

Samyak

An Institute For Civil Services

MONTHLY **CURRENT** **AFFAIRS**

MARCH 2025

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USEFUL FOR ALL COMPETITIVE EXAMS



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MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS MARCH : 2025



Near Riddhi-Siddhi Circle, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur

1. RAJASTHAN AFFAIRS

Rajasthan Foundation Day 2025

- This year, Chaitra Shukla Pratipada was celebrated instead of the traditional March 30.
- From March 25 to April 1, programmes were organised across the state on various themes.
- Background: 'Greater Rajasthan' was established by Sardar Patel in 1949 on Chaitra Shukla Pratipada.

Rajasthan Day Celebration

Date	Function	Place
25 March (Beginning)	'Women's Conference'	Barmer
26 March	'Kisan Sammelan & FPO Program'	Bikaner
27 March	Programme of 'Poor and Antyodaya'	Bharatpur
28 March	'Good Governance Ceremony'	Bhilwara
29 March	'Youth and Employment Festival'	Kota
30 March (Chaitra Shukla Pratipada) and 31 March	State-level 'Investment Festival'	Jaipur

Rajasthan Farmer Support Scheme

- (Rabi 2025-26) Minimum Support Price of Wheat ₹2425/quintal + ₹150 Bonus
- Total Support Price ₹2575/quintal
- Online Registration Facility (From Home/E-Mitra)
- Purchase Period: 10 March – 30 June 2025
- Amount directly deposited in bank account

Rashtriya Empowerment through Self Empowerment Campaign

- Start: 16 March 2025, Jaipur (by Brahma Kumaris)
- Objective: To mentally empower the security forces
- Partnership: 20,000+ security personnel across 100+ locations
- End: March 29, Mount Abu
- Partner Force: Air Force, Navy, Army, BSF, RPF, CISF, Jaipur Police, NCC

Rajasthan Civil Aviation Policy 2024

- Released: 20 March 2025
- Objective: Modernization of Airports, Strips and Heliports
- Development in Phase I: Barmer (Uttarlai) and

Udaipur Airport

- For Night Flights: Sawai Madhopur, Nagaur, Bhilwara, Abu Road, Sriganganagar
- New Airport at Kota (with support from AAI)
- Flying Training Organizations in Jhalawar
- City side development and new cargo complex in Jaipur

Saksham Jaipur Campaign

- It was started by the Jaipur District Administration.
- Students of classes 6 to 12 were given self-defence training and information about Rajcop App.
- The campaign was carried out in two phases in collaboration with the Education Department and women safety organizations.

Operation Dignity

- (1–15 March 2025) Initiative of Jaipur Police Commissionerate.
- Monitoring to prevent eve-teasing of women in schools, colleges, parks and mini-city buses.
- Women and girls were given information about self-defense training and Rajcop Citizen App (Need Help).

Chief Minister's Announcements – Finance and Appropriation Bill Discussion (12 March 2025)

Drinking Water Improvement

- Instead of 1500 hand pumps, now 2500 hand pumps will be installed.
- An untied fund of Rs 1 crore to each District Collector (for summer contingencies) for quick resolution of drinking water problems.

Planned Development and Civic Amenities

- On three major highways, there will be 5 facilities each and resting places for large vehicles near the Zero Accident Zones – including eye check-up and medical facilities.
- For road safety, 10 automated testing stations will be set up with private support.
- A theme park will be constructed in Jaisalmer.
- The time limit for conversion of rural non-agricultural land will be reduced from 45 to 30 days.
- **New Urban Development Bodies:**
 - Bhiwadi Development Authority (BIDA Rescheduling)
 - Dausa-Bandikui Nagar Vikas Trust (for

DMIC Logistic Hub)

- Balotra Nagar Vikas Trust (for Refinery & Petro-Chemical Zone)
- Street lights: The number of street lights will be increased from the earlier announced 50,000 to 1 lakh street lights.

Industrial Development

- VAT on CNG and PNG will be reduced to 7.5%.
- Entrepreneurs will get GST, VAT, electricity tariff details through ITMS portal.
- To increase the participation of migrant Rajasthanis, new chapters of Rajasthan Foundation will be opened in cities like Guwahati, Pune, Delhi, Dubai, Singapore, Tokyo, Nairobi, Melbourne etc.
- District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) will be established in the newly formed districts (Beawar, Balotra, Deedwana-Kuchaman, Deeg etc.).

Tourism, Art & Culture

- 'India and Rajasthan Pehchan Tour Programme' will be started to acquaint the youth with cultural heritage.
- In future, Rajasthan Day will be celebrated on Chaitra Shukla Pratipada (historically Greater Rajasthan was established on this day).
- Sant Sadaram Ji Maharaj Panorama will be constructed in Guhra (Jaisalmer).

Youth Development & Welfare

- **Chief Minister Youth Employment Promotion Scheme**
 - One-time assistance of ₹10,000 to youth seeking jobs in the organized private sector for the first time (if salary is less than ₹50,000/month).
- **Skills & Career Counselling**
 - Establishment of Centre for Advanced Skilling & Career Counselling in Jaipur, Bharatpur and Udaipur (Budget ₹100 crore).
 - PM Internship / ₹ 6,000 monthly stipend (in place of unemployment allowance) to the youth involved in the National Apprenticeship Program.

Initiatives in Education Sector

- New agriculture colleges will be set up in Piplund-Bhilwara and Rajsamand.
- The new campus of IIT Jodhpur will be set up in Jaipur Coaching Hub.
- The upcoming session will start the Mukhyamantri Shiksha Rajasthan Abhiyan (MSRA) to implement NEP and improve the

quality of education.

- Rajasthan State Open School to introduce an on-demand examination system – benefit to children of working and disadvantaged sections.
- Adarsh Ved residential school will be set up at Taratara Math (Barmer) and Gomrakh Dham.
- Residential school for cattle rearers will be opened in Rajsamand.

Development of Sports Facilities

- A Sports Directorate will be set up at the state level.
- A multipurpose sports complex will be constructed in Bhilwara, a cycle track in Sriganganagar, and a sports stadium in Kumher-Deeg and Keshoraipatan-Bundi.

Medical & Health

- State-of-the-art Thalassemia Centre will be established at RIMS (Jaipur).
- Prevention and control programs will also be run for the prevention of thalassemia.
- The quantity of milk available to children in Anganwadi centers will be increased from 15 grams to 25 grams per packet.
- Comprehensive Lactation Management Centres (CLMC) will be set up in 8 medical colleges and Lactation Management Units (LMU) in 11 other hospitals.
- A Stroke Interventional and Rehabilitation Unit will be set up at SMS Hospital, Jaipur.

Social Security

- Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Poverty Free Village Scheme launched – 5,000 villages in the first phase, Budget ₹300 crore.
- The number of scooty facilities for differently-abled youth will be increased from 2,000 to 2,500.
- Under Lakhpati Didi women will get the loan at 1.5% interest rate.
- The savings bond amount of Lado Protsahan Yojana will be increased from ₹1 lakh to ₹1.5 lakh.
- At the block level, 10 outstanding women from Lakhpati Didi, Drone Didi, Solar Didi, Bank Sakhi, Krishi Sakhi, Pashu Sakhi will be given awards and tablets.
- Provision of ₹ 450 crore under Devnarayan Fund for the welfare of underprivileged sections and MBC.

Agriculture & Animal Husbandry

- Subsidy will be provided on 60,000 solar power pumps (for micro irrigation).

- One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for PLDB loans will be launched.
- Rajasthan's first 'Centre of Excellence Indigenous Farm' will be set up in Pali for the conservation of indigenous animals.

Green Growth

- Under the "Karmabhoomi Se Mathrubhumi" campaign, 5,000 water recharge structures will be built with CSR funding.
- New conservation reserves will be set up at Mokhla Parewar (Jaisalmer) and Buchara Main (Jaipur).
- A biological park will be constructed in Bharatpur.
- Godavan conservation will be done in a 2,000 hectare area in National Desert Park, Jaisalmer.

Key Announcements Related to Good Governance

Law and order and civil safety

- 'Rajasthan Civil Defence Act' will be brought to ensure a safe environment for the common man.
- 25,000 CCTV cameras will be installed.
- 250 additional Kalika patrolling units will be set up for women safety.
- 70 Mobile Forensic Units – for collection of forensic evidence for new forensic codes.

Institute for Justice and Financial Efficiency

- **Under National Law University, Jodhpur –**
 - Centre of Excellence for Legal Research and Application स्थापित होगा।
- **Under the State Government –**
 - Centre for Economic Transformation and Financial Management की स्थापना होगी।
- **Digitization and Policy Making**
 - Rajasthan Digital Mission – e-Governance Expansion and Participation of Experts.
 - AI/ML (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning) Policy लागू की जाएगी।
 - To provide easy treatment to cancer patients under the OncFacilitation Program – RGHS.

Administrative Reforms & Facilities

- Ministerial Directorate – to solve the problems of personnel and to increase efficiency.
- Formation of 25 new municipalities and upgradation of 4 urban bodies:
- Jaitaran (Beawar), Chhabra (Baran), Nimbahera (Chittorgarh), Rawatsar (Hanumangarh).
- Losal (Sikar) will be upgraded from sub-tehsil to tehsil.
- Establishment of a Recreation Centre at HCM

RIPA, Jaipur.

- Under the MLA LAD scheme, the amount given to non-state institutions will be increased from ₹ 10 lakh to ₹ 25 lakh.
- Constitution of State Administrative Unit Reorganization Advisory Committee – for restructuring of subdivisions, tehsils etc.
- Mini secretariats will be set up in the newly created 8 districts – for coordination and service efficiency.
- Establishment of State Level Office Complex at Lalkothi, Jaipur (Budget ₹450 crore).

Cabinet Meeting: Important Decisions

- The Rajasthan Cabinet meeting was held on 8 March 2025 under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma.

Key Decisions

- State Skill Policy approved – The youth will be prepared for global competition by giving special skill training according to industrial demand.
- RTI institutes will be transformed into advanced skill centres – provision of new courses, modules and on-the-job training.
- Model Career Centres will be set up at divisional headquarters – skill training, career counselling, internship and employment information.
- The youth will be trained in automation, AI, machine learning, manufacturing and cyber security and will be prepared for Industry 4.0.

Energy and Environment

- Land Allotment for Solar Power Projects: Jaisalmer – New Luna Kalan
- Phalodi – Village Nokh
- Bikaner – Gram Kela, Kalasar and Sawaisar

Decisions Based on Employee Interests

- State employees will get the benefit of increased gratuity in line with the central government from January 1, 2024.
- Under the Rajasthan Voluntary Rural Education Service Rules, 2010, the designation of teachers will now be Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor instead of Lecturer.
- The Rajasthan District Gazetteer Service Rules, 1980 (attached to the department abolished in the year 2007) will be deleted.

Welfare of Divyangjans

- Approval of Equal Opportunity Policy – applicable in all departments, offices and autonomous institutions.
- Specially abled persons will be exempted from rotational transfers as far as possible.

- Preference in Transfer/Promotion: Persons with Disabilities, Parents of children with severe disabilities

Rajasthan Honouring Fighters of Democracy Bill 2024

- Passed in the Assembly: Passed by voice vote on 21 March 2025.
- Period applicable: For fighters jailed between 25 June 1975 and 21 March 1977 for defending democracy.
- Effective Date: Rule re-effective from 1st January 2024 (Announcement – 14th March 2024).
- Beneficiaries: Total 1,140 (921 surviving fighters + dependents of 219 deceased fighters).
- **Provision:**
 - ₹20,000 Monthly Pension
 - ₹4,000 Monthly Medical Aid
 - Free transport facility
 - Lifelong honorarium and medical assistance to spouse
- Eligibility: Rajasthan residents who were detained under MISA, Defence of India Act 1971 or CrPC.

The Rajasthan Ground Water (Conservation and Management) Authority Bill, 2025

- Passed in Assembly: 19 March 2025
- Objective: To prevent the depleting groundwater level and ensure equitable water use.
- **Key Provisions:**
 - Constitution of State Level Authority for Ground Water Control and Management.
 - District Committee – Formulation of local planning in each district.
 - Charges on water use other than irrigation
 - 6 months in jail + ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh fine for boring without permission
 - Rainwater harvesting mandatory – especially in urban construction
- Membership: Chief Engineer level Chairman, 2 MLAs, 2 Ground Water Experts
- Background: According to the 2023 study, 216 blocks in the state are in the 'over-exploited' category.

Revision of criteria for declaring new villages

- Announcement: Revision of old norms by the Government of Rajasthan.
- **New Parameters:**
 - General Area: Dhani/Majra with a population of 200 may be declared as a revenue village.

- Desert and Scheduled Tribe Area: Minimum population fixed at 150.
- Condition: The remaining population in the original revenue village should not be less than 200 in the general area.
- Implementation: New guidelines issued to all District Magistrates.

Appointment of 4 Judges in Rajasthan High Court

- On 28th March 2025, 4 advocates were appointed as judges in the Rajasthan High Court:
 1. Anand Sharma – Senior Counsel of Central Government (Jaipur)
 2. Sunil Beniwal – Former Chairman, Rajasthan Bar Council (Jodhpur)
 3. Mukesh Rajpurohit – Deputy Solicitor General (Jodhpur)
 4. Sandeep Shah – Former Additional Advocate General (Jodhpur)
- The total number of judges has now increased from 34 to 38.
- 7 advocates were recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium (including 1 woman).
- Three names yet to be approved: Sandeep Taneja, Baljinder Singh Sandhu, Shital Mirdha.
- Currently there are 3 women judges: Rekha Borana, Shubha Mehta, Dr. Nupur Bhati.

Kutle Khan

- Performed at the IIFA Awards ceremony for the third time on 9th March 2025.
- The first folk artist of Rajasthan who has this achievement.
- **Pre-IIFA Presentations:**
 - 2016 – Madrid, Spain
 - 2019 – Mumbai
- Specialty: Folk, Bollywood, Sufi, Devotional, Patriotic Singing.

Dr. Pramod Yewle – Vice-Chancellor of RSU

- Appointed Vice-Chancellor of Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RSU).
- Tenure: 5 years or 70 years of age (whichever is earlier).
- For the first time, this responsibility was entrusted to a non-medical professional.

Angela Swamy – Mrs. Universe 2025

- Angela Swamy from Bikaner won first position in the Mrs. Universe 2025 competition held in Thailand (Pattaya).

Nidhi Saxena – International Film Achievement

- Jaipur-based writer-director Nidhi Saxena's film 'Secrets of Mountain Serpent' has its world

premiere on August 27, 2025 at the 82nd Venice International Film Festival.

- It was the winning film of Biennale College Cinema 2025.
- After a decade, an Indian film was selected in this category.

Mahavir Prasad Saini – Coach in Para Sports

- Dronacharya awardee Saini has been appointed as the coach of the Indian para-athletics team.
- World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2025 – March 11 to 13, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.
- Event – Under the aegis of Paralympic Committee of India.

Dr. Saurabh Sharma – Representation in Global Culinary Education

- Celebrity chef Dr. Saurabh Sharma from Rajasthan was included in the World Chef Education Committee of the World Association of Chefs' Societies (WACS).
- Included in the four leading chefs selected from India.
- They will present Indian culinary tradition and cultural heritage at the international level.

Chaitanya M. Saxena – National Jeev Daya Award

- Chaitanya M. Saxena from Jaipur received the National Jeev Daya Award for outstanding services in animal welfare.
- The award was presented by the Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in New Delhi.

Arvind Singh Mewar

- Arvind Singh Mewar, a member of the former royal family of Udaipur, died on 26 March 2025.
- Significant contribution to the preservation of art, culture and heritage of Udaipur.
- Leading role in establishing Udaipur's identity in the destination wedding city and hotel industry.

Himmat Shah – Sculptural legend passes away

- Renowned Indian sculptor Himmat Shah passed away in Jaipur.
- Karmabhoomi – Rajasthan, Born – 22 July 1933, Lothal (Gujarat).
- Major Works: Terracotta Heads, Burnt Paper Collages, Silver Paintings.
- **Major Honours:**
 - Lalit Kala Akademi Award – 1956, 1962
 - Bombay Art Society Award – 1962
 - Sahitya Kala Parishad Award – 1988

Kota – First Food Bank for Herbivorous Wildlife

- Development of grassland in 600 hectares near

Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve.

- Area: Dara to Kishore Sagar Forest Area.
- Objective: To provide nutritious food to herbivorous wildlife in the wild itself.
- This will be the first special zone in Rajasthan which will function as a food bank.

Rajasthan's first 'Bharatiya Gyan Parampara Kendra'

- Established by RA Podar Institute of Management (affiliated to University of Rajasthan).
- Research Support Centre – Free research-related information and guidance to students.
- Objective: To carry forward the Indian knowledge tradition.

IIT Kanpur to develop two schools in Jaipur

- Selected Schools:
 - Mahatma Gandhi Government School, New Vidyadhar Nagar
 - Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Mansarovar
- Programme: Centre of Excellence for Innovation in Basic Education
- Facilities: Modern Resources, Lab, Smart Classroom, Canteen, Play Ground, CCTV, etc.

Jaipur (Langdiawas) – Waste to Energy Plant

- A plant started by the Heritage Municipal Corporation.
- Capacity: 288 MW/day, 300 tons/day garbage disposal.
- Electricity Rate: ₹7.31 per unit (supplied to Jaipur Discom).
- Supply of waste to cement companies + production of building materials (bricks, tiles, blocks).

Rajasthan-Madhya Pradesh-Cheetah Corridor Sector Determination

- Determination by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun.
- Total area: 17,000 sq km
- MP: 10,500 km² (61%)
- Rajasthan: 6,500 km² (37%)
- Districts of Rajasthan: Kota, Baran, Jhalawar, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Chittorgarh.
- The highest share will be from the Kota division.

Banswara – Rajasthan's first sensor-equipped hanging bridge

- Under construction at the confluence of Mahi and Anas rivers.
- Total length: 906 meters, cost: ₹105 crore.
- Rajasthan's first bridge equipped with sensor technology, second hanging bridge after Kota

● **Attributes:**

- Sensors to monitor load, speed and vibration
- Earthquake Resistant Shock Absorbers & Flexible Joints
- Use of Special Waterproof Concrete
- Real-Time Alert System

International Institute of AI-Robotics – NIMS University, Jaipur

- Rajasthan's first International Artificial Intelligence-Robotics Institute launched at NIMS University.
- Opening: 1 April 2025
- Partnership: MoU between the Government of Rajasthan and NIMS under the Rising Rajasthan initiative.
- Objective: To make Rajasthan a digital innovation and AI hub.
- **Features:**
 - NVIDIA's Computing & AI Chip Lab
 - Germany's KUKA Robotics, Siemens Automation Lab
 - Drone Technology Lab of Captix (Canada)
 - 15 State-of-the-Art Labs, 500+ High Performance Computers
 - Accreditation: Indo-Pacific European Hub for Digital Partnership (INPES)

Breeding Centre of Siyago Caracal – Ranthambore

- Establishment of a breeding centre for the conservation of caracals.
- Caracal – One of the rarest wild animals in the world, adept at hunting flying birds.
- Major Habitat Areas: Ranthambore (Rajasthan) and Kutch (Gujarat).

Rail Rakshak Dal Project – North Western Railway

- Country's first pilot project – launched by North Western Railway Zone.
- Place of Posting : Bandikui, Udaipur, Lalgah, Merta Road.
- Special training – in collaboration with NDRF.
- Objective: To start relief and rescue operations in railway accidents within 60 minutes.

Artificial Insemination Technique Plant – Bassi, Jaipur

- Rajasthan's first Sex Sorted Semen Lab Plant.
- Partnership: Central Government, NDDDB, RCDF, RLDB.
- Production capacity: 10 lakh doses per annum.
- 75% Subsidy per dose by the State Government.

Gobar Gas Plant – Bassi, Jaipur

- Plant based on Gujarat model by Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation.
- Per day capacity: 1500kg
- Cost: ₹50 Crore | Partnership: RCDF, NDDDB, Suzuki
- Objective: Increase farmers' income, organic farming and environmental protection
- Cow dung bought: 100 tonnes per day from nearby villages
- Operated: NDDDB & Suzuki

India's longest 8-lane tunnel – Kota-Dara, Rajasthan

- Project: Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, under Bharatmala Project.
- Length: 5 km – India's longest 8-lane tunnel
- Manufacturing Technology: New Austrian Tunnel Method (NATM)
- **Features:**
 - Eco-friendly sensors
 - Automatic activation when pollution increases
 - Opening: November 2025

Rajasthan Royals Sports Arena – Jaipur

- Rajasthan Royals signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) worth Rs 10,000 crore under Rising Rajasthan.
- A multi-sports arena called "Blackbug" will be developed on 500 acres in Chittora (Jaipur).
- Developing Entity: Royal Multisports Pvt. Ltd.
- Facilities: Cricket Stadium, Olympic Sports, Entertainment Arena, Academy, Club House, Convention Center, Hotel, Mall, Hospital, Training School and College.
- Team Base: Jaipur | Active in IPL since 2008.

Rawatbhata – 700 MW Nuclear Power Station Unit

- On 16th March 2025, power generation started for the first time from the 7th unit.
- Rajasthan's first 700 MW nuclear power unit.
- Total generation capacity: 1780 MW (80% increase).
- Specialty: The first unit in the country, where both fuel and electricity are produced at one place.
- Rajasthan will get 50% of the electricity.

Degana – a treasure trove of lithium and tungsten

- Huge mineral deposits confirmed in Revanth Hill (Degana) of Nagaur district.
- **Reserves:**
 - 13.39 million tonnes of Tungsten

- 6.33 Million Tons of Lithium
- 16.42 million tonnes Niobium-tantalum
- Degana's lithium reserves can meet 80% of India's demand – more than J&K 's.
- Lithium Usage: In Mobile, Laptop, EV, Chargeable Batteries.

High-Speed Railway Test Track – Sambhar

- Under Construction Track: Gudha-Thathana Mithri (Jaipur-Jodhpur Road).
- Length: 64 km, cost: ₹967 crore
- Speed test: 220 km/h
- Testing: High-speed train, regular coach, goods wagon
- It is being developed on the lines of the US, Australia, and Japan.

Constitution Club of Rajasthan – Jaipur

- Inauguration: 8 March 2025, by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
- Rajasthan Legislative Assembly – The first assembly in the country in which this club was established.
- Construction on the lines of the Constitution Club of Delhi.
- Facilities: Website, Restaurant, Coffee House, Swimming Pool, Auditorium, Conference Hall, VIP Lounge, Gym, Salon, Badminton, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Guest Room.

Manekshaw Centre of Excellence for National Security Studies and Research

- Country's first National Security Research Centre – named after Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw.
- Joint Institutes: IIIT Delhi, IIT Jodhpur, IIT Guwahati, IIT Kanpur, IIT Dharwad.
- First Meeting: 3 March 2025, IIIT Delhi | Included: Senior officers of all three armies.
- Objective: To strengthen defence capabilities under Atma Nirbhar Bharat and increase self-reliance in defence technology.
- Role: It will connect the defence forces, security agencies, research institutions and academia as nodal agencies.
- **Institution-wise Specialization:**
 - IIT Jodhpur: Engine Design, UAV/RPA, Directed Energy Weapons
 - IIT Guwahati: Communication, Shockwave, Control Blast Resistance, Hypersonic Applications
 - IIT Kanpur: Cyber Security, Quantum Computing
 - IIT Dharwad: IoT, Design & Additive Manufacturing

- IIIT Delhi: Aerospace, Space Technology, AI
- Key Tasks: New Technology Based Courses – For Defence & Security Forces.
- Re-Employment Training – For Officers, JCOS, ORS & Agniveers.
- Assistance to combat hybrid warfare technology.

5 Ropeway Projects in Rajasthan

- Approval received from the Union Ministry of Road Transport | Start the DPR creation process.
- Objective: Development of religious and tourist places and increase tourist attraction.
- **Places**
 1. Sawai Madhopur: Jogi Mahal – Trinetra Ganesh Temple (1.45 km)
 2. Jaipur: Amer – Nargarh via Jaigarh Fort (6.60 km)
 3. Bundi: Indragarh – Bijasan Mata (600 m)
 4. Chittorgarh: Chhatrang Mori – Chittorgarh Fort (1 km)
 5. Banswara: Bandaria Hanuman Temple – Samai Mata Temple (850 m)

Jaipur Airport gets National Award for Digital Initiative

- Jaipur Airport was awarded three awards in CII's 10th National Competition.
- Objective: To improve operational efficiency and passenger experience.
- **Awards Received:**
 1. Platinum Award – Smart Monitoring System (for Aircraft Navigation Safety)
 2. Gold Award – Wi-Fi Dispensing Kiosk for International Passengers
 3. Bronze Award – Mobile Based Fragrance System

Sundar Kanti Joshi Award – Excellence in Women's Cricket

- Announcement: 24 March 2025, Delivery Ceremony: 3 April 2025
- Organizer: Radha Niwas Cricket Club
- The women cricketers from Rajasthan were awarded for their best performance in the BCCI tournament.
- **Award Winners:**
 - Senior Category: Kaushalya Chaudhary (292 runs, 37 wickets)
 - Junior: Maina Seoul (179 runs, 12 wickets)
 - Sub-Junior Category: Dhriti Mathur (350 runs, 7 wickets)
 - Lifetime Achievement Award: Sonia Bijawat (Former National Player – Ajmer)

'Abhimaan' Award – Honouring Outstanding Cricketers by RCA

- Name announced by the ad hoc committee of the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) on 19 March 2025, distribution on 25 March.
- Objective: To honor the players of Rajasthan who have performed well at the national level.

Key Prize Winners (Male/Female):

Award	Men's category	Women's category
Hanumant Singh Award (Senior Category)	Mahipal Lomror	Suman Meena
Salim Durani Award (Under 23 age group)	Mohit Changra	Usha Pareriya
Kishan Rungta Award (Under 19 Age Group)	Jatin Saini	Maina Seoul
Laxman Singh Award (Men's [Under-16] & Women's [Under-15])	Yatharth Bhardwaj	Dhriti Mathur
Best Emerging Player Award	Kartik Sharma	Ayushi Garg

- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Kamal Morarka, Ashok Ohri, Rajendra Rathore, Rakesh Agarwal (posthumously)
- **Senior Sports Journalist:** Sunder Lal Mathuria (posthumously) – Notable contribution to sports journalism in 60-80s.
- **Convener:** Jaideep Bihani (RCA Ad hoc Committee)

Women of Aaspura, Sikar receive International Design Award

- Dhapli Devi won the European Product Design Award (Belgium) and the iF Design Award (Hannover, Germany).
- Vimla Devi received the German Designer Award and the Creation Global Award (Design – "Carpet Lotus").
- Sundari Devi received the Kamala Devi Award from the Craft Council of India (Chennai).
- All three women hail from Aaspura village in Sikar district.

Diya Kumari – Women Tourism Minister of the Year

- Diya Kumari, Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan, received the honour at ITB Berlin (4–6 March 2025).
- Award Recipient: Pacific Asia Travel Writers Association
- Reason: Commendable efforts for tourism promotion in Rajasthan.

Rajasthan Roadways wins three national awards

- Three runner awards in the National Public Bus Transport Award category by Association of State Road Transport Undertaking (New Delhi).
- **Awards Received:**
 1. Road Safety Award
 2. Non-Traffic Revenue Award
 3. Productivity (Rural) Award
- Award recipients: Chandmal Verma and Ravi Soni
- President: Shubhra Singh

Jaipur Dairy wins first prize

- Event: RCDF Headquarters, Saras Sankul – 12th March 2025
- First prize to Jaipur Saras Dairy (MD Manish Faujdar) based on Key Performance Indicators.
- Bhilwara Dairy (VK Pathak) – 2nd Prize
- Sriganganagar Dairy (Ugrasen Saharan) – 3rd Prize
- Innovation Awards: Jaipur, Ajmer, Hanumangarh, Jodhpur, Bhilwara dairies were awarded.

MoU between State Sports Council and SAI

- 20 March 2025: Agreement between Rajasthan State Sports Council and Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- Under the Khelo India scheme, a State Centre of Excellence in Athletics, Boxing and Archery will be set up at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur.
- Players will get high-level training and other sports facilities.

MoU between RVUNL and Singareni Collieries Company Limited

- 3 February 2025: Under the MoU, two thermal power plants of 1600 MW capacity will be set up in Telangana – Rajasthan and Telangana will get 800 MW of power each.
- A 1500 MW solar park will also be set up in Rajasthan, in which Rs 6000 crore will be invested.

Rajasthan government signs MoU with South Australia

- 3 March 2025: Agreement for technical cooperation in the water sector through AIWC

(Australia-India Water Centre).

- Joint technical efforts will be made to solve the drinking water problems of Rajasthan.

National Pickleball Championship – Rajasthan Overall Champion

- Rajasthan won 26 medals, including 11 gold, 7 silver and 8 bronze medals, in the pickleball competition held in Indore.
- Rajasthan won the title of overall champion.
- Pickleball Association President: Karan Singh
- Major Gold Medal Winners:**
 - Aditya Chandrawat, Ayaan and Atharva, Neha, Ripudaman Singh, Nav Puneet, Veer Digvendra Rana, Neetu Sharma, Vinay Loyal, Sadhana Sharma, Ashwini Wadhwa, Karan Singh.
- Major Silver and Bronze Winners:**
- Harshvardhan, Ishita, Shriyut, Vaibhavi, Jigyasa, Archana Singh, Nitesh, Satyam, Nikhil, Bharti Chauhan, Sadhana and Ravi etc.

Khelo India Para-Shooting – Rajasthan Champion of Champions

- Rajasthan won 9 medals (4 gold, 2 silver, 3 bronze) in the shooting event at the Khelo India Para Games held in New Delhi.
- Rajasthan gets the title of Champion of Champions.
- Uttar Pradesh (4 medals) and Maharashtra (3 medals) in second position.
- Chef de Mission of Rajasthan team: Shamim Ahmed
- Major Medal Winners:**
 - Avani Lekhara: Gold
 - Mona Agarwal: 1 Gold, 2 Silver
 - Nihal Singh: Gold
 - Rudransh Khandelwal: 1 Gold, 1 Bronze
 - Vijay Singh Kuntal, Rahul Sharma: Bronze

18th Senior State Level Wushu Competition (Men/Women)

- Venue: Pushkar | Organizers: Rajasthan Wushu Sangh and Ajmer Wushu Sangh
- Overall Winners: Jaipur (10 Gold; 7 Silver; 2 Bronze) | 73 points)
- Best Players:**
 - Men's Category: Vaibhav Sharma
 - Women's Category: Megha Joshi
- 2nd position: Kota (5 gold, 4 silver) | 37 points)
- 3rd position: Jodhpur (2 gold, 6 silver, 5 bronze) 33 points)
- Union President: Hiranand Kataria

Deaf National Championship – Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Air Rifle

- Event: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Rajasthan's Deaf Team: Total 10 Medals – 3 Gold, 4 Silver, 3 Bronze
- Main Medal Winners:**
 - Abhinav Sharma: Badminton Singles – Gold
 - Piyush: Badminton Singles – Silver, with Abhinav in Doubles – Silver
 - Anant-Govind: U-16 Doubles – Silver
 - Kavita – Anant: U-16 Mixed Doubles – Gold
 - Subrata: U-18 Singles – Gold
 - Rakhi: Table Tennis Singles – Bronze
 - Renu Saini: Doubles – Silver & Team Bronze
 - Men's team (Ashib, Amit, Vikram, Chetan): Bronze
- Union President: Vinod Mittal

National Masters Athletics Championship – Bengaluru

- Venue: March 4–9, SAI and Sri Kanteerava Stadium
- Rajasthan's performance: Total 16 medals (8 gold, 4 silver, 4 bronze)
- Major Medal Winners:**
 - Pani Devi (90+): 3 gold – shot put, discus, 100m
 - Anil Kumar (35+): 3 Gold – 5000m Walk, 5000m Race, 10000m
 - Maya Saini (45+): 1 Gold (Discus), 1 Silver (Shot Put), 1 Bronze (Javelin)
 - Anup Yadav (45+): 1 gold (10000m)- 1 Bronze (3000m steeplechase)
 - Salim Baig (75+): Long Jump – Silver
 - Riza Banshiwal (55+): 5000m Walk – Silver
 - Dilwar Singh (50+): Pole Vault – Silver
 - Jagjit Kaur (60+): 100m – Bronze
 - Mahendra Swami (50+): 3000m Steeplechase – Bronze

World Para Athletics Grand Prix – New Delhi

- Events: 11–13 March 2025 | Composition: Paralympic Committee of India
- Participants from Rajasthan:**
 - Khushboo Gill (Hanumangarh): Shot Put
 - Shalini Chaudhary (Sikar): 400 and 1500 meters
 - Vikram Meena (Jaipur): 400 and 1500 meters
 - Janak Singh Harshana (Bharatpur): Shot and Sauter Throw
 - Mahendra Gurjar (Jaipur): Long Jump

Anita Chowdhury – Gold medal in para rowing

- Event: 42nd Para Rowing National Championships, Bhopal
- Achievement: Gold Medal | Location: Nawalgarh (Jhunjhunu)

Krishna Nagar – Spanish Para Badminton International 2025

- Gold: Mixed Doubles
- Silver: Men's Doubles
- Bronze: Men's Singles
- Honours: Tokyo Paralympics 2020 Gold Winner, Khel Ratna Recipient

Sunita Dhobi – Bronze medal in Para Powerlifting

- Event: 22nd Senior Para Powerlifting Championship, Greater Noida
- Category: 79kg | Total Achievements: 3 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze

Avani Lekhara – Gold medal at Khelo India Para Games

- Event: Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi
- Competition: 10m Air Rifle SH1
- Silver Winner: Mona Agarwal (Rajasthan)

Anita Kumari – Bronze medal in Khelo India

- Competition: 10m Air Pistol (Women's Para Category)

34th Senior National Wushu Championship

- Event: 14–19 June 2025, Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur
- Organizers: Indian Wushu Sangha and Rajasthan Wushu Sangh
- Participation: All States, Army, CRPF, BSF, ITBP, All India Police

Amit Godara – Selection in Indian Beach Soccer Team

- Event: AFC Beach Soccer Asian Cup, Thailand
- Achievement: State-level Best Player

WTT Youth Contender Table Tennis Tournament (Vadodara)

- Organized: February 26 – March 1, 2025
- **Aarav Acharya (Rajasthan):** U-15 Singles – Bronze & Mixed Doubles – Bronze
- **Radhika Soni (Rajasthan):** Mixed Doubles – Bronze

All India University Wushu Competition (Chandigarh)

- Rajasthan University Team: Total 8 medals (2 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze)
- Gold: Manoj Chittoria, Ishwar Singh

- Silver: Image Kanwar
- Bronze: Bhanu Pratap, Charu Sharma, Kishan, Prem Singh, Pooja Saran

Pani Devi Godara – Selection for Asian Master Athletics

- Location: Churu, Rajasthan
- Age: 90 years
- Event: September 2025, Indonesia
- Represented: India

Harendra Singh Gehlot

- Elections to the Muaythai Association of Rajasthan were held on 16 March 2025.
- Muaythai was elected as the chairman of the Association of Rajasthan.
- His term will be till 2029.
- **Chairman:** Sudarshan Singh Rathore
- General Secretary: Sriram Chaudhary
- Treasurer: Khushi Sharma

Treatment with VIA technique for women living with HIV:

- Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to introduce screening and treatment of HIV positive women with VIA technology.
- The facility was launched at 36 Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) centres in the state.

International Day of Forests State Level Celebration (21st March 2025):

- Venue: Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur.
- Chief Guest: Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma.
- Key Announcements: Foundation stone of Forestry and Wildlife Training Institute. New eco-tourism facilities started in Sita Mata Sanctuary. Release of Forest Soil Health Card. Golf Carts Inaugurated at Keoladeo and Nahargarh Biological Parks. Unveiling of CRESEP logo. Outstanding Service Award to Women Forest Guards.

Suraksha Sakhi Samvad Pakhwada (16–31 March 2025):

- Organizer: Rajasthan Police.
- Objective: To make women and girls aware of safety laws and to increase communication with the police.
- Activities: Training of 3 Suraksha Sakhis by SH. Women were personally made aware by going door-to-door.

Run for Fit Rajasthan (on the occasion of Rajasthan Day):

- Venue: Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur.
- Participation: Approximately 15,000 runners,

including transgenders.

- Financial assistance: ₹ 2 lakh to each district and ₹ 4 lakh to the division.
- Honour of medal winners of National Games: Rajasthan won a total of 43 medals (9 gold, 11 silver, 23 bronze).

AMRUT 2.0 Project – 24x7 Drinking Water Supply:

- Target of 24 hours drinking water supply in each zone in 183 cities/towns.
- Pilot Project: In Jaipur, Kota, Udaipur etc.
- Total cost: ₹5440 crore (assistance from the Centre of ₹1831 crore).
- Entitlement of 20% additional incentive from Centre.

'Tere Mere Sapne' Pre-Marriage Counselling Centre:

- Launched: National Commission for Women on 8 March 2025.
- Objective: To prepare the youth mentally and emotionally for marriage.
- Start: 21 centers in 9 states including Rajasthan (Bikaner, Udaipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal).

481st Prakash Utsav of Shri Dadu Maharaj (7 March 2025):

- Venue: Narena Dham (Main Seat of Dadu Panth)
- Thousands of devotees from all over the country and abroad participated

Formation of Commonwealth Police Sports Union (Jaipur):

- Objective: Promotion of sports among police forces of Commonwealth countries
- Chief Guests: Representatives from Portugal, UN, Spain and UAE
- Chairman: Dr. Vinod Kumar Mal | Secretary: Sunil Kumar
- Next Conference: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

5th TiE-U Season (TiE Rajasthan Initiative):

- Objective: Promoting innovation and startups at the university level
- Equity-free grant of ₹5.21 lakh to the winner
- MoUs with 16 Universities
- Mentorship and industry engagement facilitation

Martyrs' Memorial at Tehsil Level:

- Construction of memorial with names of all local martyrs in each tehsil
- The name, battalion etc. will be inscribed on circular plaques.

Centre-State MoU during 3R Circular Economy Forum (3rd March 2025):

- Project: CITIIS 2.0
- 18 cities including Jaipur and Udaipur of Rajasthan selected
- Assistance of ₹100 crore to each city
- Target to increase waste processing capacity from 21 lakh to 45 lakh metric tonnes
- Jaipur Declaration – Based on Global 3R Principles

12th Regional 3R & Circular Economy Forum (3-5 March 2025, Jaipur):

- Theme: "Circular Societies towards SDG & Carbon Neutrality in Asia-Pacific"
- Event for the second time in India
- Wide-ranging discussions and announcements on urban waste management at the forum
- MoU between CSIR and Ministry of Housing for Urban Waste Management
- Strengthening waste management through research-based techniques and solutions

Best practices, reports and technical agreements were made

- Release of IFC Document Guide
- Information on various business models for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) projects
- Focus on biomethanation, bioremediation and waste-to-energy production

International Holi Festival (13-14 March 2025, Pushkar):

- 145 folk artists including Padma Shri Gulabo Sapera performed in the cultural program
- Foreign tourists celebrated Holi with the people of the town

Dolchi Mar Holi (Bikaner):

- Special tradition: Holi played with water among the Harsha and Vyas castes of Pushkarna society
- Other castes of the society also participate in this unique festival

Arogyam – 2025 (1-4 March, Shilpgram, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur):

- Theme: "Aao Banayein Arogya Rajasthan"
- Chief guest: Dr. Prem Chand Bairwa (Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of AYUSH)
- Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy based medical consultations and exhibitions
- Facilities of Medicinal Plants, Nature Tests, Pulse Tests and AYUSH Career Counselling

Threads of India (8–12 March 2025, Shilpgram, Jaipur):

- Organizer: Department of Industry & Commerce + Colours of Fusion
- Objective: Handloom Awareness
- Theme: "My Handloom – My Pride"
- The programme was organized under the Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985.

Braj Holi Festival 2025:

- Organizers: Tourism Department & District Administration, Bharatpur & Deeg
- Venue & Dates:

9 March	Deeg
10 March	Kaman
11 March	Bharatpur

International Satrangi Festival (7th March 2025, Pushkar):

- Music, vocals and dance performances by indigenous and foreign artists.

Mewar Festival (31 March – 2 April 2025, Udaipur):

- Organizer: Tourism Department & District Administration, Udaipur
- Festivals based on traditional culture and heritage of Udaipur

Leading Districts in Gross District Domestic Product (GDP) and Per Capita Income:					
Per capita income at Current price (in Rs)			Per capita income at constant price (in Rs)		
District	2023-24	Increase	District	2023-24	Increase
Alwar	2,40,808	13.96%	Alwar	1,47,849	12.32%
Bhilwara	2,37,076	12.47%	Jaipur	1,34,241	9.77%
Jaipur	2,36,666	12.61%	Rajsamand	1,13,514	6.05%
Ajmer	2,05,326	12.94%	Bhilwara	1,12,743	9.11%
Jaisalmer	2,01,054	13.06%	Jaisalmer	1,09,364	2.99%

Gross District Domestic Product at Current Price (Rs. crore)			Gross District Domestic Product at constant price (Rs. in crore)		
District	2023-24	Increase	District	2023-24	Increase
Jaipur	2,12,335	13.63%	Jaipur	1,23,421	10.77%
Alwar	1,19,820	15.16%	Alwar	74,782	13.47%
Jodhpur	83,191	11.46%	Jodhpur	44,974	7.55%
Bhilwara	76,716	13.69%	Ajmer	37,792	8.95%
Ajmer	70,283	14.03%	Bhilwara	37,016	10.29%

- Jaipur: First position in the state in gross district domestic product
 - Per capita income (at current prices): ₹2,36,666 (3rd place)
 - Per capita income at constant price: ₹1,34,241 (2nd place)
- Alwar: Top position in per capita income (at prevailing price): ₹2,40,808 (13.96% increase)

Rajasthan in Amrit Sarovar construction

- National Rank: 4th position
- Number of sarovars built: 3,138
- Top District (in Rajasthan): Banswara, Bhilwara, Pali, Udaipur
- Highest number of lakes in the country: Uttar Pradesh (16,630)
- Objective: To create water sources for surface and ground water level rise

- Organizing various cultural programs.

National Farmers and Cow Rearers Conference (26–28 March 2025, Sanganer, Jaipur):

- **Organizing Bodies:**
 - All India Gaushala Sahyog Parishad
 - Lok Bharati
 - Organic Farmer Producer Associations
 - Hahnemann Charitable Mission Society
- **Key Topics:**
 - Cow Based Natural Farming
 - Proposal to convert Gaushalas into Krishi Vigyan Kendras
 - Exhibition of products made from cow's milk

Gangaur Utsav (31st March – 1st April 2025, Jaipur):

- Organizer: Tourism Department & District Administration, Jaipur
- Traditional Gangaur tableau, song-music and cultural programmes

3 cities in Rajasthan among most polluted cities in the world (IQAir report 2024):

- Report Releaser: IQAir, Switzerland-based air quality tech company
- 13 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world
- India: 5th most polluted country in the world
- **Cities of Rajasthan:**
 - Sriganganagar – 8th position
 - Bhiwadi – 10th position
 - Hanumangarh – 12th position
- Top polluted city: Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh)

Rajasthan in Vigyan Jyoti Programme

- National Rank: 4th position
- Number of Girl Child (last 3 years): 3,895
- **Top 3 States:**
 1. Uttar Pradesh – 5,353
 2. Maharashtra – 4,206
 3. Gujarat – 4,055

Vigyan Jyoti Programme

- Beginning: 2019–20
- Ministry: Ministry of Science & Technology
- Aim: Encouragement to meritorious girls in

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields

- It has 250+ National Institutes, CSIR Labs, University partners.

Digi-One-Forest Stake App (21 March 2025):

- Launch: Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on World Forestry Day
- **Country's First Digital Forest Stake**
- Objective: To make monitoring and data management of forest department works quick and transparent
- Upcoming Initiatives: Agroforestry Policy, Seed Ball Project in Aravalli, Godavan Conservation Project

SBM Waste to Wealth PMS Portal (4th March 2025):

- Objective: Monitoring, data management and resource sharing of projects under the Swachh Bharat Mission
- Usage: Helpful in effective monitoring and plan implementation of urban bodies

2. NATIONAL AFFAIRS

24% increase in salaries, allowances and pensions of MPs (effective from 1st April 2023):

- Notification: Issued by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 24 March 2025
- MP Salary: ₹1,00,000 → ₹1,24,000 Per Month
- Daily Allowance: ₹2,000 → ₹2,500 per day (over session period)
- Pension of ex-MPs: ₹25,000 → ₹31,000 per month
- Additional Pension: ₹2,000 → ₹2,500 (per annum on more than 5 years of service)
- Other Allowances: Constituency Allowance ₹70,000, Office Expenses ₹60,000, Government Accommodation and Free Travel Facility
- Basis: Cost Inflation Index (CII) of the Salary, Allowances and Pension Act of MPs and the Income Tax Act 1961

Ban on JKIM and AAC Organizations (11 March 2025):

- Organization: Jammu and Kashmir Ittehadul Muslimeen (JKIM) and Awami Action Committee (AAC)
- Act: Section 3(1) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act – UAPA, 1967
- Duration: Restricted to 5 years
- Reason: Support to terrorism, anti-government propaganda, anti-national activities
- According to the UAPA Amendment (2019):
 - May be declared a terrorist upon participation, planning, promotion, or cooperation of terrorist action
 - Provision for appeal before Home Secretary within 45 days
 - The Emigration and Foreigners Bill 2025 (passed in Lok Sabha on March 27):
- **Aim:**
 - Streamlining the immigration process
 - Control of illegal migration
 - Strengthening National Security
 - Protecting the rights of legitimate visitors and refugees
- **Penal Provisions:**
 - Giving shelter to or helping in settling an illegal migrant – Imprisonment up to 3 years, fine of ₹2–5 lakh or both

Gujarat will become the second state to implement UCC

- First State: Uttarakhand
- Announcement: By Law Minister Hrishikesh Patel in Gujarat Assembly
- Committee Chairperson: Justice Ranjana Desai
- Objective: Drafting and Evaluation of Uniform Civil Code

Tribhuvan Cooperative University Bill 2025 passed:

- Approval: By Lok Sabha
- Institute: University status to Institute of Rural Management, Anand
- New Name: Tribhuvan Co-operative University
- Status: Institute of National Importance

The Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (passed by the Rajya Sabha on 25 March 2025)

- First passed by Lok Sabha in December 2024
- Act: Amendment to the Disaster Management Act, 2005
- **Key Provisions:**
 - Enhancement of authority and functionality of NDMA and SDMA
 - Preparation of disaster plans at national and state level
 - Permission to set up separate Urban Disaster Management Authority for urban areas
 - Provision for creation of national and state level disaster databases.
 - Moving beyond government response to improving multi-level coordination

The Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025 (Introduced in Lok Sabha on March 11):

- Total 6 chapters and 35 volumes
- Objective: To regulate the entry, migration and immigration of foreigners in India
- Old Acts Repealed:
 - The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920
 - Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939
 - Foreigners Act, 1946
 - The Immigration (Carrying Obligations) Act, 2000
- **Key Provisions:**
 - Valid Passport/Visa Mandatory
 - Immigration authorities have the right to check documents
 - Establishment of Bureau of Immigration – A Commissioner will be appointed
 - Notification of immigration checkpoints by the central government
- **National Security Based Prohibition Provisions:**
 - No foreigner is allowed to enter/stay if they are threatened with sovereignty, security, public health or foreign policy of India.
 - The final authority of the decision rests with the immigration officer.
- **Registration Provisions:**
 - Every foreigner shall register with the Registration Officer on arrival

Scheme of Caste Based Census in Jharkhand:

- Announcement: In the upcoming financial year by the Government of Jharkhand
- Approval: Received from the state government in February 2024
- Objective: Compilation of socio-economic data at the state level

3. ECONOMY

Amendment in MSME Classification Norms (Effective from 1st April 2025):

- Announcement: By Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget Speech
- Objective: To expand MSMEs and include more enterprises
- Amendments:
 - Investment limit increased by 2.5 times
 - 2 times increase in Turnover limit

Major amendments to norms				
Enterprise	Investment in Plant & Machinery		Annual Turnover	
	Pre-criteria	Revised Norms	Pre-criteria	Revised Norms
Micro	Rs. 1 crore	Rs 2.5 crore	Rs. 5 crore	Rs. 10 crore
Small	Rs. 10 crore	Rs. 25 crores	Rs. 50 crores	Rs. 100 crores
Medium	Rs. 50 crores	Rs. 125 crores	Rs. 250 crores	Rs. 500 crores

Sahakar Taxi Service – New Cooperative Initiatives:

- Objective: To give drivers the benefit of direct earning, transparent fare system
- Highlights:
 - Registration of Two/Three/Four-Wheeler Drivers through Cooperatives
 - Digital Platform Based Service – Without Hidden Charges
 - Similar to the Ola/Uber model but driver-centric
 - Solution to the problem of arbitrary fares and high commissions

'Navratna' status to IRCTC and IRFC (3rd March 2025):

- Total Navratna CPSEs now: 26
- Profit:
 - Investment up to ₹1,000 crore without Centre's permission
 - Investment possible up to 30% of total assets
- Navratna Eligibility:
 - Miniratna Category I
 - Listed in Schedule A of CPSEs

Sashakti Panchayat-Nethri Abhiyan (4 March 2025):

- Organizer: Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- Objective: To strengthen the decision-making capacity of women in panchayats.
- Participation: 1,200+ women delegates (from States & UTs)
- Key Themes: Local Government, Leadership, Women's Rights

India's 'Nuclear Mission' – 100 GW target by 2047:

- Announcement: Recently by the Central Government
- Objective: To meet 10% of total energy demand from nuclear power

Special Initiatives:

- For the first time, private companies will be allowed to enter the nuclear sector.
- Encourage innovation, technological advancement and investment
- A big step towards a clean and sustainable energy source

Nuclear mission and SMR planning

• Role of SMR (Small Modular Reactors):

- Capacity: 16-300 MW
- Usage: Power supply in remote and industrial areas
- Features: Fast, safe, eco-friendly, low cost & less space required

• Financial Provisions & Targets:

- ₹20,000 crore provision by the Central Government (in Budget 2024-25)
- Setting up the 5 SMR initially

• Nuclear power budget increased by 170% since 2014

• Utilisation of Thorium reserves (India holds 21% globally)

• Target: 100 GW of nuclear power generation by 2047 (10% of total energy)

• Profit:

- Technical self-sufficiency
- Contributing to Climate Resolutions and Net Zero Targets by 2070

Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) – Applicable: 1st April 2025

• Foreword & Guidelines: Released by PFRDA on 19th March 2025

• Applicable Staff Category:

- Existing NPS Members, New Employees Appointed After 1st April 2025, Distinguished Retired

• Highlights:

- Online Enrollment Available

- Employee contribution: 10% of basic salary + DA
- Government contribution: 10% + additional 8.5% (total 18.5%)
- Guarantee: Minimum pension of ₹10,000 monthly on 10 years of service
- Changes are not possible once you select UPS.

Digital Soil Fertility Mapping (by SLUSI):

- Starts: 11 March 2025
- System: Geospatial Techniques + Soil Health Card Data
- Work so far: Mapping of 351 villages in 34 districts of Maharashtra
- Objective: Digital monitoring of soil nutrient and health
- Technology: Remote sensing and AI-based geospatial analysis

Digital Crop Survey (DCS):

- **Aim:**
 - Collecting crop data in real-time at the farm level
 - Ensuring accurate crop area and production estimates
- **Technical Framework: Agri Stack**
 - Data Protection: In line with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
 - Consent based data sharing of farmers
 - Data available only to authorized entities for specific purpose

Pradhan Mantri Yuva Lekhak Mentorship Scheme (PM-YUVA 3.0)

- **Launch:** 11 March 2025
- **Organizer:** Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education
- **Implementation:** National Book Trust (NBT)
- **Aim:**
 - Training of Young Writers Under the Age of 30
 - Promotion of Book Culture and Reading in India
 - Taking Indian literature to the global stage
- **Languages:** The preceding two editions include 22 Indian languages and English.

CCEA approves two infrastructure projects in Bihar:

- **Patna-Ara-Sasaram Corridor:**
 - Length: 120.10 km, 4-lane controlled entry highway
 - Cost: ₹3,712.40 crore (Hybrid Annuity Model)
 - Employment: ~4.8 million human-days
 - Greenfield and Brownfield Development Included
- **Kosi-Mechi Link Scheme:**

- Total Cost: ₹3,652.56 Crore
- ₹1,000 crore support from Centre
- Target: Completion by March 2029
- Objective: Transfer of water for irrigation from Kosi River to Mahananda Basin

India – 2nd Largest Tea Exporting Country in 2024

- 2nd position after overtaking Sri Lanka (1st - Kenya)
- Exports: 255 million kilograms (10% increase from 2023)
- Famous varieties: Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiri tea

Childhood Poetry Initiative – Innovations in Early Education

- **Organizer:** Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy)
- **Aim:**
 - Development of Children's Literature and Poems in Indian Languages
 - NEP-2020 compliant relevant, enjoyable learning content
- **Collaboration:** Citizen Participation through MyGov Platform
- **Theme:** Inviting existing or new compositions inspired by folk songs

India's GDP to grow by 105% in 10 years (2015–2025):

- 2015: \$2.1 trillion
- 2025: \$4.3 lakh crore
- Growth: 105%
- India's global economic position became stronger and more influential.

Modified Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) – Cabinet approval on 19th March 2025

- Duration: 15th Finance Commission Cycle (2021–22 to 2025–26)
- Total Outlay: ₹3,400 crore (including additional allocation of ₹1,000 crore)
- Major Objectives: Livestock development, milk production, breed improvement and income enhancement of farmers.

New Major Activities:

- **Heifer Rearing Centres:**
 - 30 Residential Centers for 15,000 Girls
 - 35% Subsidy on Capital Cost
- **Incentives for purchase of IVF calves:**
 - 3% Interest Subsidy on Purchase of High Genetic Merits
- **Other Components:**
- Semen Centre Strengthening, Artificial Insemination, Bull Breeding, Sex-Specific Semen, Skill Development, Centre of Excellence, Breeding Farm Strengthening

- **Achievements:**

- Milk production rises by 63.55%
- Per capita milk availability (2013–14: 307 g/day → 2023–24: 471 g/day)
- 26.34% Increase in Animal Productivity

Revised National Dairy Development Programme (NPDD):

- **Approval:** 19 March 2025 by Cabinet
- **Total Budget:** ₹2,790 crore (additional ₹1,000 crore)
- **Period:** 2021–22 to 2025–26
- **Objective:** Modernization of dairy infrastructure, improvement in collection, processing and quality control.

'Beyond Screens' – India's first industry-driven digital detox initiative

- **Location:** Karnataka
- **Launch:** Karnataka IT Minister Priyank Kharge
- **Allied Organizations:**
 - Government of Karnataka (IT, BT, S&T Department)
 - All India Gaming Federation (AIGF)
 - Kahmind Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. Ltd.
- **Aim:**
 - Preventing Digital Addiction
 - Promote balanced technological use
 - Incorporation of Digital Detox Strategies in Health Services

Financial Literacy Nationwide Campaign:

- **Governing Bodies:**
 - Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE)
- **Key Initiatives:**
 - FLC (Financial Literacy Centres): Financial Awareness Camps for Target Groups by Banks
 - "RBI Says" Campaign: Multilingual Multimedia Messaging
 - FAME Handbook: Banking Knowledge for Senior Citizens
 - NCFE and CFL Programs: Financial Education for Under 18 Years and 60+ Aged
 - NSFE (National Strategy for Financial Education): Policy formulation and implementation in consultation with regulators

Social Security Data Pooling Practice

- **Launched:** In collaboration with Ministry of Labour & Employment, State Governments and ILO

- **Objective:** To create a clear picture of the overall social security coverage in the country
- **Phase 1:** 10 states – Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Odisha etc.
- **Analysis:** 200 crore+ records of 34 schemes (e.g. MGNREGA, EPFO, ESIC, APY)
- **Key technology:** Beneficiary identification from encrypted Aadhaar
- **Usefulness:**
 - Assistance in beneficiary targeted planning formulation
 - Welfare Expenditure Optimization and Sustainable Financial Models
- ILO Statistics: Social Security Coverage – 24.4% in 2021 → 48.8% in 2024

National Ropeway Development Programme – Parvatmala Project

- **Approval Date:** By Union Cabinet
- **Location:** Uttarakhand
- **Govindghat – Hemkund Sahib (12.4 km)**
- **Sonprayag – Kedarnath (12.9 km)**
 - Cost: ₹6,811 crore
- **Model:** DBFOT (Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Transfer) – PPP based
- **Travel time:**
 - Kedarnath – Reduced from 8-9 hours to 36 minutes
 - Hemkund Sahib – reduced to 42 mins
- **Announcement:** Budget 2022–23
- **Ministry of Implementation:** Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
- **Major States:** Uttarakhand, Himachal, Manipur, J&K, North Eastern States
- **Special:** Tara Devi Ropeway of Shimla (14 km) – India's longest, second in the world

Revised Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)

- **Cabinet Approval:** March 2025
- **Total Budget:** ₹3,880 crore (for 2024-25 & 2025-26)
- **Objective:** Prevention, treatment and veterinary drug access of livestock diseases
- **Main Components:**
 - NADCP – National Animal Disease Control Programme
 - LH&DC – Healthcare Extension, Hospital/Dispensary Strengthening
- ₹75 crore generic veterinary drugs facility
- Drug Sales and Distribution Incentives
- **LH&DC sub-components:**
 - CADCP – Critical Disease Control
 - ESVHD-MVU – Hospital Strengthening including Mobile Units

- ASCAD – Assistance to States
- Target diseases: FMD, brucellosis, PPR, CSF, lumpy skin disease

BHIM 3.0 – New version of BHIM App (Launch: April 2025)

- Developer: NPCI subsidiary – BHIM Services Limited (NBSL)
- Original BHIM App Launch: 2016
- **Key features:**
 - Available in 15+ Indian languages
 - Smooth functioning even at low internet speed
 - Monthly expense and hierarchical expense tracking from the user dashboard
 - Facility to add family members to UPI account

BHIM Vega:

- Exclusive in-app payment solution for merchants
- No need for a third-party app – payment possible directly at the merchant site

NPCI BHIM Services Limited (NBSL):

- Establishment: August 2024
- Objective: To promote secure, innovative and effective UPI-based digital transactions

Traditional Goli Soda relaunched in international market

- Launcher: APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority)
- Brand Name: 'Goli Pop Soda'
- Innovation: New packaging and modern branding
- Market: US, UK, Europe, Gulf Countries
- Venue: International Food and Drink Event (IFE) 2025, London (17–19 March)

Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain – 2025

- Launch: 22 March 2025 (World Water Day)
- Location: Panchkula, Haryana
- Inaugurated: Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Singh Patil and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini
- Theme: 'Water Harvesting Public Participation: Towards Public Awareness'
- **Aim:**
 - Community led water conservation in 148 districts
 - Water Management through Public Cooperation and Innovative Strategies
 - Associate Ministries: Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Haryana

UPI Transaction Incentive Scheme (2024–25)

- Approval: By the Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister
- Duration: 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025
- Budget: ₹1,500 crore
- Target: To promote BHIM-UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000 in the form of P2M (Person to Merchant)
- Beneficiaries: Small traders only
- **Nature of Incentives:**

Class	Transactions up to ₹2,000
More than ₹2,000	
Small Traders	0.15% Incentive + zero MDR
No Incentives	
Large Traders	zero MDR, No Incentives
No Incentives	
- **Technical Performance Terms (for 20% amount):**
 - 10% – If Technical Failure < 0.75%
 - 10% – If System Uptime > 99.5%
- **Main advantages:**
 - Promotion of Digital Payments and Cashless Economy
 - Instant payments to merchants
 - Improve transparency and technical stability

India Becomes Top FDI Source in Dubai (2024)

- Report Source: Dubai FDI Monitor Report
- India's contribution: 21.5% of Dubai's total FDI (Top position)
- Other countries: US – 13.7%, France – 11%, UK – 10%, Switzerland – 6.9%
- Focus Area: Greenfield Projects
- Accreditation: Dubai tops destination for 4th consecutive year in Financial Times' FDI Markets Report

Social Stock Exchange (SSE) – Change in Investment Limit

- Rule Amendment: By SEBI
- New Investment Criteria: Minimum amount of ₹10,000 → ₹1,000
- Benefits: Increased participation of retail investors
- Instruments: ZCZP (Zero Coupon Zero Principal Instruments)
- Impact: Easy funding for social projects
- Features: Transparency, effective reporting and social impact tracking

Swavalambini Initiative – Promoting Women Entrepreneurship

- Launched: Jayant Chaudhary (Minister of State Education)

- Venue: Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut
- Partner Institutions: NITI Aayog and National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development
- Target Group: Female Students from Eastern India
- **Highlight:**
 - Entrepreneurship Awareness Session for 600 girl students
 - 40 Hours of Intensive Training to 300 Selected Students
 - Topics: Business Development, Financial Access, Market Linkage, Legal Compliance
 - Goal: To see 10% of participants setting up an enterprise

Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayat (MWFGP) Initiative

- Launcher: Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- Target: At least one women-friendly gram panchayat in each district
- Vision: "Developed Panchayat to Developed India"
- **Aim:**
 - Safe, inclusive and equitable panchayats for women and girls
 - Strengthening women's equality and participation in Panchayats
- **Major Activities:**
 - Training of Delegates (Virtual Inauguration)
 - Dedicated dashboard launch
 - Presentations on best practices
 - Demonstration of informative videos
 - On 8 March 2025, Mahila Gram Sabhas will be organized across the country.

Samarth – C-DOT's Innovation Based Incubation Programme

- Launch: 19 March 2025
- Organizer: C-DOT (under Department of Telecommunications)
- **Aim:**
 - Guiding Startups from Idea to Commercialization
 - Transforming Technological Innovation into Sustainable and Scalable Businesses
- **Focus Areas:**
 - Telecom Software, Cybersecurity, 5G/6G, AI, IoT, Quantum Technology
- Each batch includes a maximum of 18 startups

- Implementation Partner: Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)
- Scenario: A conducive environment that drives innovation in the telecom and IT sector

Namrup-IV Ammonia-Urea Plant Approved

- Approval: Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Venue: Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), Namrup, Assam
- Cost: ₹10,601.40 crore (debt-equity ratio 70:30)
- Expiration Period: 48 months
- Production Capacity: 12.7 LMT Urea/Year
- **Profit:**
 - Meeting the fertilizer requirements of North East and Eastern India
 - Energy Efficient Plant
 - Direct and indirect employment
 - Increase in Agricultural Productivity
- **Joint Venture (JV) Equity Participation:**
 - Government of Assam – 40%
 - BVFCL – 11%
 - HURL – 13%
 - NFL – 18%
 - OIL – 18%

National Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme 2025

- Event Period: 5 to 11 March 2025
- Venue: Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
- Conducted By: Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- **Aim:**
 - Inculcate a solution-oriented, compassionate and citizen-centric spirit of service among civil servants.
 - Enhancing the skills and competencies of officers
 - Ensuring a positive impact on the lives of citizens

Launch of IndiaAI Compute Portal and AIKosha

- Launch: By Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw
- **IndiaAI Compute Portal:**
 - 18,000+ GPUs, cloud storage, and AI resources
 - Users: Students, Startups, Researchers, Academicians, Government Institutions
 - Objective: To accelerate native AI model creation in India
- **AIKOSHA Dataset Platform:**
 - Non-personal data, tools and mentorship available
 - Supporting AI Innovation

IndiaAI Mission (March 2024):

- Budget: ₹10,371.92 crore
- Model: Public-Private Partnership
- Objective: To make India a global AI innovation hub
- Operated: By IndiaAI Business Division of Digital India Corporation

SBI Asmita – Digital Loan Scheme for Women Entrepreneurs

- Launch: By State Bank of India (SBI)
- Objective: Assisting women in business

expansion and economic self-sufficiency

- **Key features:**

- Guarantee-free (collateral-free) SME loans
- Low interest rates
- Digital Document Verification (GSTIN, Bank Statement, CIC Data etc.)
- Entrepreneurship & Management Training to Top Women Borrowers
- 'Nari Shakti' Platinum Debit Card was also launched

4. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Operation Brahma – Myanmar Earthquake Relief Mission

- Date: Starting after the earthquake on 28 March 2025
- Conducted By: Indian Army
- Command: Lt Col Jagneet Gill, 118-member medical team (Shatrujit Brigade)
- **Major Functions:**
 - 60-Bed Medical Center
 - Deployment of Special Rescue Unit of 50 (I) Parachute Brigade
 - Prompt Humanitarian Assistance and Medical Relief

Indonesia – 9th member of the New Development Bank (NDB)

- Announced: 25 March 2025
- BRICS membership: Indonesia became the 10th full member of BRICS on 6 January 2025
- Exclusive: First BRICS member from South-East Asia

NDB

- Founded: 2015 | Headquarters: Shanghai
- Objective: Funding infrastructure and sustainable development projects
- Current President: Dilma Rousseff (Brazil)
- Regional Offices: Gujarat (India), São Paulo, Johannesburg, Moscow

India-Singapore: Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (GDSC) Agreement

- Venue: Singapore Maritime Week (24–28 March 2025)
- Signatories: India & Singapore
- **Aim:**
 - Adoption of technology with zero or minimal GHG emissions
 - Promotion of Digitization and Decarbonization in Shipping
 - Representative: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal

Visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Mauritius (11–12 March 2025)

- Objective: To elevate bilateral relations to "Enhanced Strategic Partnership" level
- **Key Agreements:**
 - Development and launch of India-Mauritius Satellite (with ISRO collaboration)
 - Implementation of Wave Rider Buoy and Multi-Hazard System
 - Setting up of interactive systems for

climate monitoring

- National Day Celebrations: PM Modi to be Chief Guest on 12 March 2025
- PM Modi became the chief guest for the second time

Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service

- Inauguration: 12 March 2025 – by the Prime Ministers of India and Mauritius
- Location: Reduit, Mauritius
- Cost: \$4.74 million (Government of India grant)
- **Aim:**
 - Training of Mauritius Civil Servants
 - Fostering innovation, leadership development and administrative research

Multi-sectoral agreement between India and New Zealand

- New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon is on a five-day visit to India.
- Five agreements signed including in defence, education, sports, horticulture and forestry
- Exchange of Economic Mutual Recognition Agreements
- Cooperation in combating terrorism, separatism and radicalisation
- A Shared Commitment to a Free, Prosperous and Open Indo-Pacific Region

New Zealand's participation in the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)

- IPOI launched in 2019 by PM Modi in Thailand
- Objective: Supporting a free, inclusive and rules-based order
- New Zealand became part of this voluntary multilateral forum

New Zealand's membership in the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

- Establishment: 2019, United Nations Climate Summit (New York)
- Objective: Promote resilient infrastructure to disaster and climate risks
- New Zealand joins CDRI

India's participation in the Combined Maritime Force (CMF)

- CMF: Multilateral Maritime Partnership Force
- Objectives: Smuggling, Illicit Trade, Piracy and Maritime Security
- Current members: 46 countries (including India)
- Leadership: Under Vice Admiral of the U.S. Navy

World's largest white hydrogen reservoir discovered in France

- Location: Mosel region, France
- Reserves: 46 million tonnes | Estimated Value: \$92 trillion
- Discoverers: Jacques Pironan and Philippe de Donato
- **Characteristics of White Hydrogen:**
 - Natural sources, without CO₂ emissions
 - No humane/industrial process required
 - The cleanest and greenest form of hydrogen
 - Potential Uses: Aviation, Shipping, Steel Production
 - Contribute to energy self-sufficiency and reduction in dependence on fossil fuels

Arab League Emergency Summit

- Date: 4 March 2025
- Location: Cairo, Egypt
- Objective: A \$53 billion plan to rebuild the Gaza Strip
- Background: In response to US President Trump's plan to annex Gaza

Arab League

- Founded: 22 March 1945
- Headquarters: Cairo
- Member Countries: 22 (Syria's membership suspended)
- Objective: To promote cooperation among Arab countries

London Security Conference 2025 (European Security Conference)

- Venue: Lancaster House, London
- Date: 2 March 2025
- Key Leaders: Emmanuel Macron (France), Keir Starmer (Britain), Volodymyr Zelensky (Ukraine)
- Key Discussions: Europe's Security Concerns, Ukraine-Russia Ceasefire
- Participants: France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Poland, Canada, NATO, European Commission etc.

Australia-India Sports Excellence Forum

- Location: GIFT City, Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
- Event Date: 5–6 March 2025
- Inauguration: Union Minister of State for Sports Raksha Khadse
- **Aim:**
 - Olympic/Paralympic Cooperation
 - Partnerships in Sports Science, Talent Development, Event Management

G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting – South Africa

- Host: South Africa (18–20 March 2025)
- Participants: G20 members, EU, AU, WTO, UNCTAD, OECD

- Theme: "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability"
- Meeting: South Africa's first TWGW meeting in 2025

India's participation – 69th session of UN-CSW

- Forum: United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Location: New York
- Period: 10–21 March 2025
- Representing India: Annapurna Devi (Minister of Women and Child Development)
- **Focus:**
 - Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Empowerment
 - Presentation of India's Plans and Progress

Russia-Ukraine Black Sea Ceasefire Agreed

- Mediator: Talks in Saudi Arabia
- **Non-aggression pact:**
 - Naval Ceasefire (to ensure safe navigation in the Black Sea)
 - Prohibition of attacks on the energy system
- Russia's condition: Food-fertilizer trade ban should be lifted
- Initiative: By US President Donald Trump

Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Accord

- Dispute area: Nagorno-Karabakh
- Background: End of conflict since the 1980s
- **Recent Developments:**
 - In September 2023, Azerbaijan established military control over Karabakh
 - Draft agreement agreed, resolution on two disputed articles
 - Agreed to stop the military deployment of third countries

'Operation Sky Shield' – Military aid to Ukraine by the European Union

- Launch: EU for Ukraine
- **Aim:**
 - Protecting the western region of Ukraine from Russian cruise missiles
 - Support for the Ukrainian Air Force in Air Defense
 - The safety of major cities (Odessa, Lviv) and three nuclear plants
- **War policy:**
 - Deployment of 120 fighter aircraft proposed
 - EU aircraft will take off from European air bases
 - Sky Shield – NATO-independent, EU-controlled air defence zone
 - Use of radars, reconnaissance, refuelling and electronic warfare aircraft.

Formation of a caretaker government in Syria

- Date: 29 March 2025
- Background: Four months after former President Bashar al-Assad was removed from power
- Leadership: Interim President Al Julani
- **Features:**
 - The post of Prime Minister is not included.
 - A total of 23 ministers have been appointed.
 - Hind Kabawat – Minister of Social and Labour
 - Christian woman gets seat in Cabinet
 - Anas Khattab – New Home Minister (former Intelligence Chief)
- Tenure: 5 years (interim regime)

US bans entry of citizens of 41 countries

- Date: 15 March 2025
- Decision: By US President Donald Trump
- Reason: Control Policy on Illegal Migration
- Countries involved: 41 countries including Pakistan, Afghanistan, Myanmar
- Nature: Prohibition of Entry to U.S. Lands

Lake Tanganyika Basin – Biodiversity Conservation Project

- Participating Countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Zambia
- Project Duration: 2025–2030
- Operation: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Funding: Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- **Aim:**
 - Identification of Cross-Border Threats
 - Protection of biodiversity and ecology
- **Lake Tanganyika:**
 - Africa's largest and second deepest freshwater lake
 - The world's sixth largest lake by volume
 - Surrounded by borders of four countries (Burundi, DR Congo, Tanzania, Zambia)

Mission 300 – Energy Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa

- Objective: To provide electricity to 300 million people by 2030
- Partners: World Bank, African Development Bank, other international institutions
- Current Status: 600 million people in the region deprived of electricity (83% of global non-electrified population)
- Significance: It is not just electrification, it is a step towards redefining the future of Africa

10th Raisina Dialogue 2025

- Date: 17–19 March, Location: New Delhi
- Chief Guest: New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon
- Organizer: Ministry of External Affairs of India and ORF
- Theme: "Kalachakra – People, Peace and Planet"
- Delegates: 3,500+ participants from 125 countries
- Partner countries: Ukraine, Cuba, Sweden, Slovenia, Luxembourg etc.
- Special Appearance: Tulsi Gabbard (US), strategic expert and academician
- About: It is India's premier annual dialogue forum on geopolitics and global issues

Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 – Barcelona, Spain

- Date: 3–6 March 2025
- Partnership: Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of Communications of India
- India Pavilion: 38 Indian Telecom Companies (Hardware + Software Solutions)
- **Focus:**
 - India Mobile Congress 2025 inaugurated
 - Showcasing India's Startups and Tech Innovations

C-3: Cities Coalition for Circularity

- Launch: 3 March 2025
- Objective: Cooperation in Sustainable Urban Development and Waste Management
- Partners: Policy-makers, industry, researchers
- **Profit:**
 - 18 cities in 14 states to benefit from Rs 1,800 crore MoUs
 - Knowledge sharing and resource efficiency among cities
- Background: 12th Asia-Pacific 3R Forum held in Jaipur

Singapore Maritime Week 2025

- Date: 24–28 March 2025
- Partner Countries: India, Singapore, France, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal
- Indian Representative: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal
- Objective: To make the global maritime ecosystem strong and resilient

India – Host of 3rd Central Asian Youth Delegation

- Date: 22–28 March 2025
- Event: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (under YEEP)

- Delegations: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- Objective: To strengthen cultural ties and youth cooperation
- Background: In line with the India-Central Asia Summit 2022 Declaration

14th ADMM-Plus Counter-Terrorism Meeting

- Event: 19–20 March, New Delhi
- Co-Chairs: India and Malaysia
- **Partnership:**
 - 10 ASEAN Countries
 - 8 Dialogue Partners (e.g. US, Russia, Japan)
- Objective: Sharing strategy against terrorism and extremism, strengthening defence cooperation
- Exclusive: India's first co-chair, first activity of the 2024–2027 cycle

Airtel partners with Starlink in India

- Agreement: 11 March 2025
- Objective: To connect rural and remote areas of India with high-speed broadband
- Medium: Starlink equipment supplied by Airtel Retail Network
- Other partners: Reliance Jio has also entered into a separate agreement with Starlink
- **Starlink**
 - Subsidiary of SpaceX
 - 7000+ Satellites so far
 - World's Largest LEO Satellite Network

Commonwealth Games Federation renamed – Commonwealth Sport

- Announcement: Commonwealth Day (10 March 2025)
- Objective: To make identity more clear and inclusive
- Legal Name: Remain undone – Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)

- Baton Relay: Commonwealth Sport Kings Baton Relay Launched
- **CGF:**
 - Establishment: 1930
 - Headquarters: London
 - Functions: Organizing the Commonwealth Games
 - Event Cycle: Every 4 years

Cyclone 'Alfred' in Australia

- Date: 9 March 2025
- Affected States: Queensland, New South Wales
- Major Impacts: Heavy Rainfall, Floods, Landslides
- Most affected city: Gold Coast

World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2025

- Event: Organized by TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute)
- Inauguration: By Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav
- Theme: "Partnership to accelerate sustainable development and climate solutions"
- **India's Long-Term Climate Goals:**
 - Goal of Developed India by 2047
 - Net-zero emissions by 2070
 - 36% reduction in emissions intensity of GDP between 2005–2020
 - Target of 45% reduction in emission intensity by 2030
- Union Budget 2025 lays special emphasis on energy security, green technology and clean energy

WSDS

- Global Annual Forum
- Encourage international debate on sustainable development, environmental policy, and climate change

5. SPACE & DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Chandrayaan-5 Mission: India's Next Lunar Achievement

- Approval: Approved by the Central Government
- Operation: In collaboration with ISRO and Japan
- Objective: To send a rover weighing 250 kg to the moon; Large lander involved
- Importance:
 - Rehearsal of future manned lunar missions
 - Steps towards the goal of sending Indian astronaut to the moon by 2040

India's Chandrayaan Mission

Mission	Launch year	Key Objectives
Chandrayaan 1	2008	Chemical, Mineral, Photo-geologic data collection
Chandrayaan 2	2019	Study of Moon's Topography and Mineral Composition
Chandrayaan 3	2023	Successful soft landing at the South Pole
Chandrayaan 4	2027(Proposed)	Testing of lunar sample collection and return to Earth technology
Chandrayaan 5	(Approved)	A larger lander with the help of Japan and 250 Sending kilo rover

ISRO 's indigenous microprocessor

- **Vikram 3201:**
 - First fully indigenous 32-bit microprocessor
 - Designed for launch vehicles
 - Floating point compatibility, high-level programming support
- **Scan 3201:**
 - SPARC V8 based RISC microprocessor
 - Based on IEEE 1754 ISA
 - Open-source toolset compatible

Success of the semi-cryogenic engine (SE2000)

- Test Date: Mar 6, 2025
- Test: Power Head Test Article(PHTA) Successful
- **Aim:**
 - Integrated evaluation of gas generators, turbo pumps, pre-burners, etc.
 - Testing without thrust chamber
- **Engine Features:**
 - Liquid Oxygen (Oxidizer) + Kerosene (Fuel)
 - Cooler than conventional engines but warmer than cryogenic engines
 - Increased Satellite Launch Capacity

SpaceX Frame-2 mission

- Launch Date: 31st March 2025
- Launch site: Kennedy Space Center, Florida (NASA)
- Rocket: Falcon 9
- Capsule: Crew Dragon "Resilience"
- Head: Chun Wang (Malta, crypto investor)
- **Key features:**
 - 4 Private Astronauts in Polar Orbit for the First Time
 - 3–5 Day Expedition, 22 Scientific Experiments

- Studying the effect of microgravity on human health
- Orbiting from one pole of the Earth to another – Historical Mission

Sunita Williams returns from ISS

- Return Date: 19 March 2025
- Migration on the ISS: 9 months (June 2024 – March 2025)
- Basic plan: 9 day mission
- Delay Cause: Thruster failure and helium leaks
- Return Vehicle: SpaceX Dragon Spacecraft
- Fellow passengers: Butch Wilmore, Nick Hague, Aleksandr Gorbunov

SpaceX-NASA Crew-10 mission

- Joint Mission: NASA + SpaceX
- Rocket: Falcon 9
- Objective: Safe return of stranded passengers and crew change on ISS
- **New Team:**
 - Anne McClain, Nicole Ayers (NASA)
 - Takuya Onishi (JAXA, Japan)
 - Kirill Peskov (Roscosmos, Russia)
- Significance: 10th crew rotation mission of SpaceX's human space mission series

ESA's 'Gaia' Space Mission ends

- Official Closing: 27 March 2025
- Launch: 19 December 2013
- Location: Lagrange Point L2
- Objective: 3D mapping of the universe, position of stars and motion measurements
- **Apparatus:**
 - Astrometer
 - Photometer
 - Spectrometer

- **Achievements:**

- The most accurate map of the Milky Way
- Discovery of new types of black holes
- Identification of asteroids, analysis of starquakes (vibrations in stars)

ISRO successfully conducts 'rolling experiment' in Spadex mission

- **Mission:** Spadex
- **Experiment:** Checking the 'rotating' control system by rotating a satellite
- **Aim:**
 - Testing of control method on satellite movements
 - Evaluation of measures to bring the target from different directions
- **Usefulness:**
 - Validation of software and control systems for future missions like Chandrayaan-4
- **Background:** The undocking of the two satellites was also successfully done on March 13

Assam government's 'ASSAMSAT satellite'

- **Announcement:** Assam becomes the first state in India to launch its own satellite
- **Collaboration:** IN-SPACe and ISRO
- **Utility:**
 - Border Surveillance, Agriculture, Disaster Management, Police and Infrastructure Development
 - Promote scientific interest by involving students in experimental satellite building

NASA's two important mission launches

- **Launch Date:** 11 March 2025
- **Location:** Vandenberg Space Force Base, California

SPHEREx Mission

- **Full Name:** Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer
- **Cost:** \$488 million
- **Orbit:** Polar orbit 650 km from Earth
- **Duration:** 2 years (a complete survey of the sky in 6 months)
- **Objective:** Evolution of galaxies, cosmic inflation and exploration of life elements
- **Attributes:**
 - 102 Celestial Observations in Infrared Colors
 - Temperature controlled telescope up to -210°C

PUNCH Mission

- **Full Name:** Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere
- **Aim:**
 - 3D analysis of the Sun's corona and heliosphere
 - Study of the origin and propagation of CME and solar winds
- **Structure:**
 - 4 compact satellites (each 64 kg) – in low earth orbit
 - Onboard camera for 3D integrated image
- **Importance:**
 - Accurate prediction of space weather
 - Helps protect Earth and space missions

Defence Technology

INS Tavasya: Launch of New Stealth Frigate

- **Date:** 22 March 2025
- **VENUE:** Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)
- **Name Inspiration:** Mahabharata's Bhima's mace 'Tavasya'
- **Project:** Project 1135.6 (India-Russia Defence Cooperation)
- **Attributes:**
 - Length: 124.8m, Width: 15.2m
 - Maximum speed: 28 knots (\approx 52 km/h)
 - Displacement: More than 3600 tons
- **Combat Capability:**
 - Proficient in surface, submarine, air operations
 - Stealth technology and advanced platform management system
- **Background:**
- Four frigate agreements (2016), two in Russia, two in India
- **INS Triput:** First Indian Frigate (23 July 2024)

India's record defence production

- **Domestic Production in 2023-24:** ₹1.27 lakh crore
- **Increase over 2014-15:** 174%
- **Domestic manufacturing:** 65 % of defence equipment now indigenous
- **Defence Exports:**
 - 013-14: ₹686 crore → 2023-24: ₹21,083 crore
- **Objective:** ₹3 lakh crore defence production by 2029

Successful test of FPV 'Kamikaze' drone

- **Date:** 28 March 2025
- **Test site:** Pathankot, Punjab

- Augmentation: DRDO-TBRL & Rising Star Drone Battle School
- User: Fleur-de-Lees Brigade of the Indian Army
- **Attributes:**
 - Equipped with anti-tank weapon systems
 - Suicide attack capability, dual security mechanism
- History: The word 'kamikaze' inspired by WWII Japan

Successful test of Astra missile from Tejas

- Institution: Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)
- Date/Venue: Chandipur Beach, Odisha
- **Attributes:**
 - Indigenous Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM)
 - 100+ km Firepower, Advanced Guidance and Navigation System
 - Successful test with Tejas LCA Mk1
 - Joint efforts of DRDO, ADA and HAL

Nag Missile System (NAMIS-Tr) Deal

- Approval: ₹2,500 crore (Ministry of Defence, March 27)
- Major Institutions: Armoured Vehicle Nigam Limited (AVNL), DRDO-DRDL
- **NAMIS-Tr Features:**
 - Tracked anti-tank missile system
 - "Fire and Forget" technology, high accuracy
 - Enhancement of anti-tank capability of mechanized infantry
 - Also: 5,000 light military vehicles (800 kg carrying capacity), by Force Motors and Mahindra

INS Tamal: Multi-role stealth guided missile frigate

- Construction site: Yantar Shipyard, Russia
- Date of Induction: June 2025 (Join Indian Navy)
- Sword Category – Batch 3
- **Attributes:**
 - Maximum speed: 30 knots (≈ 55 km/h)
 - Weight: 3,900 tons
 - Range: 3,000 km mission capability
 - BrahMos missile equipped with anti-submarine rockets, torpedoes

Astra missile test-fired from Tejas

- Date: 12 March 2025
- Test site: Chandipur, Odisha
- Type: Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile
- Design: DRDO
- **Attributes:**
 - 100+ km Precision Firepower
 - Tejas in the process of integration with LCA and MiG-29 of Navy

Successful Test of Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM)

- Test site: Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha
- Institution: DRDO and Indian Navy
- **Attributes:**
 - Missile based on fully indigenous technology
 - Design for launch from warships of the Indian Navy
 - Vertical launch system — capable of multi-directional response
- Targets: the ability to destroy high-speed air targets (fighters, drones, helicopters) at low altitudes
- 360° Air Defence, Equipped with Active Radar Homing Technology

Two major defence contracts worth ₹6,900 crore

- Date: 26 March 2025
- Net worth: ₹6,900 crore
- Contract 1: From Bharat Forge Limited
- Equipment: 155 mm/52 caliber advanced towed artillery gun system (ATAGS)
- Objective: To replace the old guns of the Indian Army
- Advantages: Higher firepower, longer range, better accuracy
- Contract 2: From Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- Equipment: 6x6 High Mobility Gun Towing Vehicles
- Usage: Strategically positioning cannons with high mobility

Exercises

14th India-Russia 'Indra' Naval Exercise

- Date: 28 March - 2 April 2025
- Location: Chennai Port and Bay of Bengal
- Format: In two phases -
- Harbour Phase: March 28-30 (coordination and planning)
- Sea Phase: 31 March-2 April (Operational Exercise)
- Objective: To promote maritime cooperation, friendship and interoperability

AIKEYME 2025: India-Africa Naval Exercise (1st Edition)

- Date: 13–18 April 2025
- Organizer: Indian Navy and Tanzania People's Defence Force
- Location: Dar es Salaam Port, Tanzania
- Partner Country: India + 8 African Navies

Varuna-2025: Indo-French Naval Exercise (23rd Edition)

- Date: 19–22 March 2025
- Location: Indian Ocean Region
- Key Practice Areas:
 - Surface, submergence and air field operations
 - Multi-dimensional maneuvers

Exercise Khanjar-XII: Indo-Kyrgyzstan Special Forces

- Date: 10–23 March 2025
- Location: Kyrgyzstan
- Indian Representative: Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)
- Kyrgyz representation: Scorpion Brigade

INIOCHOS-25: Multinational Air Exercise (Greece)

- Date: 31 March – 11 April 2025
- Organizer: Hellenic Air Force (Greece)
- Nature: Biennial Practice
- Partner Countries: 15 countries including India
- Other major countries: USA, France, Israel, Italy, UAE etc.

Exercise Bongo Sagar-2025

- Date: 10–12 March 2025
- Location: Bay of Bengal, Indo-Bangladesh maritime border
- Nature: India-Bangladesh Bilateral Naval Exercise (4th Edition)
- **Objective:** Promoting Maritime Security and Coordination, Maritime Crime Control and Military Partnership

Exercise Sea Dragon 2025

- Date: 4–19 March 2025
- Location: Guam coast, western Pacific Ocean
- Nature: Multilateral Anti-Submarine Naval Exercise
- Organizer: U.S. Navy 7th Fleet
- Partner Countries: India, USA, Japan, Australia, South Korea

Exercise Desert Hunt 2025

- Date: 24–28 February 2025
- Location: Air Force Station Jodhpur
- Nature: Integrated Tri-Services Special Forces Exercise
- **Forces Involved:**
 - Army – Para (SF)
 - Navy – Marine Commando
 - Air Force – Garuda (SF)
- Objectives: Joint Operations Planning, Desert Operations, Inter-Service Coordination

Yudh Abhyas TROPEX 2025

- Duration: January – March 2025 (three months)
- Nature: Navy's Capstone Theatre Level Operational Exercise
- Location: Indian Ocean Region
- Exercise Area: ~5000 NM from Strait of Hormuz to Sunda and Lombok
- Objective: Combat Readiness, Operational Flexibility, Combat Support

Practice Fierce Strikes

- Date: 25–27 March 2025
- Location: Arunachal Pradesh – Himalayan region bordering China
- Nature: Integrated Land, Air and Naval Joint Exercise
- Host: Eastern Command of the Indian Army

6. SPORTS

ICC Champions Trophy 2025 – India Champions

- Date: 9 March 2025
- Venue: Dubai International Cricket Stadium
- Final: India beat New Zealand by 4 wickets
- Rohit Sharma – Player of the Match
- Rachin Ravindra (NZ) – Player of the Tournament
- **Achievements:**
 - Third Champions Trophy (2002, 2013, 2025)
 - 7th ICC title overall
 - Australia is the most successful team

Sepaktakraw World Cup 2025 – India's first gold

- Location: Patna, Bihar
- Date: 20–25 March 2025
- Final: India beat Japan 2-1 (Men's Regu Team)
- Medals: 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze – Total 7
- Overall ranking: 4th position
- Host: Sepaktakraw Federation of India, ISTAF
- Sports Nature: Popular in South-East Asia, 'kick volleyball' style

Prague Masters 2025 – India's victory in Chess

- Winner: GM Aravind Chithambaram (6 points)
- Turning Point: Anish Giri's Win Over Praggnanandhaa
- Praggnanandhaa: Total 5 points (out of 9)

Khelo India Para Games 2025

- Venue: New Delhi (JLN Stadium, KD Jadhav Hall)
- Date: 20–27 March 2025
- Participants: 1300+ Para Athletes
- **Sports Disciplines (6):** Para Athletics, Para Badminton, Para Powerlifting, Para Shooting, Para Table Tennis, Para Archery
- **Medal Table:**
 - Haryana – 34 Gold (1st)
 - Tamil Nadu – 28 Gold (2nd)
 - Uttar Pradesh – 23 Gold (3rd)

Kabaddi World Cup 2025 – India to win both men's and women's titles

- Location: West Midlands, England
- Men's Final: India 44 – England 41
- Women's Final: India 57 – England 34
- Note: The event took place outside of Asia for the first time.
- India won both categories in 2019 (Malaysia) as well.

Asian Women's Kabaddi Championships 2025

- Date: 6–8 March 2025

- Location: Tehran, Iran
- Final: India 32 – Iran 25
- Achievement: 5 times India winner in 6 editions
- Special fact: Tehran – First two-time host city

SRFI Indian Tour 2025 – Double Indian Victory in Squash

- Venue: Indian Squash & Triathlon Academy, Chennai
- Date: 17–21 March 2025
- **Women's Category Winners:**
 - Anahat Singh beat Akanksha Salunkhe 3-1
 - 10th PSA title
 - British Junior Open U-17 Winner in January 2025 and Asian Junior Team Bronze in February 2025
- **Men's Category Winners:**
 - Veer Chotrani, who beat France's Melville Sciannimanico 3-1
 - This is his first Indian PSA title, sixth PSA title overall

All England Open Badminton Championships 2025

- Location: Birmingham, England
- Date: 11–16 March 2025
- **Men's Singles Winners:**
 - Shi Yu Kyu (China) – Defeating Li Chia-Hao (Chinese Taipei).
- **Women's Singles Winners:**
 - An Se-young (South Korea) – Defeating Wang Zhiyi (China)
- **India's Position:**
 - Lakshya Sen eliminated in quarterfinals (2022 – Finalist, 2023 – Semifinalist)
- **Indian Winners at the All England Open Badminton Championships:**
 - Prakash Padukone (1980)
 - Pullela Gopichand (2001)

Women's Premier League (WPL) 2025 – Mumbai Indians Champions for the 2nd time

- Final: Mumbai Indians beat Delhi Capitals by 8 runs
- Venue: Brabourne Stadium
- **Winner List:**
 - MVP: Nat Sciver-Brown
 - Orange Cap: Nat Sciver-Brown
 - Purple Cap: Amelia Kerr
 - Emerging Player: Amanjot Kaur
 - Fair Play Award: Gujarat Giants

Special Olympics World Winter Games 2025 – India's spectacular performance

- Location: Turin, Italy (Piedmont region)
- Date: 8–15 March 2025
- **India's Medals:**
 - Total: 33 medals
 - Gold – 8 | Silver – 18 | Bronze – 7
- **Sports-wise Performance:**
 - Snowshoeing – 10
 - Alpine Skiing – 10
 - Snowboarding – 6
 - Short Track Speed Skating – 4
 - Cross Country Skiing – 2
 - Floorball – 1
- Participants: 1,500 athletes, 100+ countries
- Next Host (2027): Santiago, Chile

Khelo India Winter Games 2025

- Phase 1: January 23–27, Ladakh
- Phase 2: March 9–12, Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir
- Participants: 400+ players from 19 States/UTs & Institutions
- **Medal Table:**
 - 1st – Indian Army: 7 Gold, 5 Silver, 6 Bronze (Total 18)
 - 2nd – Himachal Pradesh: 6 Gold, 5 Silver, 7 Bronze (Total 18)
 - 3rd – Ladakh: 4 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze (Total 7)
- Closing Ceremony: March 12, Gulmarg

Gymnast Pranati Nayak – Historic Bronze at World Cup

- Event: Women's Vault Competition
- Location: Antalya, Türkiye
- Score: 13.417
- First medal in the World Cup
- Gold: Jayla Hang (USA) | Silver: Claire Pease (USA)

Asian Wrestling Championships 2025

- Location: Amman, Jordan
- Date: 25–30 March 2025
- **Women's category:** Manisha Bhanwala (62kg): Gold medal
 - She defeated Korea's Ok Jae-Kim 8-7.
 - First 3 times bronze (2022–24)
- **Ankit Panghal (53kg): Bronze medal**
 - Men's Category – Greco-Roman
- Sunil Kumar (87kg): Bronze

International Masters T20 League 2025

- Winner: India Masters (Captain – Sachin Tendulkar)
- Final: India Masters beat West Indies Masters by 6 wickets
- Location: Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Individual Awards:

- Player of the Match: Ambati Rayudu
- Most Sixes: Shane Watson
- Masterstroke Award: Kumar Sangakkara
- Exclusive: Global T20 league of former international players
- First Edition

Ranji Trophy 2025 – Vidarbha's 3rd win

- Final Match: Vidarbha vs Kerala – Decisive 1st innings lead
- Location: Nagpur
- Total titles: Third (Previously: 2017–18, 2018–19)
- **Ranji Trophy**
 - India's Most Prestigious First-Class Cricket Competition
 - Mumbai: Most 41 times winners

Ritwik Bolipally – Chile Open 2025 Doubles Champion

- Partner: Nicolas Barrientos (Colombia)
- Victory: Beat Argentina's Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni 6-3, 6-2
- Location: Chile

Rithvik's 14th doubles title

- Tournament: 2025 Chile Open – 27th edition

Krishna Jaishankar – Historic Achievement in Indoor Shot Put

- The first Indian woman to throw more than 16m (16.03m)
- Stage: Mountain West Indoor Track & Field Championships, USA

India's official bid to host Commonwealth Games 2030

- Proposed City: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Bid Leadership: PT Usha (President, Indian Commonwealth Games Association)
- Objective: To strengthen India's Olympic 2036 bid
- Approval: India's proposal approved by Commonwealth Games Federation

Hockey India Senior Women's National Championships 2025

- Venue: Tau Devi Lal Complex, Panchkula, Haryana
- Dates: 1–12 March 2025
- Winner: Hockey Jharkhand – First Time Champion
- Runner-up: Hockey Haryana
- 3rd place: Hockey Mizoram
- Most Winners in History: Indian Railways (8 times)

Hero Asia Cup Hockey 2025

- Host: Bihar (Rajgir)
- Date: 29 August – 7 September 2025
- Venue: Rajgir Hockey Stadium
- Participating teams: India, Pakistan, Japan, Korea, China, Malaysia + 2 AHF Cup Qualifiers
- **History:**
 - Korea – 5 times winner
 - India, Pakistan – 3 times winners

Billie Jean King Cup 2025 – Asia-Oceania Group-1 Tournament

- Location: Pune, Maharashtra
- Date: 8–12 April 2025
- Participating Countries: India, New Zealand, Korea, Thailand, Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei
- Format: Round-robin (2 singles + 1 doubles)
- Indian team: Ankita Raina, led by Prarthana Thombare

Maharashtra to host international tennis tournament after 25 years

- 11th Asian Swimming Championships 2025 – India to host

- Venue: Naranpura Sports Complex, Ahmedabad
- Date: 1–15 October 2025
- Competitions: Swimming, Diving, Artistic Swimming, Water Polo
- Collaboration: Swimming Federation of India + Government of Gujarat + Asia Aquatics
- India last hosted 10th Asian Age Group Championship 2019

Achanta Sharath Kamal retires from table tennis

- Announcement: Announced retirement in March 2025
- Final tournament: WTT Star Contender, Chennai (25–30 March 2025)
- **Major Achievements:**
 - 7 Commonwealth Gold Medals
 - 2 Bronze at the Asian Games
 - 5 Olympic participation
- India's joint flag-bearers at the 2024 Paris Olympics
- Current post: Vice Chairman of the Athletes Commission of the Indian Olympic Association

Hockey India Awards 2024

Award	Winner
• Balbir Singh Senior Player of the Year (Men)	Harmanpreet Singh
• Balbir Singh Senior Player of the Year (Women)	Savita Punia
• Baljit Singh Goalkeeper of the Year	Savita Punia
• Lifetime Achievement (Major Dhyan Chand Award)	1975 World Cup Winning Men's Team
• Forward of the Year	Abhishek
• Midfielder of the Year	Hardik Singh
• Defender of the Year	Amit Rohidas
• Jugraj Singh U-21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR (Men)	Arajit Singh Hundal
• U-21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR (Women)	Deepika

7. AWARDS & HONOURS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gets Highest Civilian Award from abroad

- **Respect for Mauritius:**
 - Name: Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GCSK)
 - Date: 12 March 2025
 - Provider: President Dharambir Gokhul
 - Achievement: First Indian politician to receive this honour
 - Occasion: Chief Guest of the 57th National Day of Mauritius
- **Respect for Barbados:**
 - Name: Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados
 - Date: 6 March 2025 (Honor Ceremony)
 - Announcement: 20 November 2024, India-CARICOM Summit, Guyana
 - Adoption from the provider: Union Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita
 - Reason: For global leadership and collaboration during the COVID-19 pandemic

59th Jnanpith Award (2024)

- Recipient: Vinod Kumar Shukla (Hindi Litterateur)
- Announcement Date: March 22, 2025
- He was the 12th Hindi writer to receive this honor.
- First recipient from Chhattisgarh state
- Sahitya Akademi Award in 1999 for "A Window Lived in the Wall"
- 58th Jnanpith: Gulzar (Urdu) and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)

Jnanpith Award:

- Start: 1965
- First Winner: G. Sankara Kurup (Malayalam)
- First Woman: Ashapoorna Devi (Bangla), 1976
- Award: ₹11 lakh cash, citation, statue of Vagdevi
- Donor Organization: Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust

RBI – Digital Transformation Award 2025

- Provider: London-based Central Banking institution
- Award: Digital Transformation Award 2025
- Reason: Success of RBI's two major digital initiatives

Key Initiatives:

SAARTHI	PRAVAAH (Platform for Regulatory Application, Verification and Authorization Hub)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start: January 2023 ● Objective: Secure document storage and sharing for RBI employees ● Result: Automation of operation process and increased efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start: May 2024 ● Objective: Online regulatory application by individuals and entities ● Specialty: Centralized, web-based and secure digital portal

Abel Prize 2025

- Recipient: Masaki Kashiwara (Japan)
- Contribution: Fundamental work in algebraic analysis and representation theory
- **Attainment:**
 - The first Japanese mathematician to receive this prize
 - Developed powerful algebraic methods for complex differential equations
 - Important Associates: French mathematician Pierre Shapira
- Prize money: 7.5 million Norwegian kroner (~\$714,000)
- Provider: Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters

Pritzker Prize 2025 (Nobel Prize in Architecture)

- Recipient: Liu Jiakun (China)
- **Work area:**
 - Design of public spaces, museums, academic institutions
 - Architectural solutions for open spaces in densely populated urban areas
- Organization: Jiakun Architects (30+ Projects)
- Sponsors: Hyatt Foundation and Pritzker Family

97th Academy Awards (2025)

- Date: 2 March 2025
- Venue: Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles
- Most Award-Winning Film: Anora (5 Awards)
- **Major Categories:**
 - Best Film: Anora
 - Best Director: Sean Baker (Anora)
 - Best Actor: Andrian Brody, "The Brutlist"
 - Best Actress: Mikey Madison (Anora)
 - Best Supporting Actor: Kieran Culkin, "A Real Penn"
 - Best Supporting Actress: Zoe Saldana (Emilia Perez)

Other Winners:

- Best International Feature Film: I Am Still Here (Brazil)
- Best Animated Feature Film: Flow
- Best Original Song: El MAI (Emilia Perez)
- Best Documentary Feature: No Other Land
- Best Adapted Screenplay: Conclave
- Best Costume Design: Paul Tagewell (Previously Black Designer)

IIFA Awards 2025 (25th Edition)

- Venue: Jaipur
- Date: 8–9 March 2025
- Best Film: The Missing Ladies
- Best Director: Kiran Rao (Laapata Ladies)
- Best Actor: Kartik Aaryan (Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3)
- Best Actress: Nitanshi Goyal (Laapata Ladies)
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Ravi Kishan (Laapata Ladies)
- Best Supporting Actress: Janki Bodiwala (Shaitan)
- Best Debutant: Lakshya Lalwani (Kill)
- Best Debutant: Pratibha Ranta (Laapata Ladies)
- Best Debutant Director: Kunal Kemmu (Madgaon Express)
- Best Villain: Raghav Juyal (Kill)
- Best Music Director/Lyricist/Editing/Story/Screenplay: Laapata Ladies won awards in all categories
- Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema: Rakesh Roshan

Stockholm Water Prize 2025

- Recipient: Günter Blosschal (Austria)
- **Attainment:**
 - Excellent database and model for water resources management and flood risk analysis
 - Raising global awareness of water hazards linked to climate change
- Institution: Vienna University of Technology
- Provider Institution: Stockholm Water Foundation, in collaboration with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- Honor Ceremony: August 2025, Stockholm Water Week (by King Carl XVI Gustaf)

Ramsar Award 2025 – 'Wetland Wise Use' Category

- Recipient: Dr. Jayashree Venkatesan
- **Achievements:**
 - First Indian woman to receive Ramsar Prize
 - World's 12 wWomen Changemakers in wetland list
 - Organization: Co-Founder, Care Earth Trust, Chennai
 - Trust Scope: Biodiversity Conservation, Policy Making, Research, Awareness

- Ramsar Convention: International Treaty, Headquarters – Gland (IUCN), Switzerland

Holberg Prize 2025

- Recipient: Gayatri Chakravarty Spivak
- **Reason:** Critical investigation of unequal structures of power and knowledge and work against illiteracy in rural communities and influential research on post-colonial studies, feminism and colonialism.
- Donor Institution: Holberg Committee established by the Government of Norway
- Cash: \$5,40,000
- Special Facts: This award is considered to be the Nobel of the academic field
- Location: Kolkata (West Bengal), India

Chiranjeevi honoured in UK House of Commons

- Honorees: Lifetime Achievement Award
- Provider Organization: Bridge India
- The reason: public service through cultural leadership
- **Special fact:** For the first time this award was given to an individual.
- Founder of Chiranjeevi Eye and Blood Bank, Hyderabad
 - Padma Vibhushan (2024) Awarded

SKOCH Awards 2025 – Muthoot Microfin

- Organization: Muthoot Microfin
- Prize: Double Gold Win
- Provider: Skoch Group
- **Key Initiatives:**
 - **Mahila Mitra App (1.73 million downloads)**
 - Category: Digital Financial Inclusion
 - **Home Guard Insurance Scheme**
 - Category: Best Insurance Plan in BFSI
 - Beneficiaries: 2.66 million
 - Objective: Women Empowerment, Financial Security, Inclusive Growth

EY Entrepreneur of the Year India 2024

- Winner: Nitin Kamath (CEO, Zerodha Limited)
- India to be represented at EY World Entrepreneur Awards, Monte Carlo (June 2025)
- **Other Honorees:**
 - Lifetime Achievement: K.V. Kamath (Jio Financial)
 - Special Jury Award: Dr. S. Somanath (Former ISRO Chairman)

Zerodha:

- Founded: 2010
- Unicorns created without foreign investment in 2020
- Provider Organization: Ernst & Young (EY) India

International Booker Prize 2025 – Historical Selection of Kannada Language

- Announcement Date: 25 February 2025
- Announcer: Booker Prize Foundation
- Selected Books: 13 Books in Total
- **Key Selections:**
 - Book: Heart Lamp (Short Story Collection)
 - Author: Banu Mushtaq (Kannada)
 - Translator: Deepa Bhashti (in English)
- This is the first time a Kannada book has made it to the long list of the International Booker Prize.

Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2025

- Person of Honour: Ram Sutar (Eminent Sculptor)
- Provider: Government of Maharashtra
- **Major Artifacts:**
 - Statue of Unity (Sardar Patel)
 - 251-meter tall statue of Lord Ram in Ayodhya
 - Statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Parliament House, Delhi
 - Currently working on the statue of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar in Indu Mills, Mumbai
- **Previous Honours:** Padma Shri – 1999, Padma Bhushan – 2016

8. PERSON IN NEWS

Rajiv Gauba – Full-time Member of NITI Aayog

- Former Cabinet Secretary (2019–2024)
- 1982 batch, IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre

Justice Joymalya Bagchi – New Judge of the Supreme Court

- He was a judge of the Calcutta High Court.
- Tentative CJI: May 2031 to 2 October 2031

Sanjay Kumar Mishra – Full-time Member of EAC-PM

- Former Chief, Enforcement Directorate (ED)
- 1984 batch, Indian Revenue Service (IRS)

Anju Rathi Rana – India's first woman Union Law Secretary

- Senior Officer of Indian Legal Service
- 20+ years of experience in Central and Delhi Government

Ajay Seth – New Finance Secretary

- 1987 batch, Karnataka cadre IAS officer
- Former Revenue Secretary and PM Excellence Award Recipient

Nidhi Tiwari

- New Private Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- 2014 Batch, IFS Officer
- Formerly Deputy Secretary in PMO
- Dr. Ajit Ratnakar Joshi – Executive Director of RBI
- Former Principal Advisor, Department of Statistics and Information Management
- 30 Years Of Experience (IT, Cyber Risk, Statistics)

Ajay Bhadoo

- New CEO of GeM (Government e-Marketplace)
- IAS, 1999 Batch, Gujarat Cadre

Dr. Mayank Sharma MD

- Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA)
- 1989 Batch, Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS)

Ashok Singh Thakur

- President of INTACH, tenure 3 years
- Organization: Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (Founded: 1984)

Major International Political Appointees

Mark Carney

- 24th Prime Minister of Canada
- Former central banker, first Prime Minister with

no political experience

- Justin Trudeau's successor

Christy Coventry

- The first woman President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- Originally from Zimbabwe.
- Two-time Olympic gold medalist

Yamandu Orsi

- New President of Uruguay
- Tenure: 5 years
- Capital: Montevideo

Stuart Young

- Trinidad and Tobago's new prime minister
- Former Energy Minister
- Capital: Port of Spain

Christian Stalker

- Austria's new Chancellor
- Leadership of the Tripartite Alliance (ÖVP-SPÖ-Neos)
- For the first time since World War II, such an alliance.

Demises

Former Union Minister Dr. Devendra Pradhan passes away

- Died: 17 March 2025, New Delhi
- Political Party: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)
- Lifetime member of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)
- **Political Career:**
 - He was elected to the Lok Sabha from Deogarh constituency in Odisha in 1998 and 1999.
 - In 1998, he was the Minister of State for Surface Transport in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.
 - 1999–2001: Minister of State for Surface Transport and Agriculture
 - 2001: Appointed National Vice President of BJP

Famous Odia poet Ramakanta Rath passes away

- Died: 16 March 2025, Bhubaneswar
- Service Background: 1957 batch IAS officer, Chief Secretary of Odisha
- **Literary Contributions:**
 - Major composition: 'Shri Radha' Poetry Collection
 - Language: Odia
- Sahitya Akademi President: 1998–2003
- Honours: Padma Bhushan (2006)

9. PLACES IN NEWS

6 new sites added to UNESCO tentative list of India

- Date: 7 March 2025
- **New Sites:**
 1. Kanger Ghati National Park – Chhattisgarh
 2. Mudumal Megalithic Menhir – Telangana
 3. Ashokan Rock Sites – Various States
 4. Chausath Yogini Temple – Madhya Pradesh and Odisha
 5. Gupta Temples – Various Kingdoms
 6. Palaces and Forts of the Bundelas – M.P. and Uttar Pradesh.
- Total Sites in India's Tentative List: 62
- Total Sites of India in World Heritage List: 43 (Cultural: 35, Natural: 7, Mixed: 1)
- Important facts: India hosted the World Heritage Committee meeting for the first time in 2024.

Madhya Pradesh's Madhav National Park gets Tiger Reserve status

- Announcement: 9 March 2025
- Location: Shivpuri District, M.P. (Vindhyan Ranges)
- New status: India's 58th Tiger Reserve; 9th of M.P.
- Area: 355 sq km

India's first permanent Kalagram – Prayagraj

- Announcement: 11 March 2025
- VENUE: Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh
- Construction Agency: North Central Zone Cultural Centre
- Collaboration: Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Objective: Creation of a permanent Kalagram in each cultural centre

India's First PPP Green Waste Processing Plant

- Project: Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban)
- Location: Indore
- Partnership: Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) + Astronomical Industries Pvt. Ltd.
- Purpose: Turning green waste into useful products like wood, leaves, flowers etc.

India's first green hydrogen and 2G ethanol plant

- Announcement: March 5, 2025, Shimla
- Location: Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh (BBN) Area, Solan District

- Partnership: Government of Himachal + Spray Engineering Devices Ltd.
- Production: API + Green Hydrogen + 2G Ethanol (Integrated Plant)
- State target: "Green Energy State" by March 2026
- National Plan: PM JI-VAN Scheme (Ethanol blending target – up to 20%)

Chittu Pandey Memorial to be built in Ballia

- Announcement: By Government of Uttar Pradesh
- Personality: Chittu Pandey – "Lion of Ballia", foremost leader of the Quit India Movement
- On 19 August 1942, Ballia was declared independent and Chittu Pandey was appointed as the interim administrator.

India's First World Peace Centre

- Inauguration: Former President Ram Nath Kovind
- VENUE: Sector-39, Gurugram
- Founder: Acharya Lokesh Muni (Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati)
- Objective: Peace Education, Social Harmony, Environmental Protection

First state to set up Senior Citizens Commission – Kerala

- Legal Basis: Kerala State Senior Citizens Commission Act, 2025
- Objective: Protecting the rights of the elderly, rehabilitation, participation in policy formulation
- Speciality: India's first statutory Senior Citizens Commission

First Indian Bison Festival – Debrigarh, Odisha

- Date: 27 March 2025
- Location: Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary (Bargarh District, Near Hirakud Dam)
- Objective: Public awareness for Gaur/Gayal (Indian Bison) conservation
- Census: A total of 669 bison recorded in November 2024

India's first vertical lift rail bridge – New Pamban Bridge

- Inauguration: 6 April 2025 – By PM Narendra Modi
- Length: 2.5 km
- Location: Mainland ↔ Rameswaram Island
- Construction: By RVNL at a cost of ₹535 crore

- Feature: Lifting by electromechanical system
- Advantages: Train travel time – reduced from 25–30 minutes to less than 5 minutes

India's first hydrogen train – Jind-Sonipat route

- Start: 31 March 2025 (Planned)
- Fuel: Hydrogen Fuel Cell
- Emission: Water and Heat only
- Profit:
 - Zero carbon emissions
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Reduction in Noise Pollution
- Objective of the Project: Making Railways Net-Zero by 2030

Megalithic burial site at Palakkad, Kerala

- Location: Near Malampuzha Dam, Palakkad (Kerala)
- Number: 110+ megalithic structures, spread over an area of 45 hectares
- Significance: Largest megalithic burial site ever found in Kerala

India's first AI-powered Solar Manufacturing Line

- Venue: Kosamba, Surat (Gujarat) – By Goldy Solar
- Inauguration: Prahlad Joshi (Minister of New and Renewable Energy)
- Capacity: 14 GW combined output (Pipodara, Navsari, Kosamba)
- Technique:
 - 10,000 Solar Cells Per Hour
 - AI-based EL and Visual Inspection
 - Automated EVA Carrying Robot

Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Varanasi

- Joint Partnership: NHLML + IWAI
- Location: Adjacent to NH-7, near Jeonathpur Railway Station
- Size: 150 acres
- Contact: National Waterway-1, Eastern Freight Corridor, Varanasi Airport
- Advantages: Business efficiency, investment, increased local employment

First temple of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj – Bhiwandi, Maharashtra

- Inauguration: By CM Devendra Fadnavis
- Design: Based on the architecture of forts
- Highlights:
 - Area: 2,500 sq ft (temple), 5,000 sq ft (boundary wall)
 - Sabha Mandap: 42 feet tall
 - Statue: 6.5 feet high (Creator – Arun Yogiraj)

Auxiliary Production Centre of ALIMCO – Tripura

- Location: Purba Laxmibil, Sepahijala District
- Foundation Stone: March 1, 2025
- Aim:
 - Manufacture of Assistive Devices in the Northeast
 - Ensuring regional service, delivery, and accessibility

Miscellaneous

NITI Aayog – Frontier Tech Hub (NITI-FTH)

- Announcement: 5 March 2025
- Task: As Frontier Tech Action Tank
- Objective: To accelerate economic and social development through technological innovations
- Specialty: Partnering with experts from industry, academia and government

India's 1st AI-powered mineral exploration hackathon 2025

- Location: Goa | Date: 13 March 2025
- Inauguration: G. Kishan Reddy and Pramod Sawant
- Objective: In-depth exploration and exploration of mineral resources with the help of AI
- Significance: To upgrade and make the mineral exploration process more efficient

ICMR's Drone-Based Cornea Transfer Initiative

- Starts: 24 March 2025
- Route 1: Sonipat → AIIMS Jhajjar → AIIMS Delhi
- Partner Institutions: ICMR, AIIMS Delhi, AIIMS Jhajjar, Ministry of Civil Aviation
- Significance: Time-saving and medical innovations in organ transport

IndiGo Airlines – Achievement in Global Rankings

- Seat capacity addition in 2024: 10.1% → 134.9 million
- Flight frequency growth: 9.7% → 7,49,156 flights
- Global Rank:
 - 2nd place: Fast-growing airline (OAG data)
 - First place: in number of flights
- Aircraft orders: 900+ (58 new Airbus aircraft delivered in 2024)

National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) – 7th Meeting

- Date: 3 March 2025 | Chairperson: Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Gir)

Key Announcements:

- **River Dolphin Count Report:**
 - Total: 6,327 | Major States: UP > Bihar > Bengal > Assam
 - Survey in 28 rivers of 8 states
- Wildlife Health Centre: National Referral Centre at Junagadh
- Human-Wildlife Conflict Resolution Centre: Coimbatore (SACON)
- Cheetah Rehabilitation: Gandhisagar (MP), Banni Grassland (Gujarat)
- Formation of NBWL: 2003
 - India's highest statutory wildlife conservation body

Mahila Samridhi Yojana – Delhi Government

- Announcement: 8 March 2025 (International Women's Day)
- Announcer: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta
- Beneficiaries: Women from BPL category
- Financial assistance: ₹2,500 per month
- Total Budget: ₹5,100 crore
- Objective: To ensure economic empowerment and social security

Project Hifazat – Government of Punjab

- Announcement: 7 March 2025
- Objective: Quick and effective response to gender-based violence
- **Facility:** Helpline for Women – 181, Child Helpline for Children – 1098
- Both helplines active 24x7
- Impact: Seamless assistance through integrated government agencies

5G Innovation Hackathon 2025 – Department of Telecommunications

- Announcement: 17 March 2025
- Duration: 6 months
- Beneficiaries: Students, Startups, Professionals
- **Prize:**
 - 1st – ₹5,00,000
 - Second – ₹3,00,000
 - Third – ₹1,50,000
- **Focus on Key Areas:**
 - Network Maintenance, Smart Health, Agriculture, D2M, V2X, IoT, Quantum Communication
- Initial Grant: ₹1 lakh to each team
- Winner Announcement: 1 October 2025

India's first indigenous MRI machine

- Establishment: AIIMS, New Delhi (as of October 2025)
- Technique: 1.5 Tesla MRI
- Developer: SAMEER Organization (Society for

Applied Microwave Electronic Engineering and Research)

- Significance: Self-reliance in Made-in-India Medical Technology

Project HAKK – Raksha Kalyan by HDFC Bank

- Launch: March 2025
- Relationship: Service to IAF Veterans and Families
- Collaboration: Office of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff + CSC Academy
- Number of Centers: 25 Help Centers
- Location: Delhi, Pune, Jodhpur, Chandigarh, Bengaluru, Guwahati, Gurgaon etc.
- Services: Banking, Financial Aid, Social Support, Information

Media Monitoring Centre – Maharashtra

- Objective: Monitoring and Analysis of Print, Electronic & Digital Media
- Operations: Directorate of Information & Publicity
- Budget: ₹10 crore
- Functions: Analysis of misleading/factual news, assistance in image building of government schemes

Inclusivity & PwD Empowerment

- Purple Fest 2025 Venue: Rashtrapati Bhavan, Delhi | Date: 21 March 2025
- Objective: To increase inclusivity and accessibility of Persons with Disabilities
- Conducted By: DePwD under Ministry of Social Justice
- Punjab became the first Rajya Sabha where the assembly session was broadcast in sign language
- Beginning: Governor's address in sign language

Rajiv Yuva Vikas Yojana – Telangana

- Objective: Self-employment and entrepreneurship for marginalized youth
- Target Category: SC, ST, BC, Minority Community
- Assistance: Concessional loans up to ₹3 lakh, subsidy up to 60–80%

Fit India Carnival 2025

- Date: 16–18 March | Venue: Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Delhi
- Inauguration: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
- Objective: Fitness Awareness, Obesity Control
- Exclusive: Khelo India Para Games Mascot, Logo and Theme Song unveiled

Fisheries Startup Conclave 2.0 – Hyderabad

- Event: 8 March 2025

- Objective: Sectoral innovations through startups and e-governance
- Key Announcements:
 - NFDP Mobile App
 - Startup Grand Challenge 2.0
 - Startup Entrepreneur Model Acceptance

Cancer Day Care Center Announcement in Every District

- Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda
- Target: Cancer centres in all districts of the country in the next 3 years
- Establishment started in 200 districts in the year 2025
- Objective: To ensure early diagnosis and treatment

Tripura's two new girl child schemes

- **Mukhyamantri Balika Samridhi Yojana:**
 - ₹50,000 Bond for BPL Girls
 - Mature at the age of 18 ₹10 lakh
- **Mukhyamantri Kanya Atmanirbhar Yojana:**
 - For meritorious girl students
 - CBSE, ISC, TBSE will cover the board.

Book 'Ripples of Change' released

- By Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil

e-BKray and Banknet Portal

- e-BKray (2019): Online Auction of Confiscated Assets of Banks
- Banknet (2025): Transparent Settlement System for NPA Cases
- The two portals have now been integrated and introduced.
- Features: Secure payment, KYC, intelligent auction system

'Bond Central' Portal

- Director: SEBI & OBPP Association
- Objective: Central portal for authentic information on corporate bonds
- Speciality: Free Use | Open to the general public
- Tourism and cultural infrastructure

5 new Spiritual Corridors in Uttar Pradesh

- Prayagraj-Kashi, Ayodhya-Gorakhpur, Lucknow-Naimisharanya, Chitrakoot, Mathura-Vrindavan route
- Objective: Promotion of religious tourism, cultural unity
- The announcement was made by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath after the Maha Kumbh.

Major Conferences

International Ramayana Conclave

- Date: March 26, Venue: Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Organizer: Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Colombo
- Partner: Uttar Pradesh Department of Culture and High Commission of India
- Important Sites: Sita Eliya, Manavari Temple, Munneswaram Temple

Festival of Letters 2025 (Asia's largest Literary Festival)

- Date: 7–12 March 2025, Location: New Delhi
- Organizer: Sahitya Akademi, Ministry of Culture
- Inauguration: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- Chief Guest: Mahesh Dattani (Playwright)

Yoga Festival 2025

- Date: 13 March, Location: New Delhi
- Inauguration: Pratap Rao Jadhav (Minister of State for AYUSH)
- Objective: Awareness ahead of International Yoga Day

COAIEMA-2025 Conference

- Location: Lucknow
- Key Topics: Challenges and Opportunities of AI – in Engineering and Management
- Organizer: Council of Asian Industry and Emerging Market Alliances
- Objective: Innovation, Green Technology and Digitalization

Bodhipath Film Festival 2025

- Date: 10–11 March, Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi
- Organizer: IBC and Dalai Lama Foundation
- Theme: Buddha's Teachings and Contemporary Mental Health

'Environment-2025' National Conference

- Date: 29–30 March, Location: New Delhi
- Conducted By: National Green Tribunal (NGT)
- Inauguration: President Droupadi Murmu
- Objective: Discussion on Environmental Problems and Solutions

PSCF 2025 – Private Sector Collaboration Forum

- Date: 25–27 March, Location: Mumbai
- Host: RBI and Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)
- Objective: Promote cooperation in FATF member countries and the private sector

GRIDCON 2025 – Power Sector

- Date/Venue: 9–11 March, New Delhi

- Inauguration: Manohar Lal Khattar
- Organizers: PowerGrid and CIGRE India
- Objective: Discussion on Renewable Energy, Digital Grid and Asset Management

Techkriti 2025

- Asia's Largest Tech Festival
- Venue: IIT Kanpur (March 27–30)
- Inauguration: CDS General Anil Chauhan
- Special Event: Mini Defence Expo
- Theme: Science, Technology and Startup Innovation

'Nari Shakti se Viksit Bharat' Conference

- Date/Venue: 8th March, New Delhi
- Inauguration: President Droupadi Murmu
- Campaign launched: #SheBuildsBharat
- Conducted By: Ministry of Women & Child Development

Water Sustainability Conference 2025

- Date/Venue: 12th March, New Delhi
- Inaugurated: Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil
- Organizers: NWM, BWUE, TERI
- Theme: Water Use Efficiency and Sustainable Water Management in Industries

World TB Day 2025 – National Summit

- Date: March 24
- Theme: Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver
- Inauguration: Jagat Prakash Nadda
- Achievement: TB treatment coverage 59% → 85%

Diet 2025

- Agriculture & Food Festival
- Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- Organizers: ITPO and APEDA
- Theme: Global Exposure to Agricultural Products and Processing Innovation

Nano-Electronics Conference & Roadshow

- Date: March 27, Bengaluru
- Joint Organizers: MeitY, IISc, IITs
- Theme: Semiconductor, Quantum Technology, Neuromorphic Computing
- Objective: Indigenous Innovation and Research Partnership

'Hack the Future' Hackathon 2025 – IIT Gandhinagar

- Date: March 23
- Organiser: NSO India
- Participation: 18 teams from IITs, NITs, IIITs
- Objective: Multi-stakeholder innovation collaboration

Synergy in Indian Innovation Ecosystem – National Workshop

- Date/Venue: March 22, GIFT City, Gandhinagar
- Conducted By: NITI Aayog
- Objective: To enhance innovation collaboration between startups, government and industry

Snow Marathon Lahaul – 2025 (4th Edition)

- Date/Location: March 23, Sissu (Himachal Pradesh)
- Attributes:
 - Asia's only and world's highest snow marathon (11,000 feet)
 - Ranges of 42, 21, 10 & 5 km
 - Participation of Army, Air Force, ITBP, SSB

Build India Expo 2025

- Date/Venue: 19–21 March, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- Inauguration: Jitan Ram Manjhi (MSME Minister)
- Objective: To provide MSMEs with a platform for technological innovation, business and global interaction

India 2047: Conference on Building a Climate-Resilient Future

- Date/Venue: 19–22 March, Bharatha Mandapam
- Organizer: MoEFCC, Harvard, SAI Institute
- Theme: Climate Adaptation and Multi-Stakeholder Policy Dialogue

India Innovation Summit – End TB

- Date/Venue: 18–19 March, New Delhi
- Inauguration: Anupriya Patel
- Organizer: DHR-ICMR, CTD
- Objective: Pioneering technological solutions for TB elimination by 2025

Varsity's Amrit Mahotsav 2025

- Date/Venue: Inauguration – March 5, Rashtrapati Bhavan
- Focus: South India + Lakshadweep-Puducherry
- Purpose: Celebration of Cultural Diversity and Dialogue
- Partner Ministries: Culture, Textiles, Tribal Affairs, Tourism

Dairy Sector: Sustainability & Circularity Workshop

- Date/Venue: 3rd March, New Delhi
- Inauguration: Amit Shah
- Organizer: DAHD & NDDB
- Theme: Resource Efficiency, Sustainable Dairy Production

Visitor's Conference 2024-25

- Venue: Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi
- Date: 3 March 2025 (Two-day Conference)
- Inaugurator: President Droupadi Murmu
- **Objective:** To improve the quality of higher education, promote research and innovation and establish India as a global knowledge hub.

Visitor Awards 2024-25 Winners List

Category	Winner	Institute
Innovation Awards	Pro. Saripella Sri Krishna	Banaras Hindu University (BHU)
Physical Science Research	Pro. Ashwini Kumar Nangia	University of Hyderabad
Biological Sciences Research (Combined)	Pro. Reena Chakraborty and Prof. Raj Kumar	University of Delhi and Central University of Punjab
Technology Development Award	Dr. Venkateshwarlu Chintala	Gati Shakti University

10. INDEXES & REPORTS

World Happiness Report 2025

- Released by: United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN-SDSN) and University of Oxford's Wellbeing Research Centre
- Date: 20 March 2025
- Total countries: 147

Top Countries	Bottom 5 countries
1. Finland (persistent) 8th year 2. Denmark 3. Iceland 4. Sweden 5. Netherlands	1. Zimbabwe (143) 2. Malawi (144) 3. Lebanon (145) 4. Sierra Leone (146) 5. Afghanistan (147) – Last place for the fourth consecutive year

- India's rank: 118th
- Rank of Neighbouring Countries:
 - China – 68
 - Nepal – 92
 - Pakistan – 109
 - Sri Lanka – 133
 - Bangladesh – 134

Hurun Global Rich List 2025 – Women Billionaires and India's Status

- Roshni Nadar: India's first woman to feature in top 10 global rich women.
 - Rank: 5th
 - Company: HCL Technologies
 - Net Worth: ₹3.5 lakh crore (≈ \$40 billion)

Top 5 Wealthiest Women in the world:

Rank	Name	Assets (Billion Dollars)	Company
1.	Alice Walton (USA)	102	Walmart
2.	François Bettencourt Meyers (France)	67	L'Oreal
3.	Julia Koch & Family (USA)	60	Koch Industries
4.	Jacqueline Mars (USA)	53	Mars Inc.
5.	Roshni Nadar (India)	40	HCL Technologies.

What is the Status of Billionaires in India?

Rank	Name	Assets (Rs 1 lakh crore)	Company
1	Mukesh Ambani & Family	8.6	Reliance
2	Gautam Adani & Family	8.4	Adani
3	Roshni Nadar & Family	3.5	HCL
4	Dilip Shanghvi & Family	2.5	Sun Pharma
5	Azim Premji and family	2.2	Wipro

- Total billionaires: 284 (13 new additions)

Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2025

- Released by: Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP)
- Aadhaar: Assessment of terror attacks, deaths, injured, and economic-political impact in 163 countries
- India's rank: 14th
- GTI 2025 – Top 5 Terrorism Affected Countries:

S. No.	Country Name
1.	Burkina Faso
2.	Pakistan
3.	Syria
4.	gardeners
5.	Niger

- Key facts: Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) – Fastest Emerging Terrorist Group
- Islamic State – the world's most dangerous terrorist organization
- The Sahel region – the new epicenter of terrorism

Global Financial Centers Index (GFCI) – Report

- Issuer: Z/Yen Group
- Total study: 133 financial centers (included in 119 main indexes)
- GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City): Improved global ranking: 52nd → 46th
- Rank in Fintech Category: 45th → 40th
- Reputational Advantage Category: 1st Place
- Asia-Pacific region: Top 15
- Evaluation Indicators: Business Environment, Infrastructure, Human Resources, Competitiveness etc.

India: World's Largest Milk Producer

- Position: First place in the world continuously since 1998
- 2023-24 production: 239.2 million tonnes
- Global contribution: 25%
- Growth over 10 years: 63.56% (146.3 million tonnes in 2014-15)
- Per capita availability: 471 g/day (world average: 322 g)
- **Major Producing States:**
 - Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab

Global Free Speech Index 2024

- Released by: The Future of Free Speech (American Think Tank)
- Research Title: "Who Supports Free Speech

Around the World?"

- Number of countries: 33
- India's rank: 24th, score: 62.6
- Top country: Norway (87.9)
- Notable improvements: Pakistan, Indonesia, Malaysia
- Decline: US, Israel, Japan
- Authoritarian countries with surprisingly high scores:
 - Hungary (85.5), Venezuela (81.8)

World Air Quality Report 2025 – by IQAir

- Base: Fine particulate pollution at PM2.5 level
- Most polluted cities in the world: Byrnihat (Meghalaya), PM2.5 – 128.2 µg/m³
- World's most polluted capital: New Delhi – 6th year in a row (PM2.5 – 91.8 µg/m³)
- 13 cities in India among top 20 most polluted cities
- India's Global Rank: 5th Most Polluted Country (3rd in 2024)

The five most polluted countries globally:

1. Chad
 2. Bangladesh
 3. Pakistan
 4. Democratic Republic of Congo
 5. India
- 6 Satellite Cities of India: Faridabad, Loni, Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Greater Noida
 - Cleanest city: Mayaguez (Puerto Rico), PM2.5 – 1.1 µg/m³
 - Only 7 countries that received WHO standard : Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Estonia, Grenada, Iceland, New Zealand
 - World's cleanest region: Oceania (57% of cities meet WHO standards)

Global Arms Transfer Report 2025 – by SIPRI

The 5 Largest Arms Exporting Countries (Period: 2020-24)	The 5 Largest Arms Importing Countries (Period: 2020-24)
1. United States 2. France 3. Russia 4. China 5. Germany	1. Ukraine 2. India 3. Qatar 4. Saudi Arabia 5. Pakistan

Key Statistics:

- Total 0.6% decline in global arms transfers
- US exports rise 21%, Russia's exports fall 64%
- India's arms imports decline by 9.3% (compared to 2015–19)
- Russia accounts for 36% of India's arms imports
- 61% increase in Pakistan's imports, 81% of supplies from China
- China out of top 10 importers for the first time since 1990–94
- NATO European countries increase imports by 155%, 64% from the US

Regional Share (2020–24):

1. Asia-Oceania: 33%
2. Europe: 28%
3. Middle East: 27%
4. US: 6.2%
5. Africa: 4.5%

United Nations World Water Development Report 2025 – Published by UNESCO

- Report Title: "Mountains and Glaciers: Water Towers"
- Release Date: March 21, 2025 (on the occasion of 1st Glacier Day)
- Publication: by UN-Water, UNESCO's World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)
- **Main Objectives:**
 - To underline the impact of rising temperatures and melting glaciers in mountainous regions.
 - To explain its impact on the sustainable development of societies dependent on mountain water sources.
- **What is the Status of World Water Resources?**
- **Use of Freshwater:** 72% of water is used in the agriculture sector. About 15% of water is used in industry.
- The leftover water is used for domestic use.
- **Increase in Global Water Use:**
- A 14% increase was recorded between 2000 and 2021.
- The average rate of increase was 0.7% per year.

11. IMPORTANT DAYS

Zero Discrimination Day (March 1)

- Objective: To promote a discrimination-free society and provide equal rights.
- Theme of 2025 : "We Stand Together"
- Publications: by the United Nations and the United Nations AIDS Programme.

World Civil Safety Day (March 1)

- Objective: To raise awareness about civil defence strategies and people's safety.
- Theme of 2025: "Civil Security, Guarantee of Security for the Population"

World Wildlife Day (March 3)

- Objective: To raise awareness about the protection of wild animals and plants.
- The theme of 2025: "Wildlife Conservation Finance: Investing in People and Planet"

World Listening Day (March 3)

- Aim: To create awareness about the prevention of hearing loss and deafness.
- Theme of 2025: "Changing Mindset: Empower Self to Make Ear and Hearing Care a Reality for All"

Jan Aushadhi Diwas (7th March)

- Objective: To promote the use of affordable and quality generic drugs.
- Theme of 2025 : "Daam Kum, Dawai Uttam"

International Women's Day (March 8)

- Purpose: To celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.
- The theme of 2025: "For All Women and Girls: Empowering Rights, Equality"

International Day of Women Judges (10 March)

- Objective: To highlight the contribution of women in the judiciary and to increase the participation of women in judicial roles.
- Important facts: The first woman High Court judge of India was Anna Chandy (1937).

56th Raising Day of CISF (10th March)

- Establishment: 15 March 1969, under an Act of the Indian Parliament.
- Main purpose: To provide security to large public and private institutions in India.

No Smoking Day (March 12, 2025)

- Aim: To acquaint people with the ill effects of smoking and spread awareness.

World Consumer Rights Day (15th March)

- Objective: To make consumers aware of their rights and remind them of the need for their protection.
- The theme of 2025: "A Reasonable Change for Sustainable Lifestyles"

National Vaccination Day (March 16)

- Objective: To highlight the role of public health in the prevention of diseases through vaccination.
- History: The Pulse Polio Immunization Programme was launched on this day in 1995.
- Theme for 2025 : "Vaccines Work For All"

World Sparrow Day (20 March)

- Objective: To promote awareness and conservation of the declining number of sparrows.
- History: It was started in 2010 by the 'Nature Forever' Foundation.
- In 2012, the sparrow was declared the state bird of Delhi.

International Day of Happiness (20 March)

- Purpose: To promote happiness and explain its importance.
- Theme of 2025: "Happiness For All, Forever"
- History: This day was initiated by the United Nations in 2012.

International Day of Forests (21 March)

- Objective: To raise awareness of the importance of forests and encourage global forest conservation efforts.
- Theme of 2025 : "Forests and Food"

World Poetry Day (21 March)

- Aim: To promote peace, inclusion, and cultural dialogue through poetry.
- Theme of 2025: "Poetry as a Bridge to Peace and Inclusion"

World Water Day (22 March)

- Objective: To raise awareness of the water and sanitation crisis and inspire action for solutions.
- Theme of 2025: 'Glacier Conservation'

World Meteorological Day (23 March)

- Objective: To raise awareness about meteorology and its science.
- History: This day is celebrated in memory of the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on 23 March 1950.
- The theme of 2025: "Closing the Early Warning Gap Simultaneously"

Martyrs' Day (March 23)

- Purpose: To commemorate the martyrdom of India's revolutionaries Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar and Shivaram Rajguru.
- They were hanged on March 23, 1931 at the Central Jail in Lahore.

World Tuberculosis Day (24 March)

- Objective: To raise awareness about tuberculosis (TB) and encourage efforts to eradicate it.
- Theme of 2025: "Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver"
- History: The first World TB Day was observed on 24 March 1982 by the WHO.

World Theatre Day (March 27)

- Objective: To recognize and encourage the importance of theatre arts.
- Theme of 2025: "Theatre and a Culture of Peace"

International Zero Waste Day (30 March)

- Objective: To promote the concept of zero waste, with an emphasis on completely eliminating or minimizing waste.
- History: It was recognized by the United Nations General Assembly under a resolution passed on 14 December 2022.

World Glaucoma Week (March 9-15)

- Objective: To raise awareness about glaucoma disease and identify as many patients as possible.

Jan Aushadhi Week (1st to 7th March)

- Objective: To increase public awareness about affordable and quality medicines.
- Event: Under the aegis of Union Ministry of Health and Ministry of Chemicals.
- Speciality of 2025: March 7 will be celebrated as 'Jan Aushadhi Diwas'.

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NCERT OF 11th : INDIAN CONSTITUTION
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