wage employment a year.

5. ★ New Governors Appointed / Sworn In (October 2026)

- Karnataka: Dr. Sudha Yadav – appointed on 12 October 2026 by President Droupadi Murmu, succeeding Thaawarchand Gehlot
- Kerala (Keralam): Om Prakash Mathur – transferred from Sikkim; sworn in as the 29th Governor on 23 October 2026 (oath by Kerala High Court Chief Justice Soumen Sen).
- Sikkim: Dushyant (Kumar) Gautam.

6. VB-G RAM G Act Replaces MGNREGA

- The VB-G RAM G Act (Viksit Bharat– Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin) officially replaced MGNREGA on July 1, 2026; MGNREGA was launched under a 2005 Act.

7. Judiciary, Governance & Regulation

- Supreme Court judges' strength raised from 33 to 37 (excluding the CJI).

8. Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Bill Passed in Lok Sabha

- The Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) was founded on 17 December 1931 by Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (PC Mahalanobis).

9. PMFME (Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises) Scheme

- Led by Minister Chirag Paswan (Member of Parliament from Hajipur, Bihar); scheme outlay of ₹10,000 crore.

10. Parliamentary Standing Committees Reconstituted for 2026-27

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla (2nd term; MP from Kota, Rajasthan) reconstituted the committees effective 26 September 2026

11. Telangana Constitutes Senior Citizens Commission

- Retired Telangana High Court judge Justice E. Tirumala Devi appointed the first Chief Commissioner for 3 years or until the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

12. State Decisions

- Tamil Nadu: 5-year upper age relaxation for TNPSC exams; stock limits on rice, paddy and pulses (Centre allowed AP, Karnataka, Kerala.
- J&K: "Tree Aadhaar" Mission for Chinar trees.

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3. Agriculture, Rural Development & Fisheries

1. ★ PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) Completes 11 Years

- Approved and launched July 1, 2015, under PM Modi's chairmanship, originally for 5 years with ₹50,000 crore outlay (actual budget operations from 2016–17)
- Focus: water conservation ("Jal Sanchay"), rainwater harvesting, irrigation.
- PMKSY was launched on 1 July 2015.
- Budget outlay: ₹9,368.56 crore for FY26 and ₹6,587 crore allocated for FY27.

2. ★ Kisan Sarathi Digital Platform for Farmers

- Delivers vital, real-time updates on agricultural schemes, crop issues and market/mandi prices, including the Minimum Support Price (MSP), in 13 different languages.
- Background: MSP established in 1965, operates under the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), Ministry of Agriculture.

3. ★ Himachal Pradesh Launches Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana

- Purpose: Provide financial assistance and social security to reservoir fishermen during the annual fishing ban period.
- Eligible beneficiaries receive ₹3,500 annually via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- Introduced a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for reservoir fish, fixed at ₹100 per kg.
- Provides ₹3,500 per year to fishermen.

4. ★ Mission for Cotton Productivity

- Approved 5 May 2026; outlay ₹5,659.22 crore (FY 2026-27 to 2030-31); 140 districts in 14 states; target 498 lakh bales (170 kg each) by 2031.
- Basic customs duty and AIDC exemption on raw cotton imports extended up to 31 December 2026.
- 5F Vision: Farm → Fibre → Factory → Fashion → Foreign; brand: Kasturi Cotton Bharat.
- Outlay: ₹5,659.22 crore (Rs. 5659 crore).

5. ★ Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) Completes 10 Years

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched on February 18, 2016 and has completed 10 years.
- It is the Central Government's main scheme to protect farmers against nonpreventable natural risks:
  - Droughts, floods, cyclones, hailstorms
  - Pest attacks and post-harvest losses
- Since inception:
- Farmer premium contributions:
  - Kharif crops: 2%

6. ★ 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).

7. ★ Digital Kisan Credit Card (KCC): Uttar Pradesh Ranks First

- KCC Scheme was introduced in 1998 on the recommendation of the R.V. Gupta Committee.
- Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) loan limit raised from ₹3 lakh to ₹5 lakh (announced in Union Budget 2025–26).
- Collateral-free limit raised from ₹1.6 lakh to ₹2 lakh.
  - Rank 2: Karnataka (about 95,000 applications).

8. ★ PM-KISAN: 24th Instalment of ₹18,680 Crore Released from Banaskantha, Gujarat

- Launched on 24 February 2019 at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Provides eligible landholding farmer families ₹6,000 per year in three equal instalments of ₹2,000 through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

9. Rural Development & Livelihood Schemes

- Rural Internal Audit Portal (launched by Shivraj Singh Chouhan): unified digital platform for end-to-end internal audits (risk-based and compliance) of rural development programs; developed by the Office of the Chief Controller of Accounts (MoRD) with the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

10. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) 2.0 — Complete Parameters PMAY-Gramin (PMAY-G) Financial assistance: ₹1.20 lakh (plain areas) and ₹1.30 lakh (hilly, difficult or Himalayan regions).

- Minimum carpet area: 25 square meters.

11. 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)

12. 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.

13. 11 crore Farmer IDs were generated under AgriStack (reported 24 October 2026), 5 months ahead of the 31 March 2027 target.

- Digital Agriculture Mission: approved on 2 September 2024; outlay ₹2,817 crore; components – AgriStack (farmer registry, crop sown survey).

14. The Centre constituted a committee under Prof. Ramesh Chand (former Member, NITI Aayog) on 14 October 2026, following demands of sugarcane farmers from Karnataka and Maharashtra

- Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for 2026-27: ₹365 per quintal.

15. UDAN Completes 10 Years; Modified UDAN Scheme for Next Decade

- The regional connectivity scheme UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation completed 10 years on 21 October 2026 (launched 21 October 2016

16. Organic Milestones

- Soreng (Sikkim): India's first Organic Fisheries Cluster under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), launched 6 January 2025.

4. Health, Education & Social Welfare

1. ★ PM SETU Scheme

- PM SETU = Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs — centrally sponsored vocational education scheme
- Funding structure: Centre — ₹30,000 crore; States — ₹20,000 crore; industry — ₹10,000 crore (another entry lists ₹60 crore Centre, ₹300 crore States.

2. ★ Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram Launched

- Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda launched the Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram under the motto "Pehle teen saal संपूर्ण दे खभाल" (comprehensive care during the first three years).
- The initiative is a continuation of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) child health program, guaranteeing continuous tracking from birth to 18 years.

3. ★ Adi Karmyogi Abhiyan — Decentralised Tribal Leadership

- The Adi Karmyogi Yojana is a national movement designed to promote decentralised tribal leadership and governance across India.
- Launch Date: officially launched on 17 September 2025 at Dhar, Madhya Pradesh.
- Nodal Authority: Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Key numbers: 1 lakh villages | 30 States & UTs | 20 lakh Adi Karmyogis.

4. ★ 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 gives health cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year.
- Budget 2026–27 allocation: ₹9,500 crore.
- ABDM achievements (as of 1 September 2026):

5. State Schemes & Initiatives

- Odisha "Gyanodaya – Shiksharu Samruddhi": KG-to-PG free education scheme for students in government and government-aided institutions from 2026–27

6. Health & Digital Missions

- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM): launched 2021 for a citizen-centric digital health ecosystem; over 104 crore health records linked

7. Child & Family Health Programs

- Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram: guarantees continuous health tracking and clinical care from birth–36 months to 0–18 years

8. Karnataka Approves "Sandhya Kiran" Cashless Health Scheme for Pensioners

- Benefit: cashless treatment / healthcare cover of up to ₹5 lakh per eligible family per year on a floater basis.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. Health Ministry Launches "JOSH Teams" (Joint Squad for Health) under TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan

- Launched by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 8 October 2026, with Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of State (MoS) for Defence Sanjay Seth.

12. e-Sanjeevani Crosses 50 Crore Teleconsultations

- e-Sanjeevani, the national telemedicine service of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, crossed 50 crore teleconsultations (6 October 2026)

13. Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme Completes Two Years

- Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 29 October 2024 as an expansion of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

14. Khet Bachao Abhiyaan (Rabi 2026) Launched from Karnal, Haryana

- Focus: soil health, natural/organic farming and sustainable use of resources.
- World Cotton Day: 7 October.

15. Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) for Senior Citizens

- AVYAY is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Minister: Dr. Virendra Kumar) for senior citizens.

16. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)

- Launched 9 May 2015, Kolkata; savings bank/post office account holders aged 18–70; premium ₹20 per year (auto-debit); cover June 1 – May 31.

5. Infrastructure, Energy, Industry & Environment

1. ★ Corporate Mitra Scheme Launched for MSME Support

- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) partnered with IIT Madras, IIT Pravartak, Swayam Plus, ICAI, ICSI, and ICMAI to launch the Corporate Mitra Scheme.
- The initiative will train "Corporate Mitras" to assist Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with regulatory compliance, taxation, and financial governance.

2. ★ Digital India Program (DIP) Completes 11 Years

- The Digital India Program (DIP) completed 11 years of operation on July 1, 2026, since its launch in 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Administered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the program operates on a 9-Pillars Vision including Broadband Highways.

3. ★ India's First Off-Shore Airport Planned in Palghar, Maharashtra

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis directed officials to draft a Detailed Project Report (DPR) to build India's first off-shore airport.
- The airport is planned to be constructed near Kori beach in the Palghar district.

4. ★ 75 Redeveloped Railway Stations Inaugurated Under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS)

- The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) was launched in 2022 by the Ministry of Railways, targeting the modernisation of 1,338 to 1,340 railway stations nationwide.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 75 redeveloped railway stations across 20 States/Union Territories (UTs).
- Completed at a cost of ₹1,570 crore.

5. ★ AMRUT 2.0 and the Urban Challenge Fund (UCF)

- AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) was launched in June 2015 (25 June 2015) as India's first focused national water mission.
- AMRUT 2.0 is administered by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) for the period FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31.
- Mission period: FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 — a 5-year mission.

6. ★ GOBARdhan – National Circular Bioenergy Scheme

- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- Total outlay: ₹23,731 crore through FY36.
- Focus: turning cattle dung, crop residue, press mud and organic waste into Compressed Biogas (CBG).
- City Gas Distribution (CGD) blending mandates:
  - 3% in the current fiscal year
  - 4% next year
  - 5% the year after
- Price floor: ₹2,110 per MMBtu for 10 years.

7. ★ "Bio Nivesh" Launched under BioE3 Policy; ₹1 Lakh Crore RDI Fund

- Dr. Jitendra Singh launched "Bio Nivesh" under the BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment).
- It connects biotech and deep-tech startups with private investors.
- The initial cohort pairs 20 startups with 50 investors.
- Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund:
  - ₹1 lakh crore corpus over 6 years

8. ★ Finance Ministry Constitutes High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat; Chairman: Suresh N. Patel

- The Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services – DFS) constituted a High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat under the Chairmanship of Suresh N.

9. Infrastructure, Industry & PSU Affairs

- India's first off-shore airport (built on reclaimed land or an artificial island in the sea) is planned near Kori beach, Palghar district, Maharashtra

10. Container Manufacturing Assistance Scheme (CMAS) with ₹10,000 Crore Outlay

- Announced during the 2026-27 Union Budget, allocating a financial outlay of ₹10,000 crore over the next 5 years.

11. Maruti Suzuki's First Green Hydrogen Plant; India's First Hydrogen Train; India's First LNGPowered Train

- Maruti Suzuki India commissioned its first green hydrogen plant at Manesar, Haryana.

12. Port Sector Updates

- Mumbai Port Authority declared Jawahar Dweep India's first plastic-free oil terminal.

13. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the upgraded Agri Welfare Portal – a single window for PM-KISAN, AgriStack and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), connecting FPOs, PACS, scientists and startups; Krishi Vigyan Kendras will run the training campaign.

- PMFBY farmer premium: 2% (Kharif), 1.5% (Rabi), 5% (commercial/horticultural crops).

14. Cochin International Airport Becomes First to Use Digi Yatra for International Passengers

- The first passenger flew to the Maldives on an IndiGo flight.

6. Other Central Schemes & Initiatives

1. ★ PM SVANidhi Scheme — 6 Years; Extended to 2030; Street Food Hubs

- PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) launched June 1, 2020, for microworking-capital loans to street vendors postpandemic; completed 6 years on June 1, 2026
- Milestones: over 1.12 crore loans approved, worth ₹17,800 crore; overseen jointly by MoHUA and the Department of Financial Services.

2. ★ Chumur Developed as India's First "Model Border Village"

- Under the Vibrant Village Program administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the village of Chumur in Ladakh was developed as India's very first "Model Border Village".
- The project was officially inaugurated on June 3, 2026, by the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Vinai Kumar Saxena.

3. ★ Assam CM Launches First AI Phygital Bank Branch and "AssamSat" Initiative

- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated India's first AI-powered phygital banking branch in Guwahati.
- Assam also announced plans to develop India's first state-owned satellite, named AssamSat.

4. ★ National Statistics Day 2026 Celebrates P.C. Mahalanobis's 133rd Birth Anniversary

- National Statistics Day was observed on June 29, marking the 20th edition and 133rd birth anniversary of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (P.C.
- The theme designated for 2026 is "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data".

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5. ★ PARIVARTAN Scheme Launched to Cut NCR Transport Air Pollution

- Full Form: Program for Accelerated Renewable and Incentivisation of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions (PARIVARTAN) — also referred to as Program for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivisation of Vehicle Assets.
- Coverage: National Capital Region (NCR) states — Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan.

6. ★ Andhra Pradesh Launches 'Pillale Sampada' (Child Wealth) Scheme

- Launched on World Population Day (July 11).
- Launched by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.
- Incentives: ₹30,000 for the birth of a 3rd child and ₹40,000 for a 4th child.
- Launched by CM N. Chandrababu Naidu under the slogan "Children are Wealth."

7. ★ India's Total Exports Touch Record High of $863.1 Billion in FY26

- Merchandise Exports — $441.8 Billion; Service Exports — $421.3 Billion.
- Top regional export destination: ASEAN ($38.42 billion).
- Top individual destination country: United Arab Emirates (UAE), followed by the United Kingdom and Singapore.

8. ★ Government Extends PM-eDrive Scheme Incentives Until 31 March 2028

- PM-eDrive stands for Prime Minister Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement.
- The overall scheme was initially launched on 29 September 2024, for a duration of two years.
- Launched 29 September 2024; revised implementation period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2028.
- PM E-DRIVE operates on a total budget of Rs. 10,900 crore.

9. ★ PM-VBRY Completes One Year; 72 Lakh First-Time Employees Enrolled

- Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY) was launched on 1 August 2025 (initially launched in August 2025).
- Outlay: ₹99,446 crore.
- Outlay: ₹99,446 crore; implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- 72 lakh first-time employees enrolled.
- Two-Part Incentive Model:
- Aims to create over 3.5 crore jobs in two years.

10. ★ PM Vidyalaxmi Scheme — Collateral-Free Education Loans

- Applicable for degree and diploma courses.
- Repayment period: up to 15 years.
- Interest Subvention: Families with annual income of less than ₹8 lakh are eligible for a 3% interest subvention on education loans up to ₹10 lakh.
- Total budget allocated: ₹3,600 crore, spanning 2024–2025 to 2031.

11. ★ Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan Launched by PM Modi

- PM Narendra Modi launched this nationwide campaign via video conference, connecting with over 1 crore youth across 28,000 locations.
- The initiative was launched from Kashi (Varanasi) and is supported by 125 spiritual organizations and various NGOs under the Kashi Declaration.

12. ★ Mission Samriddh Gaon Launched for Rural Transformation

- Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister for Rural Development and Agriculture, launched "Mission Samriddh Gaon".
- It was launched from Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The pilot covers two blocks in Madhya Pradesh:
  - Budhni block (Sehore district)
  - Khategaon block (Dewas district)

13. ★ Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Completes 7 Years

- The mission was launched on August 15, 2019.
- Implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Core Aim: to provide clean drinking water to every rural household, targeting 55 litres of water per person per day (LPCD) via a tap connection.
- Launched 15 August 2019; implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti; target 55 litres per capita per day (LPCD).

14. ★ Standing Committee on Finance Recommends MDR on P2M Transactions Above ₹2,000

- Committee headed by B. Mahtab; card POS MDR applies above ₹5,000.
- Govt allocated ₹2,000 crore (FY27) for zero-MDR compensation; total cost ₹3,000 crore.
- Split: 40% issuing bank, 40% PSP, 20% network provider.

15. ★ e-Shram Portal Completes 5 Years

- The portal was launched on 26 August 2021 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- It is India's first Aadhaar-seeded national database for unorganised workers.
- It has registered over 31.89 crore workers.
- It is a multi-lingual platform in 22 languages.
- Each registrant gets a 12-digit Universal Account Number (UAN).
- It is linked with 15 social security schemes.

16. ★ Government Notifies "Semicon 2.0" Mission with ₹1,27,500 Crore Outlay

- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) notified the "Semicon 2.0" Mission.
- It took effect on August 31, 2026.
- It was notified under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) and MeitY.
- Total outlay: ₹1,27,500 crore.
- It covers 6 strategic pillars and 10 categories.

17. ★ Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0 (ECLGS 5.0)

- Target additional credit: ₹2.55 lakh crore, including ₹5,000 crore for airlines.
- Guarantee coverage:

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  - 100% for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
  - 90% for non-MSMEs and airlines
- MSMEs and non-MSMEs get 20% of their peak Q4 FY26 working capital.
  - Capped at ₹100 crore
  - For 5 years, with a 1-year moratorium
- Guarantee cover:
- MSMEs and non-MSMEs:

18. ★ Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABHY) Completed

- Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABHY) was launched on December 25, 2019.
- Total outlay: ₹6,000 crore.
- It covered 7 states, 80 districts and 229 blocks.
- States (GHKMMRU): Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- Amrit Sarovar: 75 rejuvenated water bodies per district.

19. ★ 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.
- Period: 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031 (five years), co-terminus with the 16th Finance Commission cycle.
- Nyaya Sahayaks: community-based legal facilitators deployed across aspirational blocks.

20. ★ 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.

21. ★ Project Cheetah Completes Four Years

- Launched on 17 September 2022 at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh; cheetah declared extinct in India in 1952.
- 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).
- International Cheetah Day: 4 December.

22. ★ 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.

23. ★ National Coastal Mission 2.0 (NCM 2.0)

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the implementation guidelines of NCM 2.0 in New Delhi on September 30, 2026.
- Outlay: ₹767 crore; Period: FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31; a Central Sector Scheme.
- Coverage: 9 coastal states and 4 Union Territories (Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Puducherry, Lakshadweep).

24. ★ PM-SETU Completes One Year; ₹440 Crore Shareholders' Agreement Signed

- PM-SETU – Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) – was launched on 4 October 2025
- Outlay: ₹60,000 crore over 5 years to upgrade 1,000 Government ITIs and 5 National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs).

25. ★ Census 2027: Rules Amended to Widen Pool of Enumerators

- The last Census was held in 2011; the 2021 Census was postponed due to COVID-19.
- Phase 1 – House Listing and Housing Census: 1 April – 30 September 2026 (31 questions; 30-day window per State).
- Phase 2 – Population Enumeration: 40-question schedule.
  - Main enumeration: 9–28 February 2027; reference date 00:00 hrs, 1 March 2027.

26. ★ 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).

27. ★ WJP Rule of Law Index 2026: India Ranked 88th of 143

- India: 88th out of 143, overall score 0.48 — down 2 places from 86th in 2025; 3rd in South Asia (after Nepal and Sri Lanka).
- Top 5: 1st Denmark (score 0.90), 2nd Norway, 3rd Finland, 4th Sweden, 5th Luxembourg.
- Bottom: 143. Venezuela; 142. Afghanistan; 141. Haiti; 140. Cambodia; 139. Nicaragua.

28. ★ India's Ranks in Major Global Indices (Latest Editions)

- World Youth Skills Index (Shanghai): 10th.
- QS World Future Skills Index 2027 (QS Quacquarelli Symonds, June 2026): 13th of 89 economies.
- Global Terrorism Index 2026 (Institute for Economics & Peace – IEP, March 2026): 13th (Pakistan 1st, most affected).
- WJP Rule of Law Index 2026 (World Justice Project, October 2026): 88th of 143.

29. ★ Swachh Survekshan 2025–26 (10th Edition): Navi Mumbai Cleanest City

- Presented by President Droupadi Murmu on 11 November 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi;

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organised by MoHUA (Minister: Manohar Lal); 4,751 cities assessed.
- Theme: 'Swachhata Ki Nayi Pehel – Badhayein Haath, Karein Safai Saath'.
- Million-plus cities: 1. Greater Visakhapatnam (GVMC), 2. Jabalpur, 3. Lucknow.

30. ★ Agnipath Reforms: Optional 2-Year 'Second Tour of Duty' for Agniveers
- Agnipath Scheme launched on 14 June 2022 for youth aged 17.5–21 years into the Army, Navy and Air Force (Defence Minister: Rajnath Singh).
- Original framework: 4 years of service; 25% absorbed into regular service; 75% exited with the Seva Nidhi package.

31. ★ Census 2027: Population Enumeration Schedule Notified
- Population enumeration: 25 January to 28 February 2027.
- Reference date: 00:00 hours, 1 March 2027.
- Self-enumeration window: 10–24 January 2027; revisional round: 1–5 March 2027.

32. Social Security & Insurance Schemes
- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY): ₹2 Lakh death cover, age 18–50 years, premium ₹436 per year.

33. Nagaland Launches "Chief Minister's Yarn Bank Scheme" on National Handloom Day
- Launched by Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio on National Handloom Day (7 August) to support the state's handloom sector and weavers.

34. ESIC Extends Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana till June 2027
- ESIC (Employees' State Insurance Corporation) extended the scheme.
- The scheme was first launched on a pilot basis starting 1 July 2018.

35. Chhattisgarh Becomes First State to Implement "DVEEPTI" Yojana — WomenLed Renewable Energy Policy
- DVEEPTI stands for Decentralized Women Empowerment on Energy and Policy for Transformative Inclusion.

36. National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) — Record Honey Production
- Annual honey production rose from 80,530 metric tonnes (MT) in FY 2014–15 to 1,51,690 MT in FY 2025–26.

37. UMANG, DigiLocker, Jan Dhan and Aadhaar Milestones
- The Unified Mobile Application for New Age Governance (UMANG) was launched in 2017 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

38. DILRMP 3.0 Guidelines Launched
- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) 3.0 guidelines.

39. 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.

40. 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.

41. 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%.

42. 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).

43. 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.

44. Pragati 50 under Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban 2.0
- Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal launched Pragati 50 on September 29, 2026 under Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0).

45. Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY): ₹15,000 for First-Time Employees
- Implemented by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for jobs created between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2027.

46. The Ministry of Labour & Employment extended the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) New Amnesty Scheme 2025 by 3 months, up to 31 December 2026

47. PM Vishwakarma Scheme
- Launched 17 September 2023; outlay ₹13,000 crore; 18 trades; toolkit incentive ₹15,000; training stipend ₹500/day

7. States & National Affairs

1. ★ Uttarakhand Declared India's 6th Fully Literate State under ULLAS
- Under the guidelines of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) Program.
- ULLAS is a central initiative (2022–2027) targeting basic literacy and numeracy for citizens aged 15 and above, aiming to reach 5 crore learners.

2. ★ Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Madhya Pradesh Government Sign Telecom Manufacturing Zone MoU
- The MoU: Signed between the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Madhya Pradesh Government to establish Phase 1 of India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone in Gwalior.

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- India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone will come up in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- To come up in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

3. ★ Ladakh Launches India's First High-Altitude Snow Leopard Wildlife Safari

- Lieutenant Governor (LG) Vinai Kumar Saxena flagged off the safari at Choglamsar, Leh, on 7 October 2026.
- Ladakh has 477 of India's estimated 718 snow leopards.
- Scope: This guided high-altitude wildlife safari covers Hemis National Park (world-famous for snow leopards), Changtang, Karakoram and other high-altitude regions.

4. ★ Census 2027

- Census 2027 will be India's 16th Census.
- Budget: ₹11,718 crore.
- Executing Authority: Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.
- The Central Government officially notified 40 questions for the Census 2027 population enumeration phase.
- Caste enumeration is being conducted for the first time since 1931.

5. ★ Karnataka Bans "Analog Paneer"; Becomes 6th State to Do So

- The other five states that previously banned it: Chhattisgarh (1st), Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh (5th).
- Telangana banned analog paneer.
- States that banned it earlier: Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttarakhand.

6. ★ 80th Independence Day of India Celebrated at Red Fort — PM Modi's 13th Consecutive Address

- The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was originally launched in 2022 to mark the 75th Independence anniversary and was continued in 2026.
- Jawaharlal Nehru holds the record for hoisting the national flag 17 times.
- PM Modi delivered a 75-minute-long speech, his shortest address in the last four years.

7. ★ 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.
- 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.

8. ★ 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.

9. ★ Madhya Pradesh: Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve Becomes India's 3rd Cheetah Habitat

- MP Chief Minister Mohan Yadav released two cheetahs, Vyom and Neera (from Kuno), into Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve (spread over Sagar.
- Other cheetah sites: Kuno National Park (Sheopur) and Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (Mandsaur) – all three in Madhya Pradesh.

10. Education Affairs

- Academic Bank of Credit (ABC): launched in 2021 under the National Education Policy (NEP); APAAR ID (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) functions as an "Aadhaar for Education" containing complete academic records, entrance scores, certificates and scholarships.

11. State News & Actions

- Odisha "Go East" initiative: CM Mohan Charan Majhi launched Go East (Government of Odisha Eastern Investment Accelerator & Special Task Force) to attract industrial investment.

12. Coal Ministry Releases Mine Closure Report

- Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy released "AAROH: Annual Report on Mine Closure".
- 42 mines scientifically closed.

13. Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) was founded on 25 January 1950.
- The day has been celebrated as National Voters' Day since 2011.

14. West Bengal to Reserve 20% of Posts for Retired Agniveers

- 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.

15. Saitual Becomes Mizoram's First "Surakshit" District

- Saitual district became the first district in Mizoram to attain "Surakshit" status.

16. 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).

17. Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) Marks 15th Foundation Day

- SECI marked its 15th Foundation Day on 20 September 2026.

18. NCRTC Presents Namo Bharat at InnoTrans 2026, Berlin

- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) presented Namo Bharat, India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), at InnoTrans 2026 in Berlin, Germany.

19. 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.

20. 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.

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21. 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

22. 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.

23. Mizoram Aims to Be First State to Complete Census 2027

- The Centre has allocated ₹19.19 crore for its second phase (population enumeration).

24. National SARAS Aajeevika Mela 2026 at Vijayawada (13–31 October 2026)

- Held at Punnami Ghat, Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh) – the first time outside Delhi-NCR.
- Inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu.

25. Madhya Pradesh Reintroduces Wild Buffalo in Kanha Tiger Reserve after Nearly 100 Years

- CM Mohan Yadav released 8 wild buffaloes (6 female, 2 male) brought from Kaziranga National Park, Assam, on 11 October 2026.

26. Tripura Opens First Tea Auction Centre; Ranks 5th in Tea Production

- Tripura is the 5th-largest tea-producing State in India and 2nd in the North-East (after Assam).

27. UNEP(United Nations Environment Programme) Names India's Ganges River Dolphin Recovery Programme a World Restoration Flagship

- Project Dolphin was announced in 2020 under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

28. Amit Shah Launches ₹8,941 Crore Yamuna Rejuvenation Projects in Delhi

- Target: clean Yamuna by May 2029, through coordinated action by the Centre, Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

29. Lakshadweep Declared a Fully (100%) Literate Union Territory under ULLAS initiative

- ULLAS = Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society, also called the New India Literacy Programme (NILP) / Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.

30. Asiatic Lions Return to Barda Wildlife Sanctuary(Gujarat) After 144 Years

- Project Lion launched on 15 August 2020 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

31. State Formation Days Observed on 1 November

- Andhra Pradesh: 70 years since formation on 1 November 1956; the state government under CM N. Chandrababu Naidu does not officially celebrate 1 November as Formation Day

32. National Social Security Boards for Unorganised, Gig and Platform Workers

- Under the Code on Social Security, 2020: Board for Unorganised Workers – 40 members; Board for Gig and Platform Workers – 22 members.

PART H — APPOINTMENTS

1. Heads of State, Government & International Bodies

1. ★ Key International Appointments and Global Developments

- Giles Thomson (UK) appointed President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for 2 years, replacing Elisa de Anda Madrazo
- Satyajit Mohanty appointed India's Representative to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Montreal, for 3 years
- Lebanon became the first Arab country to abolish the death penalty.

2. ★ 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.
- 9th UN Secretary-General: António Guterres (Portugal).
- Second Bangladeshi to head the UNGA, after Humayun Rashid Choudhury.

3. ★ 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.
- King Mohammed VI appointed Fatima Zahra El Mansouri as Morocco's first woman Head of Government (Prime Minister).

4. ★ President Droupadi Murmu Appoints Governors in Six States

- Om Prakash Mathur – moved from Sikkim to Keralam.
- Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar – moved from Keralam to Tamil Nadu.
- New Governors: Dr Sudha Yadav (Karnataka), Braj Mohan Ram (Odisha), Dr Dhal Singh Bisen (Uttarakhand) and Dushyant Gautam (Sikkim).

5. Hakainde Hichilema Re-elected President of Zambia

- Hakainde Hichilema was re-elected as President of Zambia for a second term.

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) DirectorGeneral Qu Dongyu (China).

7. Hansraj Singh Verma Appointed India's Ambassador to Cuba

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

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2. Government, Regulators, Judiciary, Defence & Corporate

1. ★ Corporate Appointments — India

- Willy Walsh appointed new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiGo Airlines.
- Tewolde GebreMariam (former Chief Executive Officer of the Ethiopian Airlines Group) appointed as the new MD & CEO of Air India, replacing Campbell Wilson.
- Ashish Singh appointed as MD & CEO of Manappuram Finance, effective 1 January 2027.

2. ★ Key National Appointments — August 2026

- Rohit Jain appointed Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a 3-year term, succeeding T. Rabi Sankar
- Prasanta Mahapatra appointed Executive Director of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Varsha Ashok Aglave became the first-ever woman Director General (DG) and 54th DG of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), succeeding Asit Saha

3. ★ International Appointments and Elections

- Silvana Tenreyro appointed as the Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- Giles Thomson (from the UK) appointed as President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for a 2-year term, replacing Elisa de Anda Madrazo.
  - FATF was established in 1989, is headquartered in Paris, France, and has 40 member countries.

4. ★ Resignation — Union Education Minister

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigned amidst the controversy.
- Union Minister Pralhad Joshi was assigned additional charge of the Ministry of Education.
- Pralhad Joshi represents the Dharwad constituency, Karnataka, and simultaneously holds three major portfolios:
  - Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
  - New & Renewable Energy
  - Education

5. ★ Key Appointments of the Fortnight

- Anurag Jain — CEO, NITI Aayog (2-year tenure); Jwara Maniya (Arunachal Pradesh) — first female NE member of NITI Aayog.
- Shabnam Sinha — Chairperson, Airtel Payments Bank; Ashish Singh — MD & CEO, Manappuram Finance (from 1 Jan 2027).
- Priya Nair — first female CEO of Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL); Sundeep Sikka reappointed AMFI Chairman; Peyman Kargar — CEO, TVS Motor.

6. ★ Captain Shivani Sehrawat Becomes First Female ADC to the Chief of Army Staff

- Captain Shivani Sehrawat became the first female Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the Chief of Army Staff.
- She is the 5th female ADC overall in the country.
- Lt Ganeve Lalji (2013) — first woman ADC to an Army Commander (Central Army Commander Lt Gen Rajan Bakshi).

7. ★ Sundeep Sikka Reappointed as AMFI Chairman

- Sundeep Sikka was reappointed as Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).
- AMFI acts as the apex industry representative body for all SEBI-registered Asset Management Companies (AMCs) in India.
- Vishal Kapoor is the Vice Chairman.

8. ★ Apple Leadership Change: John Ternus Named CEO; Tim Cook Becomes Executive Chairman

- Tim Cook moved from CEO to Executive Chairman of Apple Inc.
- John Ternus, formerly Senior VP of Hardware Engineering, was named the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Apple Inc.
- Tim Cook became Executive Chairman.

9. ★ Tavengwa Mukuhlani Appointed Deputy Chairperson of the International Cricket Council (ICC)

- Tavengwa Mukuhlani, 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.
- BCCI President: Mithun Manhas (succeeded Roger Binny).

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.
- 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.
- Nila (Neela) Vikhe Patil, of Indian origin, was elected to Sweden's Parliament (Riksdag) from Stockholm City for the Green Party.

12. ★ Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Appointed 29th Chief of the Air Staff

- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit appointed 29th Chief of the Air Staff.
- Will take over on 31 October 2026, succeeding Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Amar Preet Singh, who retires that day.
- Indian Air Force Day: 8 October.

13. ★ Three High Court Chief Justices Sworn In as Supreme Court Judges (6 October 2026)

- Justice Sunita Agarwal – former Chief Justice, Gujarat High Court; the 13th woman judge of the Supreme Court.
- Oath administered by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant.
- Working strength rose from 34 to 37, against a sanctioned strength of 38 (including the CJI).

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- Working strength is now 37 against a sanctioned

14. High-Level Defence, Military & Security Appointments

- 31st Chief of Army Staff (COAS): General Dhiraj (Dheeraj) Seth officially assumed charge, succeeding General Upendra Dwivedi, who retired after 40 years of service.

15. Diplomatic & Civil Services Appointments

- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's term was extended by one year to July 2027.
- Satish Kumar is Chairperson of the Railway Board.

16. Political / Electoral Appointments

- D.K. Shivakumar was sworn in as the 25th Chief Minister of Karnataka; the oath was administered by Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot under Article 164 of the Indian Constitution.

17. Financial and Regulatory Body Appointments

- The Central Government extended the tenure of K. Raja Raman as Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) until October 2028.

18. Varsha Ashok Aglave Becomes First Woman Director General of Geological Survey of India (GSI)

- Varsha Ashok Aglave / Aglawe became the first-ever woman Director General (DG) of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

19. Defence Services Appointments

- Vice Admiral A.N. Pramod assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, succeeding Tarun Sobti.

20. Anurag Jain Takes Charge as CEO of NITI Aayog

- Anurag Jain assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog in August 2026 for a 2-year tenure.

21. VVS Laxman Appointed Head Coach of Indian Men's Cricket Team for Asian Games

- VVS Laxman was appointed Head Coach of the Indian Men's Cricket Team for the Asian Games.

22. Dr. Dinesh Sharma Appointed Lieutenant Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands

- Dr. Dinesh Sharma was appointed Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

23. Sanjay Jaiswal Appointed Chairman of JPC on FCRA Amendment

- Sanjay Jaiswal was appointed Chairman of the 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) Amendment.

24. Saibal Chattopadhyay Appointed Chairman of National Statistical Commission

- Saibal Chattopadhyay was appointed Chairman of the National Statistical Commission.

25. Vinaya Prakash Singh Re-elected APPU Secretary General

- Vinaya Prakash Singh was re-elected Secretary General of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU).

26. New High Court Chief Justices Appointed under Article 217

- New High Court (HC) Chief Justices were appointed under Article 217:

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. 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.

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

- Mandeep K. Bhandari appointed CBSE Chairperson.

33. Prakash Rajpurohit Appointed Deputy Election Commissioner

- Prakash Rajpurohit appointed Deputy Election Commissioner till 8 April 2030, succeeding Sanjay Kumar.

34. L. Murugan Resigns as Union Minister of State

- L. Murugan resigned as Union Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, and as a Rajya Sabha member from Madhya Pradesh.

35. Narendra Bhooshan Appointed Secretary, MoEFCC

- Narendra Bhooshan (IAS, 1992 batch, Uttar Pradesh cadre) appointed Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

36. Jeevan L. Rai Appointed India's Para-Shooting Coach

- Jeevan L. Rai appointed India's para-shooting coach for the Asian Para Games 2026.

37. Smriti Mandhana Named India Women's Cricket Captain

- Smriti Mandhana appointed full-time white-ball (ODI and T20I) captain of the Indian women's cricket team on 6 October 2026.

38. Lavanya R. Mundayur Appointed CMD of New India Assurance

- Lavanya R. Mundayur appointed Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of New India Assurance.

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39. Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Takes Over as 29th Chief of the Air Staff; Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia was named the next Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS)

40. Pragyan Ojha Appointed Chairman of BCCI Senior Men's Selection Committee

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) appointed Pragyan Ojha as Chairman of the senior men's selection committee on 19 October 2026, succeeding Ajit Agarkar

41. Justice M. Satyanarayana Murthy Takes Charge as Chairman, Andhra Pradesh State Human Rights Commission

42. Air Marshal Vikram Gaur has been appointed Additional Secretary in the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), Ministry of Defence.

43. Sunil Kumar Appointed Chairman of ONGC

44. Supreme Court Appoints Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai as Sole Mediator in KG-D6 Gas Disput (Krishna-Godavari Basin, Bay of Bengal)

- parties: Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and partners BP and Niko vs the Union Government (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas).

45. Dr. Sudha Yadav Sworn In as Karnataka's Second Woman Governor

- Took oath as the 20th Governor of Karnataka on 16 October 2026 at Lok Bhavan, Bengaluru; oath administered by Karnataka HC Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru.

46. Hardeep Singh Puri Elected Unopposed to Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh

- By-election to the seat vacated by Dr. L. Murugan; term till 2 April 2030.

47. Jatin Kumar Nayak Takes Charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of IREDA

- Former Executive Director (Finance), REC Limited; IREDA – Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency.

48. Noel Tata Retires from Voltas and Tata Investment Corporation

- Noel N. Tata (Chairman of Tata Trusts) retired on 11 November 2026 under the Tata Group's retirement age policy (70 years) for non-executive directors

49. P.V. (Pusarla Venkata) Sindhu Named Chairperson of Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Athletes' Commission

- Two-time Olympic medallist shuttler.

PART I — ORGANISATIONS, SUMMITS & INTERNATIONAL

1. Summits, Conferences & Meetings

1. ★ Global Dialogue on AI Governance Held in Geneva

- The Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence Governance (2026) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, under the theme "AI for All".
- The United Nations (UN) released its first AI Governance Report, highlighting that 75% of global AI computing capacity resides in the US and 15% is located in China.

2. ★ 36th NATO Summit Hosted in Ankara, Turkey

- The 36th NATO Summit (2026) was hosted in Ankara, Turkey — the second time Turkey has hosted, the first being the 2004 Istanbul Summit.
- NATO profile: established in 1949 under the North Atlantic Treaty (Washington Treaty); HQ — Brussels, Belgium
- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) hosted its 36th Summit in Ankara, Turkey, in 2026.

3. ★ India's BRICS Chairship 2026 — Ministerial Meetings Hosted Across Cities

- India is hosting the BRICS Summit for the 4th time — previously in 2012, 2016, 2021 and now 2026.
- 2026 Theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, and Sustainability".
- 12th Labour & Employment Ministers Meeting — held at Hyderabad, Telangana; adopted a declaration and launched the BRICS Connect platform.

4. ★ 10th India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi (7–10 October)

- Inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi.
- Organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI); theme: “Scale Without Boundaries”
- Union Minister of Communications: Jyotiraditya Scindia – data cost has fallen from ₹268 per GB (2014) to ₹8.
- Theme: "Scale Without Boundaries".

5. ★ India Chairs BRICS 2026 — Jaipur FMCBG and Bhopal Culture Ministers' Meetings

- India holds the BRICS Chairship for 2026 — its fourth, after 2012, 2016 and 2021.
- The first BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) Meeting was held in Jaipur.
- The 18th BRICS Summit will be held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 12–13 September 2026.
- Current BRICS Membership (11 Countries):

6. ★ Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Celebrates 10th Foundation Day

- GeM is a public procurement portal that directly connects buyers and sellers, eliminating middlemen to ensure optimal pricing for agricultural and small-scale sellers.
- A new 5-digit short code helpdesk service — 114550 — was officially launched to assist platform users.
- Cumulative procurement has crossed ₹20 lakh crore.

7. ★ UNCCD COP 17 Held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia — India Launches First "Guide to Grasslands"

- The 17th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- Theme: "Restoring Land, Restoring Hope".
- India launched its first-ever "Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems" at UNCCD COP 17.

8. ★ BRICS 2026 Under India's Chairship & 18th Summit (12–13 Sept, New Delhi)

- Theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"; 11 members; India hosts 4th time

(2012, 2016, 2021) at Bharat Mandapam; Xi Jinping confirmed.
- Meetings: Environment (12th, New Delhi), ICT (7th, Pune), Industry/Trade/Tourism (Jaipur), Education (Bhubaneswar), Energy (Gurugram), Agriculture (Indore).

9. ★ G20 Meetings: India Joins US-Led 6G Alliance; 21st G20 Summit in Miami
- India joined the US-led Global 6G Network Alliance at the G20 Innovation Ministers' Meeting in North Carolina, USA.
- Manohar Lal Khattar represented India at the G20 Energy Ministerial Meeting in the USA.
- The 21st G20 Summit will be held in Miami, Florida, on December 14–15, 2026.
- The African Union joined in 2023.

10. ★ India Hosts 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- The 18th BRICS Summit 2026 was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The 2026 logo combines a Namaste gesture with multicoloured petals.
- This marks India's 4th BRICS presidency. India earlier chaired BRICS in 2012, 2016 and 2021.
- India's four BRICS Summits:
  - 2012: New Delhi
  - 2016: Goa
- Membership: 11 full members and 10 partner countries.

11. ★ UNCCD COP17 Held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; COP18 in Egypt (2028)
- COP President: Batmunkh Battsetseg.
- Theme: "Restoring Land, Restoring Hope".
- UNCCD COP18 will be held in 2028 at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.
- The UN has designated 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

12. ★ First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi Adopts "Delhi Declaration"
- Held on 13 October 2026, chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah; all 7 BIMSTEC members participated.
- BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for MultiSectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- Founded in 1997 (Bangkok Declaration); Secretariat: Dhaka.

13. ★ India–EFTA TEPA Completes One Year; 2nd India–EFTA Prosperity Summit Held in New Delhi
- The India–European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) completed one year on October 1, 2026.
- 2nd India–EFTA Prosperity Summit held in New Delhi (7 October 2026) at Bharat Mandapam, marking one year of TEPA; addressed by PM Narendra Modi.

14. ★ G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Atlanta, USA
- Chaired by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio under the US G20 Presidency; India represented by Union Minister of External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar.
- 21st G20 Leaders' Summit: 14–15 December 2026 at Trump National Doral Miami, Florida. India hosted the 18th G20 Summit (New Delhi, 2023).

15. US Federal Reserve Monetary Policy Task Force
- US Federal Reserve Chairman Kevin Warsh announced a 5-member monetary policy task force to analyze central banking approaches

16. ZSI 3rd Animal Taxonomy Summit in Kolkata
- The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) inaugurated the 3rd three-day Animal Taxonomy Summit in Kolkata, West Bengal (the 4th edition of the National Scientific Summit).

17. 13th BRICS Urbanisation Forum in New Delhi
- India hosted the 13th BRICS Urbanisation Forum in New Delhi.
- Theme: "Cities for the People: BRICS Cooperation for Inclusive Resilient Urban Futures".

18. Global Dialogue on AI Governance 2026 & Global AI Summit 2027
- The Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence Governance (2026) was held 6th–7th July 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland, under the theme "AI for All".

19. 16th India-Japan Annual Summit Held in New Delhi
- Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi completed a 3-day official visit to India for the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit in New Delhi.

20. ISRO–JAXA Finalise Chandrayaan-5 / LUPEX Lunar Mission
- Chandrayaan-5 is also known as the LUPEX (Lunar Polar Exploration) mission.

21. GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit Hosted in New Delhi
- The GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit was hosted in New Delhi on 5 August 2026.

22. 18th BRICS Heads of State Summit — New Delhi, September 12–13, 2026
- This marks the fourth time India is hosting (previously in 2012, 2016 and 2021).

23. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri Chairs Quad Sherpas Meeting
- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri chaired the Quad Sherpas meeting in New Delhi.

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

25. 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.

26. 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.

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27. 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.

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

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

29. 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.

30. 9th India International Water Week (IIWW) 2026

- Held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (22–26 September); inaugurated by VicePresident C.P. Radhakrishnan; organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Minister: C.R. Patil).

31. 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.

32. UN Environmental COPs: UNCCD COP17, UNFCCC COP31 and COP32

- UNCCD COP17 (desertification): held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (August 17–28, 2026).
- COP32 (2027): Ethiopia (Addis Ababa).

33. IMF–World Bank Annual Meetings 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand (12–18 October 2026)

- IMF and World Bank: HQ Washington, D.C.; Thailand – Currency: Baht.

34. PM Modi Chairs Closing Session of National Departmental Summit on Women and Child Development

- Two-day summit (8–9 October 2026) held at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi – the second in the PM's series of "Departmental Summits" to strengthen cooperative federalism.

35. 2nd Meeting of UN Global Initiative on AI for Agri-Food Systems (GI-AI4FS) Held in New Delhi

- Initiative coordinated by the ITU with FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization), IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) and WFP (World Food Programme) – all three headquartered in Rome.

36. 8th Windergy India 2026 in Chennai (7–9 October 2026)

- India ranks 4th globally in installed wind capacity; wind potential 695.5 GW at 120 m and 1,163.9 GW at 150 m.

37. 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Kolkata

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is observed on January 9, marking Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa in 1915; held every two years.

38. Bharatiya Kisan Sangh Holds First All India Women Farmer Workers Conclave

- Bharatiya Kisan Sangh (BKS) held its first-ever All India Women Farmer Workers Conclave on September 30, 2026 at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi.

39. 21st Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) Sets March 2027 Deadline for "One Nation One Port Process"

- Concluded in Mumbai on 13 October 2026; chaired by Union Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.

40. The 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held from 19 to 30 October 2026 in Yerevan, Armenia, along with meetings of the Cartagena Protocol and Nagoya Protocol.

- Slogan: "Taking Action for Nature".

41. World Health Summit 2026 Held in Berlin; Theme: "From Crisis to Resilience: Innovating for Health"

- Fiji declared a national HIV crisis (September 2026); an Ebola (Bundibugyo strain) outbreak in DR Congo spread to Uganda, with South Sudan on preparedness alert.

42. India Hosts 61st International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) Meeting – First Time

- OIML: Established 1955; HQ: Paris.
- World Metrology Day: 20 May.

43. India Hosts 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in New Delhi (26–27 October 2026)

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced (22 October 2026) that India would host the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum on 26–27 October 2026 in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi.

44. 14th India Chem 2026 and BHAVYA Schemes

- India Chem 2026 (14th edition) was held on 22–24 October 2026 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, organised by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and inaugurated by J. P. Nadda; theme: "Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub".

45. 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference Held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

- Theme: "Powering the Global South".
- PM-KUSUM scheme launched in 2019 by MNRE (Ministry of New and Renewable Energy).

46. 49th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits, Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay (Metro Manila) (15–17 November 2026)

- Chaired by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.; Theme: 'Navigating Our Future, Together'.

47. Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Atlanta (31 October 2026)

- Quad: USA, India, Japan, Australia. Quad Leaders' Summit planned for mid-November 2026 in the Philippines, on the sidelines of the ASEAN–East Asia Summits.

48. COP31, Antalya, Türkiye (9–20 November 2026)

- 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); Leaders' Summit on 11–12 November

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49. BIMSTEC Health Meetings, Colombo

- 1st BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting on Health chaired by Dr Anil Jasinghe; India to host BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Traditional Medicine at the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar (announced by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda).

50. BRESE 2026 and 9th ISA Assembly, Bharat Mandapam (2–5 November 2026)

- Inaugurated by PM Modi; included Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo, 9th ISA Assembly and 4th International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH); Theme: "Invest.

2. International Affairs & Foreign Relations

1. ★ UNCTAD World Investment Report — India's FDI Performance

- Inward FDI: India climbed to 11th rank globally (up from 13th in 2024, and from 16th earlier); total inward FDI reached $38.89 billion — a 44% year-on-year increase.
- Outward FDI: India ranked 18th globally, investing $35.66 billion overseas (a 47% surge from $24.26 billion).

2. ★ India Launches UNSC Non-Permanent Seat Campaign (2028-29) — "SHANTI" Vision

- India officially launched its campaign for a nonpermanent UNSC seat for the 2028–29 term (FY29), unveiled by External Affairs Minister Dr. S.
- Campaign vision — "SHANTI": Securing Holistic Advancement through Norms, Trust, and Integrity.
- India has served as a non-permanent UNSC member 8 times, most recently ending in FY22.

3. ★ Greece Bans Social Media for Children under 15

- Australia: world's first ban (under-16s), in force from 10 December 2025.
- Indonesia (first in South-East Asia, 28 March 2026) and Malaysia (1 June 2026) – under-16 bans.
- UAE: first Arab country to approve a ban (under-15s, 18 June 2026); Türkiye passed an under-15 law (April 2026; effective 1 November 2026).
- France banned social media for children under

4. ★ 26th SCO Summit Held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Lahore Named SCO Cultural Capital 2026–27

- The 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- Theme: "25 Years of the SCO: Together for Sustainable Peace, Development, and Prosperity".
- The SCO was established in 2001 and is headquartered in Beijing, China.
- SCO Member States (10):
  - 2023: Iran joined as the 9th member

5. ★ US Removes Syria from "State Sponsors of Terrorism" List

- Syria had been on the list since 29 December 1979 — a period of 47 years.
- Remaining Nations on the list: only Cuba, Iran (added in 1984), and North Korea (added in 1988).
- Syria Profile: capital Damascus; currency the Pound.
- Listed since 29 December 1979 (47 years); remaining: Cuba, Iran (1984), North Korea (1988).

6. ★ 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.

7. ★ Five Countries Seek to Join India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)

- Oman, Egypt, Lebanon, Greece and Cyprus have expressed interest, confirmed on 6 October 2026 by Gérard Mestrallet, French President's Special Envoy for IMEC
- IMEC was announced at the 18th G20 Summit, New Delhi (2023); founding partners: India, USA, Saudi Arabia, UAE, France, Germany, Italy and the European Union.

8. UN's First AI Governance Report

- The first AI Governance Dialogue took place in Geneva; the second edition will be hosted in New York next year.

9. Nirmala Sitharaman's France Visit

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman went on a four-day official visit to France to lead the India-France Economic and Financial Dialogue.

10. EAM S. Jaishankar Attends ASEAN and Quad Meetings in Manila

- External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar attended the ASEAN-India East Asia Summit, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Manila.

11. Maldives Launches Real-Time Cross-Border Money Transfer to India Using UPI

- The Maldives launched a real-time crossborder money transfer service to India using UPI (Unified Payments Interface).

12. Foreign Universities Expand Campuses in India

- The University of New South Wales (UNSW) Sydney officially inaugurated its new campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

13. India Joins 14 Economies in Joint Statement on Excess Capacity and Non-Market Policies

- Signed on 7 October 2026 on the sidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Trade Committee

14. UN Climate Change Conferences: COP30 to COP32

- COP30 (2025): Belém, Brazil.
- COP31 (2026): Antalya, Türkiye (9–20 November 2026; leaders' summit 11–12 November); COP31 President: Murat Kurum (Türkiye)

15. World Bank Group President Ajay Banga announced the Group's first comprehensive Digital Strategy in Seoul, South Korea on 20 October 2026.

- World Bank: Established in 1944 (Bretton Woods Conference); HQ: Washington, D.C.; 189 members

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16. 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.

17. Nepal Becomes First Beneficiary of UN Loss and Damage Fund

- Nepal became the first country to receive support from the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)

18. World Bank Calls India's Water Management a 'Remarkable Success Story'

- Said by Saroj Kumar Jha, Global Director for Water, World Bank Group.

19. Iliana Iotova Becomes Bulgaria's First Woman President

- Bulgaria: Capital Sofia; 21st member of the Eurozone on 1 January 2026. IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva is from Bulgaria.

3. MoUs & Agreements

1. ★ IBCA–ADB Partnership for Big Cat Conservation

- The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) partnered with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to fund conservation across range countries.
- It covers 7 Big Cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma.
- The partnership marks 40 years of India– ADB partnership.
- IBCA was launched in 2023 by PM Modi.
- India has 58 Tiger Reserves.

2. Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 Agreements with States/UTs

- JJM 2.0 agreements were signed with States/UTs.

3. SBI Life–IIT Bombay AI & Cyber Innovation Hub

- SBI Life and IIT Bombay are setting up the "Bharat AI & Cyber Innovation Hub for Insurance".

4. Tata AIG and Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Bancassurance Tie-Up

- Tata AIG and Ujjivan Small Finance Bank signed a Joint Agency Bancassurance Model to market non-life insurance to rural and semiurban customers.

5. Andhra Pradesh–PNB Quantum Finance Hub

- Andhra Pradesh partnered with Punjab National Bank (PNB) to establish India's first bank-led Quantum Finance Hub.

6. Hurun India Women Leader List 2026 Released with Kalyan Jewellers

- The Hurun India Women Leader List 2026 was released in partnership with Kalyan Jewellers.

7. MAHA Water Mission Launched by ANRF and Ministry of Jal Shakti

- Full Name: Mission for Advancement in High Impact Areas (MAHA) Water Mission.
- Launch Date: 1 June 2026.

8. Andhra Pradesh Government and Australia Sign Four MoUs

- The Andhra Pradesh Government and Australia signed four MoUs to strengthen cooperation in clean energy, advanced manufacturing, inclusive education, student mental health.

9. SBI Partners with Bisleri; Targets Net-Zero Emissions by 2055

- State Bank of India (SBI) partnered with Bisleri International under the "Bottles for Change" initiative.

10. Indian Army and FCI Sign 5-Year MoU; "Bharat Rice for Troops" Launched

- Indian Army and Food Corporation of India (FCI) signed a 5-year MoU.
- FCI Chairman: Rabindra Kumar Agarwal.

11. NITI Aayog and TEXMiN Sign Joint Statement of Intent

- TEXMiN: Technology Translation Research Park of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) at IIT (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad, Jharkhand.

4. Loans, Investments & Amounts

1. ★ India and Vietnam Finalize $629 Million BrahMos Missile Deal

- India finalized a landmark $629 million deal to export the BrahMos supersonic missile to Vietnam.
- Vietnam is the second country to purchase the system after the Philippines signed a similar deal in 2022.
- The BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile jointly developed by India and Russia.

2. ★ PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana and Excellence Awards

- Launched by PM Modi on 13 February 2024; nodal: MNRE; outlay ₹75,021 crore; target 1 crore households with up to 300 units of free electricity per month.
- Central Financial Assistance: ₹30,000 for 1 kW, ₹60,000 for 2 kW, maximum ₹78,000 for 3 kW and above.
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) secured 3rd position in loan sanctions under the scheme.

3. ★ Aviva Life Insurance Becomes First 100% Foreign-Owned Life Insurer

- British insurer Aviva PLC is acquiring the remaining 26% stake in Aviva Life Insurance India from Dabur Investment Corporation, achieving 100% ownership.
- Note: FDI limits for the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) remain capped at 20%.

4. ★ SBI Purchases 10% Stake in RDCL from NHB

- State Bank of India (SBI) purchased a 10% equity stake in RMBS Development Company Limited (RDCL) from the National Housing Bank (NHB).
- State Bank of India (SBI) acquired a 10% stake in ARDCL from the National Housing Bank (NHB).

5. ★ Kotak Mahindra Bank Acquires Deutsche Bank's India Retail Business — ₹281.7 Crore

- Kotak Mahindra Bank acquired Deutsche Bank's Indian retail customer portfolio and wealth management operations in a deal valued at ₹281.7 crore.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank: HQ — Mumbai, Maharashtra; MD & CEO — Ashok Vaswani.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank acquired Deutsche Bank's retail and wealth business for ₹281.7 crore.

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6. ★ Emirates NBD Acquires 60% Stake in RBL Bank

- UAE-based Emirates NBD acquired a 60% controlling stake in RBL Bank for $2.75 billion.
- RBL Bank (Ratnakar Bank Limited) was established in 1943, is headquartered in Mumbai, and is led by MD & CEO R. Subramaniakumar.
- FDI limits in Indian banking: 20% for Public Sector Banks; up to 74% for Private Sector Banks.

7. ★ IRDAI Approves ₹4,500 Crore Patanjali-Led Acquisition of Magma General Insurance

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) approved a Patanjali-led consortium to acquire Magma General Insurance for ₹4,500 crore.
- Consortium members: Patanjali Ayurved, SR Foundation, Reeti Foundation and Swati Foundation.
- Deal value: ₹4,500 crore.

8. ★ World Bank Approves ₹4,000 Crore Loan for Haryana's "Jal Sanrakshit" Framework

- The World Bank approved a ₹4,000 crore loan for Haryana's "Jal Sanrakshit" water conservation framework.

9. ★ India–ADB Sign $230 Million Loan for Chennai Water Security Project

- India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a $230 million loan agreement for the Chennai Water Security Project.
- ADB Profile: established in 1966; headquartered in Manila, Philippines.
- Current President: Masato Kanda.
- USD 182.89 million for Karnataka Public Schools; $230 million for Chennai Water Security Project.

10. ★ CCEA Approves Sale of 60.72% Stake in IDBI Bank to Fairfax Financial Holdings

- Post-sale holding: the Government of India will retain 15% and LIC will retain 19%.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the sale of a 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank to a Fairfax entity for ₹52,878 crore.

11. SBI Raises $300 Million via Floating Rate Notes

- State Bank of India (SBI) raised $300 million USD through Senior Unsecured Floating Rate Notes.

12. Delhi Approves ₹8,300 Crore "Clean Air Healthy Delhi" Project

- Approved budget: ₹8,300 crore; greenlit by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.
- Funding sources: World Bank (65%) and Delhi Government (35%).

13. India–New Zealand Bilateral Trade Target

- India and New Zealand set a bilateral trade target in goods and services of ₹35,000 crore (approx. $7 billion USD) by 2030 under a Strategic Roadmap.

14. Four Public Sector Banks Hand Over ₹9,439 Crore in Dividends

- Four Public Sector Banks (PSBs) handed over dividend checks totaling ₹9,439 crore to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman:

15. Dhruva Space Receives ₹60 Crore — First Investment from AVCF

- Hyderabad-based space-tech startup Dhruva Space received ₹60 crore in funding — the firstever investment from the Antariksh Venture Capital Fund (AVCF).

16. Highest Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) Bank Dividends Paid

- State Bank of India (SBI): ₹8,813 crore (paid to the Central Government)
- Bank of Baroda: ₹2,811 crore
- Punjab National Bank (PNB): ₹2,416 crore

17. LIC Hands Over Dividend Cheque of ₹12,207.25 Crore

- LIC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) R. Doraiswamy presented an official dividend cheque to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

18. Shivalik Small Finance Bank Acquires Mani Bhavanam Home Finance

- Shivalik Small Finance Bank acquired Mani Bhavanam Home Finance.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.

19. Gujarat Allocates ₹301 Crore for Commonwealth Games 2030 Preparations

- The Gujarat Government allocated ₹301 crore for Commonwealth Games 2030 hosting preparations in Ahmedabad.

20. ADB Signs First Transaction Advisory Services Mandate in India with Madhya Pradesh

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed its first Transaction Advisory Services (TAS) mandate in India with Madhya Pradesh.

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

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

22. 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.

23. Ministry of Defence Signs ₹661.50 Crore Contract with BrahMos Aerospace

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a ₹661.50 crore contract with BrahMos Aerospace for Naval Fire Control Systems.

24. RDI Fund Announces First Cohort of 19 Fund Managers with ₹7,131 Crore Commitment

- Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund announced its first cohort of 19 fund managers with a ₹7,131 crore commitment.

25. Centre Releases ₹1,281 Crore to 10 States under PM-RKVY

- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced funding of over ₹1,200 crore (₹1,281 crore) for 10 states under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY).

26. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Government of Japan and AM Green Ammonia (India) Pvt Ltd signed a

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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);

27. India approved (16 October 2026) the rollover of the INR 30 billion (₹3,000 crore) currency swap facility for the Maldives under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework 2024–27, to provide foreign exchange liquidity support.

28. India–UAE Bilateral Trade Crosses $100 Billion(₹9.47 lakh crore) since Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

- Targets: $100 billion non-oil trade by 2030 (CEPA goal) and $200 billion total trade by 2032 (set in January 2026).

29. IFC Extends USD 150 Million Social Loan to SBI

- International Finance Corporation (private-sector arm of the World Bank Group) loan to support about 8.64 lakh (864,000) rural women in crop cultivation, animal husbandry.

PART J — REPORTS & RANKINGS

1. India's Position in Global Indices & Reports

1. ★ Sweden Tops Global Passport Index 2026; India Ranks 125th

- In the Global Passport Index 2026 published by Global Citizen Solutions, Sweden topped the index with a composite score of 96.5.
- India ranked 125th globally, with Indian passport holders securing visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 26 countries.

2. ★ India Ranks 94th in UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index 2026

- India secured the 94th position out of 167 countries in the global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index 2026 with a score of 68.3 out of 100.
- Finland topped the global index.
- India ranked 94th out of 167 countries with a score of 68.3 out of 100; Finland secured 1st rank.

3. ★ Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026 — Bengaluru Ranks 15th

- Bengaluru ranked 15th globally and 6th in Asia.
- Global Top 3: Silicon Valley (1st), New York City (2nd), London (3rd).

4. ★ Other Key Global Rankings for India

- QS World Future Skills Index: India ranked 13th globally (Top 3: United States, Australia, United Kingdom).
- Global AI Brain Race Index 2026: India ranked 6th globally (Top 3: United States, China, Singapore).
- Market Distortion Performance Index: India ranked 57th, improving from 82nd (2010).

5. ★ India Ranks 3rd Globally in Organ Transplants; 16th Indian Organ Donation Day Observed

- India recorded 20,138 organ transplants, ranking 3rd globally behind the United States (1st) and China (2nd) — as per NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization).
- "Jug Jug Jiyo Abhiyaan" campaign launched for organ donation awareness.

6. ★ 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.

7. ★ 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.
- 131 women feature on the list.

8. ★ 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.

9. ★ World Bank Raises India's FY 2026–27 GDP Growth Forecast to 7.1% (from 6.6%)

- Released in the World Bank's October 2026 South Asia Economic Update (6 October 2026); FY 2027–28 forecast: 7.2%.
- India grew 7.8% in Q1 (April–June) of FY 2026– 27 (National Statistics Office – NSO data).
- Other FY 2026–27 forecasts for India:
  - Asian Development Bank (ADB): 7.0%
  - RBI: 7.1%

10. ★ 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.

11. ★ Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2026: India Ranked 100th of 122

- Published by Welthungerhilfe, the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) and Helvetas; Theme: "No Security Without Food Security".

- Global score: 18.1 (moderate); 645 million people face hunger.
- Alarming category (8): Burundi, Chad, DR Congo, Madagascar, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen.

12. ★ THE World University Rankings 2027

- Times Higher Education (THE) released the World University Rankings 2027 on September 30, 2026.
- World No. 1: University of Oxford (UK) – 11th consecutive year; MIT (USA) No. 2; Princeton and Stanford tied 3rd.
- Most ranked universities: USA (168), India (143), Türkiye (124).
- Released by Times Higher Education (THE) on 30 September 2026.

13. US News and World Report 2026 (Global Influence Rankings)

- India's rank: 16th — noted for growth driven by digital transformation and economy.

14. Global Hydropower & Energy Storage Report (IHA) — India 5th

- Released by the International Hydropower Association (IHA); China ranks 1st, producing 40% of the world's water-based electricity (also stated as 40% of global hydropower capacity additions in 2025).

15. Global Citizen Solutions' Global Passport Index 2026 (5th Edition)

- India ranked 125th (down from 124th in 2025) with a composite score of ~45.1; Indian passport holders have visa-free/visa-on-arrival access to 26 countries.

16. WIPO World Intangible Investment Report

- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) released the World Intangible Investment Report.
- Top economies: Sweden, United States, France.

17. CGD Report — New Delhi Tops Global List for Schools Near Toxic Sites

- The report was released by the Center for Global Development (CGD).

18. NITI Aayog Report — "Key Sectors to Position India as a Global Manufacturing Hub"

- NITI Aayog released a policy report titled "Key Sectors to Position India as a Global Manufacturing Hub".

19. Coconut Development Board (CDB) Report 2026 — India Ranks No. 1 Globally

- The Coconut Development Board (CDB) is headquartered in Kochi, Kerala, under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

20. Most Livable City Report

- Global Winner: Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Indian Cities: New Delhi scored the highest in India at 120th globally, followed by Mumbai (121st), Chennai (123rd) and Bengaluru (127th).

21. ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Cheetah Index 2026: 110 Cheetahs

- The ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Cheetah Index 2026 identified 110 Cheetahs in India.
- Cheetah hubs:

22. 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.

23. Global Innovation Index (GII) 2026: India Retains 38th Rank

- Published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (HQ Geneva; DG Daren Tang) with Portulans Institute; 139 economies; 7 pillars (5 input, 2 output).

24. WEF Global Gender Gap Report 2026: India 131st of 145

- Top: Iceland (93% – only economy above 90%), Finland, Norway, Namibia (84.5%; highest-ranked Sub-Saharan African economy), United Kingdom.

25. Global Reports

- UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2026 ('Access and Equity: Countdown to 2030'): 273 million children out of school in 2024 (about one in six).

26. HSBC Hurun Global Indians List 2026

- 1. Sundar Pichai (Alphabet) – $4.2 trillion; 2. Satya Nadella (Microsoft) – $2.6 trillion; 3. Sanjay Mehrotra (Micron) – $1.4 trillion; 4. Neal Mohan (YouTube), 5.

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★ PROUD MOMENT FOR NBCC ★

Our Students Join Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB)



Heartiest congratulations to our NBCC students who joined **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB)** on **16 November 2026**. Their success is the result of disciplined preparation, consistent practice and unwavering determination.

Nandyal Banking Coaching Center is proud to have been a part of their journey. We wish them a bright and successful career in banking!

Your success is our mission – the next success story can be yours!

NBCC – Coaching till you get the job

2. Domestic Reports & Rankings

1. ★ RBI Financial Stability Report (FSR) — June Issue

- Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) recorded a credit growth rate of 14.5%.
- Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) fell to 1.8%, marking a 10-year low.
- Total Profit After Tax (PAT) across SCBs reached ₹4.05 lakh crore.
- Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR): 124.2% (against the 100% regulatory minimum); Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR): 122%.

2. ★ Brand Finance India 100 Report 2026 — Tata Group Retains Top Position

- Combined brand value reached $252.8 Billion, up 7%.
- Tata Group retained 1st position for the 18th consecutive year.
- Top 5 Most Valuable Indian Brands: 1. Tata, 2. Infosys, 3. LIC (LIC Group), 4. HDFC Bank (HDFC), 5. Reliance (Reliance Group).
- Top 5 Strongest Brands: Taj Hotels, Zomato, Amul, LIC, Royal Enfield.

3. ★ NITI Aayog Bioeconomy Roadmap Report

- NITI Aayog released the report "Roadmap for Building India as a Leading Bioeconomy Powerhouse by 2035" — a 10-year Bioeconomy Roadmap.
- Targets:
  - Generate 30 million jobs.
  - Reach $691 billion by 2035.
  - Reach $2.6 trillion by 2047.
- India's bioeconomy currently stands at $195 Billion.
- Targets: $691 billion by 2035, $2.6 trillion by 2047, and generation of 30 million jobs.

4. ★ NITI Aayog Releases First Investment Friendliness Index (IFI)

- The Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) evaluates 28 States and 8 Union Territories (UTs) across 84 indicators under 8 pillars:
  - Infrastructure, Business Climate, Resources, Government Policy, Regulatory Ease, Institutional Environment, Financial Health, Environment Resilience
- Large States: 1st Gujarat, 2nd Maharashtra, 3rd Tamil Nadu.

5. ★ RBI Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) Rises to 70 in March 2026

- The Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) was first released in August 2021.
- Published annually in July; operates on a 0–100 scale with no base year.
- FI-Index rose by 4.48% to reach 70.0.
- Index is built on 97 indicators, categorised into three sub-indices:
  - Access — 35% weight
  - Usage — 45% weight
  - Quality — 20% weight

6. ★ Brand Finance Banking 500 Report 2026: HDFC Bank Is Top-Ranked Indian Bank

- HDFC Bank ranked 31st globally, making it the top-ranked Indian bank, with a brand value of about US$ 12.4 billion.
- State Bank of India (SBI):
- State Bank of India (SBI) ranked 56th, with a brand value of US$ 8.1 billion.
  - Ranked the 16th strongest banking brand worldwide, with an AAA+ rating

7. ★ AISHE Report 2023–24: Higher Education Enrolment Reaches 4.50 Crore

- The All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) Report 2023–24 was released by the Ministry of Education.
- Total higher education enrolment: 4.50 crore students.
- Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) (age 18– 23): 30% (Female 31.2%, Male 28.9%).
  - Female: 31.2%
  - Male: 28.9%
- Gender Parity Index (GPI): 1.08.
- Total enrolment: 4.50 crore.

8. FICCI-Deloitte Report — Food Processing Sector to Reach $600 Billion by 2030

- The FICCI-Deloitte Report projects India's food processing sector to reach $600 Billion by 2030.

9. "Her Harvest 2026" Report — Invisible Work of Women in Indian Agriculture

- Publisher: Arya.ag — an agritech and fintech platform headquartered in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

10. NITI Aayog Reports — High-Potential Sectors

- NITI Aayog was established in 2015 to replace the old Planning Commission, whose final 12th Five-Year Plan ran from 2012 to 2017.

11. Lancet Report on India's Healthcare Workforce Density

- India Stats — per 10,000 population:

12. Delhi Tops State Own Revenue Share Index for FY25 (Business Standard India State Fiscal Health Tracker)

- The Own Revenue Share Index measures the revenue a State or Union Territory generates by itself through its own tax collection and non-tax sources.

13. FATF Report on Professional Money Laundering and Hawala

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), headquartered in Paris, issued a global risk assessment.

14. NSO Releases ASUSE 2025 District-Level Report

- The National Statistical Office (NSO) released the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) 2025 district-level report on unincorporated enterprises.

15. Karnataka Leads in ChipIN-Supported Semiconductor Chip Tape-Outs

- Karnataka led in ChipIN-supported semiconductor chip tape-outs, with 73 tape-outs.
- Tamil Nadu was #2 and Telangana was #3.

16. 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.

17. Parliamentary Standing Committee Presents 382nd Report on "Reforms and Strengthening of the National Testing Agency (NTA)"

- Presented to the Rajya Sabha Chairman on 9 October 2026; Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports chaired by Mukul Wasnik.

18. UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2026 Projects India's Growth at 7.3% in 2026

- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD): established 1964; HQ Geneva.

19. Fitch Solutions' BMI Raises India's FY27 GDP Growth Forecast to 7.5%

- Fitch Solutions' BMI raised India's FY27 forecast to 7.5% (from 6.8%) and cut its FY28 forecast to 6.3% (from 6.5%) on 13 October 2026.

20. WWF Living Planet Report 2026: Monitored Wildlife Populations Declined 73.2% (1970–2022)

21. CGPDTM (Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks) Releases Status Report on Ayush-Related Inventions (2014–2026)

- 4,077 patent applications filed and 711 patents granted between FY 2014-15 and FY 2025-26.

22. ASI Report 2025-26: Most Visited Monuments

- Top 10 for domestic visitors (FY 2025-26):
- Top 5 for foreign visitors:

23. Mission Karmayogi Rankings: Uttar Pradesh Ranked 1st

- Rankings announced at the 3rd regional workshop of the "Sadhana Shrinkhla" series in Lucknow

24. Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2027: India Slips to 28th

- Ranks 1–3 vacant (no country rated 'very high'); Denmark 4th (top performer), followed by Lithuania, Luxembourg, UK, Morocco and Chile.

PART K — AWARDS & PERSONALITIES

1. Awards & Honours

1. ★ FIU-India Wins Runner-Up at Egmont Best Case Award; New Director Appointed

- Financial Intelligence Unit–India (FIU-IND) won runner-up for the Best Egmont Case Award at Baku, Azerbaijan; the top award was won by Taiwan.

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- FIU-IND was established in November 2004 under the Department of Revenue.
- The Egmont Group is headquartered in Ottawa, Canada.

2. ★ Union Minister Piyush Goyal and Sunil Bharti Mittal Receive Leadership Honors

- Union Minister Piyush Goyal was honored with a special award for exceptional leadership in elevating India-UK relations at the 10th anniversary of the India Global Forum (IGF) awards in London.
- USISPF (US-India Strategic Partnership Forum) Leadership Award 2026 conferred on Sunil Bharti Mittal.

3. ★ Sagar Aankalan Awards for Port Performance 2026 Released

- The Sagar Aankalan Awards for national port performance were released across three distinct categories:
- Container Cargo Category: Deendayal Port Authority (Kandla Port, Gujarat) — top container cargo performance in India.
- Dry Bulk Cargo Category: Paradip Port in Odisha stood 1st.

4. ★ Indian Conservationists Win Whitley Award (Green Oscar)

- Indian conservationists Dr. Parveen Shaikh and Barkha Subba were presented with the prestigious Whitley Award (Green Oscar) by Princess Anne in London, UK.
- They were among six global winners and received a £50,000 prize to support endangered species conservation.

5. ★ Lionel Messi Wins Princess of Asturias Sports Award

- Legendary Argentine footballer Lionel Messi won the Princess of Asturias Sports Award, presented by Spain.
- Messi has won the Ballon d'Or a record 8 times and captained Argentina to victory in the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Doha.

6. ★ Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2024 and 2025) Conferred on 106 Artists

- Union Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat conferred the awards on 106 young artists in New Delhi on 19 October 2026.
- Key awardees: Akram Khan Behrupiya (folk, Rajasthan), Manisha Srivastava (folk music, Bihar), Hito Kiho (choir music, Nagaland).

7. ★ 60th Jnanpith Award Conferred on Tamil Poet R. Vairamuthu

- The 60th Jnanpith Award was conferred on Tamil poet and lyricist R. Vairamuthu.
- He is the 3rd Tamil writer to receive the honour.
- Award comprises ₹11 Lakh prize money and a bronze statue of Goddess Vagdevi (bronze Saraswati statue) and a citation.
- Previous Tamil recipients of the Jnanpith Award: Akilan (1975) and Jayakanthan (2002).

8. ★ Major Awards and Honours — August 2026

- Padma Awards 2026: 131 awards — 113 Padma Shri, 13 Padma Bhushan, 5 Padma Vibhushan.
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2024-25 conferred by President Droupadi Murmu; Akademi Ratna (Fellowship) limited to 40 living members. Recipients: Ramlal Bareth, A.V.
- Michelle Yeoh named "Asian Film Maker of the Year" at the 31st Busan International Film Festival, South Korea.

9. ★ Samridh Gram / 'Samridhi Gram' Initiative Wins WSIS Prize 2026

- An initiative of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the BharatNet Project.
- Won the international WSIS Prize 2026 in Geneva under the "Enabling Environment" category (Action Line C6).
- The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prizes are awarded by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva.

10. ★ Fields Medal 2026 Announced — First Chinese Nationals Win

- The Fields Medal is awarded every 4 years to exceptional mathematicians under the age of 40.
- 2026 Winners:
  - Hong Wang (China)
  - Yu Deng (China)
  - John Pardon (USA)
  - Jacob Tsimerman
- Milestone: Hong Wang and Yu Deng became the first Chinese nationals to win the Fields Medal in history.

11. ★ Parichha Weir Declared World Heritage Irrigation Structure

- The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) declared Parichha Weir (Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh) as a World Heritage Irrigation Structure.
- Location: On the Betwa River (Betwa Canal System).
- Location: situated in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, built across the Betwa River.

12. ★ National Sports Awards 2025 Announced

- Arjuna Award (started in 1961): cash prize of ₹15 lakh.
- Dronacharya Award (started in 1985, for coaches): Regular category — ₹10 lakh; Lifetime category — ₹15 lakh.
- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (started 1991-92): cash prize of ₹25 lakh. For the first time since 2014, no athlete was awarded the Khel Ratna in this round.
  - Vidit Gujrathi (Chess)
  - Pooja (Kabaddi)

13. ★ National Sports Awards 2025 and Tenzing Norgay Adventure Awards 2024

- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna: no award for 2025 (last time none was given: 2014).
- Arjuna Award 2025: 17 sportspersons, including Tejaswin Shankar (decathlon), Divya Deshmukh and Vidit Gujrathi (chess).
- Arjuna Award (Lifetime): I. Arumainayagam (football, 1962 Asian Games gold medallist).
- Each category carries a ₹15 lakh cash prize.

14. ★ 68th Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2026 Announced

- The Ramon Magsaysay Award is commonly called the "Asian Nobel Prize".
- It was established in 1957 and first presented in 1958, to honour former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay.

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- The 2026 recipients (3 laureates) are:
  - Tommy Koh (Singapore), a Singaporean diplomat recognised for his United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) diplomacy

15. ★ Odisha's Lok Bhavan: India's First Governor's Residence with IGBC Platinum Rating

- Lok Bhavan, the Governor's residence in Odisha, became India's 1st Governor's residence to receive the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) Green Campus Rating – Platinum.
- Odisha Governor: Kambhampati Hari Babu; Chief Minister (CM): Mohan Charan Majhi.

16. ★ 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.

17. ★ 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.

18. ★ Nobel Prizes 2026

- Physiology or Medicine: Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, Georg Nagel, for optogenetics (lightgated ion channels).
- Physics: Francis Halzen, for the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and high-energy astrophysical neutrinos.
- Chemistry: Henri B. Kagan (France) and Kenso Soai (Japan), for non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.

19. ★ Right Livelihood Award 2026 ("Alternative Nobel Prize")

- Known as the "Alternative Nobel Prize"; founded in 1980 by Jakob von Uexkull, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Timnit Gebru (Ethiopian-born; USA): research and activism on AI risks and discrimination.
- Jalila Haider (Pakistan): human rights lawyer; first woman lawyer from the Hazara community.
- Founded in 1980 by Jakob von Uexkull in Stockholm.

20. ★ SBI Named "World's Best Consumer Bank 2026" by Global Finance

- State Bank of India (SBI) was named "World's Best Consumer Bank 2026" by Global Finance magazine (New York) for the 2nd consecutive year
- Also named Best Bank in India for the 5th consecutive year.
- State Bank of India (SBI) named World's Best Consumer Bank 2026.

21. ★ 26th IIFA Awards: "Dhurandhar" Wins Best Film and 12 Awards

- Winners of the 26th International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards (2026) were announced (reported 30 October 2026) without a physical ceremony.
  - Best Film: "Dhurandhar" (won 12 awards in all).
  - Best Director: Aditya Dhar (*Dhurandhar*).
  - Best Actor (Male): Ranveer Singh (*Dhurandhar*).
  - Best Supporting Actor: Sanjay Dutt (*Dhurandhar*).

22. Seven Indian Schools Nominated for World's Best School Prizes (T4 Education)

- India's world record: for the first time in history, seven Indian schools were nominated in a single year.

23. ICMR's "MIND / MINDS" Wins Gold at 29th National e-Governance Conference

- ICMR's "MIND" (MINDS) won the Gold Medal/Award (Category II: AI used for CitizenCentric Services), presented by DARPG at the 29th National Conference on e-Governance.

24. Dr. Florence Rabier Wins IMO Prize

- Dr. Florence Rabier won the International Meteorological Organization (IMO) Prize — regarded as equivalent to a "Nobel Prize in Meteorology".

25. Banking & Corporate Recognition

- DBS Bank was named "Asia's Best Digital Bank" by Euromoney.
- DBS Bank named World's Best Corporate Bank 2026 by Global Finance; DBS Bank is headquartered in Singapore.

26. First Change Maker Award 2026 — Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy

- The Change Maker Award was presented to former Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Chief Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy.

27. Dr. Padma Gurmet Awarded UT Ladakh State Award 2025

- Dr. Padma Gurmet, Director of the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa in Leh, was awarded the UT Ladakh State Award 2025.

28. Padma Awards 2026

- A total of 131 Padma Awards were given, consisting of:

29. Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam Awarded COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026

- Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam, Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, was awarded the COSPAR (Committee on Space Research) Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026.

30. National Gopal Ratna Awards for Conserving Indigenous Bovine Breeds

- The awards are given under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, launched in 2014 for conserving indigenous bovine breeds.
- Prize Money:

31. Indian Organ Donation Day Awards

- Assam — Best State (Best North-Eastern Region) Award.
- Delhi — Best UT Award.

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32. Gaj Gaurav Awards Conferred on World Elephant Day (August 12)

- Key numbers: 33 elephant reserves | 150 elephant corridors | Project Elephant – 1992.

33. Guinness World Records — Indian Skydivers, Lucknow Flag Hoisting and Youngest CA

- Skydiving Record: Three Indian skydivers — Jamsheer Thanalot (Kerala), Abhishek Rawat (Uttar Pradesh) and Isha Raj (Bihar) — set a Guinness World Record during a skydiving event in Benghazi, Libya.

34. National Teachers' Award 2026 Recipients Announced

- Instituted in 1958, the award is eligible for regular teachers with a minimum of 10 years of service.
- World Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5 October.

35. Indian Researchers Win 36th Ig Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026

- The winning team included Sanchari Banerjee and Subramanian Ramaswamy.

36. 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.

37. Ramon Magsaysay Award 2026 Winners

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

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

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

39. 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).

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. 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.

43. National Lata Mangeshkar Award 2026 to Shantanu Moitra

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

44. Nobel Peace Prize 2026: Navi Pillay (South Africa)

- Announced on 9 October 2026 in Oslo by the Norwegian Nobel Committee (Chair: Jørgen Watne Frydnes), honouring her lifelong work for international law and human rights.

45. Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2026: Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford (USA)

- Announced on 12 October 2026 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for the "microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilization".

46. Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026: Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai

- Announced 7 October 2026 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences "for their discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis".

47. Nobel Prize in Literature 2026: Anne Carson (Canada)

- Announced on 8 October 2026 by the Swedish Academy (Permanent Secretary: Ingrid Carlberg).

48. Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2026: Optogenetics

- Announced on October 5, 2026 by the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm.

49. Nobel Prize in Physics 2026: Francis Halzen

- Francis Halzen (Belgian-American, University of Wisconsin–Madison).

50. IOA Announces First Annual Awards

- Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President P.T. Usha announced two new annual awards (around October 4, 2026):

51. Pritzker Prize ("Nobel Prize of Architecture") 2026: Smiljan Radić Clarke (Chile).

52. Earthshot Prize 2026 Awards to Be Held in Mumbai—the first time India hosts the ceremony

- Karan Johar will host the ceremony — the first Indian to do so.

53. Hillary Rodham Clinton Award 2026 Conferred at Georgetown University

- Recipients:
- Muna Sukhtian (Microfund for Women, Jordan) received the inaugural Georgetown Ambassadors Award.

54. "Angh" Wins TIFF Platform Prize; "Gondhal" is India's Oscar Entry

- Angh, the debut feature of Nagaland filmmaker Theja Rio, won the Platform Prize (CAD 20,000) at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2026

55. The World Food Prize 2026 was awarded to Huub Lelieveld of the Netherlands

- Known as the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture"; instituted in 1986 by Dr. Norman Borlaug ("Father of the Green Revolution").

56. Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak 2026 Awarded to 490 Personnel

- Announced by MHA on 31 October 2026 (National Unity Day, birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel).

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2. Books & Authors

1. ★ International Booker Prize Renamed "Bukhman International Booker Prize"; Prize Money Doubled

- The award has been renamed the "Bukhman International Booker Prize".
- The winner's prize is doubled from £50,000 to £100,000 (Pound Sterling), split equally between the author and the translator.
- Shortlisted books will receive £5,000 (also shared equally).

2. ★ Notable Book Releases

- "The Voice of Justice: Justice Gavai Speaks" — speeches of former Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai, edited by Prof. Dr. S. Shivakumar (also cited as S.
- Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel co-authored her memoir, "Dare Dream Do", with Anurag Garg.
- "General Brasstacks: The Sundarji Story" was written by Probal DasGupta.
- "Every Last Girl" was written by Safeena Husain.

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

- "Bankers' books" now cover records in physical, electronic, digital, virtual and cloud-based form, including back-up and disaster recovery sites.
- The Bankers' Books Evidence Act 2026 comes into force on October 1, 2026.

4. ★ Books in News

- "India at War": a newly featured book authored by Colonel D.P.K. Pillay.
- "The Triumph of the Indian Republic": the autobiography of former Indian President Ram Nath Kovind, officially released by PM Narendra Modi.
- Sonia Gandhi's Upcoming Memoir: Senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi is releasing her upcoming book "Belonging: A Journey of Love", published by Alfred A.

5. Fixed Deposit Booking Enabled at White Label ATMs

- Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SFB), Sprint Money and Hitachi Payment Services enabled Fixed Deposit (FD) booking at MoneySpot White Label ATMs (WLAs).

6. 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.

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

- Fund name: IITM Unicorn Frontier FundI, set up by IIT Madras / IIT Madras Research Park with Unicorn India Ventures; approved by SEBI.

8. Booker Prize 2026 Shortlist Announced

- The six-book shortlist was announced on 22 September 2026; judging panel chaired by Mary Beard.
- Marlon James – The Disappearers.
- Douglas Stuart – John of John.

9. Book "Rag Rag Mein Cricket" Launched by Sunil Gavaskar

- Book "Rag Rag Mein Cricket" on former Madhya Pradesh cricketer and BCCI administrator Sanjay Jagdale.

10. 5 non-fiction books were shortlisted for the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2026 (cash award ₹15 lakh); Jury Chair: Niraja Gopal Jayal.

- "A Man for All Seasons: The Life of K.M. Panikkar" — Narayani Basu.

11. Book "Timeless India" Released in New Delhi

- Editor: Tarun Vijay, former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist; 18 archaeologists contributed chapters on Vadnagar, Lothal, Dholavira, Kashi.

12. M. John Harrison Wins Booker Prize 2026; Becomes Oldest Winner

- British author, 81, won for 'The End of Everything'; oldest winner (surpassing Margaret Atwood, 79, in 2019); first winner from the science-fiction community

13. International Booker Prize 2026: 'Taiwan Travelogue'

- By Yáng Shuāng-zǐ (pen name of Yang Jo-tzu), translated from Mandarin Chinese by Lin King; £50,000 shared equally

3. Persons in News & Obituaries

1. ★ Candere Hurun India Women Leaders List 2026

- Priya Nair, who takes over as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Hindustan Unilever on 1 August, leads the list of professional CEOs.
- HCLTech's Roshni Nadar Malhotra tops the wealth multipliers category with a net worth of ₹2,84,120 crore.
- Honorees: Recognizes 117 women across 12 distinct categories.
  - Meena Bindra — BIBA

2. National Figures

- PM Narendra Modi — visits to Seychelles, Indonesia, New Zealand, Australia, and the Netherlands; announced the Revamped UDAN Scheme during an address at the inauguration of the new terminal building of Jodhpur Airport, Rajasthan; scheduled to inaugurate HRRL and an OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat.

3. Key Officials & Regulators (Referenced in News)

- RBI Governor: Sanjay Malhotra; four Deputy Governors — Rohit Jain, Swaminathan Janakiraman (term recently extended), Shreesh Chandra Murmu.

4. Kroll's Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2025

- Shahrukh Khan reclaimed the No. 1 spot as India's Most Valued Celebrity Brand of 2025, with a brand value of $177.9 million, with endorsements increasing from 28 to 36.

5. Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth Becomes IAF's First Woman Fighter Combat Leader

6. Barclays Private Clients Hurun India Most Valuable Family Businesses List 2026

- Ambani Family (Reliance Industries) — Ranked 1st, valued at ₹25.83 lakh crore (Rs. 25.8 Lakh Crore).

7. 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.

8. Union Cabinet Passes Resolution Marking PM Narendra Modi's 25 Years as Head of Government (7 October 2026)

- Narendra Modi took oath as Chief Minister of Gujarat on 7 October 2001 and became Prime Minister in 2014.

9. Traditional paddy seed conservator and Padma Shri (2023) awardee Cheruvayal Raman ("Nelachan") died

- Known as "Nelachan" (Father of Paddy), "Living Paddy Gene Bank" and "Guardian of Native Paddy".

PART L — DAYS, PLACES & CULTURE

1. Important Days & Themes

1. Important Days & Themes National Doctors' Day (July 1) — Theme 2026: "Behind the mask, who heals the healers" (or "who heals the healer"); designated by the government in 1991 to commemorate the birth and death anniversary of Dr. B. C. Roy.

- World Sports Journalists Day (July 2).

2. International Tiger Day — Project Tiger Data

- Project Tiger was launched on April 1, 1973, under the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

3. National Engineers Day – September 15

- National Engineers Day 2026 marked the 165th birth anniversary of Sir M. Visvesvaraya. International Day of Democracy – September 15
- World Post Day is on October 9.

4. Important Days World Cow Day – September 1

- World Cow Day 2026 was observed on September 1.
- Theme: "Moving towards a kind of more sustainable world". World Coconut Day – September 2

5. Important Days and Themes (16–30 September 2026) National Engineers' Day – 15 September

- Birth anniversary of Sir M. Visvesvaraya.
- Theme 2026: "Safe care for noncommunicable diseases".

6. Important Days and Themes World Rivers Day – Fourth Sunday of September (September 27, 2026)

- Started in 2005 under the UN "Water for Life" Decade. World Rabies Day – September 28

7. 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).

8. World Food Day 2026 (16 October)

- 2026 Theme: "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow."
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Headquarters: Rome, Italy; Director-General: Qu Dongyu

9. United Nations Day (24 October)

- Marks the entry into force of the UN Charter on 24 October 1945; 2026 is the 81st anniversary; HQ: New York.

10. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026: 151st Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- Given the title "Sardar" by the women of Bardoli during the Bardoli Satyagraha (1928).

11. World Cities Day — 31 October; 2026 Theme: "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All"; general slogan: "Better City, Better Life".

12. Mahila Kisan Divas Observed on 15 October

- 2026 Theme: "Role of Women Farmers in Developing Agriculture and Developed India".

13. Disarmament Week and Vigilance Awareness Week 2026

- UNODA Disarmament Week: 24–30 October 2026, by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs.

14. World Polio Day (24 October)

- Established by Rotary International to commemorate Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed the first Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) in 1955; Dr.
- 2026 Theme: "Together, We End Polio"

15. International Tiger Day: 29 July; World Lion Day: 10 August.

2. Arts, Culture & Heritage

1. ★ 72nd National Film Awards Hosted at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

- The venue of the 72nd National Film Awards was shifted to Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, where the awards were hosted.
- Best Feature Film (Swarna Kamal): Article 370, directed by Aditya Suhas Jambhale.
- Best Debut Film of a Director: Swatantrya Veer Savarkar (Randeep Hooda).
- Best Popular Film: Kalki 2898 AD (Nag Ashwin).

2. ★ 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.

3. ★ Centres of Excellence for Five Newly Recognised Classical Languages

- The Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) approved 5 Centres of Excellence:
  - Assamese – Tezpur University, Assam.
  - Bengali – Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal.
  - Marathi – Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune.
  - Pali – Central University of Odisha.
  - Prakrit – Central University of Gujarat.

4. Tribex — India's First Digital Learning Platform for Tribal Arts and Culture

- Tribex was launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs — Minister Jual Oram (with MoS Durgadas Uikey) — in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

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5. 'Shabdalok' — India's First Digital Language Museum Inaugurated in Kolkata

- Language Museum 'Shabdalok' inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at the National Library Campus, Kolkata.

6. World Record Set for Largest Dhimsa Dance Performance

- 13,000 tribal women and female students set a world record by performing the largest Dhimsa dance together.

7. Michelle Yeoh Named "Asian Film Maker of the Year" at 31st Busan International Film Festival

- Michelle Yeoh was named "Asian Film Maker of the Year".

8. India to Host First-Ever Global South Film Festival in 2027

9. Mizoram University Museum Notified as India's 21st Designated Repository

- Mizoram University Museum was notified as India's 21st Designated Repository.

10. India's First World-Class Geological Museum at Jabalpur; Shabdalok Language Museum

- India's First World-Class Geological Museum at Jabalpur.
- International Museum Day: May 18.

11. 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".

12. 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.

13. Project SAMHiTA: India–Sri Lanka Digital Manuscript Heritage Project

- 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.

14. Education Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the registration portal on 22 October 2026 for the 5th Kashi Tamil Sangamam (28 November – 12 December 2026), organised by the Ministry of Education with IIT Madras and Banaras Hindu University (BHU) under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

- Theme: "Thirukkural Payilvom" (Let us learn the Thirukkural).

3. UNESCO, GI Tags, Ramsar, Wildlife & Environment

1. ★ 48th Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee Held in Busan, South Korea

- Sarnath was recently declared India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Held in Busan, South Korea, where Sarnath was inscribed as India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site.

2. ★ Sarnath Declared India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site

- Inscribed at the 48th Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee held in Busan, South Korea.
- 25 new sites were added to the World Heritage List.
- Sarnath is an ancient Buddhist site in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- Italy has the most UNESCO World Heritage Sites (61), followed by China (60).
- Becomes India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site.

3. ★ Glaw Lake Declared India's 101st Ramsar Site and Arunachal Pradesh's First

- India ranks 1st in Asia and 3rd globally for the highest number of Ramsar sites.
- United Kingdom (UK) leads globally with 176 sites.
- Mexico is second with 144 sites.
- India is third with 101 sites.
- First Indian sites (1981): Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan).

4. ★ India's Ramsar Sites Reach 101

- India now has 101 Ramsar sites.
- The 101st site is Glo Lake, Arunachal Pradesh.
- India's 1st site was Chilika Lake, Odisha.

5. ★ India Adds 5 Sites to UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage (Total Rises from 73 to 78)

- India added 5 sites to the UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage on September 29, 2026, raising the total from 73 to 78:
  - Buddhist Murals of Bagh Cave Paintings (Madhya Pradesh).
  - Group of Temples of the Chambal Valley – Bateshwar, Padavali, Kakarmath (Madhya Pradesh).
  - Gupta-era Udaigiri Caves (Madhya Pradesh).

6. ★ India's Ramsar Sites Rise to 103

- Added: Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) and Sauj Jheel (Uttar Pradesh).

7. ★ India's Ramsar Sites Rise to 103 with Sukhna Wetland and Sauj Jheel

- Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav announced on 15 October 2026 the addition of 2 new Ramsar sites:
  - Sukhna Wetland, Chandigarh (Ramsar Site No. 2602) – Chandigarh's 1st Ramsar site.
  - Sauj Jheel, Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh (Ramsar Site No. 2603) – UP's 14th Ramsar site; part of the Saman Wetland Complex in the Ganga floodplain.

8. ★ Mahabharata, Arthashastra and Rajatarangini Added to UNESCO Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Register

- Inscribed at the 11th Session of MOWCAP in Jakarta, Indonesia (2–6 November 2026); dossiers prepared by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).
- Mahabharata (attributed to Vedavyasa): birch-bark manuscript, preserved at Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune.

9. Nepal's Jyestha Varna Mahavihara Wins UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award 2025

- Nepal's Jyestha (Jestha) Varna Mahavihara won the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award.

10. NGT Issues Notices on Degradation of Kanwar Lake (Kabar Tal) Ramsar Site

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) issued notices on the degradation of Kanwar Lake (Kabar Tal).

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11. Environmental Conservation — India's Ramsar Sites
- World Wetlands Day is observed on February 2nd.
- India has 100 Ramsar sites; the 100th is Suraha Tal in Uttar Pradesh.

12. State-Wise Agro-Industrial Leadership and GI Tag Mapping
- Kerala: Leading natural rubber producer; holds GI tag for Alleppey Green Cardamom.
- Sikkim: Top producer and GI holder for Sikkim Large Cardamom.

13. Ramsar Sites — Static Facts
- United Kingdom (UK) leads globally with 176 sites; Mexico is second with 144 sites; India is third with 101 sites.

14. UNESCO World Heritage Sites — Static Facts

15. UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2026 Awarded in Chiapas, Mexico
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) International Literacy Prizes 2026 were awarded in Chiapas, Mexico.

16. India's Ramsar Sites Rise to 103 with Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) and Sauj Jheel (Uttar Pradesh) Working Group on Tribal Languages; "Adi Vaani" Platform
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs held the first meeting of the Working Group on Tribal Languages.

17. Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair, Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, was elected Chair of IOCINDIO, the IOC-UNESCO Sub-Commission for the Central Indian Ocean

18. UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week (24–31 October 2026)
- Observed on 24–31 October 2026; Theme: "We All Play a Part: Media and Information Literacy for the People".

19. UNESCO Adds 3 Indian Sites to World Heritage Tentative List; Total Reaches 81
- On 20 October 2026, three Indian sites were added, taking India's Tentative List to 81:

20. USPS Issues Diwali Stamp; Deepavali on UNESCO's Intangible Heritage List
- The United States Postal Service (USPS) issued a rangoli-themed Diwali Forever stamp on 21 October 2026 at the Embassy of India, Washington, D.C.

21. Sarnath Becomes India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site; Sirpur Added to Tentative List
- Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape (Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh) added to the Tentative List along with two Andaman & Nicobar geological sites

4. Miscellaneous

1. Centre Identifies 25 of 58 Tiger Reserves for Priority Conservation
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav.
- Recent Tiger Reserves List:

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.

3. National Saras Livelihood Mela 2026 Held in Vijayawada
- Held in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh – the first time outside Delhi-NCR – under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

4. 8th Windergy India 2026 Held in Chennai
- India's installed wind capacity: 59.20 GW (as on 30 September 2026); target: 100 GW by 2030.

5. Chandigarh to Become India's First Drug-Free City; NCB's Operation Trident
- Operation Trident launched by NCB on 23 October 2026 across Assam, Mizoram and Manipur: 38 locations, 18 arrests, 1,424 bank accounts frozen, ₹100 crore hawala uncovered.

6. Foundation Days
- Coal India Limited – 52nd (1 November); established 1975; Maharatna; HQ Kolkata.
- National Zoological Park, New Delhi – 67th (1 November).

7. Cyclone Murasu Makes Landfall on South Andhra Pradesh Coast
- India-named storm; landfall on the south Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Narsapur, near Ongole (Prakasam district).

PART N — DEFENCE

1. Defence Exercises

1. ★ Indian Navy Participates in RIMPAC 2026 — World's Largest Naval Exercise (30th Edition)
- RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific) is the world's largest naval/international maritime exercise, hosted biennially (once every two years.
- The 30th edition was hosted by the US Navy at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, in and around the Hawaii Islands, USA (famous for active volcanoes).

2. ★ Exercise Pitch Black 2026 and 'Samudra Pradakshina' Circumnavigation
- Exercise Pitch Black is a multinational air combat exercise held at RAAF Base Darwin, Australia, hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) Rafale fighter jets participated for the first time.
- Held at RAAF Base Darwin, Australia.

3. ★ Major Defence Exercises and Naval Inductions
- Exercise "ROTOR CLAP III": Indian Air Force (IAF) counter-drone / Counter-UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) exercise at the Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- Exercise Udara Shakti 2026: IAF (101 Squadron) and the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) at Subang Air Base, Malaysia, from 10 to 14 August 2026.

4. ★ 22nd India–US Exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 2026'
- Locations: Foreign Training Node, Auli (Uttarakhand) and Mahajan Field Firing Range, Bikaner (Rajasthan).

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- Other India–US exercises: Vajra Prahar, Cope India, Malabar, Tiger Triumph.
- The exercise is being held at two locations:
  - Mahajan Field Firing Range, Bikaner, Rajasthan
  - Auli, Uttarakhand
- The exercise is held at two venues:

5. ★ 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).

6. ★ 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.

7. ★ 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.
- Kazakhstan – Capital: Astana; Currency: Tenge.

8. ★ Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 Hosted by IAF at Jodhpur, Rajasthan

- 2nd edition of the multinational air exercise, held from 26 September to 12 October 2026; theme: “Power in Partnership”.
- Rajnath Singh addressed Tarang Shakti-2026 at Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

9. ★ 2nd ASEAN–India Maritime Exercise (AIME 2026) at Subic Bay, Philippines

- The 2nd ASEAN–India Maritime Exercise (AIME 2026) began on September 28, 2026 at Subic Bay, Philippines, with sea drills off Zambales; it later concluded at Subic Bay.
- Theme: “Anchored in Trust, United at Sea”.
- Indian Navy ships: INS Sahyadri and INS Kulish.

10. ★ India–UK Naval Exercise KONKAN-26 off Plymouth, UK (8–15 October 2026)

- INS Trishul exercised with the Royal Navy; exercise concluded off Plymouth, UK.
- Included air defence, anti-submarine warfare and cross-deck helicopter operations.
- India–UK exercises: KONKAN (Navy; held since 2004), Ajeya Warrior (Army), Indradhanush (Air Force).
- Participating ships: INS Trishul (India) and HMS Sutherland (UK).

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

12. ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME2026) 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 (ADMMPlus) Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security Joint Cooperation Activity at Subic Bay, Philippines.

13. 12th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX-2026) Held off Paradip, Odisha

- Held on October 7–8, 2026 off Paradip, Odisha; sea phase held on 8 October 2026.

14. France and UK Hold First Joint Nuclear Air Exercise "Rummy"

15. 33rd SIMBEX: India–Singapore Maritime Bilateral Exercise at Visakhapatnam

- Ships: INS Nilgiri (first stealth frigate of Project 17A), INS Kamorta (ASW corvette), submarine INS Sindhukirti, and RSS Supreme (Singapore).

16. Other Recent Joint Military Exercises of India

- Maitree XV (India–Thailand): Vibhavadi Rangsit Camp, Surat Thani, Thailand (18–31 August 2026); 9 Gorkha Rifles participated.

17. Exercise MALABAR 2026 (30th Edition) off Japan

- Held from 5 to 12 November 2026, south of Kanto, Japan, with India, Japan, the USA and Australia (Quad nations).

18. First BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise at Sri Vijaya Puram

- Hosted by the Andaman and Nicobar Command from 30 October to 3 November 2026 at Sri Vijaya Puram (formerly Port Blair).

19. 'Rahat Mitra' – First India–Myanmar Tri-Services HADR Exercise

- Held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu; Theme: "Together for Humanity, Stronger through Partnership".

20. Sea Vigil-26: 5th Pan-India Coastal Defence Exercise

- 11–19 November 2026; Indian Navy lead agency with Indian Coast Guard and 21 agencies.

2. Navy, Coast Guard & Ships

1. ★ India–Japan "UNICORN" Project — FirstEver Defence Co-development Agreement

- Signed during the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit: joint development of the UNICORN (Unified Complex Radio Antenna) for Indian Naval ships — the first-ever India-Japan defence co-development agreement.
- India signed a defence co-development agreement — 'UNICORN' with Japan.

2. ★ DSV Nipun — Diving Support Vessel Commissioned on 31 August 2026

- DSV Nipun was indigenously designed and constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

- The Indian Navy commissions Nipun on August 31, 2026, at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) delivered the second indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV), named 'Nipun'.

3. ★ Indian Navy Commissionings and Deliveries

- INS Mahendragiri commissioned into the Eastern Fleet at Visakhapatnam — the 6th stealth frigate under Project 17A (Nilgiri-class).
- INS Malvan commissioned at Karwar, Karnataka — the 2nd Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), built by Cochin Shipyard.
- ICGS Akshay commissioned in Goa, built by Goa Shipyard.

4. ★ Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft 'Machilipatnam' Launched

- INS 'Machilipatnam' was manufactured and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) for the Indian Navy.
- It is the 7th of 8 Mahe-class ASW-SWC vessels under contract.
- Purpose: to track and destroy enemy submarines and counter coastal underwater threats. 4.ICGS Akshay Commissioned in Goa

5. ★ INS Sudarshini Reaches Azores and Lisbon in "Lokayan 26" Transoceanic Expedition

- The ship reached the port of Ponta Delgada (Azores, an autonomous archipelago of Portugal) after a 19-day trans-Atlantic passage from Boston, USA.
- This marked the ship's second Atlantic crossing during its ongoing deployment.
- It subsequently arrived in Portugal's capital, Lisbon, entering through the Tagus River.

6. ★ 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.
- The 2nd edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2026 was held at Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi.

7. QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission

- Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak sailed from Chennai for Perth, Australia on 25 September 2026.

8. First Women ADCs to Army Chief and President

- Captain Shivani Sehrawat: first woman Aide-deCamp (ADC) to the Chief of the Army Staff (July 2026).
- Army Day: January 15.

9. Indian Navy Overseas Deployments: 1st Training Squadron, INS Trishul and INS Tarkash

- INS Tarkash reached Port Louis, Mauritius, on 30 October 2026 to take part in the 192nd Aapravasi Diwas celebrations on 2 November 2026.

10. INS Samarthak, Navy's First Multi-Purpose Vessel, Commissioned at Karwar

- Built by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) at its Kattupalli shipyard, Tamil Nadu
- Indian Navy Headquarters: New Delhi; Navy Day: 4 December.

3. Missiles, Equipment, Production & Procurement

1. ★ DRDO Conducts First Flight Test of Project KUSHA (LRSAM)

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) — established 1958; Chairman: Rajesh Kumar Singh.
- Successfully flight-tested the "Kusha" system — a Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM).
- Test conducted from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.
- The United States delivered 21 of 24 MH-60R Seahawk helicopters to India.

2. ★ AMCA Foundation Stone Laid; "Bhargavastra" Counter-Swarm Drone System Demonstrated

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) Project in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh.
- Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDL), a subsidiary of Solar Industries Limited, demonstrated the indigenous counter-swarm drone system "Bhargavastra".

3. ★ Strategic Forces Command Tests Agni-IV Ballistic Missile

- The Strategic Forces Command successfully conducted a launch test of India's Agni-IV (Agni-4) surface-to-surface ballistic missile.
- Test Location: Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.
- Strike Range: 4,000 km.
- Agni-IV is a surface-to-surface ballistic missile.

4. ★ V.O. Chidambaranar Port: First Indian Port with Advanced Anti-Drone System

- V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu) is the first port in India to begin implementing an advanced antidrone security system.
- V.O. Chidambaranar Port became the first Indian port to initiate implementation of an advanced anti-drone system.

5. ★ Indigenous AK-203 Assault Rifles Named "Sher"; Delivery Advanced to 2030

- Under a bilateral agreement signed in 2018, India and Russia partnered to manufacture and deliver 6 lakh (600,000) AK-203 rifles to the Indian Army by 2032.
- Under the "Make in India" initiative (launched 25 September 2014 to promote indigenous manufacturing), these are manufactured at the Korwa Ordnance Factory in Amethi.

6. ★ DRDO Launches SHIELD Programme under Mission Sudarshan Chakra

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) launched the SHIELD programme under Mission Sudarshan Chakra.
- SHIELD stands for S-band High-power microwave Integrated Evaluation for Lethality and Damage.
- It is an indigenous Technology Development Fund (TDF) project for an Sband High-Power Microwave Integrated Evaluation System.

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7. ★ 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.
- A new DRDO weapon testing range was approved at Junput, West Bengal.

8. ★ India's Defence Exports Hit a Record ₹38,424 Crore; Akash Exported

- Defence exports for FY 2025–26 grew over 60%. The target is ₹50,000 crore by 2029.
- India is exporting the Akash air defence system (a DRDO-developed surface-to-air missile) to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

9. JWALA Anti-Drone Micro-Missile and Pakistan's Fatah-II Test

- JWALA, India's first private-sector anti-drone micro-missile (by IG Defence), is designed to counter drone threats.

4. Other Defence News

1. ★ Indian Air Force Ranked 3rd Most Powerful in the World (WDMMA 2026)

- Per the World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) 2026 Global Air Power Rankings, the Indian Air Force (IAF) retained its position as the 3rd most powerful air force in the world.
- Global rankings placed the United States (US) in 1st, Russia in 2nd, India in 3rd, and China (People's Liberation Army Air Force) in 4th place.

2. ★ India's First Department of Military Medicine Inaugurated at Command Hospital, Lucknow

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the country's first dedicated academic and operational Department of Military Medicine at the Command Hospital, Lucknow.
- India's first Department of Military Medicine inaugurated at Lucknow.

3. ★ WDMMA Global Air Power Ranking 2026 — India 3rd, IAF 6th

- India ranked 3rd most powerful military aviation nation globally — behind #1 United States and #2 Russia.
- India ranked 3rd most powerful military aviation nation globally; Indian Air Force (IAF) 6th with a TruVal rating of 69.4.
- Top 5 air forces: US Air Force, US Navy, Russian Air Force, US Army, US Marine Corps; China at #7.

4. ★ Rajnath Singh Launches 'Surya', India's First Indigenous Fleet Support Ship (FSS-1)

- Launched at Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL), Visakhapatnam (6 October 2026).

5. BRO's Project Brahmank Celebrates 16th Raising Day

- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) operates under the Ministry of Defence to build international border road networks; established on May 7, 1960

6. Chief of Army Staff Launches Roadmap "Vijay"

- 31st Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Dhiraj Seth launched the roadmap "Vijay".

7. India's FY27 Defence Budget: ₹7.85 Lakh Crore

- India's FY27 defence budget allocation is ₹7.85 lakh crore, about 2% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

8. India Possesses 190 Nuclear Warheads: SIPRI and FAS

- Reports by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and the Federation of American Scientists (FAS) say India has 190 nuclear warheads.

9. IAF No. 17 Squadron "Golden Arrows" Completes 75 Years

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) No. 17 Squadron "Golden Arrows" completed 75 years, celebrated at Air Force Station Ambala, Haryana.

10. Rajnath Singh Launches Three Initiatives at 279th Annual Day of Defence Accounts Department

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched three initiatives on October 1, 2026 at the 279th Annual Day of the Defence Accounts Department:

11. Rajnath Singh Inaugurates First ASEAN–India Defence Think Tank Forum

- Inaugurated at MP-IDSA, New Delhi.
- ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations): HQ Jakarta; founded 1967.

12. 94th Indian Air Force (IAF) Day Celebrated on 8 October 2026

- Held at Air Force Station Hindon, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh); 94th anniversary in 2026.

13. Raksha Expo 2026 will be held on 7–9 December 2026 at Bharat Future City, Hyderabad, organised by the Government of Telangana alongside the Invest Telangana Global Summit 2026.

- India's first defence and aerospace expo organised by a State government; includes an air show on 9 December.

14. The National Security Guard (NSG) observed its 42nd Raising Day on 16 October 2026.

- Known as the "Black Cats"; India's premier federal counter-terrorism force under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

PART O — SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Space

1. ★ Skyroot Aerospace — Mission Aagman

- Skyroot Aerospace is a Hyderabad-based startup in the private space launch sector.
- Mission Aagman: on July 18, 2026, Skyroot Aerospace launched India's first private orbital rocket launch via the Vikram-1 rocket into a 450 km Low Earth Orbit (LEO) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota.

2. ★ Skyroot Aerospace Launches Vikram-1 — India's First Private Orbital Rocket

- Skyroot Aerospace prepared and launched Vikram-1, India's first private space/orbital rocket.
- Launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. India became the third nation globally — after the US and China — to possess private orbital launch capability.

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3. ★ ISRO Successfully Conducts Gaganyaan Mission Qualification Tests

- Gaganyaan is India's human spaceflight programme.
- India aims to become the 4th human spaceflight nation, after the United States, Russia and China.

4. ★ ISRO Launches EOS-05 – India's First Imaging Satellite in Geosynchronous Orbit

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched the Earth Observation Satellite EOS-05.
- It is India's first imaging satellite in geosynchronous orbit.
- It was launched from the Second Launch Pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota.

5. ★ 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 Space Research Organisation (ISRO); European Space Agency (ESA).

6. ★ ISRO Launches Navigation Satellite NVS-03 on GSLV-F18

- Chairman, ISRO: Dr. V. Narayanan. ISRO established on 15 August 1969; HQ: Bengaluru.
- Director, SDSC SHAR: S. Muthuchezhian.
- Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC): Dr. U. P. Rajeev (appointed June 2026).
- ISRO is targeting a mid-October 2026 launch of NVS-03, the third secondgeneration NavIC satellite, on a GSLV Mk II from Sriharikota.

7. ★ SpaceX Crew-13 Mission to the ISS: Jessica Watkins Commands

- SpaceX Crew-13 launched on a Falcon 9 from Cape Canaveral on October 1, 2026.
- Commander Jessica Watkins (NASA) – first Black woman to command a crew to orbit; first active NASA astronaut to fly to the ISS on Crew Dragon twice (first: Crew-4, 2022).
- The International Space Station (ISS) orbits within the Earth's thermosphere.

8. GAGAN Satellite-Based Landing Trial at Udaipur Airport

- An IndiGo Airbus A320 jet successfully performed India's first satellite-based precision landing trial on a mainline commercial jet at Maharana Pratap Airport, Udaipur.

9. Red Balloon Aerospace Launches "Mission Sana" — India's First Indigenous Super Pressure Balloon

- Red Balloon Aerospace, an Indian startup, launched "Mission Sana" — India's first indigenous super pressure balloon platform for commercial payloads.

10. Sophie Adenot Becomes First French Woman to Complete a Spacewalk

- She spent 6 hours and 23 minutes performing the spacewalk outside the International Space Station (ISS).

11. Agnikul Cosmos Sets Up India's First Rocket Debris Recycling Centre

- Agnikul Cosmos set up India's first rocket debris recycling centre, the PROOF Facility.

12. ISRO (Advanced) Radar Research Facility under Project NETRA at Chandrapur, Assam

- Project NETRA stands for Network for Space Object Tracking and Analysis.

13. Uttarakhand's First Satellite-Linked Glacial Lake Early Warning System

- Installation of a satellite-linked Early Warning System (EWS) began on September 29, 2026 at Vasundhara Glacial Lake, Chamoli district.

14. 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.

15. India's First Private Space Debris Removal Facility Opens in Hyderabad

- Vision for debris-free space by 2030.

2. AI, Digital, Telecom & Semiconductors

1. ★ IBM Introduces World's First Sub-1 Nanometer Semiconductor Technology

- IBM introduced the world's first sub-1 nanometer semiconductor technology, measuring 0.7 nm.
- Meanwhile, India's first greenfield Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility is being built in Sanand, Gujarat by CG Semi Private Limited with an investment exceeding ₹7,500 crore.

2. ★ Semiconductor Mission 2.0 and ₹62,500 Crore Mobile Manufacturing Scheme

- Union Cabinet approved India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 (Semicon 2.0) with an outlay of ₹1.275 Lakh Crore (₹1,27,500 crore).
  - India operates 12 semiconductor plants; the newest two are located in Lothal and Surat, Gujarat.
- Mobile Manufacturing Scheme: IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched a ₹62,500 Crore, 5year incentive scheme.

3. ★ 3rd National Space Day (23 August) — BAS Target 2035

- Theme "Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership"; commemorates Chandrayaan-3 landing at Shiv Shakti Point (2023).
- Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) targeted for 2035; PM inaugurated "Param Pragya" supercomputer at IIT Delhi Sonipat campus.
- India targets 2035 for the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS).

4. NIDAR 2.0 Drone Innovation Challenge

- NIDAR 2.0 (National Innovation Challenge for Drone Application and Research) launched by MeitY under the Swayaan Initiative.

5. Agni Kavach – India's First Indigenous AI Safety Platform

- Agni Kavach is India's first indigenous AI safety platform.
- It is an AI-driven industrial risk and safety analysis platform.

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6. National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)

- NSM (National Supercomputing Mission) launched in April 2015 (outlay about ₹4,500 crore) by DST and MeitY; implemented by CDAC, Pune and IISc, Bengaluru.

7. MeitY Launches Centre for AI in Keralam (CAIK) in Thiruvananthapuram

- Launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) under the IndiaAI Mission.

3. Health, Environment & Other S&T

1. ★ India's First Point in Space (PinS) Helicopter Approach Approved

- Approved at Undavalli Heliport, Andhra Pradesh — India's first private heliport to receive this certification for a Point-in-Space Instrument Approach Procedure.
- This marks India's first private heliport to receive this certification from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

2. ★ World's First Once-Weekly Insulin "Aweekly" Launched in India

- Novo Nordisk India launched "Aweekly" (insulin icodec), marking the world's first once-weekly insulin for patients with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.

3. ★ ICMR Centre for High Altitude Medicine and Public Health Research

- Union Health Minister JP Nadda laid the foundation stone for the ICMR Centre for High Altitude Medicine and Public Health Research at Keylong (3,080 metres altitude.
- ICMR set up India's first high-altitude medicine research institute in Keylong, Lahaul & Spiti, Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with DRDO and the Armed Forces.

4. ★ India's First Green Hydrogen-Powered Train Flagged Off

- India's first green hydrogen-powered train route runs between Jind and Sonipat, Haryana.
- Flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Jind, Haryana.
- Operates on the Jind-Sonipat broad-gauge route.
- Designed and manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai.
- Initial speed: 75 km/h.

5. ★ Nuclear Power Expansion Roadmap & Draft SHANTI Rules 2026

- The government's sanctioned roadmap is to scale nuclear power from current levels to 22,480 MW by 2031–32, with a long-term goal of 100 GW (1,00,000 MW) by 2047 (Key Targets from PM's Red Fort Address 2026). Draft SHANTI Rules 2026 notified — Civil Nuclear Power Reforms; SHANTI stands for Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India.

6. ★ 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.
- ISM 2.0 (Semicon 2.0): enhanced outlay of ₹1,27,500 crore; Union Cabinet approval July 2026.

7. Project SAMARTH — Semiconductor Training Hub at IIT Gandhinagar

- The Silicon and Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Research and Training Hub (SAMARTH) is being established at IIT Gandhinagar with an investment of ₹190 crore.

8. OSAT Facility in Sanand, Gujarat

- PM Modi to inaugurate a state-of-the-art OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) facility in Sanand, Gujarat, built with an investment exceeding ₹7,500 crore by CG Semi Private Limited.

9. India's First Indigenous African Swine Fever (ASF) Vaccine Dedicated to the Nation

- Developed by the ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal.

10. Indian Railways Approves Kavach 4.0 for 660 Route km — Izzatnagar Division

- Railways approved Kavach 4.0 over 660 route km (rkm) of the Izzatnagar Division, North Eastern Railway, at ₹295 crore.

11. TRAI Mandates 1600 and 1601 Series for Anti-Spam Telephony

- TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) mandated:

12. India's First Non-GMO High-Expansion Popcorn Maize Hybrid Seed Launched

- India's first non-genetically modified, highexpansion popcorn maize hybrid seed was formally launched by Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan.

13. Ocean Research Vessel "Sagar Manthan" Launched

- The Ocean Research Vessel "Sagar Manthan" was launched and named virtually in Kolkata by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh.

14. 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.

15. 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.
- Expected availability: first half of 2027.

PART P — SPORTS

1. Cricket

1. ★ Australia Wins 7th ICC Women's T20 World Cup Title

- Australia clinched their 7th T20 World Cup title (and 14th overall Women's World Cup trophy across formats) by defeating host nation England in the final.
- Player of the Series and the Final was awarded to Beth Mooney (Australia), while Shreyanka Patil of India took the most wickets in the tournament.

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2. ★ Indian Women's Cricket Team Achieves Historic Test Win at Lord's

- The Indian Women's cricket team registered a historic victory, defeating England by 270 runs in the first-ever women's Test match played at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground in London, England.
- Yastika Bhatia became the first woman cricketer to score a Test century at Lord's (scoring 103 runs).

3. ★ India Wins Record 8th Women's Asia Cup Title

- India won a record eighth Women's Asia Cup title.
- It beat Sri Lanka by 72 runs in Dubai on 13 September 2026.
- After the win, the team did not receive the trophy from Asian Cricket Council (ACC) President Mohsin Naqvi.

4. ★ Smriti Mandhana Sets Two World Records in Women's Cricket Record 1 – All-time top run scorer: 10,880 international runs across formats, passing Mithali Raj.

- Record 2 – International centuries: her 18th international century, passing the 17 scored by Meg Lanning and Laura Wolvaardt.
- She became the all-time top run scorer, with 10,880 international runs, passing Mithali Raj.

5. ★ Duleep Trophy 2026–27: East Zone Wins; Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Sets Record

- Vaibhav Sooryavanshi became the youngest half-centurion in Duleep Trophy history.
  - He scored 50 off 42 balls (out at 92) for East Zone against Central Zone.
  - He was 15 years and 157 days old.
  - The match was at the BCCI Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru.
- East Zone won the Duleep Trophy 2026– 27, beating South Zone at Chepauk, Chennai.

6. ★ ICC Women's Champions Trophy 2027 Moved from Sri Lanka to India

- Sri Lanka lost the hosting rights for the 2027 International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Champions Trophy.
- The source gives two reasons: administrative and governance deficiencies, and government interference.
- India is the new host.
  - The event runs from 14 to 28 February 2027.
  - Matches will be held in Mumbai and Vadodara.

7. ★ Smriti Mandhana Becomes Highest RunScorer 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).
- Completed 100 T20I sixes.

8. ★ 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.

9. ★ Harry Brook Hits Fastest ODI Double Century

- England's Harry Brook reached the fastest ODI double century off 114 balls against Sri Lanka at Rawalpindi, Pakistan on 22 October 2026.
- Shubman Gill reached his 2nd ODI double century in 117 balls against West Indies in the 2nd ODI at Barsapara Cricket Stadium, Guwahati on September 30.

10. Cricket Deepti Sharma Breaks Jhulan Goswami's Record

- Deepti Sharma equalled Jhulan Goswami's record of 355 wickets — the joint-highest tally in women's international cricket across all formats.

11. India's Historic 600th Test Cricket Match

- India's historic 600th Test cricket match commenced on August 15, 2026, against Sri Lanka at the Galle International Cricket Stadium, Sri Lanka.

12. 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).

13. 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).

14. ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027 Schedule Announced

- Hosts: South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia; 14 teams; 12 venues; final in Johannesburg.
- ICC Chairman: Jay Shah; ICC HQ: Dubai.

15. India Win Men's and Women's Cricket Gold

- Men: India (captain Shreyas Iyer) beat Pakistan by 19 runs at Nisshin on October 3, 2026 to retain gold – India 211/6 (Abhishek Sharma 61, Tilak Varma 51*)

16. ICC Women's U-19 T20 World Cup 2027 Schedule Announced

- The 3rd edition will be held from 21 January to 6 February 2027, co-hosted by Bangladesh and Nepal – 41 matches (26 in Bangladesh.

17. Arshdeep Singh First Indian to 150 T20I Wickets; Rashid Khan First to 200

- Arshdeep Singh became the first Indian bowler to take 150 wickets in men's T20 Internationals (T20Is), in his 103rd T20I — the 4th T20I against New Zealand at Eden Park.

18. Cricketer Punam Raut Retires from International Cricket

- Shared a then world-record 320-run opening partnership in women's ODIs with Deepti Sharma against Ireland in May 2017 at Potchefstroom, South Africa.

19. Cricket Highlights

- Ishan Kishan: Indian record for most T20I runs in a calendar year – 1,220 in 37 innings, surpassing Suryakumar Yadav's 1,164 (2022).

2. Hockey & Football

1. ★ FIFA World Cup 2026 Record Prize Pool Announced

- FIFA announced a record-breaking total prize pool of $871 million for the 2026 World Cup — a 65% increase from the $529 million distributed in 2022.
- The champion will receive a $50 million performance prize (totaling $63.5 million with participation funding), while the runner-up will receive $33 million.

2. ★ Spain Wins FIFA World Cup 2026

- The FIFA World Cup 2026 was hosted across the United States, Mexico and Canada; the final was held at the New York New Jersey Stadium.
- Spain won the tournament by defeating Argentina 1–0 in extra time — their 2nd title.
- Spain became the first nation to hold both the Men's and Women's FIFA World Cup titles simultaneously.
- Golden Ball: Rodri
- Golden Glove: Unai Simón

3. ★ FIH Hockey World Cups 2026 — Germany Wins Men's Title

- FIH Hockey World Cups 2026 are jointly hosted by Belgium and the Netherlands from 15 to 30 August 2026.
- Germany defeated Spain 1-0 in the final match at Belfius Hockey Arena in Wavre.
- This is Germany's second consecutive and 4th overall Men's Hockey World Cup title.
- Argentina finished in 3rd place.

4. ★ India Wins Men's and Women's Titles at Junior Asia Cup Hockey 2026

- Men's tournament:
  - The Indian Junior Men's Hockey team, captained by Anmol Ekka, beat South Korea 4-1 in the final. o It is India's 6th overall Junior Asia Cup title and 4th in a row.
- Women's tournament:
  - The Indian Junior Women's Hockey team, captained by Khaidem Shileima Chanu, beat China.
  - It is the women's team's 3rd title in a row.

5. Argentina Wins 16th FIH Women's Hockey World Cup

- Argentina won the 16th FIH Women's Hockey World Cup, beating the Netherlands in the final.
- India finished 5th.

6. 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.
- Semi-finals and final: Mohali.

7. India Win Record 6th Men's Asian Champions Trophy (Hockey)

- Beat Japan 4–1 in the final of the 9th edition on 5 November 2026 at Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium, Mohali; unbeaten; third title in a row.

8. Other Sports

- Portuguese footballer Cristiano Ronaldo retired from international football – only male to score in 6 World Cups (11 WC goals).
- Velavan Senthilkumar won Czech Open squash title.

3. Chess, Badminton, Tennis & Racquet Sports

1. ★ Wimbledon Tennis Championships 2026 Winners

- Men's Singles Title: World No. 1 Jannik Sinner (Italy) won his second consecutive Wimbledon title (defeating Alexander Zverev), marking his 4th career Grand Slam.
- Women's Singles Title: Linda Noskova (Czech Republic) won her maiden Wimbledon and Grand Slam title, defeating fellow Czech player Karolina Muchova.

2. ★ Major Sports Achievements — FIFA World Cup, Commonwealth Games & Wimbledon

- FIFA World Cup 2026: Hosted across the United States, Mexico and Canada; Spain defeated Argentina 1–0 in extra time at the New York New Jersey Stadium to win their 2nd title, becoming the first nation to hold both Men's and Women's FIFA World Cup titles simultaneously. Golden Ball: Rodri; Golden Boot: Kylian Mbappé (10 goals); Golden Glove: Unai Simón; Best Young Player: Pau Cubarsí. 2030 to be co-hosted by Spain, Portugal and Morocco; 2034 by Saudi Arabia.

3. ★ Viswanathan Anand Appointed Interim President of FIDE

- World Chess Day is observed on 20 July, marking the establishment of FIDE in 1924.

4. ★ BWF World Badminton Championships 2026 Held in New Delhi

- Officially commenced in New Delhi on August 17, running to August 23, 2026.
- India hosts the tournament after 17 years (last hosted in 2009), at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.
- The official mascot is "Peacko".
- Indian Medal Success: the women's doubles pairing of Pullela Gayatri and Treesa Jolly won the Bronze medal.
- Other Championship Winners:

5. ★ 2026 Grand Slam Winners Summary; Rybakina Becomes WTA World No. 1

- Elena Rybakina reached the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) World No. 1 ranking.
- 2026 Grand Slam winners: Grand Slam Men's Singles Women's Singles Australian Carlos Elena Open Alcaraz Rybakina French Open Alexander Mirra Zverev Andreeva Wimbledon Jannik Sinner Linda Noskova US Open Alexander Elena Zverev Rybakina

6. ★ 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 best combined result for the third time in a row (2022, 2024, 2026).
- 11-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan (Indianorigin, representing England) became the youngest Woman Grandmaster (WGM) in chess history.

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7. ★ Bodhana Sivanandan Becomes Youngest Woman Grandmaster

- Bodhana Sivanandan, an 11-year-old BritishIndian, became the youngest player ever to earn the Woman Grandmaster (WGM) title.
- Previous record: Kateryna Lagno (12 years 4 months).
- 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.

8. Wimbledon 2026

- Jannik Sinner won the Men's Singles title.
- Linda Nosková won the Women's Singles title.
- Total prize pool: £64.2 Million (British Pounds).

9. Anahat Singh Wins World Junior Squash Championship Girls' Singles Title

- The World Junior Squash Championship was held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada.

10. Chess — Carlsen, Pranesh M, Praggnanandhaa and Asian Junior Championship

- Magnus Carlsen won / retained the Esports World Cup 2026 Chess title; he has held the World Number One spot for 15 consecutive years.

11. Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating Trophy Launched in Dehradun

- Launched in Dehradun by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami; the official mascots are two peacocks named Mayur and Mayuri.

12. 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.

13. 65th National Open Athletics Championships: Ankita Dhyani and Jishnu Prasad Set Meet Records

- Ankita Dhyani (Railways) – women's 3000 m steeplechase in 9:34.86, breaking Lalita Babar's 9:39.83 (2015).

14. Durga Esha Kandrapu Wins Hellas International; Sindhu Runner-Up at French Open

- Kandrapu Durga Esha (Andhra Pradesh) won the Hellas International badminton tournament in Greece (a BWF Future Series event).

4. Olympics, CWG, Asian Games & Multi-sport Events

1. ★ Ahmedabad Awarded Hosting Rights for the 2030 Centenary Commonwealth Games

- The first Commonwealth Games took place in Hamilton, Canada, in 1930, making 2030 the centenary edition.
- Marks India's second time hosting the Commonwealth Games.
- This will be India's second time hosting; the previous edition was Delhi 2010.

2. ★ Commonwealth Games 2026 Held in Glasgow, Scotland — India Finishes 4th

- The 23rd edition of the Commonwealth Games (CWG) was held in Glasgow, Scotland, UK, from 23 July to 2 August 2026.
- Mascot: "Finny", a unicorn inspired by Scotland's national animal.
- 74 countries participated; India fielded 122 athletes across 8 able-bodied sports and 5 integrated para-sports.
- Medal Tally:

3. ★ Hockey World Cup 2026 & 20th Asian Games Preparation

- Germany beat Spain 1-0 (Wavre, Belgium) — 2nd consecutive, 4th overall title; Argentina 3rd; India men 8th (capt. Harmanpreet Singh), women 5th.
- 20th Asian Games, Aichi-Nagoya: India cleared 503 athletes (269 men, 234 women); motto "Imagine One Asia"; mascot "Honohon"; future hosts Qatar 2030, Saudi Arabia 2034.

4. ★ 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).

5. ★ 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).
- Suchika Tariyal: India's first-ever Asian Games MMA medal (bronze).

6. ★ Indian Squash Teams Win Bronze at Asian Games Indian Women's Hockey Team Wins Asian Games Gold After 44 Years

- India beat defending champions China 1-0 in the final at Kakamigahara on October 2, 2026 to win gold at the 20th Asian Games, Aichi-Nagoya (Japan).
- Lalremsiami scored in the 10th minute; Captain: Salima Tete; Goalkeeper: Bichu Devi; Savita Punia saved a penalty stroke.

7. ★ 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).
- Gulveer Singh won Bronze in the men's 5000m (13:32.75, September 29, 2026), completing a hat-trick:
  - Bronze – 5000m.

8. ★ 20th Asian Games 2026 Held at AichiNagoya, Japan

- Held 19 September – 4 October 2026; opened by Emperor Naruhito.
- 45 countries, 43 sports; Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) made its debut.
- India's flag-bearers: Manu Bhaker (shooting) and Pawan Sehrawat (kabaddi).

9. ★ 20th Asian Games 2026: India Finishes 4th with 85 Medals; Doha to Host 2030

- India won 21 gold, 27 silver, 37 bronze. China topped the table with 341 medals.
- Flag-bearers: Manu Bhaker and Pawan Sehrawat (opening); Neeru Dhanda (closing).
- Doha, Qatar will host the 21st Asian Games (2030).

10. ★ 5th Asian Para Games 2026 (Aichi–Nagoya, Japan): India's Record 114 Medals

- Concluded on 24 October 2026 in Aichi–Nagoya, Japan; mascot: "Uzumin".
- About 3,000 athletes from 45 countries/regions in 18 sports; India sent 168 athletes.
- India finished 4th with 114 medals (30 gold, 35 silver, 49 bronze) – its first 100+ haul – with 22 golds in para-athletics.
- Commonwealth Games 2030: Ahmedabad, India.

11. Commonwealth Games 2026 (Glasgow) — India's Performance

- The Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2026 are being held in Glasgow, Scotland.
- Official mascot: "Finnie".
- Sharmila Sankar — Gold in Women's Shot Put F57.

12. India Wins First-Ever Commonwealth Games Judo Gold Medals

- Asmita Dey (from Tripura) won India's firstever Commonwealth Games Gold Medal in Judo in the Women's 48 kg category.

13. Mirabai Chanu Wins India's First Gold at 2026 Commonwealth Games — Weightlifting

- Mirabai Chanu won India's first Gold at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in the women's 48 kg weightlifting category.

14. Asian Games 2026: Athletics Medals

- Mixed 4x400 m Relay: Silver (3:14.46); team: M.R. Poovamma, Vishal Thennarasu, Vithya Ramraj, Manu T.S.
- Women's Long Jump: Ancy Sojan (Kerala) won Silver (6.53 m).

15. 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.

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

- Jay Meena (Dewas, Madhya Pradesh) won bronze in men's singles soft tennis.

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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).

20. 20th Asian Games 2026 (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan): Overview and Final Medal Table – India Finishes 4th with 85 Medals

- Held from September 19 to October 4, 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan; opened by Emperor Naruhito; about 45 nations and 10,800 athletes; 469 events in 43 sports

21. Asian Games 2026: India Sweep Compound Archery Team Golds

- Women's Team Gold: Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Chikitha Taniparthi and Prithika Pradeep beat China 238-234, equalling the world record of 238 (set by South Korea at Incheon.

22. Sawan Barwal Wins Asian Games Marathon Silver with National Record

- Won silver in the men's marathon on 26 September 2026 at Aichi-Nagoya (Japan) in 2:11:37 – a national record (bettering his own 2:11:58, Rotterdam, April 2026).

23. Indian Men's Hockey Team Retains Asian Games Gold

- India beat Malaysia 5-1 in the final on October 3, 2026 at Gifu Prefectural Green Stadium, Kakamigahara.

24. Boxing: Three Asian Games Golds for India

- Lovlina Borgohain: Gold in women's 75 kg, beating Bao Ziyi (China) 5-0 on October 2, 2026

25. PM Modi Meets India's Asian Games 2026 Contingent

- Said over ₹36,000 crore allocated for Khelo India and Sports Federations.

26. Doha to Host 21st Asian Games in 2030

- The 21st Asian Games (2030) will be held in Doha, Qatar; the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) flag was handed to Doha at the closing ceremony on October 4, 2026.

27. 5th Asian Para Games 2026 (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, 18–24 October 2026)

- Mascot: UZUMIN (water concept); slogan: "Imagine One Heart".
- Paralympic Committee of India President: Devendra Jhajharia.

28. Rajnath Singh Felicitates Services Athletes for 27 Medals at Asian Games 2026

- Services athletes won 6 gold, 11 silver and 10 bronze; India finished 4th with 85 medals.

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29. ISSF World Cup (Rifle/Pistol), Cairo, Egypt (8– 16 October 2026)

- Olympic bronze medallists Swapnil Kusale and Sarabjot Singh to lead India at the ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) World Cup.

30. Pranavi Sharath Urs Wins India's First Women's Golf Gold

- Pranavi Sharath Urs became the first Indian woman to win individual golf gold at the Asian Games.

31. Aman Sehrawat Wins Men's 57 kg Freestyle Wrestling Gold

- First Indian to win this event at the Asian Games.
- Beat North Korea's world champion Han Chongsong.

32. Archery: Women's Recurve Team Gold and Kumkum Mohod's Historic Individual Recurve Gold

- Women's recurve team – Ankita Bhakat, Kirti Sharma and Kumkum Mohod – beat South Korea 5-3 on October 2, 2026 – India's first-ever (maiden) Asian Games gold in women's recurve team archery.

33. The official slogan "Stars Align" for the Los Angeles 2028 (LA28) Olympic and Paralympic Games was unveiled; the campaign film uses Red Hot Chili Peppers' song "Can't Stop".

- Upcoming Games — Summer: 2028 Los Angeles (USA), 2032 Brisbane (Australia); Winter: 2026 Milano Cortina (Italy), 2030 French Alps (France).

34. Asian Para Games 2026: India's Best-Ever Haul of 114 Medals

- Held in Aichi–Nagoya, Japan (18–24 October 2026); 30 gold, 35 silver, 49 bronze (previous best 108 in 2023).

35. 4th Summer Youth Olympic Games, Dakar 2026

- First Olympic event in Africa; Mascot 'Ayo' (lion cub); concluded 13 November 2026.
- Tanvi Patri (Odisha) – silver, girls' singles badminton.

5. Athletics, Shooting, Wrestling, Boxing & Other Sports

1. ★ Shooting — ISSF World Cup 2026 (Hangzhou)

- The ISSF World Cup 2026 was held in Hangzhou, China.
- India's national shooting team concluded the event with a total of 4 medals — 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze.
- Gold: Esha Singh — Women's 25m Pistol.
- Silver: Sainyam — Women's 10m Air Pistol.
- Bronze: Manu Bhakar (Individual).
- China ranked first, while India finished 3rd with 4 medals — 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze.

2. ★ Other Major Sports Achievements — August 2026

- ISSF World Cup 2026, Hangzhou, China: India finished 3rd with 4 medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze); China 1st. Gold — Esha Singh (Women's 25m Pistol)
- Anahat Singh became the first Indian girl to win the World Junior Squash Championship Girls' Singles title at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, beating Egypt's Rukaiya Salim

3. ★ Ariha Pangambam Wins Gold at Aerobic Gymnastics Asian Championship

- 22-year-old Ariha Pangambam won Gold in the Senior Women's Individual Event at the Aerobic Gymnastics Asian Championship in Tagaytay City, Philippines.
- She is the first-ever Indian gymnast to secure gold in this senior category.
- Coach: Yumnam Ranjan Singh.

4. ★ 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.
- The Archery World Cup Final 2026 was held in Saltillo, Mexico.

5. ★ BRICS Traditional and Indigenous Sports Demonstration Games 2026 Inaugurated in Ahmedabad

- Inaugurated by Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya at Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, Ahmedabad (Gujarat), on 12 October 2026, under India's BRICS Chairship (2026).
- India showcased Mallakhamb, Yogasana and Kalaripayattu; Mandaviya proposed a BRICS Repository of Traditional and Indigenous Sports.

6. ★ Manisha Bhanwala Becomes India's First Woman Senior World Wrestling Champion

- Senior World Wrestling Championships 2026 — Astana, Kazakhstan.
- Manisha Bhanwala won gold in the women's 59 kg category on 30 October 2026
- Manisha is the first Indian woman to win a Senior World Wrestling Championships title, and the second Indian wrestler overall after Sushil Kumar (men's 66 kg, 2010).

7. Volleyball — India's First-Ever Bronze at AVC Men's Volleyball Cup 2026 (Men's Nations Cup)

- Held June 20–26 at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, Ahmedabad, Gujarat; India secured its first-ever Bronze by defeating Bahrain.

8. Rowing — India's First-Ever Gold at World Rowing Cup

- Held in Lucerne, Switzerland; Indian rowers Ujjwal Kumar and Lakshya secured India's first-ever gold medal in rowing.

9. Lionel Messi to Feature in Three World Cup Finals

- Lionel Messi will become the second player to feature in three World Cup finals.

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

- The World Athletics Championships have never been held in Africa.
- World Athletics President: Sebastian Coe.

11. 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.

PART S — STATIC GK

1. Static GK

1. ★ Static GK Facts

- India's four mints (for coining) are located in Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Noida.
- Banknote printing presses mnemonic "MSD(N)": Mysore, Salboni, Dewas and Nasik — Mysore and Salboni are RBI presses managed by BRBNMPL
- The Five All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) regulated by RBI: 1. SIDBI (MSME financing); 2. NABARD (rural development); 3. EXIM Bank (foreign trade); 4.

2. ★ All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) and Export Interest Support Scheme

- India has 5 All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) regulated by the RBI: NABARD, SIDBI, EXIM Bank, National Housing Bank (NHB) and NaBFID (National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development). The Export Interest Support Scheme — which provides pre-shipment and postshipment export credit under the Export Promotion Scheme — will now be managed by the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank), taking over from the RBI's pilotbasis management.

3. Foundation Days & Anniversaries

- State Bank of India (SBI) Foundation Day — 71st Anniversary (July 1): SBI evolved from the merger of the Bank of Bengal (1806).

4. Important Days & Observances July

- July 11 — International Day of Reflection on the Srebrenica Genocide and World Population Day.
- 22 July — World Brain Day; theme "Brain Health Access for All".

5. Organisation & Country Profiles World Bank Group President

- World Bank Group President: Ajay Banga. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Profile
- Established: July 29, 1957.
- Capital: Luxembourg City.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. Heads of major global financial institutions

- International Monetary Fund (IMF): Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria); HQ: Washington, D.C.

10. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC): Founded on 8 December 1985; Secretariat: Kathmandu, Nepal; 8 members – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

11. India's Major Bilateral Exercises

- India–US: Yudh Abhyas (Army) – 22nd edition from September 2026 at Auli (Uttarakhand) and Mahajan Field Firing Range (Rajasthan)

1000 MOST EXPECTED GENERAL AWARENESS QUESTIONS

Part A — Economy & Indicators (Q1–Q68)

Q1. Who chairs the GST Council?
Ans: Union Finance Minister

Q2. Under which Article is the GST Council constituted?
Ans: Article 279A

Q3. Which Article gives the power to levy GST?
Ans: Article 246A

Q4. On whose recommendations was GST introduced?
Ans: Vijay Kelkar Task Force

Q5. What is the FY27 fiscal deficit target?
Ans: 4.3% of GDP

Q6. Who releases CPI data?
Ans: NSO, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Q7. Who releases WPI data?
Ans: Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT (Ministry of Commerce & Industry)

Q8. What is the new base year of India's GDP series?
Ans: 2022–23

Q9. What was India's CPI inflation in October 2026?
Ans: 6.09%

Q10. What was India's food inflation (CFPI) in October 2026?
Ans: 8.94%

Q11. Which rating agency upgraded India to 'A-' in 2026?
Ans: Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR)

Q12. What is Moody's sovereign rating for India?
Ans: Baa3 (Stable)

Q13. What was India's net direct tax collection in Q1 FY 2026–27?
Ans: ₹6.51 lakh crore (up 16.4%)

Q14. Which state was the first to ratify the GST Bill?
Ans: Assam

Q15. Which state had the highest CPI inflation in September 2026?
Ans: Tamil Nadu (6.81%)

Q16. What was retail (CPI) inflation in June 2026?
Ans: 4.38% – first breach of the 4% target since January 2025

Q17. Which was the first country to adopt GST?
Ans: France (1954)

Q18. What is the FDI cap in Small Finance Banks?
Ans: 74%

Q19. What was the gross GST collection in July 2026?
Ans: ₹2.11 lakh crore

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Q20. When was the 57th GST Council meeting held?
Ans: 8 October 2026, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Q21. What is the states' share of central taxes under the 16th Finance Commission?
Ans: 41%

Q22. What is the outlay of the revised ANSF scheme (2026–31)?
Ans: ₹7,386.74 crore

Q23. What is the state fiscal deficit ceiling set by the Finance Commission by FY31?
Ans: 3% of GSDP

Q24. Which international agency raised India's FY27 growth forecast to 7.1%, the highest among agencies?
Ans: OECD

Q25. How much GST was collected in October 2026?
Ans: Over ₹2.31 lakh crore (up 22.9%)

Q26. Under the 57th GST Council decisions, to what was the prosecution threshold under Section 132 raised?
Ans: ₹5 crore (from ₹1 crore)

Q27. What was India's Central Government debt-to-GDP ratio in FY 2025–26?
Ans: 58.2%

Q28. How large was the tax devolution instalment released to states on 5 November 2026?
Ans: ₹1,09,019 crore

Q29. Which country is the top source of outstanding FDI in India?
Ans: United States (16.5%)

Q30. Which index will replace WPI over the next 5 years?
Ans: Producer Price Index (PPI)

Q31. What is the Finance Ministry's Q2 FY27 GDP growth projection?
Ans: 7.35%

Q32. What was India's real GDP in Q1 FY27?
Ans: ₹81.36 lakh crore

Q33. What was India's real GDP growth in Q1 (April–June) of FY 2026–27?
Ans: 7.8%

Q34. What is the new base year of WPI, IIP and the Index of Core Industries?
Ans: 2022–23

Q35. What was India's external debt-to-GDP ratio at end-March 2026?
Ans: 20.8%

Q36. What was the gross GST collection in September 2026?
Ans: ₹2,03,521 crore

Q37. In which edition of RBI's Survey of Professional Forecasters was FY27 GDP growth projected at 6.6%?
Ans: 101st SPF

Q38. What was CPI inflation in September 2026?
Ans: 5.54%

Q39. What was the Centre's fiscal deficit for April–August 2026 as a share of FY27 BE?
Ans: 41.9%

Q40. Which Constitutional Amendment Act introduced GST?
Ans: 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016

Q41. What was the gross GST collection in August 2026?
Ans: ₹1,99,853 crore

Q42. What is the new base year of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)?
Ans: 2022–23

Q43. What was India's actual GDP growth in FY 2025–26 (as revised)?
Ans: 7.8% (revised from 7.7%)

Q44. What was India's Current Account Deficit in Q1 FY27?
Ans: US$ 4.2 billion (0.5% of GDP)

Q45. What is the base year of MoSPI's Index of Services Production (ISP)?
Ans: 2024–25

Q46. How many GST registrations were there as of 31 October 2026?
Ans: 1.71 crore

Q47. At what level did CBDT notify the Cost Inflation Index (CII) for FY 2026–27?
Ans: 384

Q48. To what level did Moody's raise India's FY27 GDP growth forecast on 18 September 2026?
Ans: 7.0% (from 6.0%)

Q49. What was WPI inflation in September 2026?
Ans: 11.39%

Q50. What are the GST slabs under GST 2.0?
Ans: Nil, 5%, 18% and 40%

Q51. What was India's total external debt at the end of March 2026?
Ans: $762.8 billion

Q52. Since when has RBI been conducting the Survey of Professional Forecasters?
Ans: 2007

Q53. What was retail inflation in October 2026?
Ans: 6.09%

Q54. What sovereign rating did Fitch maintain for India?
Ans: 'BBB-' (lowest investment grade)

Q55. To what level did India's Manufacturing PMI fall in July 2026?
Ans: 53.5 (lowest in nearly 5 years)

Q56. What was India's external debt at end-June 2026?
Ans: US$ 778.2 billion

Q57. What was India's FDI inflow in FY 2025–26?
Ans: $94.53 billion (highest ever)

Q58. What are "Maharaja bonds"?
Ans: Rupee bonds issued in India by foreign entities/multilaterals

Q59. What total exports target has India set for FY27?
Ans: $1 trillion

Q60. What was the unemployment rate in the PLFS for July–September 2026?
Ans: 5.1%

Q61. What was India's trade deficit in July 2026?
Ans: $15 billion

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Q62. What were India's total exports in July 2026?
Ans: $80.14 billion (up 13.31%)

Q63. What sovereign rating did S&P retain for India?
Ans: 'BBB' (Stable)

Q64. What was India's Manufacturing PMI in October 2026?
Ans: 54.7

Q65. What was IIP growth in June 2026?
Ans: 7.3% (23-month high)

Q66. How many digits does a GSTIN have?
Ans: 15

Q67. What are "Masala bonds"?
Ans: Rupee-denominated bonds issued offshore

Q68. What is the new base year of the CPI series?
Ans: 2024

Part B — RBI & Banking Regulation (Q69–Q120)

Q69. Who is the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India?
Ans: Sanjay Malhotra (26th Governor)

Q70. Who chaired the 63rd MPC meeting held on 5–7 October 2026?
Ans: RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra

Q71. What is the inflation target given to RBI under Section 45ZA of the RBI Act?
Ans: 4% ± 2%

Q72. What was the vote on the 25 bps repo hike in October 2026?
Ans: 6–0 (unanimous)

Q73. Who appoints the three external members of the MPC?
Ans: Government of India

Q74. When was the RBI established?
Ans: 1 April 1935

Q75. Where is the RBI headquartered?
Ans: Mumbai

Q76. What is the minimum CRAR for Scheduled Commercial Banks in India?
Ans: 9%

Q77. Under the SBR framework, into how many layers are NBFCs classified?
Ans: Four – Base, Middle, Upper and Top

Q78. Which committee recommended RRBs?
Ans: Narasimham Working Group (1975)

Q79. Who regulates and who supervises RRBs?
Ans: Regulated by RBI, supervised by NABARD

Q80. What is the Leverage Ratio requirement for D-SIBs under RBI's Basel III directions?
Ans: 4% (3.5% for other banks)

Q81. From when does the Basel III Standardised Approach for operational risk apply?
Ans: 1 April 2027

Q82. Which RBI department does Deputy Governor Rohit Jain oversee for TCCFM?
Ans: Financial Markets Regulation Department (FMRD)

Q83. Where is the RBI Data Centre and cyber-security training institute inaugurated by PM Modi located?
Ans: Jatni (Khordha), near Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Q84. What is the repo rate after the October 2026 RBI policy?
Ans: 5.50%

Q85. What is the bulk deposit threshold for commercial banks and SFBs from 1 October 2026?
Ans: ₹3 crore and above

Q86. What is the annual limit under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)?
Ans: $250,000

Q87. What was bank credit growth as of 15 September 2026 per the RBI policy statement?
Ans: 18.1%

Q88. Under which section was Paytm Payments Bank's licence cancelled?
Ans: Section 22(4) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949

Q89. What is the WMA limit set by RBI for October 2026 to March 2027?
Ans: ₹50,000 crore

Q90. On what system must banks run their digital banking channels as per RBI directions?
Ans: Core Banking Solutions (CBS)

Q91. What is the limit for walk-in NEFT cash remittance at a branch under RBI's Domestic Money Transfer Directions, 2026?
Ans: ₹50,000 per transaction

Q92. What is the minimum net worth required for an SRO under RBI's framework?
Ans: ₹10 crore

Q93. When was the Liberalised Remittance Scheme launched?
Ans: 2004

Q94. What is the overall PSL target for domestic commercial banks under RBI's draft PSL Directions, 2026?
Ans: 40% of ANBC or CEOBE, whichever is higher

Q95. On whose recommendation was the RBI established?
Ans: Hilton Young Commission (1 April 1935)

Q96. What new market framework did RBI introduce in 2026 covering call, notice and term money?
Ans: New Money Market Guidelines

Q97. When did RBI halt fresh licensing of Urban Co-operative Banks?
Ans: 2004

Q98. From when do RBI's concentration-risk guidelines for Rural Co-operative Banks apply?
Ans: 1 April 2027

Q99. By how much did the 63rd MPC raise the repo rate in October 2026?
Ans: 25 bps, to 5.50%

Q100. Which three Credit Information Companies were penalised by the RBI in September 2026?
Ans: Equifax, TransUnion CIBIL and CRIF High Mark

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Q101. Which was the first country to adopt polymer notes?
Ans: Australia

Q102. What is the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate after the October 2026 hike?
Ans: 5.25%

Q103. What is the name of RBI's Core Banking Solution?
Ans: e-Kuber

Q104. Who heads RBI's advisory committee on the FREE-AI framework?
Ans: Pushpak Bhattacharyya

Q105. Who chairs RBI's Technical Consultative Committee for Financial Markets (TCCFM)?
Ans: Deputy Governor Rohit Jain

Q106. What was India's Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) score reported in 2026?
Ans: 70

Q107. How much did RBI plan to sell through OMO sale auctions in FY27 (September 2026)?
Ans: ₹1,00,000 crore

Q108. What is India's rank in the WEF Global Gender Gap Report 2026?
Ans: 131st of 145

Q109. Who is the 26th Governor of the RBI?
Ans: Sanjay Malhotra

Q110. What is the interest rate on Ways and Means Advances?
Ans: Repo rate

Q111. What was the repo rate decided at the 62nd MPC meeting?
Ans: 5.25% (unchanged)

Q112. Since when has TReDS been regulated by the RBI?
Ans: 2017

Q113. What is RBI's AFA (additional factor of authentication) exemption threshold?
Ans: ₹15,000

Q114. How many NBFCs are in RBI's Upper Layer list for FY27?
Ans: 17

Q115. Which organisation did RBI recognise as an SRO for financial markets?
Ans: FIMMDA

Q116. What stance did the RBI MPC adopt in October 2026?
Ans: Calibrated tightening

Q117. Above what asset size does an NBFC automatically enter the Upper Layer under SBR?
Ans: ₹1,00,000 crore

Q118. How many statistical tables does the 28th edition of RBI's Handbook of Statistics contain?
Ans: 245

Q119. Which denominations will be piloted for RBI's polymer banknotes?
Ans: ₹10 and ₹20

Q120. What percentage of inhabited villages have banking outreach?
Ans: 99.92%

Part C — Banks (Q121–Q218)

Q121. Who is the MD & CEO of LIC?
Ans: R. Doraiswamy

Q122. Who is the Chairman of SBI?
Ans: Challa Sreenivasulu Setty

Q123. In which year did SBI come into existence from the Imperial Bank of India?
Ans: 1955

Q124. Who is the MD & CEO of HDFC Bank from 27 October 2026?
Ans: Anup Bagchi

Q125. Who is the MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank?
Ans: Ashok Vaswani

Q126. Where is UCO Bank headquartered?
Ans: Kolkata

Q127. What is the tagline of UCO Bank?
Ans: "Honours Your Trust"

Q128. Who is the MD & CEO of UCO Bank?
Ans: Ashwani Kumar

Q129. Where is Indian Overseas Bank headquartered?
Ans: Chennai

Q130. Who is the MD & CEO of Indian Overseas Bank?
Ans: Ajay Kumar Srivastava

Q131. Who founded Bank of Baroda and in which year?
Ans: Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, 1908

Q132. What is the tagline of Bank of Baroda?
Ans: "India's International Bank"

Q133. Where is Tamilnad Mercantile Bank headquartered?
Ans: Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

Q134. Where is RBL Bank headquartered?
Ans: Mumbai

Q135. Who is the MD & CEO of RBL Bank?
Ans: R. Subramaniakumar

Q136. Since when has HSBC been in India?
Ans: 1853

Q137. Who is the CEO of HSBC India?
Ans: Hitendra Dave

Q138. Where is AU Small Finance Bank headquartered?
Ans: Jaipur, Rajasthan

Q139. Which bank was the first payments bank to get a licence?
Ans: Airtel Payments Bank (April 2016)

Q140. What is the minimum paid-up capital for a payments bank?
Ans: ₹100 crore

Q141. What is the CAR requirement for payments banks?
Ans: 15%

Q142. Which are India's three D-SIBs?
Ans: SBI, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank

Q143. What is HDFC Bank's additional CET1 requirement as a D-SIB?
Ans: 0.40% (Bucket 2)

Q144. What is the FDI limit in public sector banks?
Ans: 20%

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Q145. What is the PSL target for Small Finance Banks?
Ans: 60% of ANBC

Q146. What was SBI's net profit in Q2 FY27?
Ans: ₹23,038 crore (up 14.3%)

Q147. Which magazine named SBI the "World's Best Consumer Bank 2026"?
Ans: Global Finance

Q148. Which committee's report led to the KCC scheme in 1998?
Ans: R.V. Gupta Committee

Q149. What is the collateral-free limit for KCC loans?
Ans: ₹2 lakh

Q150. When was PMJDY launched?
Ans: 28 August 2014

Q151. Which was India's first Small Finance Bank?
Ans: Capital Small Finance Bank

Q152. Where is the headquarters of the New Development Bank (BRICS Bank)?
Ans: Shanghai

Q153. Who is the World Bank Executive Director for India?
Ans: Neelkanth Mishra

Q154. Which was the first Small Finance Bank to get in-principle approval to become a universal bank?
Ans: AU Small Finance Bank (Jaipur)

Q155. Which bank ranked 1st in Bihar's Performance Index for Banks?
Ans: IDFC First Bank

Q156. Which was the first PSB to launch Bharat Connect for Business?
Ans: Central Bank of India

Q157. Which former ISRO Chairman was appointed to the RBI Central Board?
Ans: S. Somanath

Q158. Which organisation launched India's first blue bond?
Ans: Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd

Q159. The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) is hosted by which body?
Ans: Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

Q160. What is the interest rate on SCSS and Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana for Q3 FY27?
Ans: 8.2%

Q161. Who became MD & CEO of LIC Housing Finance?
Ans: Sandeep Kumar

Q162. What was the combined net profit of Public Sector Banks in FY26?
Ans: ₹1.98 lakh crore

Q163. Which country will chair the IMF and World Bank Boards of Governors in 2027?
Ans: Pakistan

Q164. India became the world's which largest forex reserve holder in September 2026?
Ans: 4th (after China, Japan, Switzerland)

Q165. Who was appointed Chief Economist of the World Bank Group in September 2026?
Ans: Michael Kremer

Q166. What is "bob World 2.0"?
Ans: Bank of Baroda's AI-powered mobile banking platform

Q167. Who was appointed Vice President and Auditor General of the World Bank Group?
Ans: Yuko Keicho

Q168. What was SBI's net profit in Q1 FY 2026–27?
Ans: ₹21,121 crore (highest-ever quarterly)

Q169. Who was appointed Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank?
Ans: Shabnam Sinha

Q170. Who was appointed RBI Executive Director on 1 July 2026?
Ans: J. Ravi Shankar

Q171. When was India Post Payments Bank established?
Ans: 1 September 2018

Q172. Which SFB enabled FD booking at white label ATMs?
Ans: Suryoday Small Finance Bank

Q173. Which company is buying a 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank?
Ans: Fairfax Financial Holdings

Q174. What was bank deposit growth as of 31 July 2026?
Ans: 15.4% (highest since December 2016)

Q175. What is the PSL target for Urban Co-operative Banks?
Ans: 60% of ANBC

Q176. Who was appointed RBI Executive Director from 1 September 2026?
Ans: Suman Ray

Q177. What is India's extreme poverty rate as per the World Bank?
Ans: 2.6%

Q178. Who was appointed MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance from 14 October 2026?
Ans: Sidharatha Mishra

Q179. Who is the President of the Asian Development Bank?
Ans: Masato Kanda

Q180. What is the PSL target for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)?
Ans: 75% of ANBC

Q181. How much have Indian banks written off in 12 years?
Ans: About ₹9.95 lakh crore

Q182. What is the shareholding pattern of RRBs?
Ans: Centre 50%, Sponsor Bank 35%, State 15%

Q183. Which bank launched user-level programmable Digital Rupee?
Ans: Bank of India

Q184. Who was named interim CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank?
Ans: Balaji Nuthalapadi

Q185. To how many were RRBs consolidated under "One State, One RRB"?
Ans: 28 (from 43, as of 1 May 2025)

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Q186. How much did IFC lend to SBI as a social loan?
Ans: USD 150 million

Q187. When did SBI celebrate its 71st Foundation Day?
Ans: 1 July 2026

Q188. What is SBI Mutual Fund's assisted digital onboarding service called?
Ans: AARAMBH

Q189. What is the full form of TReDS?
Ans: Trade Receivables Discounting System

Q190. To what level did ICICI Bank raise its stake in ICICI Prudential Life?
Ans: 52.84%

Q191. Who will step down early as President of the European Central Bank?
Ans: Christine Lagarde

Q192. How many Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are there now?
Ans: 28

Q193. What is SBI Card's FD-backed secured card called?
Ans: Advantage SBI Card

Q194. The FSIB replaced which body?
Ans: Banks Board Bureau (BBB)

Q195. What is the PPF interest rate for October–December 2026?
Ans: 7.1%

Q196. How much will HSBC India invest in financial literacy over 4 years?
Ans: ₹200 crore

Q197. Who was appointed Executive Director of SEBI?
Ans: Prasanta Mahapatra

Q198. What was SCB credit growth as per SBI Research?
Ans: 18.6%

Q199. Who was appointed MD & CEO of Manappuram Finance?
Ans: Ashish Singh

Q200. What AI fraud-monitoring platform did HDFC Bank launch?
Ans: Neev

Q201. What is the minimum leverage ratio for other commercial banks?
Ans: 3.5%

Q202. What is the minimum leverage ratio for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)?
Ans: 4%

Q203. Who chairs the High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat?
Ans: Suresh N. Patel

Q204. What is Indian Bank's AI assistant called?
Ans: AI TARA

Q205. What is the name of SBI's simplified YONO for feature-phone users?
Ans: YONO Bharat

Q206. What additional capital must G-SIBs hold?
Ans: Up to 2%

Q207. When does the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 come into force?
Ans: 1 October 2026

Q208. Who is the MD & CEO of Bank of India?
Ans: Rajneesh Karnatak

Q209. How many accounts had PMJDY reached by its 12th anniversary?
Ans: 59.09 crore

Q210. What is the name of SBI's cybersecurity Centre of Excellence?
Ans: CyRIS

Q211. In which year did HSBC install India's first ATM?
Ans: 1987

Q212. Who was approved as Interim MD & CEO of Ujjivan SFB?
Ans: Carol Furtado

Q213. How much did private banks collect in minimum balance penalties in FY25–26?
Ans: ₹4,948.71 crore

Q214. What is "RAY" launched by Razorpay and IndusInd Bank?
Ans: Conversational AI account manager on WhatsApp

Q215. What is SBI's additional CET-1 requirement as a D-SIB?
Ans: 0.80% (Bucket 4)

Q216. What is the minimum net worth requirement for stockbrokers offering Margin Trading Facility?
Ans: ₹5 crore

Q217. What was the Gross NPA ratio of PSBs in FY26?
Ans: 1.9% (10-year low)

Q218. What record level did India's forex reserves reach in the week ended 4 September 2026?
Ans: $785.71 billion

Part D — Payments & Fintech (Q219–Q246)

Q219. When was NPCI incorporated?
Ans: December 2008

Q220. Who is the MD & CEO of NPCI?
Ans: Dilip Asbe

Q221. What was the record number of UPI transactions in October 2026?
Ans: 25.47 billion

Q222. In how many countries is UPI live?
Ans: 11

Q223. Which was the second European country to adopt UPI?
Ans: Greece (after France)

Q224. When was UPI launched?
Ans: 2016 (by NPCI)

Q225. What is the per-transaction limit for UPI 123Pay?
Ans: ₹10,000

Q226. What is the full form of DPIP set up by RBI and NPCI?
Ans: Digital Payments Intelligence Platform

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Q227. Which bank launched UPI Global Reverse Acceptance on 26 August 2026?
Ans: Bank of Baroda

Q228. What is the maximum deposit a payments bank can hold per customer?
Ans: ₹2 lakh

Q229. How many UPI transactions were recorded in July 2026?
Ans: 23.66 billion (₹29.88 lakh crore)

Q230. Which was the first country to adopt UPI?
Ans: Bhutan

Q231. What is the wallet limit for UPI Lite?
Ans: ₹5,000

Q232. What is NPCI's international subsidiary called?
Ans: NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)

Q233. Which country became the 11th country to adopt QR-based UPI payments?
Ans: Uzbekistan

Q234. What MDR applies on high-value UPI merchant payments from 15 October 2026?
Ans: 0.4%

Q235. What is the maximum repayment period under Stand-Up India?
Ans: 7 years (moratorium up to 18 months)

Q236. On whose recommendation were payments banks set up?
Ans: Nachiket Mor Committee

Q237. By 31 December 2026, TPAPs must limit their UPI volume share to what percentage?
Ans: 30%

Q238. Which country became the 10th country and 2nd European country to adopt UPI?
Ans: Greece

Q239. What is the active UPI user base reported in 2026?
Ans: 55.49 crore

Q240. How many banks are live on UPI?
Ans: 731

Q241. What is the minimum cooling period after a customer changes the mobile number linked to a payment instrument?
Ans: 12 hours

Q242. NPCI MD & CEO Dilip Asbe was appointed to which board?
Ans: SWIFT Supervisory Board

Q243. Which app leads UPI by transaction volume?
Ans: PhonePe

Q244. What is the offline POS UPI limit?
Ans: ₹2,000

Q245. What AI payment assistant did NPCI unveil?
Ans: MyUPI

Q246. What is the name of NPCI's 4th subsidiary?
Ans: NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL)

Part E — Capital Markets, Insurance & Pension (Q247–Q298)

Q247. Who is the Chairman of IRDAI?
Ans: Ajay Seth

Q248. Where is IRDAI headquartered?
Ans: Hyderabad

Q249. Who is the Chairperson of PFRDA?
Ans: Sivasubramanian Ramann

Q250. What is the age band for joining Atal Pension Yojana?
Ans: 18–40 years

Q251. What is the entry age for NPS?
Ans: 18–70 years

Q252. What is the claim limit handled by the Insurance Ombudsman?
Ans: ₹50 lakh

Q253. How many Insurance Ombudsman centres are there?
Ans: 17

Q254. What is the goal of IRDAI's insurance vision?
Ans: "Insurance for All by 2047"

Q255. What is the EPF wage ceiling raised to in September 2026?
Ans: ₹25,000 per month (from ₹15,000)

Q256. To establishments with how many employees does EPF apply?
Ans: 20 or more

Q257. Up to what stake in ICICI Bank did RBI allow LIC to acquire?
Ans: 9.99%

Q258. Which was the 2nd public sector bank to sponsor a pension fund?
Ans: Bank of Baroda

Q259. Above what share of paid-up capital does a share transfer in an insurer now need IRDAI's approval?
Ans: 5% (earlier 1%)

Q260. On which date is World Thrift Day observed in India?
Ans: 30 October

Q261. After the IDBI Bank stake sale, how much stake will LIC retain?
Ans: 19%

Q262. What registry did IRDAI launch as Digital Public Infrastructure?
Ans: Public Insurance Registry (PIR)

Q263. Which company got SEBI's Online Bond Platform Provider (OBPP) licence?
Ans: PB Money

Q264. What is India's global rank by number of IPOs according to SEBI's annual report?
Ans: 1st

Q265. What will be the size of NSE's IPO approved by SEBI?
Ans: ₹30,000 crore – India's largest-ever

Q266. Which insurers are India's Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs)?
Ans: LIC, GIC Re and New India Assurance

Q267. What is the full form of SCORES?
Ans: SEBI Complaints Redress System

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Q268. SEBI signed an MoU on clearing corporations with which central bank?
Ans: Bank of England

Q269. What minimum average operating profit has SEBI proposed for SME IPOs?
Ans: ₹3 crore

Q270. Under which Act was FDI in insurance raised to 100%?
Ans: Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha Act, 2025

Q271. Which municipal corporation listed Bihar's first municipal bond on NSE?
Ans: Patna Municipal Corporation

Q272. Which general insurer got IRDAI registration in 2026?
Ans: Protecto General Insurance

Q273. When is Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas observed?
Ans: 15 November

Q274. By when must LIC meet the 10% public shareholding requirement?
Ans: 16 May 2027

Q275. How many stupas did Bhutan consecrate in one day to set a Guinness record?
Ans: 108

Q276. Which month has IRDAI declared as "Grievance Resolution Month"?
Ans: November 2026

Q277. How many hours a day does NSE IX in GIFT City now trade?
Ans: 23.5 hours

Q278. What did SEBI grant NSE an NOC for?
Ans: Corporate Bond Index Futures

Q279. From when does IRDAI's four-layer motor insurance structure apply?
Ans: 15 December 2026

Q280. What does GARUDA stand for in SEBI's AIF framework?
Ans: Green Channel Alternative Investment Fund Roll out upon Document Acknowledgement

Q281. What is the FDI cap for LIC?
Ans: 20%

Q282. What is SEBI's colour-coded indicator for debt securities?
Ans: Credit Risk-o-Meter (6 risk levels)

Q283. What is SEBI's AI tool to track unsolicited financial advice on social media?
Ans: Project Sudarshan

Q284. Where is India's first Petroglyph Conservation Park?
Ans: Sindhu Ghat, Leh

Q285. What penalty did SEBI impose on CDSL?
Ans: ₹1 crore

Q286. What is "NPS Swasthya" introduced by PFRDA?
Ans: Health cover linked within NPS

Q287. For which consecutive term was India re-elected President of the ISA?
Ans: 3rd

Q288. What is the government's current shareholding in LIC?
Ans: 96.5%

Q289. What did PFRDA launch on NPS Diwas (1 October 2026)?
Ans: NPS Central

Q290. What is the new name of ICICI Prudential Life?
Ans: ICICI Life Insurance

Q291. What minimum balance must EPF members maintain?
Ans: 25% (employee + employer shares)

Q292. Which foundation day did EPFO celebrate on 1 November 2026?
Ans: 74th

Q293. Which was the first disaster response force in India to get ISO 9001:2015 certification?
Ans: Uttarakhand SDRF

Q294. When was NPS launched?
Ans: 2004

Q295. What is the name of SEBI's investor awareness campaign under Project Jagrook?
Ans: Samajh Se Investing Simple

Q296. Within how many days must disputes on SCORES 2.0 be resolved?
Ans: 21 days

Q297. What is SEBI's AI-driven advertisement reviewer called?
Ans: SEBI R(AI)DAR

Q298. Into how many risk tiers has PFRDA reorganised NPS?
Ans: 5

Part F — Development Finance Institutions (Q299–Q333)

Q299. Who chairs SIDBI?
Ans: Manoj Mittal

Q300. Which five AIFIs are regulated by the RBI?
Ans: NABARD, SIDBI, EXIM Bank, NHB and NaBFID

Q301. MUDRA is a subsidiary of which institution?
Ans: SIDBI

Q302. What is the maximum loan under the Tarun Plus category of PMMY?
Ans: ₹20 lakh

Q303. What is the loan limit under the Tarun Plus category of MUDRA Yojana?
Ans: ₹10–20 lakh

Q304. What is the loan range under Stand-Up India?
Ans: Above ₹10 lakh and up to ₹1 crore

Q305. Which state received the highest share of the tax devolution instalment?
Ans: Uttar Pradesh (₹19,208 crore)

Q306. On whose recommendation were Regional Rural Banks set up?
Ans: Narasimham Working Group

Q307. On whose recommendation was the Kisan Credit Card scheme introduced in 1998?
Ans: R.V. Gupta Committee

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Q308. Which RBI NOC was given for merger of REC Ltd?
Ans: Merger of REC into Power Finance Corporation (PFC)

Q309. What was SIDBI's highest-ever net profit?
Ans: ₹5,493 crore

Q310. On which date is NABARD's Foundation Day?
Ans: 12 July

Q311. Uttarakhand Police became which force to receive the President's Police Colour?
Ans: 16th

Q312. Which country was the first to receive support from the Loss and Damage Fund?
Ans: Nepal

Q313. What is the proposed education loan limit under the draft PSL Directions?
Ans: Up to ₹25 lakh per individual

Q314. REC Limited is being merged into which company?
Ans: Power Finance Corporation

Q315. Until when has the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU) been extended?
Ans: 31 March 2031

Q316. What is the IMF's FY27 GDP growth forecast for India?
Ans: 7.0%

Q317. Which programme did NABARD launch on its 45th Foundation Day?
Ans: Gramodyan

Q318. What is the guarantee corpus approved for Stand-Up India?
Ans: ₹4,111 crore

Q319. Which organisation operates CGFMU and CGFSI?
Ans: National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC)

Q320. What is the guarantee cover under Stand-Up India?
Ans: 85% of the loan amount

Q321. Who is the Director-General of UNESCO?
Ans: Khaled El-Enany (Egypt)

Q322. What is the name of the National Offshore Exploration Scheme?
Ans: Samudra Manthan

Q323. What share of India's GDP do MSMEs contribute?
Ans: 31.1%

Q324. What is the approved corpus for CGFMU?
Ans: ₹5,000 crore

Q325. On whose recommendation was the CVC set up in 1964?
Ans: K. Santhanam Committee

Q326. What is the outlay of Samudra Manthan?
Ans: ₹84,084 crore

Q327. Who will receive the inaugural Dr. Bhupen Hazarika National Award?
Ans: Usha Mangeshkar

Q328. What is the name of the Jal Shakti Ministry's app for groundwater recharge?
Ans: Punah Bharan

Q329. Who became the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India?
Ans: Dinesh Vithalrao Ganveer

Q330. What is the new annual guarantee fee under CGFMU?
Ans: 0.75% (cut from 1%)

Q331. How much did NaBFID raise through its debut dollar bond?
Ans: US$ 750 million (10-year, 6.122%)

Q332. What is Moody's FY27 growth forecast for India?
Ans: 7%

Q333. Who took charge as CMD of IREDA?
Ans: Jatin Kumar Nayak

Part G — Government, Policy & Schemes (Q334–Q489)

Q334. Who is the Union Minister of Rural Development and Agriculture?
Ans: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Q335. Who is the Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy?
Ans: Pralhad Joshi

Q336. Who is the Union Labour and Employment Minister?
Ans: Mansukh Mandaviya

Q337. Who is the Union Minister of Law and Justice (Independent Charge)?
Ans: Arjun Ram Meghwal

Q338. Who is the Union Minister of Mines?
Ans: G. Kishan Reddy

Q339. Who is the MoS (Independent Charge) of MoSPI?
Ans: Rao Inderjit Singh

Q340. Who is the Union Health Minister?
Ans: J.P. Nadda

Q341. Who is the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment?
Ans: Dr. Virendra Kumar

Q342. Who is the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways?
Ans: Sarbananda Sonowal

Q343. Who is the Union Minister of Culture and Tourism?
Ans: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Q344. Who is the Union Minister of Tribal Affairs?
Ans: Jual Oram

Q345. Who is the Union Minister of Environment?
Ans: Bhupender Yadav

Q346. How much does a landholding farmer family get annually under PM-KISAN?
Ans: ₹6,000 in three instalments of ₹2,000

Q347. When and where was PM-KISAN launched?
Ans: 24 February 2019, Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)

Q348. When was Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana launched?
Ans: 10 September 2020

Q349. When was PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana launched?
Ans: 13 February 2024

Q350. What is the outlay of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana?
Ans: ₹75,021 crore

Q351. What is the premium of PMSBY?
Ans: ₹20 per year

Q352. What is the accidental death cover under PMSBY?
Ans: ₹2 lakh

Q353. When was PM Vishwakarma launched?
Ans: 17 September 2023

Q354. How many trades are covered under PM Vishwakarma?
Ans: 18

Q355. What is the maximum collateral-free loan under PM Vishwakarma?
Ans: ₹3 lakh at 5% interest

Q356. When was the Agnipath scheme launched?
Ans: 14 June 2022

Q357. What is the age band for Agnipath recruitment?
Ans: 17.5–21 years

Q358. What is the outlay of the IndiaAI Mission?
Ans: ₹10,371.92 crore

Q359. What is the outlay of the National Critical Mineral Mission?
Ans: ₹34,300 crore

Q360. What is the initial outlay of the National Green Hydrogen Mission?
Ans: ₹19,744 crore

Q361. When was AB PM-JAY launched?
Ans: 23 September 2018

Q362. When was Stand-Up India launched?
Ans: 5 April 2016

Q363. When was Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana launched?
Ans: 8 April 2015

Q364. When was the Digital India programme launched?
Ans: 2015 (1 July)

Q365. When was the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme launched?
Ans: 2022

Q366. What is the full form of VB-G RAM G?
Ans: Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)

Q367. Under which Article is a state renamed (e.g., Kerala to Keralam)?
Ans: Article 3

Q368. Under which Article does the President prorogue Parliament?
Ans: Article 85(2)(a)

Q369. What is the maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha?
Ans: 250 (238 elected + 12 nominated)

Q370. Which Schedule allocates Rajya Sabha seats to States/UTs?
Ans: Fourth Schedule

Q371. Which amendment introduced Panchayati Raj institutions?
Ans: 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992

Q372. Who is the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India?
Ans: Mritunjay Kumar Narayan

Q373. What is the budget of Census 2027?
Ans: ₹11,718 crore

Q374. What is the outlay of PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana?
Ans: ₹99,446 crore

Q375. What is the target of the National Green Hydrogen Mission by 2030?
Ans: 5 MMT

Q376. When was Project Cheetah launched?
Ans: 17 September 2022, Kuno National Park

Q377. Which state launched the 'Pillale Sampada' scheme?
Ans: Andhra Pradesh

Q378. What is the outlay of the National Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme approved by the Cabinet?
Ans: ₹62,500 crore

Q379. What is the name of the new international airport at Bhogapuram, Andhra Pradesh?
Ans: Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport

Q380. What is the outlay of PM Surya Sarovar Yojana for floating solar?
Ans: ₹5,070 crore

Q381. What is the target additional credit under ECLGS 5.0?
Ans: ₹2.55 lakh crore

Q382. Which state has the highest tiger population?
Ans: Madhya Pradesh (785)

Q383. What is the central assistance under the Urban Challenge Fund?
Ans: ₹1 lakh crore

Q384. When was PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana launched?
Ans: 1 July 2015

Q385. Where will India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone come up?
Ans: Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

Q386. Which was the first state to enact a gig workers' law?
Ans: Rajasthan

Q387. What is the outlay of National Coastal Mission 2.0?
Ans: ₹767 crore

Q388. What is the outlay of the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme?
Ans: ₹1,856.67 crore

Q389. When was the Jan Aushadhi scheme launched?
Ans: November 2008

Q390. When was Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana launched?
Ans: 18 February 2016

Q391. In which year was the original GOBARdhan scheme launched?
Ans: 2018 (under Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin)

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Q392. Where was the VB-G RAM G Act nationally launched on 2 July 2026?
Ans: Mukkavaripalle, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh)

Q393. Which state has the most factories according to ASI 2024–25?
Ans: Tamil Nadu

Q394. What is the outlay of the scheme for critical mineral processing approved by the Cabinet?
Ans: ₹2,814 crore

Q395. What is the outlay of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM-VGSY)?
Ans: ₹7,395.55 crore

Q396. What is the outlay of PM Vishwakarma Yojana?
Ans: ₹13,000 crore

Q397. Under which Act were India's first four mega ports notified?
Ans: Indian Ports Act, 2025 (Section 73)

Q398. What is the outlay of Odisha's Deep Sea Fishing Mission?
Ans: ₹2,295 crore (2026–2036)

Q399. What is the outlay approved for the National Social Assistance Programme (2026–31)?
Ans: ₹53,428 crore

Q400. Which state was renamed "Keralam" by an Act of Parliament?
Ans: Kerala

Q401. What is the outlay of the Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS)?
Ans: ₹10,000 crore

Q402. Senior citizens of what age are covered under the Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme?
Ans: 70 years and above

Q403. How many days of rural employment are guaranteed under the VB-G RAM G Act?
Ans: 125 days

Q404. When was the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana launched?
Ans: 1 April 2017

Q405. What is the budget of the extended Khelo India Scheme (FY27–FY31)?
Ans: ₹29,054 crore

Q406. Which tiger reserve became India's 3rd cheetah habitat?
Ans: Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh)

Q407. Which state launched "CM IMPACT – Read and Rise"?
Ans: Meghalaya

Q408. When was Jal Jeevan Mission launched?
Ans: 15 August 2019

Q409. What is the official name of the modified UDAN scheme launched in 2026?
Ans: Viksit UDAN (Modified UDAN Scheme)

Q410. When was the Adi Karmyogi Abhiyan launched?
Ans: 17 September 2025, Dhar (Madhya Pradesh)

Q411. When was the UDAN scheme launched?
Ans: 21 October 2016

Q412. When was the FTSC scheme launched?
Ans: 2 October 2019

Q413. Who launched "Mission Samriddh Gaon"?
Ans: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Q414. Which state's SDRF became India's first with ISO 9001:2015 certification?
Ans: Uttarakhand

Q415. What is the outlay of the VISTAR scheme?
Ans: ₹4,371.10 crore

Q416. What is the full form of PARIVARTAN scheme for NCR air pollution?
Ans: Program for Accelerated Renewable and Incentivisation of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions

Q417. What is the outlay of the VGF scheme for grid-scale energy storage?
Ans: ₹14,500 crore (for 92 GWh)

Q418. Which state is the largest tea producer in India?
Ans: Assam

Q419. Which district topped PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana rankings?
Ans: Gaya (Bihar)

Q420. Where was India's first Victim Rights Centre inaugurated?
Ans: Patna, Bihar

Q421. From which fund does the Central share of the FTSC scheme come?
Ans: Nirbhaya Fund

Q422. Where was India's first high-altitude snow leopard wildlife safari launched?
Ans: Ladakh (Choglamsar, Leh)

Q423. What health cover does AB PM-JAY provide per family per year?
Ans: ₹5 lakh

Q424. Which was the first state declared fully literate under ULLAS?
Ans: Mizoram

Q425. What is the outlay of PM SETU?
Ans: ₹60,000 crore over 5 years

Q426. What is EPFO's one-time settlement scheme for employers called?
Ans: Vishwas 2026

Q427. Which was India's first "Model Border Village" under the Vibrant Village Programme?
Ans: Chumur, Ladakh

Q428. Until when has the Modified UDAN Scheme been extended?
Ans: FY 2035–36 (₹28,840 crore)

Q429. Which Act replaced MGNREGA from 1 July 2026?
Ans: VB-G RAM G Act, 2025

Q430. What annual assistance does Himachal Pradesh give reservoir fishermen under the Mukhyamantri Machhuara Samman Nidhi Yojana?
Ans: ₹3,500

Q431. What is PRAHAAR?
Ans: India's first national counter-terrorism policy and strategy

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Q432. Until when has the Fast Track Special Courts scheme been extended?
Ans: 31 March 2031

Q433. Where is India's first offshore airport planned?
Ans: Palghar, Maharashtra

Q434. Which state was the first to declare a State Amphibian?
Ans: Karnataka (Malabar Tree Toad)

Q435. Which ministry launched the "DAANVEER" initiative?
Ans: Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Q436. What is the repayment period under PM Vidyalaxmi education loans?
Ans: Up to 15 years

Q437. What is Tamil Nadu's renamed breakfast scheme?
Ans: Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Breakfast Scheme

Q438. When was the e-Shram portal launched?
Ans: 26 August 2021

Q439. What is Tamil Nadu's integrated digital healthcare platform called?
Ans: Nalam TN

Q440. Under which Article is the Finance Commission constituted?
Ans: Article 280

Q441. How much additional allocation did the Union Cabinet approve for NIIF?
Ans: ₹30,000 crore

Q442. What is the population enumeration period for Census 2027?
Ans: 25 January – 28 February 2027

Q443. Under which policy was "Bio Nivesh" launched?
Ans: BioE3 Policy

Q444. What is the new BC reservation in Andhra Pradesh rural local bodies?
Ans: 34%

Q445. When was DDU-GKY launched?
Ans: 25 September 2014

Q446. What is "Samudra Manthan" approved by the Cabinet?
Ans: National Offshore Exploration Scheme for oil and gas

Q447. What is the total outlay of PM-DHARA?
Ans: ₹1,86,405 crore

Q448. What is the premium of PMJJBY?
Ans: ₹436 per year

Q449. What is the reference date for the main Census enumeration?
Ans: 1 March 2027

Q450. What is the new name of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)?
Ans: Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana

Q451. Which state became the 6th to ban "analog paneer"?
Ans: Karnataka

Q452. When was PM SVANidhi launched?
Ans: 1 June 2020

Q453. What is the full form of PM SETU?
Ans: Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs

Q454. How many Fast Track Special Courts will there be under the extended scheme?
Ans: 850 (up from 779)

Q455. In which year was PM-KISAN launched?
Ans: 2019 (with retrospective effect from 2018)

Q456. How many districts are covered under PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana?
Ans: 100 aspirational agricultural districts

Q457. When was AMRUT launched?
Ans: 25 June 2015

Q458. What is the outlay of Semicon 2.0?
Ans: ₹1,27,500 crore

Q459. What is the full form of PM-DHARA?
Ans: PM – Developing Harmonized and Accelerated Renewable-energy Access

Q460. Which state became India's 6th fully literate state under ULLAS?
Ans: Uttarakhand

Q461. Until when have PM e-DRIVE incentives been extended?
Ans: 31 March 2028

Q462. What is the minimum floor wage under VB-G RAM G?
Ans: ₹300 per day

Q463. What is the full form of DISHA 2.0?
Ans: Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice

Q464. In which state is Ningol Chakouba celebrated?
Ans: Manipur

Q465. What is "VIJAY" unveiled by Army Chief General Dheeraj Seth?
Ans: Technology-focused modernisation roadmap of the Indian Army

Q466. From where was PM-JAY launched?
Ans: Ranchi, Jharkhand

Q467. What are the two equity indices launched by NCDEX?
Ans: NDEX and FINNDEX

Q468. How many permissible works were notified under the VB-G RAM G Act?
Ans: 375

Q469. What is the "Saptadhara" framework launched by PM Modi?
Ans: Seven Streams of Strength – seven focus sectors

Q470. What is the theme of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026?
Ans: "Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat"

Q471. How many GI tags does West Bengal have after adding 23 new ones?
Ans: 59

Q472. How many Jan Aushadhi Kendras does PMBJP target by March 2027?
Ans: 25,000

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Q473. From where was Khet Bachao Abhiyaan (Rabi 2026) launched?
Ans: Karnal, Haryana

Q474. Where will a dedicated bench of the J&K High Court be set up?
Ans: Ladakh

Q475. From where was Beti Bachao Beti Padhao launched in 2015?
Ans: Panipat, Haryana

Q476. What is the uniform minimum gap for domestic LPG refill booking?
Ans: 25 days

Q477. Census 2027 is India's which census overall?
Ans: 16th

Q478. What is the name of the Next-Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel launched at Goa Shipyard?
Ans: Srishti

Q479. How many days' Productivity Linked Bonus was approved for railway employees?
Ans: 78 days

Q480. From when do the amended E-Commerce Rules under Consumer Protection Rules 2020 apply?
Ans: 1 January 2027

Q481. By which year does the government aim for a Drug-Free India?
Ans: 2029

Q482. Which state's Assembly will go paperless under NeVA?
Ans: Chhattisgarh

Q483. From when will the BS-VII emission norms be rolled out?
Ans: 1 April 2029

Q484. What were India's total exports in FY26?
Ans: $863.1 billion (record)

Q485. What share of Indian Railways' broad gauge network has been electrified?
Ans: 99.6%

Q486. What was India's tiger population in the 2022 estimate?
Ans: 3,682

Q487. Within how many hours must intermediaries now remove unlawful content after a court order?
Ans: 3 hours (from 36 hours)

Q488. What is the minimum carpet area under PMAY 2.0?
Ans: 25 square metres

Q489. Which two calamities were added to the notified natural disasters list (12 to 14)?
Ans: Heat waves and lightning

Part H — Appointments (Q490–Q545)

Q490. Who is the Chief Justice of India?
Ans: Justice Surya Kant

Q491. Who is the 29th Chief of the Air Staff?
Ans: Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit

Q492. Who is the Chief of Army Staff?
Ans: General Dheeraj Seth (31st COAS)

Q493. Who is the CEO of NITI Aayog?
Ans: Anurag Jain

Q494. Who is the Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog?
Ans: Ashok Kumar Lahiri

Q495. Who is the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission?
Ans: Dr. Arvind Panagariya

Q496. Who is the Chairman of TRAI?
Ans: Anil Kumar Lahoti

Q497. Who is the Union Home Secretary?
Ans: Govind Mohan

Q498. Who is the Director General of IMD, known as the "Cyclone Man of India"?
Ans: Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

Q499. Who is the Chairperson of the 23rd Law Commission?
Ans: Justice (Retd.) Dinesh Maheshwari

Q500. Who is India's first woman Union Law Secretary?
Ans: Anju Rathi Rana

Q501. Who is the Director-General of the WTO?
Ans: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Q502. Who is the President of the IOC?
Ans: Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe)

Q503. Who is the Managing Director of the IMF?
Ans: Kristalina Georgieva

Q504. Who is the Secretary-General of BIMSTEC?
Ans: Indra Mani Pandey

Q505. Who is the Director-General of the International Solar Alliance?
Ans: Ashish Khanna

Q506. Who is the Director General of WIPO?
Ans: Daren Tang

Q507. Who is the President of FIFA?
Ans: Gianni Infantino

Q508. Who was appointed Deputy Governor of the RBI succeeding T. Rabi Sankar?
Ans: Rohit Jain

Q509. Who was appointed Head Coach of India's men's cricket team for the Asian Games?
Ans: VVS Laxman

Q510. Which country became the 11th member of ASEAN?
Ans: Timor-Leste

Q511. Who was the first Indian President of the UN General Assembly?
Ans: Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit

Q512. Who became the first woman non-medical Air Vice Marshal?
Ans: Shakti Sharma

Q513. Who was Karnataka's first woman Governor?
Ans: V.S. Ramadevi

Q514. Who became the first female ADC to the Chief of Army Staff?
Ans: Captain Shivani Sehrawat

Q515. Who became Morocco's first woman Prime Minister?
Ans: Fatima Zahra Mansouri

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Q516. Who became Karnataka's second woman Governor?
Ans: Dr. Sudha Yadav

Q517. Which country became the 116th member of the International Solar Alliance?
Ans: The Bahamas

Q518. Who is the President of the International Court of Justice?
Ans: Yuji Iwasawa (Japan)

Q519. Who became the first woman IG of CoBRA?
Ans: Sanjukta Parashar

Q520. Who was appointed Chairman of the BCCI senior men's selection committee?
Ans: Pragyan Ojha

Q521. Who was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh?
Ans: Hardeep Singh Puri

Q522. Who was appointed President of FATF for two years?
Ans: Giles Thomson (UK)

Q523. Who was appointed Chairman of ONGC?
Ans: Sunil Kumar

Q524. Who was appointed Governor of Sikkim?
Ans: Dushyant (Kumar) Gautam

Q525. Who took oath as Governor of Karnataka on 16 October 2026?
Ans: Dr. Sudha Yadav

Q526. Who was sworn in as the 29th Governor of Kerala?
Ans: Om Prakash Mathur

Q527. Who was appointed Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)?
Ans: Subhash Chandra Lal (SCL) Das

Q528. Who was sworn in as Governor of Uttarakhand on 19 October 2026?
Ans: Dhal Singh Bisen

Q529. Which country holds the BRICS chairship for 2026?
Ans: India

Q530. Who was elected President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union for 2026–29?
Ans: Milton Dick

Q531. Who chairs the committee set up to review pharma marketing practices?
Ans: Dr. M. Srinivas

Q532. Who succeeded Noel Tata as Chairman of Tata Investment Corporation?
Ans: Bahram N. Vakil

Q533. Who replaced Noel Tata as Chairman of Voltas?
Ans: Sunil D'Souza

Q534. Under which Article are Supreme Court judges appointed?
Ans: Article 124(2)

Q535. Who was appointed Chief Economist of the IMF?
Ans: Silvana Tenreyro

Q536. Whom did Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit succeed as Chief of the Air Staff?
Ans: ACM Amar Preet Singh

Q537. Who was appointed Deputy Chairperson of the ICC?
Ans: Tavengwa Mukuhlani

Q538. Who is the President of the 81st UN General Assembly?
Ans: Khalilur Rahman (Bangladesh)

Q539. Who chairs the Economic Advisory Council to the PM (EAC-PM)?
Ans: Suryadevara Mahendra Dev

Q540. Whose tenure as Chairperson of IFSCA was extended?
Ans: K. Raja Raman

Q541. Who has been appointed India's Ambassador to Nepal?
Ans: Sudhakar Dalela

Q542. Who is the 13th woman judge of the Supreme Court of India?
Ans: Justice Sunita Agarwal

Q543. Who is the Commonwealth Secretary-General?
Ans: Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey (Ghana)

Q544. Who was appointed Chairperson of NCLAT?
Ans: Justice Rajesh Bindal

Q545. Who was reappointed Chairman of AMFI?
Ans: Sundeep Sikka

Part I — Organisations, Summits & International (Q546–Q633)

Q546. Where is the ISA headquartered?
Ans: Gurugram, Haryana

Q547. Where is the WTO headquartered?
Ans: Geneva

Q548. How many members does the WTO have?
Ans: 166

Q549. Where is the BIMSTEC Secretariat?
Ans: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Q550. Where is the ASEAN Secretariat?
Ans: Jakarta

Q551. How many members does ASEAN have?
Ans: 11 (Timor-Leste the 11th)

Q552. Where is NATO headquartered?
Ans: Brussels

Q553. Where is the ADB headquartered?
Ans: Manila, Philippines

Q554. When was the ADB established?
Ans: 1966

Q555. Where is the FATF headquartered?
Ans: Paris

Q556. When was FATF founded?
Ans: 1989 (G7 Summit, Paris)

Q557. Where is the UNESCO headquarters?
Ans: Paris

Q558. Where is UNEP headquartered?
Ans: Nairobi, Kenya

Q559. Where is the GCC Secretariat?
Ans: Riyadh

Q560. Where is the Commonwealth Secretariat?
Ans: London

Q561. How many members does the Commonwealth have?
Ans: 56

Q562. Where will the 21st G20 Leaders' Summit be held?
Ans: Doral, Florida (Miami), USA – 14–15 December 2026

Q563. Where was the 17th BRICS Summit (2025) held?
Ans: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Q564. Which grouping's Chairship does India hold in 2026?
Ans: BRICS

Q565. Where were COP31 and its Leaders' Summit held?
Ans: Antalya, Türkiye

Q566. Where will COP32 be held in 2027?
Ans: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Q567. Where was the 49th ASEAN Summit held?
Ans: Pasay (Metro Manila), Philippines

Q568. What is the capital of Bhutan and its currency?
Ans: Thimphu; Ngultrum

Q569. What is the capital of Myanmar?
Ans: Naypyidaw

Q570. What is the capital of Kazakhstan?
Ans: Astana

Q571. What is the capital of Morocco?
Ans: Rabat

Q572. Which site became India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage Site?
Ans: Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath

Q573. Where was the 26th SCO Summit held?
Ans: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Q574. Where was the 48th UNESCO World Heritage Committee session held?
Ans: Busan, South Korea

Q575. Which country was the first in the world to ban social media for children under 16?
Ans: Australia

Q576. What is India's rank in inward FDI in the UNCTAD World Investment Report?
Ans: 11th

Q577. Where was the 18th BRICS Summit held?
Ans: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Q578. What stake in IDBI Bank was approved for sale to Fairfax?
Ans: 60.72% (₹52,878 crore)

Q579. Which city was named SCO Cultural Capital 2026–27?
Ans: Lahore

Q580. Which was the first foreign insurer to own 100% of an Indian life insurer?
Ans: Aviva PLC (Aviva Life Insurance India)

Q581. Which French insurer acquired 26% of IndiaFirst Life Insurance?
Ans: BNP Paribas Cardif

Q582. What was LIC's dividend cheque to the government?
Ans: ₹12,207.25 crore

Q583. Which country withdrew from the International Criminal Court (ICC)?
Ans: Venezuela

Q584. How much did the World Bank approve for Haryana's "Jal Sanrakshit" framework?
Ans: ₹4,000 crore

Q585. What declaration was adopted at the first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting?
Ans: Delhi Declaration

Q586. Where was the first BRICS FMCBG meeting under India's chairship held?
Ans: Jaipur

Q587. What is the value of Kotak Mahindra Bank's acquisition of Deutsche Bank's India retail business?
Ans: ₹281.7 crore

Q588. How large is the Line of Credit India extended to Bhutan in September 2026?
Ans: ₹4,000 crore

Q589. Where was the World Health Summit 2026 held?
Ans: Berlin

Q590. What is the minimum amount for an RTGS transfer?
Ans: ₹2 lakh

Q591. For which time is India hosting the BRICS Summit in 2026?
Ans: 4th (after 2012, 2016, 2021)

Q592. What is the proposed PSL limit for renewable energy loans to individual households?
Ans: Up to ₹10 lakh

Q593. What is the ADB loan for the Chennai Water Security Project?
Ans: $230 million

Q594. Which Japanese PM visited India for the 16th India–Japan Annual Summit?
Ans: Sanae Takaichi

Q595. Where was the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held?
Ans: Atlanta, USA

Q596. Which country was the first in South America to eliminate dog-transmitted rabies (WHO)?
Ans: Chile

Q597. What is the full form of IMEC?
Ans: India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor

Q598. At which summit was IMEC announced?
Ans: 18th G20 Summit, New Delhi (2023)

Q599. For how much did IRDAI approve the Patanjali-led acquisition of Magma General Insurance?
Ans: ₹4,500 crore

Q600. What stake did Fairfax acquire additionally in IIFL Capital Services?
Ans: 11.22% (total 38.04%)

Q601. What stake did Emirates NBD acquire in RBL Bank?
Ans: 60% (for $2.75 billion)

Q602. With which institute did Andhra Pradesh partner for lithium and gallium exploration?
Ans: CSIR-NGRI, Hyderabad

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Q603. Up to what amount can depositors claim from DICGC?
Ans: ₹5 lakh

Q604. Where was the 36th NATO Summit held?
Ans: Ankara, Turkey

Q605. Where was the 25th SCO Heads of Government meeting held?
Ans: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Q606. What is the name of the next cyclone, and which country proposed it?
Ans: Akvan, proposed by Iran

Q607. Which country did the US remove from its "State Sponsors of Terrorism" list?
Ans: Syria

Q608. Where will India host the BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Traditional Medicine?
Ans: ITRA, Jamnagar

Q609. Which mound in Bihar was declared a Site of National Importance?
Ans: Ranivas Mound, Kesariya

Q610. How many members does NATO have?
Ans: 32

Q611. What bilateral trade target is set under the India–UK CETA?
Ans: $120 billion by 2030

Q612. What is the theme of India's BRICS Chairship 2026?
Ans: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, and Sustainability"

Q613. How much is the ADB loan approved for Puducherry?
Ans: $139.55 million

Q614. Where was the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference held?
Ans: Bhubaneswar

Q615. Which three Indian manuscripts were added to UNESCO's MOWCAP Register in 2026?
Ans: Mahabharata, Arthashastra and Rajatarangini

Q616. How much did ADB approve for Sri Lanka's digital transformation?
Ans: $98 million

Q617. What is the theme of India Mobile Congress 2026?
Ans: "Scale Without Boundaries"

Q618. Where will India Energy Week 2027 be held?
Ans: Kolkata

Q619. India became the which WTO member to accept the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement?
Ans: 123rd

Q620. Who was elected IPU President for 2026–29?
Ans: Milton Dick (Australia)

Q621. When did the India–UK Double Contribution Convention come into force?
Ans: 15 July 2026

Q622. What is the capital of Guyana?
Ans: Georgetown

Q623. Which country banned social media for children under 15?
Ans: Greece

Q624. Which country suggested the name of Cyclone "Arnab"?
Ans: Bangladesh

Q625. When did the India–New Zealand FTA enter into force?
Ans: 20 October 2026

Q626. Where will UNCCD COP18 be held?
Ans: Egypt (2028)

Q627. Where was the 13th ADMM-Plus meeting held?
Ans: Cebu, Philippines

Q628. Where was COP17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity held?
Ans: Yerevan, Armenia

Q629. What is the vision of India's UNSC non-permanent seat campaign (2028–29)?
Ans: SHANTI

Q630. Which five countries sought to join IMEC?
Ans: Oman, Egypt, Lebanon, Greece and Cyprus

Q631. Where was UNCCD COP17 held?
Ans: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Q632. Türkiye became the which nation to join NASA's Artemis Accords?
Ans: 71st

Q633. What is the value of the BrahMos deal finalised with Vietnam?
Ans: $629 million

Part J — Reports & Rankings (Q634–Q689)

Q634. Which state ranks 1st in Digital Kisan Credit Card applications?
Ans: Uttar Pradesh

Q635. What is India's rank in the Global Hunger Index 2026?
Ans: 100th

Q636. Which bank is the top-ranked Indian bank in Brand Finance Banking 500 2026?
Ans: HDFC Bank

Q637. What is GIFT City's rank in Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 40)?
Ans: 37th

Q638. Which state ranked 1st in the Mission Karmayogi rankings?
Ans: Uttar Pradesh

Q639. Which state/UT topped NITI Aayog's India Electric Mobility Index (2nd edition)?
Ans: Delhi (score 84/100)

Q640. What is India's rank in the Global Innovation Index 2026?
Ans: 38th

Q641. Which country has the most Ramsar sites?
Ans: United Kingdom (176)

Q642. What is India's rank in the QS World Future Skills Index?
Ans: 13th

Q643. What is Bengaluru's global rank in the Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2026?
Ans: 15th

Q644. What is India's rank by number of institutions in the QS Asia University Rankings 2027?
Ans: 2nd (325 institutions)

Q645. Which is the top Indian institution in the QS Asia University Rankings 2027?
Ans: IIT Delhi (66th)

Q646. What is India's rank in WEF Travel and Tourism Development Index 2026?
Ans: 31st

Q647. Which country tops the Henley Passport Index (October 2026)?
Ans: Singapore

Q648. What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index (October 2026)?
Ans: 84th

Q649. Which city topped the EIU Global Liveability Index 2026?
Ans: Copenhagen

Q650. Which company listed India's first WASH Social Bond?
Ans: NABKISAN Finance

Q651. Which Indian beach was named Asia's best beach in the Global Beach Index 2026?
Ans: Palolem Beach, Goa

Q652. What is India's rank in the IHA Global Hydropower report?
Ans: 5th

Q653. To what level did the World Bank raise India's FY27 growth forecast in October 2026?
Ans: 7.1%

Q654. What is India's rank in the Climate Change Performance Index 2027?
Ans: 28th

Q655. Which city ranked 1st among million-plus cities in Swachh Survekshan 2025–26?
Ans: Greater Visakhapatnam

Q656. Which Indian museum ranked 9th in the World's 100 Best Museums 2026?
Ans: Bihar Museum, Patna

Q657. What is India's rank in US News Global Influence Rankings 2026?
Ans: 16th

Q658. What size does the FICCI-Deloitte report project for India's food processing sector by 2030?
Ans: $600 billion

Q659. What is India's rank in the WJP Rule of Law Index 2026?
Ans: 88th

Q660. Which three countries are on the FATF 'black list'?
Ans: Myanmar, Iran and North Korea

Q661. How much did the Index of Core Industries grow in September 2026?
Ans: 7.9%

Q662. What is India's space economy estimate by 2033 (EY-CII)?
Ans: ₹4.22 lakh crore ($44 billion)

Q663. Which district topped NITI Aayog's Delta Rankings for March 2026?
Ans: Purnia (Bihar)

Q664. Which industry has the highest weight in the Index of Core Industries?
Ans: Electricity

Q665. What is India's rank in the SDG Index 2026?
Ans: 94th

Q666. What is the Gross NPA ratio of SCBs as per RBI's June 2026 FSR?
Ans: 1.8%

Q667. Which university topped THE World University Rankings 2027?
Ans: University of Oxford (11th consecutive year)

Q668. Which industry was newly added to the Index of Core Industries?
Ans: Iron Ore

Q669. Where is the headquarters of the Geological Survey of India?
Ans: Kolkata

Q670. Which country tops the WJP Rule of Law Index 2026?
Ans: Denmark

Q671. Which group topped Brand Finance India 100 for the 18th consecutive year?
Ans: Tata Group

Q672. Which is India's 101st Ramsar site?
Ans: Glaw (Glo) Lake, Arunachal Pradesh

Q673. What is India's rank in the Environmental Performance Index 2026?
Ans: 176th

Q674. Which country tops the UN SDG Index 2026?
Ans: Finland

Q675. Which city topped the million-plus category in Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2026?
Ans: Lucknow

Q676. Which state tops the Access Equality Index 2026?
Ans: Goa

Q677. Which city ranked as the happiest city in Time Out's 2026 survey?
Ans: London

Q678. What was the total higher education enrolment as per AISHE 2023–24?
Ans: 4.50 crore

Q679. To what level did the IMF raise India's FY27 growth forecast?
Ans: 7.0%

Q680. What is the full form of SHATAYU?
Ans: Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility

Q681. Which town was ranked cleanest riverfront town?
Ans: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh

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Q682. What is India's global rank in organ transplants?
Ans: 3rd

Q683. Which city tops IWG's Work From Anywhere Index?
Ans: Bangkok

Q684. Which Chhattisgarh site was added to UNESCO's Tentative List?
Ans: Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape

Q685. By how much did monitored wildlife populations decline (1970–2022) per WWF Living Planet Report 2026?
Ans: 73.2%

Q686. How many sites are on India's UNESCO Tentative List?
Ans: 81

Q687. Who topped the M3M Hurun India Rich List 2026?
Ans: Gautam Adani and family

Q688. What does MAHASAGAR stand for?
Ans: Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions

Q689. Which four countries were removed from the FATF grey list?
Ans: Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Monaco

Part K — Awards & Personalities (Q690–Q731)

Q690. What is the cash prize of the Booker Prize?
Ans: £50,000

Q691. Which is India's highest award in cinema?
Ans: Dadasaheb Phalke Award (instituted 1969)

Q692. Who created the Légion d'honneur?
Ans: Napoleon Bonaparte (1802)

Q693. In which year was the Ramon Magsaysay Award established?
Ans: 1957

Q694. Who won the 2026 Booker Prize?
Ans: M. John Harrison

Q695. Who won the Indian International Booker Prize in 2025?
Ans: Banu Mushtaq – "Heart Lamp"

Q696. Which film won Best Feature Film at the 72nd National Film Awards?
Ans: Article 370

Q697. Which award is called the "Asian Nobel Prize"?
Ans: Ramon Magsaysay Award

Q698. How many Padma Awards were announced for 2026?
Ans: 131 (5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, 113 Padma Shri)

Q699. Which award is known as the "Alternative Nobel Prize"?
Ans: Right Livelihood Award

Q700. Which book won the International Booker Prize 2026?
Ans: 'Taiwan Travelogue' by Yáng Shuāng-zǐ

Q701. Who won Best Actor at the 26th IIFA Awards?
Ans: Ranveer Singh

Q702. What will the International Booker Prize be called from 2027?
Ans: Bukhman International Booker Prize

Q703. Which city will host the Earthshot Prize 2026 awards?
Ans: Mumbai

Q704. Who won the Sakharov Prize 2026?
Ans: International Criminal Court

Q705. Where were the 72nd National Film Awards hosted?
Ans: Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

Q706. Which was India's first Governor's residence with IGBC Platinum rating?
Ans: Lok Bhavan, Odisha

Q707. What is the cash prize of the Arjuna Award?
Ans: ₹15 lakh

Q708. Which structure was declared a World Heritage Irrigation Structure by ICID?
Ans: Parichha Weir (Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh)

Q709. Who won the Sharjah Award for Best International Non-Fiction Book 2026?
Ans: Nirmala Lakshman

Q710. Who won the World Food Prize 2026?
Ans: Huub Lelieveld

Q711. Who was named recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 (56th)?
Ans: Anant Nag

Q712. Which film won Best Film at the 26th IIFA Awards?
Ans: Dhurandhar

Q713. Which city won the Clean Himalayan City award?
Ans: Rudrapur, Uttarakhand

Q714. Which scientists won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for optogenetics?
Ans: Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel

Q715. Who won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics?
Ans: Francis Halzen (IceCube Neutrino Observatory)

Q716. Who wrote the autobiography "The Triumph of the Indian Republic"?
Ans: Ram Nath Kovind

Q717. Who received the 60th Jnanpith Award?
Ans: R. Vairamuthu (Tamil poet)

Q718. Which film is India's official entry for the 99th Academy Awards?
Ans: Gondhal

Q719. Which Marathi film is India's official entry for Oscars 2027?
Ans: Gondhal

Q720. Which documentary won the UN SDG Action Award 2026?
Ans: Mothers of Courage

Q721. Which footballer won the Princess of Asturias Sports Award 2026?
Ans: Lionel Messi

Q722. How often is the Fields Medal awarded?
Ans: Every 4 years (mathematicians under 40)

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Q723. How many artists received the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2024 and 2025)?
Ans: 106

Q724. How many gold medals did India win at IOAA 2026 (Hanoi)?
Ans: 4 (and 1 silver)

Q725. Which Indian conservationists won the Whitley Award (Green Oscar) 2026?
Ans: Dr. Parveen Shaikh and Barkha Subba

Q726. Which DoT initiative won the WSIS Prize 2026?
Ans: Samridh Gram

Q727. Who won the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction 2026?
Ans: Edmund Richardson

Q728. Which Bill gives Vande Mataram legal protection equal to the national anthem?
Ans: Prevention of Insults to National Honour Bill 2026

Q729. Which Seychelles honour was conferred on PM Modi?
Ans: "Guardian of the Blue Horizon"

Q730. Who won the ICTP Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians 2026?
Ans: Prof. Mahesh Kakde (IISc)

Q731. Who wrote Rajatarangini?
Ans: Kalhana

Part L — Days, Places & Culture (Q732–Q763)

Q732. How many UNESCO World Heritage Sites does India have?
Ans: 45

Q733. How many Intangible Cultural Heritage elements does India have on UNESCO's list?
Ans: 16 (16th: Deepavali)

Q734. How many Biosphere Reserves does India have?
Ans: 18

Q735. Which was India's first Biosphere Reserve?
Ans: Nilgiri (1986)

Q736. How many Blue Flag beaches does India have (2026–27 season)?
Ans: 22 (as reported; earlier 18)

Q737. Which was India's first Blue Flag beach?
Ans: Chandrabhaga, Odisha (2018)

Q738. Which state was declared India's first fully organic state?
Ans: Sikkim (2016)

Q739. Which was India's first fully organic Union Territory?
Ans: Ladakh

Q740. Which state has the most Ramsar sites?
Ans: Tamil Nadu

Q741. What is the theme (2026–2028) of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty?
Ans: "United for Peace and Human Rights"

Q742. Which was India's 45th World Heritage Site?
Ans: Sarnath

Q743. When is World Trauma Day observed?
Ans: 17 October

Q744. When is World Cow Day observed?
Ans: 1 September

Q745. Whose birth anniversary is National Engineers' Day (15 September)?
Ans: Sir M. Visvesvaraya

Q746. Since when has National Handloom Day been observed on 7 August?
Ans: 2015

Q747. What is the full form of ICID, which declared Parichha Weir a heritage structure?
Ans: International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

Q748. What is the agriculture sub-target under PSL?
Ans: 18% of ANBC (10% for small and marginal farmers)

Q749. Where is India's first world-class Geological Museum?
Ans: Jabalpur

Q750. What is the outlay approved for the Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum?
Ans: ₹3,230 crore

Q751. When is Police Commemoration Day observed?
Ans: 21 October

Q752. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 marks whose 151st birth anniversary?
Ans: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Q753. Which two wetlands raised India's Ramsar sites to 103?
Ans: Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) and Sauj Jheel (Uttar Pradesh)

Q754. When is Mahila Kisan Divas observed?
Ans: 15 October

Q755. What is the theme of the 45th India International Trade Fair?
Ans: Vikas aur Virasat

Q756. How many sites did India add to the UNESCO Tentative List on 29 September 2026?
Ans: 5 (total 78)

Q757. Where was the world's oldest accurately dated banyan tree discovered?
Ans: Munger district, Bihar

Q758. Who gave Vallabhbhai Patel the title "Sardar"?
Ans: Women of Bardoli (Bardoli Satyagraha, 1928)

Q759. Which state celebrates the 100 Drums Wangala Festival?
Ans: Meghalaya

Q760. How many State Protected Monuments has Mizoram declared?
Ans: 79

Q761. What is the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026?
Ans: Probity for Prosperity

Q762. Which Buddhist stupa will Telangana develop as an international heritage destination?
Ans: Nelakondapalli Buddhist Stupa, Khammam

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Q763. How many Ramsar sites does India have now?
Ans: 103

Part N — Defence (Q764–Q818)

Q764. When was DRDO established?
Ans: 1958

Q765. Which is the world's largest naval exercise?
Ans: RIMPAC

Q766. When is Navy Day observed?
Ans: 4 December

Q767. When is Air Force Day observed?
Ans: 8 October

Q768. Which country was the first to buy BrahMos?
Ans: Philippines (2022)

Q769. Where does Tata Advanced Systems run India's first overseas defence manufacturing plant?
Ans: Morocco

Q770. Where was the first BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise held?
Ans: Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Q771. What is the name of the first joint nuclear air exercise of France and the UK?
Ans: Rummy

Q772. Which Indian aircraft participated for the first time in Exercise Pitch Black 2026?
Ans: Rafale

Q773. What is India's rank in WDMMA Global Air Power Rankings 2026?
Ans: 3rd

Q774. What is the name of the first India–Myanmar tri-services HADR exercise?
Ans: Rahat Mitra

Q775. What is "UNICORN" under the India–Japan defence agreement?
Ans: Unified Complex Radio Antenna – first India–Japan defence co-development project

Q776. Where is Exercise Pitch Black held?
Ans: RAAF Base Darwin, Australia

Q777. Which shipyard got the contract for refit of INS Betwa?
Ans: Cochin Shipyard (₹498.58 crore)

Q778. What is JWALA?
Ans: India's first private-sector anti-drone micro-missile

Q779. Where was the IBSAMAR IX naval exercise held?
Ans: Simon's Town, South Africa

Q780. What is 'Surya' launched at HSL Visakhapatnam?
Ans: India's first indigenous Fleet Support Ship (FSS-1)

Q781. What is India's first multi-purpose vessel in the Navy?
Ans: INS Samarthak

Q782. What was India's defence production in FY 2025-26?
Ans: ₹1.78 lakh crore (record)

Q783. Where was India's first Department of Military Medicine inaugurated?
Ans: Command Hospital, Lucknow

Q784. What is Tiger Triumph?
Ans: India–US tri-services HADR exercise

Q785. Which was the first Indian port to implement an advanced anti-drone system?
Ans: V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Thoothukudi

Q786. Where was the 2nd ASEAN–India Maritime Exercise (AIME 2026) held?
Ans: Subic Bay, Philippines

Q787. Which two countries take part in Exercise Mountain Guardian?
Ans: India and UAE

Q788. Where was a new DRDO missile test range approved in West Bengal?
Ans: Junput

Q789. Who is India's Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)?
Ans: General N. S. Raja Subramani

Q790. Which two countries take part in Exercise AUSTRAHIND?
Ans: India and Australia

Q791. Which two countries take part in Exercise Garuda Shakti?
Ans: India and Indonesia

Q792. Where was Exercise Veer Guardian 2026 held?
Ans: Air Force Station Jodhpur

Q793. What is the full form of PRAHAAR?
Ans: Policy for Response Against Hostile Activities And Radicalism

Q794. What is the name of the India–Singapore maritime bilateral exercise?
Ans: SIMBEX

Q795. What is the 15th Maitree exercise?
Ans: India–Thailand joint military exercise

Q796. Where was the foundation stone of the AMCA project laid?
Ans: Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh

Q797. What is the theme of Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026?
Ans: "Power in Partnership"

Q798. What is Project KUSHA?
Ans: DRDO's Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM)

Q799. Where is the ₹472 crore T-90/T-72 tank overhaul facility being set up?
Ans: Jabalpur

Q800. To which countries is India exporting the Akash air defence system?
Ans: Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

Q801. Which is the 6th Project 17A stealth frigate commissioned?
Ans: INS Mahendragiri

Q802. Which India–UK naval exercise was held off Plymouth?
Ans: KONKAN-26

Q803. Which edition of Exercise Malabar was held in 2026?
Ans: 30th

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Q804. Which Coast Guard ship sailed to Perth under the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission?
Ans: ICGS Shaunak

Q805. What is Exercise Udara Shakti?
Ans: India–Malaysia air exercise

Q806. What is "RAKSHA" released by Rajnath Singh?
Ans: 10-year Defence Diplomacy Roadmap

Q807. Where was KAZIND-2026 held?
Ans: Oskemen, Kazakhstan

Q808. Which Indian ship took part in Malabar 2026?
Ans: INS Sahyadri

Q809. What is the name of the IAF's joint HADR exercise 2026?
Ans: Sahayata Setu

Q810. What is the new maximum tenure of Agniveers with the optional extension?
Ans: 6 years

Q811. What is the name of the India–UK naval exercise?
Ans: KONKAN

Q812. By when is Mission Sudarshan Chakra targeted for completion?
Ans: 2035

Q813. Which edition of the coastal defence exercise is Sea Vigil-26?
Ans: 5th

Q814. Where did the Strategic Forces Command test Agni-IV?
Ans: Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha

Q815. What does DRDO's SHIELD programme stand for?
Ans: S-band High-power microwave Integrated Evaluation for Lethality and Damage

Q816. Which shipyard built the NGOPV 'Shruti'?
Ans: GRSE, Kolkata

Q817. What is "Bhargavastra"?
Ans: Indigenous counter-swarm drone system

Q818. What is the range of the Pralay missile?
Ans: 150–500 km

Part O — Science & Technology (Q819–Q853)

Q819. When was ISRO established?
Ans: 15 August 1969

Q820. Where is ISRO headquartered?
Ans: Bengaluru

Q821. Where is IN-SPACe headquartered?
Ans: Ahmedabad

Q822. When is National Space Day observed?
Ans: 23 August

Q823. Where was India's first Point-in-Space (PinS) helicopter approach approved?
Ans: Undavalli Heliport, Andhra Pradesh

Q824. Which company introduced the world's first sub-1 nanometer (0.7 nm) chip technology?
Ans: IBM

Q825. Between which cities does India's first green hydrogen train run?
Ans: Jind and Sonipat (Haryana)

Q826. After the US and China, which country is India in having a private orbital launch capability?
Ans: Third

Q827. Which NASA Mars mission was terminated after 11 years?
Ans: MAVEN

Q828. Who became the first French woman to complete a spacewalk?
Ans: Sophie Adenot

Q829. When was the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM 1.0) launched?
Ans: 15 December 2021

Q830. Which company set up India's first rocket debris recycling centre (PROOF facility)?
Ans: Agnikul Cosmos

Q831. Which is India's first private orbital rocket?
Ans: Vikram-1 (Skyroot Aerospace)

Q832. Which country does India aim to become, after the US, Russia and China, in human spaceflight?
Ans: 4th

Q833. With which country's space agency will India carry out Chandrayaan-5?
Ans: Japan

Q834. What is AssamSat?
Ans: India's first state-owned satellite

Q835. Where is India's first greenfield OSAT facility being built?
Ans: Sanand, Gujarat

Q836. When did India cross 300 GW of installed non-fossil fuel power capacity?
Ans: 31 July 2026

Q837. At which airport was India's first GAGAN satellite-based precision landing trial done?
Ans: Udaipur Airport

Q838. What is the full form of BioE3?
Ans: Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment

Q839. What is "Mission Sana"?
Ans: India's first indigenous super pressure balloon (Red Balloon Aerospace)

Q840. What is "Aweekly" launched by Novo Nordisk India?
Ans: World's first once-weekly insulin (insulin icodec)

Q841. What is 'PowerBank-50'?
Ans: India's first satellite solar power battery

Q842. What was Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-1 launch mission called?
Ans: Mission Aagman

Q843. Where will L&T build India's largest single-cluster NVIDIA AI Factory?
Ans: Chennai

Q844. What is EOS-05?
Ans: India's first imaging satellite in geosynchronous orbit

Q845. What nuclear power capacity is targeted by 2031–32?
Ans: 22,480 MW

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Q846. Who is the ISRO Chairman?
Ans: Dr. V. Narayanan

Q847. What did UIDAI launch for face-based authentication?
Ans: Aadhaar Face Authentication SDK and Sandbox

Q848. What is India's installed renewable energy capacity reported in 2026?
Ans: 288.58 GW

Q849. Who is the Chairperson of IN-SPACe?
Ans: Pawan Kumar Goenka

Q850. Over how many route km was Kavach 4.0 approved in Izzatnagar Division?
Ans: 660 route km

Q851. Where is the "Param Pragya" AI supercomputing facility?
Ans: IIT Delhi's Sonipat campus

Q852. By when is the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) targeted?
Ans: 2035

Q853. Where is the SSLV spaceport being built?
Ans: Kulasekarapattinam

Part P — Sports (Q854–Q930)

Q854. Who won the FIFA World Cup 2026 final and against whom?
Ans: Spain beat Argentina 1–0

Q855. Where will the 2028 Summer Olympics be held?
Ans: Los Angeles, USA

Q856. Who was the flag-bearer and gold medallist for India in weightlifting at CWG 2026?
Ans: Mirabai Chanu

Q857. Where is the BWF headquartered?
Ans: Kuala Lumpur

Q858. Where is the ISSF headquartered?
Ans: Munich, Germany

Q859. In which year was FIDE established?
Ans: 1924

Q860. Which countries will co-host the ICC Women's U-19 T20 World Cup 2027?
Ans: Bangladesh and Nepal

Q861. Who won three medals in athletics at the 2026 Asian Games, the first Indian since P.T. Usha?
Ans: Gulveer Singh

Q862. Who won the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2026?
Ans: Germany

Q863. Who became the first Indian to win men's 57 kg freestyle wrestling gold at the Asian Games?
Ans: Aman Sehrawat

Q864. After how many years did the Indian women's hockey team win Asian Games gold in 2026?
Ans: 44 years

Q865. When is World Chess Day observed?
Ans: 20 July

Q866. Who became the first Indian male recurve archer to win gold at the Archery World Cup Final?
Ans: Dhiraj Bommadevara

Q867. How many T20 World Cup titles have Australia women won after 2026?
Ans: 7

Q868. Which was the first payments bank to get in-principle approval to convert into an SFB?
Ans: Fino Payments Bank

Q869. Who won India's first-ever Commonwealth Games judo gold?
Ans: Asmita Dey (women's 48 kg)

Q870. Who won India's first-ever gold at the World Rowing Cup?
Ans: Ujjwal Kumar and Lakshya

Q871. Who won women's 75 kg boxing gold at the 2026 Asian Games?
Ans: Lovlina Borgohain

Q872. Who became India's first woman Senior World Wrestling Champion?
Ans: Manisha Bhanwala

Q873. Which city got hosting rights for the 2030 centenary Commonwealth Games?
Ans: Ahmedabad

Q874. Where were the first Commonwealth Games held?
Ans: Hamilton, Canada (1930)

Q875. Who became the first woman to score a Test century at Lord's?
Ans: Yastika Bhatia

Q876. By how many runs did India women beat England in the first women's Test at Lord's?
Ans: 270 runs

Q877. Who became the first Indian girl to win the World Junior Squash Championship?
Ans: Anahat Singh

Q878. What is the total prize pool of the FIFA World Cup 2026?
Ans: $871 million

Q879. Who became the first Indian woman to win a Youth Olympics medal in athletics?
Ans: Shourya Ambure

Q880. Which city will host the 2030 Asian Games?
Ans: Doha

Q881. Who won the Japan Open Super 750 women's singles title?
Ans: P.V. Sindhu

Q882. Which team did India beat in the final of the Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2026?
Ans: Japan (4–1)

Q883. Which state will host the 8th Khelo India Youth Games?
Ans: Telangana

Q884. How many medals did India win at the 20th Asian Games?
Ans: 85 (21 gold, 27 silver, 37 bronze)

Q885. Who became the highest run-scorer in women's international cricket, passing Mithali Raj?
Ans: Smriti Mandhana

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Q886. After how many years did India host the BWF World Championships in 2026?
Ans: 17 years (last in 2009)

Q887. How many Women's Asia Cup titles has India won?
Ans: 8 (record)

Q888. Which country will host the 11th Asian Senior Wushu Championship in 2028?
Ans: India

Q889. Where were the Commonwealth Games 2026 held?
Ans: Glasgow, Scotland

Q890. Where has the ICC Women's Champions Trophy 2027 been moved?
Ans: India (from Sri Lanka)

Q891. Where did PM Modi inaugurate the RBI Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute?
Ans: Jatni (Khordha), Odisha

Q892. How many medals did India win at the 5th Asian Para Games 2026?
Ans: 114

Q893. Who won the 2026 World Billiards Championship, his 29th world title?
Ans: Pankaj Advani

Q894. Where were the BRICS Traditional and Indigenous Sports Demonstration Games 2026 inaugurated?
Ans: Ahmedabad

Q895. Where were the 20th Asian Games held?
Ans: Aichi-Nagoya, Japan

Q896. Who became the first Indian bowler to take 150 T20I wickets?
Ans: Arshdeep Singh

Q897. Which country is the top destination for India's ODI?
Ans: Singapore (21.1%)

Q898. Who became the second batter to score 15,000 ODI runs?
Ans: Virat Kohli

Q899. Who was sworn in as Governor of Odisha on 18 October 2026?
Ans: Braj Mohan Ram

Q900. Who is known as the Father of the Asian Games?
Ans: Guru Dutt Sondhi

Q901. Who won the Wimbledon 2026 men's singles title?
Ans: Jannik Sinner

Q902. Who became the most-capped Indian women's hockey player?
Ans: Savita Punia

Q903. Who became the youngest F1 World Champion?
Ans: Kimi Antonelli (Italy)

Q904. Who won a second consecutive U20 World Wrestling title in 76 kg?
Ans: Kajal Dhochak

Q905. Who became the first Indian to receive the Oskar Klein Medal?
Ans: Ashoke Sen

Q906. Who was appointed interim President of FIDE?
Ans: Viswanathan Anand

Q907. Who won the Wimbledon 2026 women's singles title?
Ans: Linda Noskova

Q908. What was India's position at the Commonwealth Games 2026?
Ans: 4th

Q909. Which team won the Global Chess League 2026?
Ans: Ganges Grandmasters

Q910. Where will the 6th Asian Para Games (2030) be held?
Ans: Doha, Qatar

Q911. Which town won the cleanest coastal town award?
Ans: Puri, Odisha

Q912. Who won her maiden BWF World Tour title at the Korea Masters?
Ans: Ashmita Chaliha

Q913. How many medals did India win at the Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2026?
Ans: 29 (8 gold)

Q914. What is the mascot of the 5th Asian Para Games 2026?
Ans: UZUMIN

Q915. Where was the inaugural Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship held?
Ans: Ahmedabad

Q916. Who is the Secretary-General of ASEAN?
Ans: Kao Kim Hourn (Cambodia)

Q917. Who became the youngest player ever bought in WPL auction history?
Ans: Uma Kashvi (15, Karnataka – Delhi Capitals)

Q918. Who received the Arjuna Award (Lifetime) 2025?
Ans: I. Arumainayagam (football)

Q919. Which navigation satellite was launched on GSLV-F18?
Ans: NVS-03

Q920. Which pair won the China Masters 2026 men's doubles title?
Ans: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty

Q921. Who won the Taipei Open 2026 (Super 300)?
Ans: Tanvi Sharma

Q922. Who was named Chairperson of the IOA Athletes' Commission?
Ans: P.V. Sindhu

Q923. Where was the 4th Pickleball World Cup 2026 held?
Ans: Da Nang, Vietnam

Q924. Who became WTA World No. 1 in 2026?
Ans: Elena Rybakina

Q925. Where was the Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2026 held?
Ans: Lagos, Nigeria

Q926. Who became the youngest Woman Grandmaster?
Ans: Bodhana Sivanandan

Q927. Who hit the fastest ODI double century (off 114 balls)?
Ans: Harry Brook

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Q928. Which trophy did India win for the best combined result at the 46th Chess Olympiad?
Ans: Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy

Q929. Who became India's 97th Chess Grandmaster?
Ans: Harsha Vardhan (Harshavardhan G B)

Q930. Where was the 46th Chess Olympiad held?
Ans: Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Part S — Static GK (Q931–Q1000)

Q931. Where is the IMD headquartered and when was it established?
Ans: New Delhi; 1875

Q932. Where is the Geological Survey of India headquartered?
Ans: Kolkata (est. 1851)

Q933. Where is Coal India Limited headquartered?
Ans: Kolkata

Q934. What type of PSU is Coal India Limited?
Ans: Maharatna

Q935. Where is the CBN (Central Bureau of Narcotics) headquartered?
Ans: Gwalior

Q936. What is the minimum maturity of a Certificate of Deposit issued by a commercial bank?
Ans: 7 days

Q937. Which Act replaced FERA, 1973?
Ans: FEMA, 1999

Q938. What does the CKYCRR issue to each customer?
Ans: 14-digit KYC Identification Number (KIN)

Q939. Who manages the CKYCRR?
Ans: CERSAI

Q940. Which state has the most UNESCO World Heritage Sites?
Ans: Maharashtra

Q941. What is the full form of BRBNMPL?
Ans: Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited

Q942. Where will the 19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas be held?
Ans: Kolkata (7–9 January 2027)

Q943. Who became Bulgaria's first woman President?
Ans: Iliana Iotova

Q944. Which city will become India's first drug-free city?
Ans: Chandigarh

Q945. Which was India's first private-sector company to issue tokenised bonds?
Ans: Larsen & Toubro

Q946. Where is India's first Road Safety Research and Training Centre being set up?
Ans: Saswad, Pune

Q947. How many characters does an IFSC code have?
Ans: 11

Q948. Which state is India's leading natural rubber producer?
Ans: Kerala

Q949. Which city was named cleanest city in Swachh Survekshan 2025–26?
Ans: Navi Mumbai

Q950. What is the interest rate on Sovereign Gold Bonds?
Ans: 2.5% per annum

Q951. Which airport was the first to use Digi Yatra for international passengers?
Ans: Cochin International Airport

Q952. In which four cities are India's mints located?
Ans: Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Noida

Q953. Where will Raksha Expo 2026 be held?
Ans: Bharat Future City, Hyderabad

Q954. How much incentive do first-time employees get under PMVBRY?
Ans: Up to ₹15,000 in two instalments

Q955. What is the new interest rate on Floating Rate Bonds 2034?
Ans: 7.26%

Q956. When was the Digital India initiative launched?
Ans: 2015

Q957. What is India's first cooperative-sector airline?
Ans: Co-Keralam

Q958. What is the new Dearness Allowance rate for Central Government employees?
Ans: 63%

Q959. What is the maximum Central Financial Assistance under PM Surya Ghar?
Ans: ₹78,000 (3 kW and above)

Q960. How much does a first-time employee get under PM-VBRY?
Ans: ₹15,000

Q961. Where is SIDBI headquartered?
Ans: Lucknow

Q962. What is the new fee for the FASTag Annual Pass?
Ans: ₹3,075

Q963. By when should the Yamuna be clean as per the government's target?
Ans: May 2029

Q964. How many days of work are guaranteed under VB-G RAM G, which replaced MGNREGA?
Ans: 125 days

Q965. When was NITI Aayog established?
Ans: 1 January 2015

Q966. What is the Nutrient Based Subsidy approved for Rabi 2026–27?
Ans: ₹62,370 crore

Q967. Which ministry won 1st place for maximum buildings solarised under PM Surya Ghar?
Ans: Ministry of Railways

Q968. What is the full form of GOBARdhan?
Ans: Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan

Q969. Who is the Union Minister of Communications?
Ans: Jyotiraditya Scindia

Q970. How many digits does the KYC Identification Number (KIN) have?
Ans: 14

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Q971. From which date must all telecom operators provide Calling Name Presentation (CNAP)?
Ans: 1 November 2026

Q972. Where was the 11th Session of MOWCAP held?
Ans: Jakarta, Indonesia

Q973. Asiatic lions returned to which sanctuary after 144 years?
Ans: Barda Wildlife Sanctuary

Q974. Who heads the committee formed after sugarcane farmers' demands?
Ans: Prof. Ramesh Chand

Q975. Where is India's first Organic Fisheries Cluster?
Ans: Soreng, Sikkim

Q976. How large is the Line of Credit India extended to Guyana?
Ans: $500 million

Q977. What is the name of the NCB operation in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur?
Ans: Operation Trident

Q978. On whose 250th birth anniversary was a ₹250 commemorative coin released?
Ans: Muthuswami Dikshitar

Q979. What does VISTAR stand for?
Ans: Viksit Bharat Initiative for Statistical Transformation, Analytics & Research

Q980. Where is the SAARC Secretariat?
Ans: Kathmandu, Nepal

Q981. How many villages have been declared Adarsh Gram under PM-AJAY?
Ans: 18,093

Q982. What is the final redemption price of SGB 2018–19 Series-III?
Ans: ₹14,024 per unit

Q983. From where was the 24th instalment of PM-KISAN released?
Ans: Banaskantha, Gujarat

Q984. How much does a farmer family get each year under PM-KISAN?
Ans: ₹6,000

Q985. Where is India's highest-altitude High Court bench?
Ans: Leh

Q986. When was India certified polio-free by WHO?
Ans: 27 March 2014

Q987. Who was named FICCI President-Elect for 2026-27?
Ans: Vijay Sankar

Q988. Which Union Territory was declared fully literate under ULLAS?
Ans: Lakshadweep

Q989. Where is the 57th IFFI being held?
Ans: Goa

Q990. From when is the FSSAI dairy logo mandatory?
Ans: 1 July 2028

Q991. Where is the Geographical Indications Registry located?
Ans: Chennai

Q992. What is the AI-enabled communication platform under PM-VGSY called?
Ans: PANCHAM

Q993. When was the ITBP raised?
Ans: 24 October 1962

Q994. How many cities were assessed in Swachh Survekshan 2025–26?
Ans: 4,751

Q995. Where is the NSG Academy located?
Ans: Manesar, Haryana

Q996. Which two navies take part in Naseem Al Bahr?
Ans: India and Oman

Q997. Which place was notified as Ladakh's 8th district?
Ans: Sankoo

Q998. Where was CHOGM 2026 held?
Ans: St John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Q999. Who are the Trinity of Carnatic Music?
Ans: Muthuswami Dikshitar, Tyagaraja and Syama Sastri

Q1000. Which two banknote presses are managed by BRBNMPL?
Ans: Mysore and Salboni

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