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JULY 2025

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MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS JULY : 2025



Near Riddhi-Siddhi Circle, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur



1. Rajasthan Affairs

Important decisions taken in Rajasthan Cabinet meeting

The Rajasthan Cabinet meeting was held on 14 July 2025 under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma.

Medical Value Travel Policy □ Heal In Rajasthan 2025 (For Mains Exams Also)

The Rajasthan government has approved the □Heal in Rajasthan □ Medical Value Travel Policy 2025 □ on 14 July 2025 in order to develop the state as a major medical tourism center.

Aim: To develop Rajasthan as a trustworthy, accessible, and affordable Medical Value Travel (MVT) destination.

A dedicated cell for Medical Value Travel (MVT) will be set up.

Highlights:

- **Advanced Health Network:** More than 8,000 hospitals, 40+ medical colleges and high-level private hospitals are functioning in the state.
- **Multi-speciality medical services:** Multi-specialty hospitals will provide treatment facilities as per international standards.
- **Incorporation of Traditional Medicine:** The focus will be on health and lifestyle improvement by promoting Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani and Siddha systems of medicine.
- **Technological innovation:** A dedicated cell will be set up that will certify service providers. Additionally, an MVT portal and mobile app will be developed that will provide treatment, facilities and technical information to tourists.

- **Digital services:** Telemedicine, teleconsultation, biotechnology and app-based diagnostic services will be expanded.
- **Language assistance:** Multilingual helpline services will be started for domestic and foreign tourists.
- **Formation of committees:** An executive committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and a technical committee headed by the Medical Education Secretary will be constituted for the implementation of the policy.

Advantages:

- Integration of the medical and tourism sector.
- New employment opportunities.
- Increase in the global recognition of the state.
- Boost Investment in the Health Sector.

Township Policy-2024

The "Township Policy-2024" was approved to ensure orderly and inclusive development in the urban areas of the state. Through this policy, better availability of facilities will be ensured while reducing the obstacles in the development of schemes.

Key Provisions:

- In all residential schemes, 7% of the land will be reserved for parks and playgrounds and 8% for convenience areas.
- The development works will be maintained for 5 years or till it is handed over to the Resident Welfare Association, for which 2.5% of the plot will be reserved.
- Special provisions have been kept for mixed land use, group housing, flat housing and integrated schemes.
- A minimum of 5% of the area has been reserved for residential use for workers in industrial schemes.
- The allotment of plots for economically weaker and low-income groups will be done through the local body.
- According to the sector commercial policy of JDA, there will be a system of land acquisition by mutual consent so that sector roads and commercial strips can be developed.
- Provision for rainwater harvesting and waste water recycling has also been included in all the schemes.

Rajasthan City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy-2025

- The state government approved the Rajasthan City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy, 2025 with an aim to encourage a gas-based economy.
- This policy will be effective till 31 March 2029 or until the new policy is implemented.
- This policy will contribute to ensuring access to clean, safe and environment-friendly natural gas in the state and reducing carbon emissions.

Key features

- The CNG and PNG network will be expanded rapidly to smaller cities and towns.
- The procedures for permission, land allotment and approval of gas distribution companies will be simplified and time bound.
- CGD portal will be developed to facilitate these works digitally.

Amendments in Rajasthan Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024

- The state government has approved the amendment in the Integrated Clean Energy Policy-2024.
- It aims to facilitate land allotment to large investors who have signed MoUs for projects of 1000MW or more at the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit.

Amended Provisions

- If the investors register with the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation by depositing the necessary fees, then the revenue department will recommend to set apart (reserve) land for them.
- The land allotment will be phased, with:
 - one-third allocated within three years,
 - another third within 4-6 years, and
 - the final portion within 7-9 years upon fee payment and application.

Millet Nutri Bar Distribution Scheme

- The pilot project was launched on July 15 at Vidyadhar Nagar in Jaipur by the Deputy Chief Minister and Women and Child Development Minister Diya Kumari.
- Jaipur I, Sanganer Rural and Falasia area of Udaipur have been selected for the pilot project.

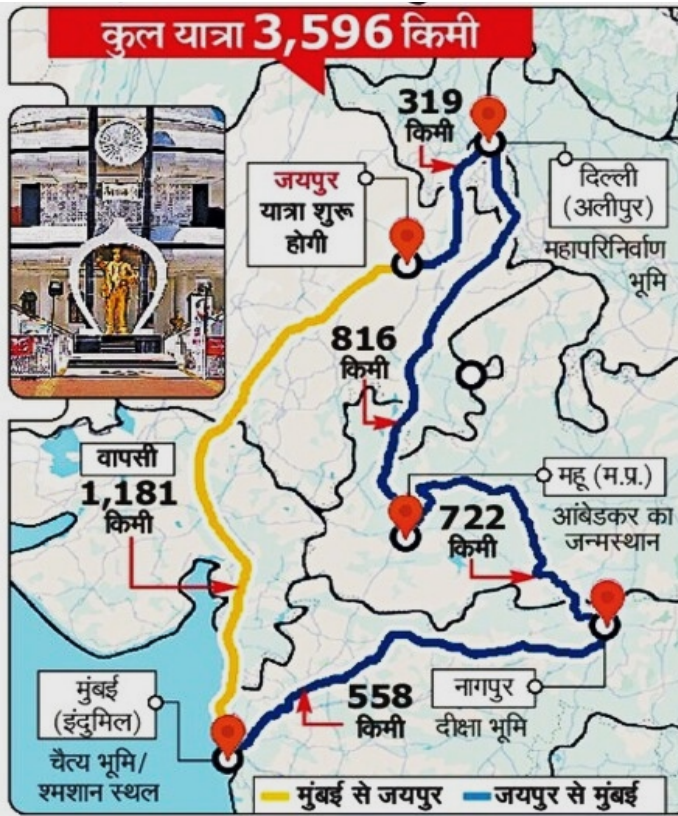
Aim: To provide nutrition to children in the age group of 3 to 6 years.

- This will benefit about 10,000 children at 544 Anganwadi centers in Jaipur and Udaipur districts.
- Under this scheme, each child will be provided a Nutri Bar, weighing 20 grams per day, 5 days a week, for a total of 6 months.
- Nutri Bar contains bio-fortified millets, wheat, peanuts, jaggery and honey. They are rich in calories, protein, calcium, iron and zinc.
- This initiative will improve the nutritional level of children and their stay in Anganwadi centers will also increase.
- This innovation is inspired by the Prime Minister's "Shri Anna Yojana" and is supported by institutions like GIZ, PATH and Harvest Plus.
- If the pilot project is successful, it is planned to be implemented across the state with CSR support.

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Poverty Free Village Scheme

- The Rajasthan government has started this scheme for poverty alleviation.
- In its first phase, 5002 villages have been selected, where 30,631 BPL families have been identified.
- A provision of ₹ 300 crore has been made for financial assistance to these families.
- In this, an incentive of ₹21,000 will be given to the families coming above the poverty line due to their efforts.
- In this, the selected families will also be given a 'Self-Reliant Family Card'.
- Under this, a 'poverty-free village action plan' is being prepared for each village.
- In this scheme, the overall development of villages will be ensured by coordinating government schemes.
- Under this, BPL families will be given assistance of up to ₹ 1 lakh for self-employment.
- Women self-help groups will be provided working capital up to ₹ 15,000 per family.
- Special awards will be given to the best performing districts in this scheme.

Free Travel Scheme to places associated with Dr. Ambedkar



- The Rajasthan government will provide free rail travel to prominent places associated with the life of Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar to the Scheduled Castes on the lines of the Senior Citizen Pilgrimage Scheme.
- Objective:** To make the Dalit people aware of Dr. Ambedkar's biography, struggle and ideology.
- It will benefit only the natives of the Scheduled Caste category of Rajasthan.
- The proposed yatra will cover a total distance of 3,596 km.

5 Major Destinations to Visit

- Mhow (Madhya Pradesh) – Birthplace of Dr. Ambedkar.
- Nagpur (Maharashtra) – Deeksha Bhoomi, where he embraced Buddhism.
- Delhi and Alipore – The place of Mahaparinirvana, where he died.
- Mumbai (Chaitya Bhoomi) – The tomb where he was cremated.
- Indu Mill, Mumbai – It will be developed as the proposed Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial.

Five Year Plan for PNG-CNG Pipeline

- The Rajasthan government will formulate a 5-year action plan for Domestic Piped Natural Gas (DPNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) with an aim to promote green energy.
- The target is to set up DPNG connections to 1.25 lakh households and 89 new CNG stations in 2025.

- For this, a City Gas Distribution (CGD) policy has been issued in Rajasthan.
- Under this policy, there is a provision for the formation of a district-level committee for permission to CGD companies, resolution of district-level problems, and coordination.

Active Tuberculosis Detection Campaign

- More than 74 lakh vulnerable population of the state has been screened so far under the active TB Detection Campaign going on in Rajasthan since June 25, 2025.
- This is about 44% of the population.
- Target: Screening of 1.67 crore sensitive people.
- The campaign will continue till 21st July 2025 in Rajasthan.
- Objective: Early identification of hidden cases of TB and timely free treatment.
- In addition, the identification, treatment and payment of TB patients are being monitored in real time through the Nikshay portal.
- Note:** In 2024, 3,350 gram panchayats of Rajasthan were declared TB-free.
- Rajasthan stood third in the country in this campaign.

'Fit Rajasthan' Campaign on the lines of Fit India

- Under this, playgrounds have been completed in 9,352 gram panchayats.
- 'Fit Rajasthan' was launched on 7 April 2025 to connect the youth of the villages with the mainstream and physically empower them.
- This campaign has been designed on the lines of the central government's 'Fit India' program.
- Sports kits will be sent to all panchayats by the Rajasthan Sports Council. This kit includes a football, basketball, volleyball and related nets.
- Objective: To encourage rural youth to play regularly and lead a healthy and active life.
- 'Youth Clubs' are being formed in every Gram Panchayat.
- The coordination of these clubs has been entrusted to the Village Development Officers.
- At present, youth clubs have been established in all the panchayats of 13 districts.

Financial Inclusion and Social Security Campaign

- The campaign will be conducted from 1st July – 30th September 2025.
- As per the directions of the Department of Financial Services of the Central Government, this campaign is being run across the country.
- Objective:** To ensure access to banking, insurance and pension services up to the Gram Panchayat level.
- At least one special camp will be organized in each Gram Panchayat. (Mainly on Saturdays)

'Stop Diarrhoea' Campaign

- In Rajasthan, a Stop Diarrhoea Campaign is being run across the state from July 1 to August 15, 2025.
- Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar launched this statewide campaign from Jaipur.
- It aims to strengthen the prevention and management of diarrhoeal disease.
- The theme of the campaign is "Diarrhoea Prevention, Cleanliness and ORS".
- Special focus will be given to the following during this campaign:
 - o **Use of clean drinking water**
 - o **Personal & Community Hygiene**
 - o **Public Awareness Activities**
- **Note: 4.1% of** deaths in children under 5 years of age are due to complications associated with diarrhoea.
- During this time, ASHA associates will go door-to-door distributing ORS packets and zinc supplements.
- ORS and Zinc Corners will also be set up in hospitals and Anganwadi centers.

Hariyalo Rajasthan Plantation Mahabhiyan

- The campaign was started by the Rajasthan government on 7 August 2024 from Gahota village in Dudu tehsil of Jaipur district.
- In the year 2025, it has been resolved to plant 10 crore saplings in the state, out of which 50.87 lakh saplings have been planted so far.
- In the year 2024, more than 7 crore saplings were planted under the campaign.

Highlights of the Campaign:

- A target of planting 50 crore saplings has been set in the next 5 years.
- Establishment of a "Mother Forest" in every district, where people can plant saplings in the memory of their loved ones.
- Monitoring of the campaign and encouraging public participation through the 'Mission Hariyalo' mobile application.
- This campaign is being conducted in a coordinated manner with the Prime Minister's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign.

Governing Board for Rajasthan International Centre (RIC)

- The Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur will be managed by a reconstituted Governing Board and Executive Committee.
- This structure will work under the "Rajasthan International Centre Jaipur Society".

Governing Board

- Chairman: Chief Secretary
- 6 Government Members
- 6 Members nominated by the State Government
- RIC Director
- 2 representatives of RIC

"Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (Amendment) Ordinance-2025"

- The ordinance will be brought to upgrade the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS) on the lines of AIIMS New Delhi.
- It aims to establish the Rajasthan Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS).
- It will be located in Jaipur and will function as an autonomous institute.

NREGA Akhar Abhiyan

- The Jaipur district administration launched the 'NREGA Akhar' campaign on 10 July 2025.
- **Objective:** To impart basic literacy to rural NREGA workers.
- This will increase financial understanding and the ability to make signatures, especially among women.

Key Components of the Campaign:

- Basic Education
- Signature Knowledge
- Financial Literacy
- Digital Literacy

"Nikshya Poshan Kit Distribution Campaign"

- Under the TB free campaign in Rajasthan, the "Nikshay Poshan Kit Distribution Campaign" was conducted from 27 to 31 July 2025.
- Its objective is to provide nutritious food to TB patients through public cooperation.
- Under this, nutritional assistance was encouraged by registering new associates on the "Nikshay Mitra" portal.

Saturation Campaign

- It will be held from 1st July to 30th September 2025.
- **Conducted By:** Ministry of Finance (DFS), Government of India.
- This is a nationwide campaign, which is being run in Rajasthan in collaboration with the State Government and Rajasthan Gramin Bank.
- **Objective:** To ensure the reach of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) to every citizen.
- It aims to ensure the reach of these schemes in all Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Urban Bodies (ULBs) in the country.

Person in News

Justice Sriram Kalpati Rajendran sworn in as Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court

- Governor Haribhau Bagde administered the oath of office to Shriram Kalpati Rajendran as the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court at Raj Bhavan on 21 July 2025.
- He replaced outgoing Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Srivastava.
- He is the 43rd Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.
- Rajasthan Chief Justice MM Srivastava has been transferred to the Madras High Court.



Justice Sriram Kalpati Rajendran

- Born in Mumbai (Maharashtra).
- He was appointed as an Additional Judge in the Bombay High Court on June 21, 2013.
- He was appointed as a permanent judge of the Bombay High Court on March 2, 2016.
- On 21 September 2024, he took charge as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

Rajasthan High Court

- It was established on 29 August 1949.
- The first Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court was Kamalkant Verma.
- At the time of its establishment it had 1 Chief Justice and 11 other judges.
- At present, it has 1 Chief Justice and 49 other judges.
- The Chief Justice and Judge are appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Supreme Court collegium.
- **Note:** The notification and warrant of appointment of the Chief Justice issued by the President are read out by the Chief Secretary.
- The tenure of a judge in a High Court is up to the age of 62 years.
- The Chief Justice or other Judges of the High Court are removed in the same manner as the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma

- Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma took oath of office and secrecy as a judge in the Rajasthan High Court on 18 July 2025. He has been transferred from the Punjab and Haryana High Court.
- The Supreme Court Collegium has recommended the elevation of Madras High Court Chief Justice K R Sriram as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.
- He will replace the current Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Srivastava.
- He will become the 43rd Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.

Rajasthan High Court appoints 7 new judges



- The Union Ministry of Law and Justice issued a notification on 22 July 2025 announcing the appointment of seven new judges in the Rajasthan High Court, including 1 woman judicial officer.
- Six judges have been appointed from the lawyers' quota and one judge from the judicial service quota.
- Sandeep Taneja has been appointed as a permanent judge while the other six have been appointed as additional judges.
- With these appointments, the total strength of the High Court will now be 43 judges out of the sanctioned 50 posts.

Newly Appointed Judge

Appointed from the Lawyer Quota

1. Sandeep Taneja
2. Baljinder Singh Sandhu
3. Bipin Gupta
4. Sanjit Purohit
5. Ravi Chirania
6. Anurup Singh

Appointed from Judicial Service Quota

1. Sangeeta Sharma (District Judge Cadre Officer)

Tejashwi Singh Gehlot becomes co-chair of Technical Committee of KIUG 2025

- Rajasthan State Olympic Association (RSOA) President Tejaswi Singh Gehlot was appointed as the co-chair of the Technical Steering Committee of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG 2025).
- This appointment has been made by the Indian Olympic Association for Khelo India related events.
- KIUG 2025 will be held in Jaipur, Rajasthan this year.
- President of Indian Olympic Association: Dr. P.T. Usha.

- He will remain in this post until retirement.
- RALSA provides free legal aid, public awareness, and mediation services to the disadvantaged, vulnerable and needy sections of the society.

Twinkle Purohit crowned Miss Rajasthan 2025



Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma appointed as acting chairman of RALSA

- Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma has been appointed as the acting chairman of Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RALSA).
- He is one of the senior-most judges of the Rajasthan High Court.
- The notification was issued by the Law Department after the approval of the Governor.
- Justice Sharma was appointed to the post in consultation with Chief Justice Sriram Kalpathi Rajendran.

- Twinkle Purohit won the title at the grand finale of 'Miss Rajasthan 2025' held at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur.
- Meenakshi Chhapola was the first runner-up and Rishita Kashiwa was the second runner-up.
- It was the 27th edition of Miss Rajasthan.
- It was organized by Fusion Group in association with Ruvi Digital.
- In addition to the winner category, 28 titles were also given, including titles like Best Walk, Best Skin, Best Smile, Miss Popular, Miss Fashion Diva.

Madan Gopal Vyas

- Former judge Madan Gopal Vyas has been appointed as the chairperson of the Rajasthan Real Estate Appellate Tribunal (RERA Tribunal).
- He will have a tenure of five years or till the age of 67 years, whichever is earlier.
- The appointment has been made under the provisions of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.
- Justice Vyas is a former judge of the Rajasthan High Court.
- The RERA Appellate Tribunal has been constituted to hear appeals against the decisions of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA).

Rohit Kumar appointed as Additional Secretary in NITI Aayog

- Rohit Kumar, a senior IAS officer of the 1997 batch of Rajasthan cadre working in the central government, has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the NITI Aayog.
- At present, he is working as Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat.

Prof. Suresh Kumar Agarwal became the Vice-Chancellor of MDS University, Ajmer

- Governor and Chancellor Haribhau Bagade has appointed Prof. Suresh Kumar Agarwal as Vice-Chancellor of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University (MDSU), Ajmer.
- The appointment has been made in consultation with the state government.
- The tenure of Prof. Agarwal will be 3 years from the date of joining or till the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- Prior to this, he was working as Professor at Central University, Gujarat.

Aastha Mathur joins BCCI's Match Referee Panel

- Aastha Mathur has become the second woman from Rajasthan to be included in the BCCI's match referee panel.
- Aastha secured the 5th position in the match referee exam by the BCCI.
- Earlier, former Rajasthan cricketer Meenakshi Bansal has also made a place in the BCCI's match referee panel. He has been on this panel since 2018.
- BCCI Full Form: Board of Control for Cricket in India

Professor Yogesh Joshi discovers new species of fungus in Himalayas

- Professor Yogesh Joshi of the Department of Botany, University of Rajasthan, discovered four new species of fungus from the Himalayan regions.
- One of these fungi has been found in Gamsari village of Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.
- The fungus has been named 'Polycocum rhinoidinae variety galligenum' — first detected globally and found only in India.
- Other Discovered Species:
 - Polycocum negrosporum
 - Polycocum reinodinae (Chamoli)
 - Polycocum rubilliane (Pithoragarh)
- The study was published in the international journal 'Taiwania' in June 2025.

Arjun Singh Shekhawat passes away

- Litterateur Arjun Singh Shekhawat passed away on 18 July 2025.
- He was a resident of Bhadratalu village in Pali district.
- He was fighting for constitutional recognition for the Rajasthani language (Mayad language).
- He was awarded the Padma Shri by the President of India in the year 2021 for his literary works and work for tribal society.

Place in News

Huge deposits of rare earth minerals found in Balotra

- A large reserve of rare earth elements has been identified in the Bhati Khera area of Siwana tehsil of Balotra district of Rajasthan.
- This information came out in a joint survey of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and the Directorate of Atomic Minerals (AMD).
- Rare earth elements have been identified in granite hard rock located in Bhati Khera block.
- This will be the first area in India where rare minerals will be mined from hard rock.

- The rhyolite rocks found here are useful in the manufacture of electronics, defense, green energy, high-power magnets, aerospace and other advanced equipment.
- Currently, about 90% of the world's rare earth elements are produced in China. They contain 17 rare elements.
- Their excavation in Rajasthan can not only reduce China's dependency but also supply them globally.
- The survey work in Bhati Khera area is almost complete and the auction process of mining lease will be started soon.

- The central government grants mining rights on lease to private companies or state agencies for these rare minerals.

World's first international tiger museum

- Union Forest Minister Bhupender Yadav has announced that the world's first international tiger museum **will be built in Alwar, Rajasthan**.
- The museum will be set up near the proposed zoo in the Katighati area.
- This will give tourists an opportunity to visit Sariska, the zoo and the tiger museum simultaneously.
- The museum will display information, exhibitions and artifacts related to tigers.
- These will depict the anatomy, behaviour, habitat and conservation needs of tigers.

Rajasthan to have developed interstate corridor for cheetahs in 7 districts

- The Cheetah Corridor, which extends from Kuno to Gandhi Sagar in Madhya Pradesh, will be connected to 7 districts of Rajasthan .
- The corridor will be spread over an area of about 17,000 sq km, of which about 6,500 sq km will be in Rajasthan.
- In Rajasthan, the corridor **will pass through the districts of Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli and Chittorgarh (including Rawatbhata)**.
- It will also cover an area of about 450 square kilometers of the Hadoti region .
- An MoU has been signed between the Government of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for this project.
- Under the action plan prepared by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), some areas of Uttar Pradesh will also be added to it.
- Special enclosures are being built at Shergarh and Bhainsrodgarh to create the necessary prey-base for the cheetahs.

Shri Krishna Path Gaman will include Kailadevi Temple

- Kailadevi temple of Karauli to be included in Shri Krishna Gaman Path Scheme
- It will be the only Devi temple in Rajasthan that will be added to it.
- **Note:** Mata Kailadevi is considered to be the sister of Shri Krishna. It is mentioned in the 65th chapter of Skanda Purana .
- Temples of Madanmohanji in Karauli city, Jagdishji Maharaj in Kaimri will also be connected to this religious circuit.

Krishna Gaman Path

- Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma announced the construction of 'Shri Krishna Gaman Path' on August 26, 2024.

- Through this, Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, will be connected to his place of education Ujjain.
- This religious circuit will be built jointly by the Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh governments.
- This path will be about 800 km long.
- Out of this, about 500 km will pass through 6 districts of Rajasthan (Bharatpur, Deeg, Karauli, Bundi, Kota, Jhalawar).

Rajasthan's first Snake Park

- The state's first snake park has been developed near the herbal park located on Bundi Road in Kota.
- The park, approved by the Central Zoo Authority (CZZA), will house 29 species of snakes, including Indian, American, Australian, etc.
- There are 29 special chambers in the two-storey building, in which snakes will be kept according to their environment.
- In this park, students of medical and reptile science will be able to do research. There will be studies on snake venom and anti-venom. Laboratory and other research facilities have also been developed.

IIT Jodhpur: North India's first Green Hydrogen Cluster

- The cluster will be set up at IIT Jodhpur at a cost of about Rs 205 crore on a PPP model.
- It is being developed by the JHV Innovation Foundation, sponsored by IIT.
- 350 T/year of hydrogen will be produced from wastewater and 15 T/year from biomass.
- Solar energy and alkaline water electrolyzers will be used for hydrogen production.
- It will be used in transportation, ammonia production and city gas networks.
- The cost of production is estimated at \$1 to \$3 per kilogram.
- This will create more than 60,000 employment opportunities by 2030.
- This will be India's fourth green hydrogen cluster—the other three: Pune, Kerala, and Bhubaneswar.
- The project was finalised at the 'Rising Rajasthan Summit' under an MoU between the Rajasthan government and IIT Jodhpur.

Barmer: World's second largest polymer injection project

- A new project will be launched to increase oil production in Barmer-Sanchore basin of Rajasthan.
- Under this, Cairn Oil & Gas (Vedanta Group) is going to implement the world's second largest alkaline-surfactant-polymer (ASP) injection scheme.

- Under this, more than 200 new wells will be drilled and it will be possible to increase crude oil production by up to 1.5 times with ASP injection .
- The next phase of the project will commence from Mangla field in August 2025.
- **Note:** The Mangala pipeline of Barmer is one of the longest pipeline in the world with continuous heating and insulating access. It transports crude oil from Rajasthan to its refineries in Gujarat.

'NaMo Toy Bank' to be set up in Kota

- On the initiative of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, 'Namo Toy Bank' will be set up in Kota.
- Objective: **To provide smiles and resources to underprivileged and needy children.**

Key features:

- » The bank will be operated by children.
- » The students of the school will collect toys.
- » The toys will be sorted, cleaned and repaired followed by distribution.
- » This initiative will inculcate qualities like service, leadership and sensitivity in children.

First Science Centre inaugurated in Dholpur

- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the first Science Centre in Aspirational Districts at Dholpur in **Rajasthan**.
- The centre has been set up with an aim to encourage scientific temper, innovation and curiosity among the local youth.
- It has been developed in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology, National Institute of Immunology and National Science Centre.
- The project is part of the National Scheme for Setting up of Science Museums in Aspirational Districts.
- It has interactive exhibitions, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education modules, and a platform for innovators.

In the first phase, Girls Military Schools will be opened in five divisions

- In the first phase, military schools for girls will be opened in five divisions — Kota, Jaipur, Bikaner, Bharatpur and Ajmer.
- First of all, a girls' military school will be set up in Jaimalsar village of Bikaner.
- The state government planned to open Balika Sainik Schools at the division level with the aim of preparing girls for the military sector.
- These Sainik Schools will be started in a residential format, where all facilities including boarding, lodging and military training will be provided free of cost.

- Classes from class 6 to 12 will be conducted and the girls will be trained as mentally and physically as soldiers in the institutes.
- An Army officer will play the role of Principal in each girls' military school.
- The administrative control of these schools will be under the education department.

Bikaner: Country's first Government Sainik Girls School

- The school is located in **Jaimalsar**, Bikaner, which is about 150 km from the Indo-Pak border .
- The school was inaugurated by Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and State Education Minister Madan Dilawar.
- It was donated 30 acres of land and building worth Rs 108 crore by industrialist Poonamchand Rath .
- It is a fully residential school.
- In its first year, 80 students will get admission for classes 6 to 8.
- It will be operated on the lines of Sainik School Chittorgarh.
- The principal and hostel warden will be retired army officers.

Chomp Stadium: India's second and world's third largest stadium

- The stadium is being developed on the Jaipur-Delhi bypass, about 30 km from Chomp village, Jaipur.
- This stadium will be built in an area of 100 acres.
- The stadium will have 11 cricket pitches, two practice grounds, a cricket academy, hostels, parking, sports club, hotel and gym facilities.
- The stadium is proposed to have a capacity of 75,000.
 - 40,000 seats in the first phase
 - The total capacity will be increased to 75,000 in the second phase
- The stadium will be named Anil Agarwal International Cricket Stadium.
- **Note:** Hindustan Zinc Limited had signed a ₹300 crore deal with RCA for the first phase .
- The largest cricket stadium in the world is Motera Stadium, Ahmedabad (Gujarat). (Viewer capacity 1.10 lakh)
- The second largest cricket stadium in the world is the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) in Australia. (Viewer capacity 1 lakh)

For the first time in the country, artificial rain will be induced in Ramgarh dam by drones.

- For the first time, cloud seeding has been planned through drones to fill the Ramgarh dam in Jaipur.
- This is the first time in the country that drones and AI technology are being used for artificial rain.

- In the past, airplanes have been commonly used in such technologies.
- This technology will be launched as a pilot project in the month of August.
- The data of the entire experiment will be recorded and if successful, artificial rain will be done for 1 month.
- **Note:** For the first time in the country, cloud seeding was done in 1951 by the Tata firm on the Western Ghats of Kerala.

1st Squadron receives 3 Apache Guardian helicopters in Jodhpur

- The helicopter AH-64 E Apache will be stationed at the Squadron Jodhpur Military Station.
- The squadron will consist of six helicopters, out of which three will be deployed in July 2025. The second batch of the remaining 3 helicopters will arrive by the end of the year.
- The Army Aviation Corps raised the first Apache squadron in Jodhpur in March 2024.
- It will also have the indigenous Rudra attack helicopter, considered to be the deadliest of the ground battle with the Apache.
- Both of them will strengthen the Western Front adjacent to Pakistan in ground attack with air cavalry i.e. tanks and cannons.
- At present, the Indian Air Force has 22 Apache attack helicopters, which are deployed on the Pakistan and China front.

AH-64 E Apache

- The Apache helicopter is a state-of-the-art helicopter manufactured by the American company Boeing.

Features:

- Armed 30 mm automatic chain gun, capable of firing 625 rounds per minute.
- Maximum speed 365 km/h, flight range 480 km.
- Specially designed for reconnaissance, ground attack, and anti-tank operations.
- Ability to operate in all weather and time (day/night).
- Air-to-air and air-to-ground firepower.

Kargil Shaurya Vatika

- 'Kargil Shaurya Vatika' will be built in the premises of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.
- This garden will be dedicated to the valour of the soldiers who were martyred in the Kargil war.
- Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani will inaugurate the event by planting 1100 saplings and vermilion saplings on the occasion of Hariyali Amavasya.

- The following plants will be planted in this garden:
 1. Sindoor
 2. Erica Palm
 3. Song of India
 4. Kisna Ficus
 5. Croton

Proposal to have air services in 5 cities of Rajasthan

- The Rajasthan government has sent a proposal to the central government for air tourism in five cities of Mount Abu, Sikar, Sawai Madhopur, Bhilwara and Sriganganagar.
- This includes possibilities of introduction of helicopter tourism, joy rides and seaplane services.
- Apart from this, there is also the possibility of seaplane services due to water bodies in areas like Udaipur, Kota (Chambal), Banswara and Tonk (Bisalpur) of Rajasthan.
- Minister of State for Civil Aviation: Gautam Kumar Dak

Jaipur to host Miss Universe India 2026-27

- Miss Universe India 2026-2027 will be held in Jaipur.
- It will be held in joint partnership with Bharat 24 and Glamananda Entertainment.
- As part of this partnership, Dr. Jagdish Chandra, Chairman, Bharat 24, has been appointed as the CEO of Miss Universe India Fashion Vertical.

Proposal to declare Siliserh Lake as Ramsar Site

- Union Minister of Forests and Alwar MP Shri Bhupender Yadav proposed to declare Lake Siliserh Alwar as a Ramsar site at the Ramsar COP-15 conference (Zimbabwe).
- If the proposal is approved, the lake will be recognized as a wetland at the international level.
- India currently has 91 Ramsar sites, the highest in Asia.
- **Note:** Recently Rajasthan's Khichan (Phalodi) and Menar (Udaipur) lakes have also been declared as Ramsar sites.

Rajasthan's first Mineral Garden

- This garden is being developed in Bamaniawas village under Bassi Jajhra Gram Panchayat of Jobner tehsil of Jaipur district.
- It is being developed on 11 hectares of pasture land.
- It will be developed by Rajasthan Small Mines Cheja Patthar Lease Holder Association and Rajasthan Stone Crusher Association.
- Under the scheme, this land will be developed and protected by the above organizations for the next seven years, after which it will be handed over to the local panchayat.

- This will be the first mineral garden to be developed by any organization involved in the mining sector in the state.

Rajasthan 's first Vande Bharat Maintenance Depot

- Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat trains maintenance depot is being developed in Khatipura, Jaipur.

- Eight rail lines of 600–800 m length are being laid in this depot, where modern machinery related to mechanical, electrical and civil engineering will be deployed.

- Apart from Vande Bharat, mail/express trains will also be maintained here.

Awards & Honours

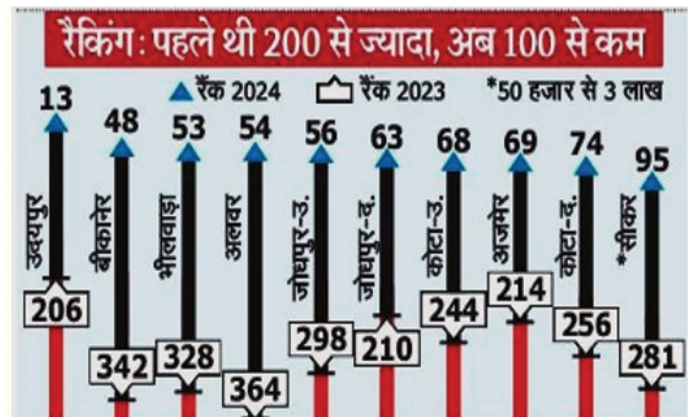
Rajasthan's performance in Cleanliness Survey 2024-25



- Indore has been adjudged India's cleanest city for the eighth time in a row.
- Jaipur Greater: 16th rank (last time 173rd) (first in Rajasthan)
- Jaipur Heritage: 20th rank (last time 171st)
- Jaipur Greater got the recognition of Water Plus, Heritage got the recognition of ODF Plus Plus.

Super Clean League – Small City category (population 20-50 thousand):

- Dungarpur: First place in the country
- Dungarpur in Rajasthan was also awarded in the category of 20-50 thousand population among the 23 Super Swachh League cities.
- Note: Dungarpur has been awarded the Swachhta Award for the fifth time.
- Jaipur Greater received the Rajasthan State's Promising Clean City Award.
- Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Urban Development and Local Self Government, Rajasthan, Shri Jhabar Singh Kharra received these awards.
- Ranking of other cities (3 lakh to 10 lakh population):
 - o Udaipur: 13th
 - o Bikaner: 48th
 - o Jodhpur North: 56th
 - o Jodhpur South: 63rd



- Rajasthan's Bundi ranks third among cities with a population of less than 20,000.
- As many as 240 urban bodies of Rajasthan participated, most of which performed better than last time.
- The number of ODF Plus cities of Rajasthan increased from 17 to 38.
- Four cities of Rajasthan, Udaipur, Rajkheda, Jaipur Greater and Heritage were awarded a three-star rating for garbage free city.
- Under the AMRUT scheme, Delawas Sewerage Treatment Plant of Jaipur was selected among the best practices in the Urban Ministerial Conference.

Important Facts

- In the Cleanliness Survey 2024-25, Indore has won the title of the cleanest city for the eighth time.
- This time, 23 cities were included in the new 'Super Clean League' launched for exceptional performance.
- Among cities with more than 10 lakh population, Surat was second and Navi Mumbai third.
- In the 'cleanest city' category, Ahmedabad topped the list of cities with more than one million population. Bhopal was second and Lucknow third.

Rajasthan gets national award in 'One District One Product'

- The 2024 National 'One District One Product' (ODOP) award ceremony was held at Bharat Mandapam.

- Rajasthan was awarded the 'Bronze Shield' at the national level for its outstanding performance under the 'One District One Product' scheme.
- The award was given in the state category.
- The award was received by Joint Commissioner P.N. Sharma on behalf of Rajasthan.

Suhani Shah wins 'Best Magic Creator' award

- India's renowned mentalist and sorceress Suhani Shah was awarded the 'Best Magic Creator' at the World Championship of Magic (FISM 2025) held in Italy.
- This global competition is also known as the "Magic Olympics".
- A new category for online content creators was introduced this year by FISM (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques).
- In this, artists who have taken magic to new heights on digital platforms were honored.
- Suhani Shah won the 'Best Online Content Creator' award in this new category.

Suhani Shah

- Born: 29 January 1990, Udaipur, Rajasthan
- First stage performance: 1997, at Thakor Bhai Desai Hall in Ahmedabad, just 7 years old.
- Suhani is a Mind Reader, Corporate Trainer, and Life Coach.
- The All India Magic Association has given her the title of 'Magic Angel'.

Shahpura Haveli wins Gold Award in Heritage Conservation

- Shahpura Haveli was awarded the Gold Award in the Sustainable Leadership – Heritage Conservation category at the "Tourism State Awards" ceremony organized by the Rajasthan Tourism Department.
- The award was presented to Adhiraj Shahpura by Tourism Principal Secretary Rajesh Yadav and Tourism Commissioner Rukmani Riar.

Dr. Dheeraj Singh to receive National Agricultural Scientist Award 2025

- Dr. Dheeraj Singh, Principal Scientist of CAZRI and Head of Integrated Farming Systems Division, was awarded the National Agricultural Scientist Award 2025.
- The award was presented at a function held on the occasion of the 97th Foundation Day of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR): Dr. Mangilal Jat.

Star Rating Awarded to Mining Companies

- Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy and Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma felicitated mining companies in Jaipur.
- Based on the performance of the year 2023-24, 98 mining companies of the country were honored.
- Out of these, 3 companies were given 7-star rating and 95 companies were given 5-star rating.
- 9 mines of Rajasthan were given 5-star rating in the evaluation.

Star Rating Scheme

- This scheme was launched by the Central Government in the year 2014-15.
- Objective: To create a competitive, responsible and sustainable environment in the mining sector.
- Social, economic and environmental balance is given priority under this scheme.
- Every year, mining companies are evaluated on the basis of their annual performance.

2 MPs from Rajasthan to receive Sansad Ratna Award 2025

- Two MPs from Rajasthan, Madan Rathore (Rajya Sabha MP and BJP State President) and Pali MP P.P. Chaudhary were honoured on 27 July 2025 for their influential contribution to Parliament this year.
- 17 MPs and 2 Parliamentary Standing Committees were selected for the Sansad Ratna Award 2025.
- The selection was made by a jury committee headed by National Commission for Backward Classes Chairman Hansraj Ahir.
- These awards were instituted by the Prime Point Foundation in 2010.
- The MPs were evaluated on parameters such as attendance in Parliament, participation in debates, number of questions asked, and raising important issues.

Amrita Devi Bishnoi Memorial Award for Environmentalist

- Dr. Gaurishankar Sharma and Govind Bhardwaj were honored with 'Amrita Devi Bishnoi Memorial Award'.
- Dr. Gaurishankar Sharma has been active in wildlife care for the last 20 years and has reared 180 Nilgai cubs till date.
- Govind Bhardwaj has saved the lives of 3,267 nilgais, more than 3,000 peacocks, 300 monkeys, and 800+ birds.

Agreements/MoUs

MoU between Department of Social Justice & Empowerment and NIC

- An important agreement was signed between the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment of Rajasthan and the National Informatics Centre (NIC) on 15 July 2025.
- Objective: To provide information about various schemes of the department through the unified portal.
- Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment: Shri Avinash Gehlot

MoU for Technical Cooperation between Laghu Udyog Bharati and CSIR

- An agreement has been signed between Laghu Udyog Bharati and CSIR to reduce dependence on imports in Rajasthan.
- Under this, foreign quality products will be tested in CSIR.
- After successful trials in collaboration with CSIR, the products will be manufactured in Rajasthan itself.
- The entrepreneurs of the state will be able to use the facilities of CSIR-CEERI through Laghu Udyog Bharti.

MoU between RAJFED-NCEL

- The agreement between Rajasthan State Cooperative Federation Limited (RAJFED) and National Cooperative Export Limited (NCEL) was signed on 14 July 2025.
- This will give the cooperatives of the state access to the international market and they will get an opportunity to work in the export sector.

Background:

- The Central Government has constituted 3 Multi-State Co-operative Societies at the national level.
- RAJFED has been designated as the nodal agency of the state for these committees.
- Earlier, Rajfed had signed MoUs with Indian Seed Cooperative Society and National Cooperative Organics Limited.

MoU by RAJFED for Seed quality

- Rajasthan State Purchase and Sale Cooperative Federation (RAJFED) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Seed Cooperative Society of India and National Cooperative Organics on 9th July 2025.
- Objective: To provide high quality seeds to farmers, promote marketing of organic produce and increase market access for farmer groups.

MoU between RUHS and Koita Foundation for Digital Health Education

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS), Jaipur, and Mumbai-based Koita Foundation on 24th July 2025 to launch the Digital Health Foundation Course (DHFC).
- The objective of this course is to educate medical students and health workers on digital technologies and train them for their effective use.
- The Digital Health Foundation Course covers the following topics:
 - o Health Information System
 - o Electronic Medical Records (EMRs)
 - o Telemedicine
 - o Public Health Informatics
 - o Personal Health Technology
 - o Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Sports

Martand Raina: First footballer from Rajasthan to play for East Bengal

- Martand Raina has become the first footballer from Rajasthan to join Indian Super League (ISL) giants East Bengal FC.
- He has previously played as a midfielder in Rajasthan United FC.
- East Bengal have signed him for three years under a deal worth ₹1 crore.

Uma Chaudhary won gold medal in javelin throw

- Rajasthan Uma Chaudhary (CISF Head Constable) won the gold medal in the javelin throw event at the World Police and Fire Games 2025.
- The international competition was held in Birmingham from June 30 to July 6.
- Uma Chaudhary is posted at Jodhpur Airport.
- The CISF team won a total of 64 medals in this competition.

Srikrishna Verma wins gold medal in International Boxing

- Srikrishna Verma won the gold medal in the under-16 category of boxing at the Indo-Nepal International School Sports Championship 2025.
- It was his first international competition. Prior to this, he has won gold medals twice at the national level.

Indian Open Para Athletics

- It was held on 11-12 July 2025 at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.
- **Organizer:** Organized by the Paralympic Committee of India.
- Its players from Rajasthan won a total of 21 medals.
- It includes 5 gold, 6 silver and 10 bronze medals.

Gold Medal Winners:

1. **Dr. Jagveer Singh:** T53 Category, 5000m Wheelchair Race
2. Also won 2 bronze medals: 800m and 100m wheelchair races
3. Sundar Singh Gurjar (F46 category, javelin throw)
4. Khushboo Gill (F20 Category, Shot Put)
5. Mahendra Gurjar (F42 category, javelin throw)
6. Praveen (F46 category, shot put)

Silver medalist:

1. Priyanka (F37 Discus Throw)
2. Sunil Kumar Sahu (T38 Long Jump)
3. Suman (F44 Shot put)
4. Sandeep Chaudhary (F44 Category, Javelin Throw)
5. Arjun Jangid (T46 Category, Long Jump)
6. Sunil Sahu (T38 category, 400m race)

Bronze Medal Winners:

1. Janak Singh Harshana (F11 Discus Throw)
2. Durga Gehlot (F32 Club Throw)
3. Sunetra (T35 200m race)
4. Biography (F42 Shot Put)
5. Thakraram Meghwal (T42 100m race)
6. Bunt Jangid (T44 Category, High Jump)
7. Jagvir Singh (T53 Category, 100m Wheelchair Race)
8. Vikram Meena (T46 Category, 1500m Race)

- In this, Rajasthan's Mahendra Gurjar won the gold medal in the para javelin throw, breaking his own world record twice in the F42 category.
- Mahendra is the third athlete from Rajasthan after Devendra Jhajharia and Sundar Gurjar to set a world record in this event.
- They hail from Sakhoon village in Dudu tehsil of Jaipur district.

Asian Judo Cup: Tania Rathore wins gold, Babnoor wins bronze

- Tania Rathore of Rajasthan won the gold medal in the 40kg category in the cadet category at the Cadet and Junior Asian Judo Cup held in Chinese Taipei.
- She achieved this feat by defeating Taipei's Bu Rui Yun.
- At the same time, in the over 90 kg weight category, Babnoor Singh Brar won the bronze medal by defeating Kim Kyu Nazmin of South Korea.
- Both the players also won gold medals for Rajasthan in the Khelo India Youth Games (Bihar).

Pro Kabaddi Season 12: Phase 2 to be held in Jaipur

- The Pro Kabaddi League Season 12 will begin on August 29, 2025.
- Its second phase will be held in Jaipur from September 14.

- Rajasthan's Jaipur Pink Panthers team was the champion of the first season. Apart from this, it was also a winner in Season 9.
- **Winner of Pro Kabaddi Season 11:** Haryana Steelers.
- President of Rajasthan Kabaddi Association: Tejashwi Singh Gehlot

Players from Rajasthan (Season 12)

1. Sachin Tanwar – Puneri Paltan (Rajasthan's most expensive player)
2. Jai Bhagwan – Telugu Titans
3. Mahipal – Bengaluru Bulls
4. Lokesh Ghosliya – U Mumba
5. Manjeet – Bengal Warriors
6. Gangaram – UP Yoddha
7. Nitin – Jaipur Pink Panthers
8. Rohit Beniwal – Tamil Thalaivas

National Fencing Championship: Rajasthan's Shahnoor wins gold medal

- Rajasthan's Shahnoor Ali won the gold medal in the Mini (U-12) National Fencing Competition held in Nashik (Maharashtra).
- She defeated Kerala's Sarli Sagar Lagoo 10-7 in the final of the sabre event .
- President of Rajasthan Fencing Association: Gauhar F.K. Suri.

Asia Cup Wushu 2025: 3 Rajasthan players win medals

- Players from Rajasthan won 3 medals in the Asia Cup Wushu competition held in Jilin, China from 2nd to 7th July.
 1. Mehak Sharma (75kg) – Silver Medal
 2. Jahn timer Mehra (56kg) – Bronze Medal
 3. Nitika Bansal (65kg) – Bronze Medal

Asian Youth Games 2025: 5 players from Rajasthan selected

- On the basis of their outstanding performance in the National Muay Thai Championship, Rohtak (Haryana), 5 players from Rajasthan have been selected for the Asian Youth Games (Bahrain, October 2025).
 1. Mudit Gupta (Jaipur)
 2. Vidhi Sharma (Jaipur)
 3. Mohini Samaria (Jaipur)
 4. Dinesh (Sriganganagar)
 5. Harshita (Jalore)

Pawan Kumawat selected in Indian team for World Strength Lifting Tournament

- Rajasthan's Pawan Kumawat (Jaipur) has been selected in the Indian team for the World Strength Lifting Tournament to be held in Thailand from July 16 to 19.

- He will represent India in the 76 kg weight category at the prestigious meet .
- Pawan also won a medal in the Senior Strength Lifting Championship held in Haryana recently.

Squash: Gauravi Ajmera wins title at Eastern Challenger

- 9-year-old squash player Gauravi Ajmera (Jaipur) from Rajasthan won the girls' under-11 category title at the Eastern Challenger 2025 Championship held in Kolkata.
- She defeated Anshika Kumari 11-6, 11-8, 12-10 in the final.
- In this competition, Yuvaan Verma of Jaipur secured the fourth position in the boys under-11 category.

Gauravi Ajmera wins squash tournament title

- Jaipur: Young squash player Gauravi Ajmera of Jaipur won the Under-9 mixed category title in the Telangana Squash Open tournament.
- The competition was held at the Secunderabad Club in Hyderabad.
- In its final, Gauravi defeated Abir Ruperia in straight sets 11-8, 11-5, 11-6.

Three Rajasthan players selected for Wushu Asia Cup

- The Asia Cup Wushu competition will be held in Jilin, China.
- Three Rajasthani women players will participate from India.
 1. Jahn timer Mehra – 56kg
 2. Nitika Bansal – 65kg
 3. Mehak Sharma – 75 kg
- Jahn timer and Nitika won bronze medals at the 10th Asian Wushu Championship held in Macau in 2024.
- President of Rajasthan Wushu Association: Hiranand Kataria.

Ashwini Bishnoi wins gold medal for the third time at Asian Wrestling Championships

- Rajasthan Ashwini Bishnoi (17-years) has won a gold medal at the Sub-Junior Asian Wrestling Championships held in Vietnam. .
- Ashwini has become the first woman wrestler from Rajasthan to win a gold medal in the Asian Sub-Junior Championship for three consecutive times.
- She achieved this feat by defeating the Chinese wrestler in the final match.
- He also received a gold medal in the clay event of the same championship.
- He also won gold in the under-15 category in Jordan, Amman in 2023 and in the under-17 category in 2024.

Under-18 Youth National Kabaddi Championship – Rajasthan won silver medal

- Rajasthan's girls team won the silver medal in the first Under-18 National Championship held in Haridwar, Uttarakhand.
- Rajasthan defeated the Haryana team in the final.
- **Rajasthan Girls Team:** Nikita, Lakshita, Akshita, Palak, Krishna, Jyoti, Aaina, Monika, Khushboo, Manisha, Mona, Tina, Nirmala and Jyoti Rawat.
- President of Rajasthan Kabaddi Association: Tejashwi Singh Gehlot.

World Police Games: Kachnar Chaudhary, Dilip Kumar win gold medals

- Sub-Inspector Kachnar Chaudhary of Rajasthan Police and Dilip Kumar Malav of Central Reserve Police Force won gold medals in the ongoing World Police Games in the USA.
- The World Police Games are being organized in Birmingham, Alabama, from June 27 to July 7.
- Kachnar has also won a silver medal in discus throw . In this way, he won 2 medals in the World Police Games.
- A total of 10 players were selected from Rajasthan Police for these games .
- Dilip Kumar Malav of Jhalawar won the gold medal in karate.

Krishan Sharma wins gold medal at World Police Games

- In the World Police and Fire Games 2025 held in Birmingham (USA), Rajasthan Police Sub Inspector Krishan Sharma won the gold medal in boxing.
- Krishan Sharma won the gold medal by defeating a Mongolian boxer.

Chhagan Lal Meena won the gold medal in the World Police and Fire Games

- Rajasthan Police Head Constable Chhagan Lal Meena won the gold medal in the 77 kg weight category at the World Police and Fire Games 2025 (USA).

Shyam Sundar wins silver medal in Asian Para Archery in team event

- India's compound team won the silver medal at the Asian Para Archery Championships held in Beijing.
- The team consisted of Shyam Sundar Swami and Rakesh Kumar, archers from Bikaner (Rajasthan).
- In the final match, the Indian team lost 156-157 in a hard-fought match against host China.

Rajasthan gets 3rd position in National Junior Wushu Championship

- The Rajasthan team won 20 medals in the 24th Junior National Wushu Competition (Boys and Girls) held from 1 to 6 July 2025 at Gachibowli Stadium, Hyderabad.
- It includes 07 Gold, 09 Silver and 04 Bronze.
- On the basis of performance, Rajasthan finished third in the overall team championship.
- In the boys' category, Rajasthan stood second with 2 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal.

32nd Asian Junior Individual Squash Championship 2025

- India achieved the most successful team status by winning a total of 7 medals (2 gold, 2 silver, 3 bronze) in the competition held at Jim Seihong-si, South Korea.
- Indian Team Coach: Surabhi Mishra (Jaipur)

Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1. Aryaveer Dewan (U-17 Boys)	1. Ayan Dhanuka (U-13 Boys)	1. Anika Dubey (Girls U-17)
2. Anahat Singh (U-19 Girls)	2. Sanvi Kalanki (U-15 Girls)	2. Aryaman Singh (Boys U-15)
		3. Amarya Bajaj (Boys U-13)

- In this, 3 players from Rajasthan Divyanshi Jain, Prabha Bajoria, and Subhash Chaudhary participated. However, they failed to win medals.

Rajasthan players win 8 medals in Moscow Star Wushu Championship

- Rajasthan's Wushu player Vihanraj won the gold medal in the Moscow Star Wushu Championship held in Moscow.
- In addition, 4 players from Rajasthan won silver and 4 players won bronze medals. Players from Rajasthan won a total of 8 medals in this championship.
- Gold Medal: Vihanraj Saxena (45kg).
- Silver medals: Sunil (65kg), Tanvi Dadhich (39kg), Neelam Chaudhary (long weapon), Rishabh Parihar (traditional event).
- Bronze medals: Neelam Chaudhary (Traditional Nonquan), Chhabi Chaudhary (75kg), Amit Chaudhary (90kg).
- Jaipur's Neelam Chaudhary won a total of 2 medals, including 1 silver and 1 bronze, at the 2025 Wushu World Championships (Russia).
- President of Rajasthan Wushu Association: Hiranand Kataria

Three Rajasthan women players selected in Indian women's basketball team

- Rajasthan's Maanvi Srivastava, Sonal Mahla and Yashika Singh have been selected in the Indian women's basketball team.
- All three players will participate in the World University Games 2025 to be held in Germany.

Rajasthan players win 3 medals in Wushu Asian Cup

- In the Wushu Sanda Asian Cup 2025 held in Jilin city of China, 3 women players from Rajasthan won medals.

Name	Medal
Mehak Sharma (Bundi)	Silver
Nikita Bansal (Sriganganagar)	Bronze
Janhvi Meena (Jaipur)	Bronze

- Note: Mehak Sharma won gold medals in National Games, Khelo India, and All India University Meet National competitions this year.

Tanishq Pareek selected for World University Games

- Tanishq Pareek, a student of Rajasthan University, has been selected in the Indian team.
- He will participate in the World University Games to be held in Germany from July 16 to 27.
- Tanishq will represent India in the Taekwondo (Poomsae Individual) event.
- Earlier, she had won a bronze medal at the All India University Games.

All India IPSC Chess Competition

- In the Under-19 All India IPSC Chess Competition held in Indore, players from Rajasthan won 2 medals.
 - **Gold medal:** Ashi Upadhyay (rating 1784).
 - **Silver medal:** Nandini Sharma (rating 1474).

51st Junior National Swimming Championship

- It will be held from 3-8 August 2025 at the Narayanpura Sports Complex in Ahmedabad.
- A 17-member team from Rajasthan will participate in it.
- The team consists of 4 players from Boys Group-1, 3 from Group-2, 6 from Girls Group-1 and 4 players from Group-2.
- Players from Rajasthan will participate in a total of 20 events.
- In the competition held in Bhubaneswar last year, the Rajasthan team won a total of 10 medals, including 1 gold, 4 silver and 5 bronze.
- President of Rajasthan Swimming Association: Anil Vyas.

Mohini Singh – Selected in Indian Shooting Team

- Rajasthan's Mohini Singh has recently joined the Indian shooting team.
- Mohini will now represent India at the Asian Shooting Championships (Kazakhstan) and World Cup 2025 (New Delhi).

5 players from Rajasthan selected in Shooting World Cup 2025

- It will be held in China in September 2025.
- In this, 5 shooters from Rajasthan will represent India:

Player	Competition
Divyansh Singh Panwar	10m Air Rifle, Mixed Team
Amit Sharma	10m Air Pistol, Mixed Team
Bhaves	25m Rapid Fire Pistol
Pradeep Shekhawat	25m Rapid Fire Pistol
Manini Kaushik	50m Rifle Three Positions (3P)

Junior Shooting World Cup 2025

- It will be held in New Delhi, India.
- 4 young shooters from Rajasthan will participate in junior category:

Player	Competition
Yashasvi Rathore	Skeet, Mixed Team
Uddhav Singh Rathore	Trap Jr.
Mohini Singh	10m Air Pistol
Abhinav Choudhary	25m Rapid Fire Pistol

Asian Shooting Championships 2025: 35 shooters from Rajasthan selected in Indian team

- Thirty-five players from Rajasthan have been included in the Indian squad for the Asian Shooting Championship to be held in Simket city of Kazakhstan from August 16 to 30.
- In the first list, 24 players were selected, while 11 more players were added to the second list.

9 players from Rajasthan selected in World University Games 2025

- Nine players from Rajasthan have been selected in the World University Games to be held in Berlin and four other cities in Germany.
- Apart from this, former international player Ram Kumar Gahlawat has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian team.
- Dr. Reena Poonia joined the Indian delegation as an Administrative Officer.
- More than 8500 athletes from more than 150 countries will participate in this global event.

Pawan Kumawat won bronze medal in World Strength Lifting

- Rajasthan's Pawan Kumawat won the bronze medal in the 12th World Strength Lifting Senior Tournament held in Thailand.
- Pawan Kumawat lifted 125 kg in the 76 kg weight category.

Rajasthan's Kuldeep selected in Indian team for World Sambo Beach Championship

- The World Sambo Beach Championships will be held in Singapore from August 1 to 4, 2025.
- Jaipur-based martial arts player Kuldeep Singh Mokawat has been selected in the

Indian team for the upcoming World Sambo Beach Championship.

- He will represent India in the senior men's 71 kg category in this competition.

Krishna Nagar wins 2 bronze medals at Irish Para Badminton International

- Krishna Nagar won 2 bronze medals in singles and mixed doubles at the Irish Para Badminton International held in Cardiff.
- Krishna Nagar and Nithya Shree Sivan won a bronze in the mixed doubles.
- Krishna Nagar is a gold medalist in the Paralympic Games.

Miscellaneous

Increase in number of members in Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC)

- Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) has appointed 3 new member posts.
- This will increase the number of members in the commission from 7 to 10.
- This decision was taken to strengthen the efficiency of the Commission and to ensure time-bound execution .
- For this, Regulation-3 (1) of the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (Conditions of Service) Regulations, 1974 will be amended.
- Chairman of Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC): Utkal Ranjan (U.R.) Sahu.

Country's first 'Children's Corporation Assembly'

- The first Children's Corporation of Rajasthan will be held on August 15, 2025.
- The initiative will be organised under the joint aegis of Municipal Corporation Heritage, Future Society and Digital Bal Mela.
- The initiative is an attempt to engage children with civic processes and promote their participation.

'Sada Aage' Project: Testing of Indigenous Ammunition

- The Indian Army successfully tested the indigenous ammunition under the 'Sada Aage Project' at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer.
- The test is a joint initiative of the Army and Defence Research Organisations.
- **Objective:** To indigenize defence production towards Atmanirbhar Bharat and reduce dependence on imported ammunition.
- The project has participation from both public and private sectors.

CAJRI revises agro-climatic zone after 46 years

- The Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI) has developed a new classification of agro-climatic zones of Rajasthan after 46 years.
- Although the number of zones remained 10, the status of many districts has been changed.
- The study was conducted by former scientist Dr. D.V. Gupta. The report was submitted to the Chief Secretary of the state government.
- This amendment is likely to bring about major changes in agriculture policy, crop rotation, irrigation schemes and MSP procurement policy.

Old vs. New Agro-climatic Zones

Zone	Old Area/Zone District	New Major Districts
Arid North-Western Sandy Plain	Barmer, parts of Jodhpur	Barmer, Jalore
Irrigated North-Western Plain	Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh	Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh
Hyper Arid Partial Irrigated Zone	Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Churu	Bikaner, Churu
Transitional Plain of Inland Drainage	Nagaur, Sikar, Jhunjhunu	Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur
Alluvial Plain of Luni Basin	Jalore, Pali, Sirohi	Ajmer, Pali, Sirohi City, Revdar, Shivganj
Arid and semi-arid regions	New Zone	Jodhpur, Nagaur, Jaisalmer
Flood-prone Eastern Plain	Alwar, Dholpur, Karauli, Bharatpur, S. Madhopur	Apart from these 5 districts, Tonk and Ajmer are also included.
Sub-humid zone	Udaipur, Sirohi, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh	Udaipur, Bhilwara, Chittor, Rajasamand, Sirohi only include Abu Road and Pindwara.
Humid Southern Plain	Dungarpur, Banswara	Dungarpur, Banswara
Humid South Eastern Plain	Kota, Jhalawar, Baran, Bundi	Kota, Baran, Bundi and Jhalawar besides Pratapgarh

Key Findings:

- Bikaner was now considered more desert than Jaisalmer.
- Tonk and Dausa emerged from the semi-arid region and joined the flood-affected zone.
- Jaipur was put in the inner flow zone along with Sikar and Jhunjhunu.
- Sirohi is divided into two zones, now the maize field will be recommended here.
- Udaipur and Chittorgarh left the rice-rich area.
- Due to the arrival of Narmada river, the same climate was separated from Godwad in Barmer and Jalore.
- Pratapgarh has been added to the Hadoti region, where mustard, soybean, and jowar will be cultivated.
- Jaisalmer, an extremely drought-prone area, has now been added to the new cluster along with Jodhpur and Nagaur.



Two new mustard varieties get national recognition

- Two improved varieties of mustard developed by the Indian Mustard Research Institute, Bharatpur – 'Bharat Mustard-7' and 'Bharat Mustard-8' were recognized at the national level.
- These varieties are now approved for cultivation in 12 states of the country.
- They have been developed keeping in mind the geographical and climatic conditions.

Speciality	Bharat Mustard-7	Bharat Mustard-8
Type	Suitable for rainfed areas	High temperature and moisture tolerant
Ripening period	Early ripening	Ready in the medium duration
Recommended States	Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Assam, Chhattisgarh	Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir
Climate adaptation	Ideal for low irrigation and rain-fed areas	Able to withstand weather fluctuations
Benefit/ Speciality	Lower cost, higher yield, higher oil percentage	High oil percentage, suitable for commercial cultivation

Committees announced for Khelo India University Games 2025

- The 5th Khelo India University Games (KIUG) will be held in Jaipur, Rajasthan in November 2025.
- There are 28 games expected to be organized.
- For the first time, water sports such as rowing, kayaking-canoeing have also been included.

Organizing / Coordination Committee	Executive Committee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a total of 19 members. • Chairperson: Chief Minister of Rajasthan. • Co-Chairperson: Minister of Sports, Government of India. • Members: Senior officials of the Government of Rajasthan, representatives of the Indian Olympic Association, SAI and AIU. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be 29 members in total. • Chairperson: Chief Secretary of Rajasthan • Co-Chairperson: Sports Secretary to the Government of India • Members: Secretaries of various departments, DGPs, host and co-host universities, representatives of sports associations. • This committee will supervise and supervise the event.

Cabinet approves formation of 3 joint ventures in energy sector

- The state cabinet has approved the formation of three Joint Venture Companies (JVs) under the agreements signed between the state government and three central public sector undertakings on 8 August 2024 and 29 September 2024.

1. Indraprastha Gas Limited – RVUNL Joint Venture

- Stake: 74% – 26%
- Project: Setting up of 500 MW solar project at RVUNL's Solar Park
- Investment: Estimated ₹2,000 crore

2. Oil India Limited – RVUNL Joint Venture

- Stake: 50% – 50%
- **Projects:**
 - 1000 MW Solar Power
 - 200 MW Wind Power
- Total estimated investment: Rs.5,000 crore

3. GAIL (India) Limited – RVUNL Joint Venture

- Stake: 50% – 50%
- **Projects:**
 - Dholpur Power Plant (300 MW)
 - Transfer of Units of Ramgarh Power Plant (270.50 MW)
 - Setting up of 750 MW solar power and 250 MW wind power projects

Kekri, Santhore, Neemkathana and Shahpura again became municipalities

- The Rajasthan government has removed the municipal council status of 4 cities Kekri, Santhore, Neemkathana and Shahpura (Bhilwara) and declared them as municipalities again.

- The autonomous government department of Rajasthan has issued a notification in this regard.
- The reason for this is that the present government has not given district status to these places, which is a prerequisite for becoming a municipal council.
- Apart from this, Anupgarh was also abolished from the Municipal Council status and made a municipality.
- Lalgarh Jatan was reclassified from urban to rural area.

Operation Heliborne – Indian Army's War Exercise

- The exercise was carried out by the Southern Command of the Indian Army at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer.
- It was a high-intensity exercise in which various aspects of warfare were practically tested.
- The exercise included modern weapons, surgical strike techniques and strategies for eradication of terrorist activities.
- It was a multi-tier military exercise which tested the capabilities of troops under realistic conditions.

SIR programme: To be implemented in Rajasthan

- The Special Intensive Revision Programme (SIR) being run in Bihar to remove ineligible names from electoral rolls will now be implemented in Rajasthan as well.
- A meeting in this regard was held at the secretariat under the chairmanship of Chief Electoral Officer Naveen Mahajan.
- The objective of this program is to purify the electoral rolls and bring transparency, so that every eligible citizen can use his voting right properly.

Rajasthan Ground Water Authority Bill: 21-member select committee set up

- The largest select committee with 21 MLAs has been formed for the Rajasthan Ground Water (Conservation and Management) Authority Bill, 2024.
- Kanhaiyalal Chaudhary has been made its president.

UAE invests Rs 3 lakh crore: 60,000 MW green energy project in Rajasthan

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will invest Rs 3 lakh crore in renewable energy in Rajasthan.
- Under this investment, 60,000 MW of solar and wind energy projects will be set up.
- The MoU was signed between UAE Investment Minister Mohammed Hassan Al Suwaidi and India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, and the MoU was signed in the presence of the Chief Minister in Jaipur.
- Uniqueness of Rajasthan: 5.72 units of annual solar generation capacity per square meter, which is the highest in the country.

Compressed biogas projects worth Rs 74,000 crore registered in Rajasthan

- In Rajasthan, gas will be made from the waste of the fields and Napier grass (elephant grass or Ugandan grass).
- For this, proposals worth Rs 74,000 crore have been received in the field of Compressed Biogas (CBG) and these include a Rs 58,000 crore project of Reliance Group.
- These projects have been registered with the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation.
- This will not only increase green energy, environmental protection but will also increase employment opportunities in the state. At the same time, the consumption of other local products will also increase.
- Under this, Napier grass will be used for compressed biogas production.
- This production will be done on the lines of Andhra Pradesh model.
- **Note:** Andhra Pradesh is the first state in the country to lease land for gas production from Napier grass.

Launch of RCDF-PDCS Online Registration

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the PDCS online registration system of Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation (RCDF) at the Cooperative and Employment Festival held at village Dadia, Jaipur.
- Through this portal, 15 or more milk producers across the state can now form Primary Milk Producers' Cooperative Society (PDCSS) online.
- This initiative has been taken under the White Revolution 2.0, 'Sahakar Se Samridhi' and 'Sahakar Se Vistar' campaigns.

Rajasthan approves ₹95 crore for Yamuna water project

- The Rajasthan government has sanctioned an amount of ₹95 crore from its share for the ongoing dam construction works in the Yamuna basin area.
- This amount will be given as assistance in the construction works of Renukaji Dam (Himachal Pradesh) and Lakhwar Dam (Uttarakhand).
- The Yamuna Water Project will ensure the availability of water to Rajasthan throughout the year.
- The benefits of the project will reach Churu, Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts.
- Three major dams are under construction in the Yamuna basin area – including Renukaji, Lakhwar, and one other.
- At present, the work of Renukaji and Lakhwar dams is in progress.

RCA Academy to be renamed as "Major Dhyan Chand Khel Bhawan"

- The academy and offices of the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) are now under the Rajasthan State Sports Council.
- Now the name of RCA Academy will be changed to "Major Dhyan Chand Khel Bhawan".
- President of Rajasthan State Sports Council: Dr. Neeraj K. Pawan.

History of RCA

- 1931: Established as "Rajputana Cricket Association" in Ajmer.
- 1935-36: Beginning of Rajasthan's participation in Ranji Trophy.
- 1957: Name change and shifting of headquarters to Jaipur after formation of Rajasthan.

Conferences, Meetings, Festivals

State-level Van Mahotsav in Rajasthan

- It was held on 27 July 2025 at the Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University campus in Madau, Jaipur.
- In Rajasthan, a target has been set to plant 50 crore saplings in the next five years under the 'Hariyalo Rajasthan Mission'.
- In memory of the sacrifices made by 363 people including Amrita Devi to protect trees, 'Amrita Devi Indigenous Plant Museum' is being built in Khejarli, Jodhpur.
- Efforts made by the State Government for Green Rajasthan
- As many as 22 city forest projects in the state have been approved by the Central Government.
- More than 3,500 'Van Mitra' locals have been designated in the state.
- A ₹250 crore green Aravalli development project has been launched to conserve the Aravalli ranges .
- For the environmental balance and climate, the state government presented a 'green budget' for the first time in the year 2025.

Cooperative & Employment Festival

- It will be organized on 17 July 2025 at village Dadia in Jaipur district.
- Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah will be the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Key Events and Announcements:

- Micro ATM Distribution: 2346 micro ATMs will be distributed to milk producer cooperatives .
- Financial Assistance: Under the Gopal Credit Card Scheme, a loan of around ₹12 crore will be provided to 1400 beneficiaries.
- Inauguration of Storage and Outlets: 24 warehouses built under the world's largest grain storage scheme and 64 millet outlets to promote Shri Grain will be inaugurated.
- Digital Initiatives: PDCS online registration platform will be launched under White Revolution 2.0.
- Operation of Police Vehicles: 100 new police vehicles will be dispatched for police stations, armed forces, troop carriers and training purposes.
- Note: The year 2025 has been declared as the International Year of Cooperatives.

Organizing Divisional Level Cooperative Fairs

- For the first time in Rajasthan in the year 2025, divisional level cooperative fairs will be organized in Jodhpur, Kota and Udaipur.
- Apart from this, under the 'Maharo Bank, Maharo Khato' campaign, accounts of dairy societies are being opened in cooperative banks in the state.
- Rajasthan's first 'Co-op Ride Bike on Rent Service' in the cooperative sector was recently launched from Udaipur.
- Note: The year 2025 has been declared as the International Year of Cooperatives.
- Minister of Cooperatives (Independent Charge) of Rajasthan: Shri Gautam Kumar Dak
- Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation: Shri Amit Shah

Green India Expo

- The first event of Green India Expo in Rajasthan will be held in Kota from 25 to 27 July 2025.
- The event will showcase renewable energy companies, e-vehicle technology, service providers, equipment and machinery.
- This solar organization is an initiative of India.
- After this, Green India Expo will be organized at all divisional headquarters of the state.
- The campaign aims to highlight the green energy policies of the state and central government and showcase business opportunities.

Teej Festival – 2025

- In Rajasthan, Teej Utsav and Teej Mela were organized at Tripolia Gate, Jaipur on 27–28 July, 2025 at Pondrick Park, Jaipur
- On the occasion of Teej in Jaipur, young women and married women take out a procession of Goddess "Teej Mata".
- The statue of the goddess is decorated with gorgeous sarees and other ornaments.
- According to religious belief, this day marks the reunion of Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva.



Science & Technology

Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur develops 2 products with nano zinc technology

- Two new products based on Nano Zinc technology have been developed at Defence Laboratory in Jodhpur.
- The technology was developed by Dr. Narendra Kumar Jain, former Director of Defence Laboratory.
- They have been developed in technical collaboration with Marudhara Paints & Polymers, Jodhpur.
- These products have also received certification from the Woolen Research Association under the Ministry of Textiles.

1. Fabric Softener

- This softener not only makes clothes soft after washing, but also protects them from infections like viruses, bacteria, and fungus for a long time.
- It can be used as machine wash, hand wash and spray.
- This is particularly useful for high-contact places such as hospitals, railways, hotels and schools.

2. Surface Coating (Paint)

- It is a special surface paint, which can protect walls, doors, furniture and other surfaces from infection for at least 5 years.
- Both the products are based on nano-zinc technology, which converts zinc into particulate matter ranging from 10 to 20 nanometres.

Reports & Index

Rajasthan becomes the leading state in PM KUSUM scheme

- Rajasthan has emerged as the leading state in the country due to effective implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahaabhiyan (PM KUSUM Yojana).
- So far, 684 solar plants with a total capacity of 1,305 MW have been installed in the state.
- Of these, 592 plants, with a total capacity of 1,190 MW, were commissioned in the last one year alone.

Based on the components of this scheme, the achievement of Rajasthan is as follows:

Component-A:

- It permits installation of grid-connected solar plants up to a maximum capacity of 2 MW.
- Rajasthan has installed 354 plants of 457 MW capacity under this component, ranking **first in the country**.

Component-C:

- It can have plants of up to 5 MW capacity.
- In this component, **Rajasthan ranks third in the country after Gujarat and Maharashtra**.
- So far, 330 plants of 848 MW capacity have been set up in Rajasthan under this component.
- The central government provides assistance up to a maximum of Rs 1.05 crore per MW (i.e. 30% of the total cost).

- It is mandatory to set up the plants within a maximum radius of 5 km from the grid sub-station.

Discom-wise performance

- Under the KUSUM scheme, projects of 997.50 MW in Jodhpur discom (first place), 169.22 MW in Jaipur discom and 137.33 MW in Ajmer discom have been set up in Rajasthan.
- The central government has so far awarded Rajasthan a target of 5,500 MW capacity and 4 lakh solar pumps under Component A and C.
- **Note:** Earlier Component-A was implemented by the State Renewable Energy Corporation.
 - As per the guidelines of the Central Government from 23rd July 2024, the implementation of both the components (A and C) has now been entrusted to private companies.
- **Note:** Rajasthan has included PM KUSUM Yojana as the flagship scheme of the state.

Rajasthan retains first position in renewable energy sector

- According to the June 2025 report released by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Rajasthan has ranked first with the highest renewable energy capacity in the country.

Total Renewable Energy Capacity (in MW):

1. Rajasthan: 37,818 MW
2. Gujarat: 37,494 MW

Solar Power Potential	Wind Power Potential
1. Rajasthan: 31,967 MW	1. Gujarat: 13,816 MW
2. Gujarat: 21,451 MW	2. Tamil Nadu: 11,830 MW
3. Maharashtra: 12,575 MW	3. Karnataka: 7,714 MW
	4. Maharashtra: 5,307 MW
	5. Rajasthan: 5,208 MW

Rajasthan's performance in 'Parakh' survey

- In the recently released 'Parakh National Assessment Survey 2024' by the Union Ministry of Education, Rajasthan has performed better than the national average in terms of reading and thematic understanding of students of classes 3, 6 and 9.
- Rajasthan's average in Class 3 language knowledge: 70% (National average: 64%)
- Rajasthan in Mathematics: 66% (National average: 60%)
- Students from rural areas are performing better than urban students.
- Girls have performed better than boys in all classes and subjects, indicating improvement in gender equality and quality.

Jaipur district tops 'Give Up' Campaign

- Under the National Food Security Scheme, a 'Give Up Campaign' is being conducted across Rajasthan to encourage ineligible beneficiaries to voluntarily remove their names from the list.
- Under this campaign, Jaipur district ranks first in the state, where so far 1,92,272 ineligible persons have voluntarily removed their names from the scheme.

Under the Food Security Scheme, those people will be ineligible for:

- Any member whose job is regular in government, semi-government or autonomous organization.
- Those whose annual family income is more than Rs. 1 lakh.
- Any member of which receives a pension of more than 1 lakh.
- Those who are income tax payers or owners of private four-wheelers.

Jaipur ranked fifth among world's top tourist destinations

- Jaipur has secured the fifth position in the list of best tourist cities in the world.
- This ranking has been given based on the 'World's Best Awards' survey of 2025 conducted by the international travel magazine "Travel + Leisure".
- Jaipur has been included in the category of "Iconic Global Destination" with a score of 91.33.
- The survey described Jaipur as a "must-visit city" due to its majestic havelis, lavish hotels, historical heritage, traditional handicrafts, cultural diversity and colourful festivals.

Top 5 Tourist Cities (2025)

1. San Miguel de Allende, México
2. Chiang Mai, Thailand
3. Tokyo, Japan
4. Bangkok, Thailand
5. Jaipur, India

Noise pollution: Jaipur ranked 4th among noisiest cities in the country

- According to the United Nations report, Jaipur has been ranked fourth among the most noise polluted cities in India.
- According to this, Moradabad is at the top with 114 decibels, Kolkata is second and Asansol is third, while Delhi is at fifth place.
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), noise levels higher than 53 decibels are considered harmful to human health.
- Noise levels in Jaipur areas were recorded at 73.8 decibels.

Food Security Scheme Statistics

- In Rajasthan, 51 lakh new beneficiaries have been included.
- In this, transparent selection will be done through the Food Security Portal.
- For this, the process has been simplified and easy and the facility of application sitting at home is also available.

'Give Up' Campaign

- In Rajasthan, 22 lakh people voluntarily gave up the benefits.

4-in-1 Benefits to Food Security Beneficiaries

- **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**- 5 kg free food grains per person per month

- **Chief Minister Ayushman Accident Insurance Scheme-** Free accident insurance cover up to ₹10 lakh for family
- **Chief Minister LPG Subsidy Scheme -** The family will get 12 gas cylinders in a year at the rate of ₹ 450 per cylinder.
- **Mukhyamantri Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAA-YOJANA) -** Free family registration and free treatment up to ₹25 lakh

Customer Satisfaction Survey 2025

- The Airport Authority of India (AAI) conducted a passenger satisfaction survey at 60 airports across the country for January-June 2025.
- In this, Bhopal, Udaipur and Khajuraho jointly stood first.
- A total of 33 parameters were covered in this survey, including parking, ground transport, baggage cart and behavior of employees.
- Assam's Rupsi Airport (Score – 2.65/10) 5) Finished last.

Top 5 Airports (in Points/5)

Airport	Points
Bhopal	5.00
Udaipur	5.00
Khajuraho	5.00
Gaya	4.99
Jammu	4.98

20 lakh elderly people benefited from Ramashray wards

- Ramashray wards were started by the Medical and Health Department in Rajasthan in March 2024.
- The purpose of these wards is to provide dedicated health facilities to the elderly in district and sub-district hospitals.
- About 20 lakh elderly people have taken advantage of these wards during this period .
 - More than 18 lakh elderly people used OPD services.
 - IPD services were provided to more than 1.05 lakh patients.
 - Around 12.20 lakh lab tests were conducted through these wards.
- In this, 5-5 beds are reserved for women and men in each ward .
- Modern equipment such as nursing alarm systems have also been installed so that patients can contact the nursing staff immediately in case of an emergency.
- A nodal officer has been appointed in each ward, who performs the responsibility of operation and management.

- Apart from this, special geriatric clinics have also been set up for OPDs.

Rajasthan tops the country in auction of major mineral blocks

- Rajasthan ranks first in the country with more than 20% of the total blocks in the country in the area of auction of major mineral blocks.
- A total of 500 major mineral blocks have been allocated since 2016 notified by the Union Ministry of Mines, out of which 103 blocks have been allocated in Rajasthan.
- The licences issued so far include 77 mining leases and 26 composite licences.
 1. Limestone Blocks: 75
 2. Iron Ore Block: 11
 3. Base Metal Block : 5
 4. Manganese blocks: 3
 5. Gold Blocks: 2
 6. Silicious Earth Blocks: 4
 7. Potash Block: 2
 8. Garnet Block: 1
- In January 2025, Rajasthan was awarded the first prize by the Central Government for its outstanding performance in the auction of mineral blocks.

Rajasthan ranks second in Abha ID creation

- More than 6.30 crore Abha IDs have been created so far by the Rajasthan government as part of its efforts to digitize health services.
- In this context, Rajasthan is second in the country.
- Rajasthan Digital Health Mission has been implemented to improve health facilities through technology.
- Under this, health services are being brought online and in mission mode.

Rajasthan ranks third in PM-Kisan scheme registration

- Rajasthan ranks third in the country in terms of registration of farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme.
- In March 2025 (the prior financial year), the state ranked first, while it is currently ranked third .
- Its target was to register 91,69,574 farmers in Rajasthan, so far 76,67,532 farmers have been registered (83.62% target achieved)
- Under this scheme, the central government sends ₹ 2000 to farmer accounts through DBT every four months. (₹6000 in a year)

- At present, the Rajasthan government increased the total amount to ₹9000 under additional support.

Top Districts:

- Didwana-Kuchaman
- Nagaur
- Ganganagar

- Note:** Bikaner ranks last in Rajasthan in this regard.

Karauli ranks first in Rajasthan in NITI Aayog's Sampoonata Abhiyan

- Karauli, an aspirational district of Rajasthan, has secured the first position at the state level by performing excellently in the Sampoonata Abhiyan run by NITI Aayog.
- Karauli was awarded a gold medal and a citation for achieving full saturation in the six key indicators of the campaign.
- The campaign was jointly carried out by the state government and NITI Aayog between July and September 2024 in 5 aspirational districts and 27 aspirational blocks,
- It was aimed at achieving full saturation in 6 key areas such as Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture, Water Resources, Financial Inclusion, Skill Development, and Infrastructure.
- Five districts and 23 blocks of the state were felicitated for their outstanding performance at the state-level function held on July 28 in the state.

Awarded Districts:

- Gold medal (saturation in 6 indicators):
Karauli
- Bronze medal (saturation in 4 indicators):
Baran, Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Sirohi

Reputable Blocks:

Medal	Indicators	Block/ number
Gold Medal	6 Indicators	Jayal (Nagaur), Rani (Pali), Khairwara (Udaipur)
Silver medal	5 Indicators	Total 9 Blocks
Bronze medal	4 Indicators	Total 8 Blocks
Copper Medal	3 Indicators	Total 3 Blocks

Apps & Portals

Mining information will be available on Rajdhara portal

- All important information related to mining will now be made available on the Rajdhara portal by the Mines Department of Rajasthan.
- The portal will provide information on plots identified for mining auction, available minerals, and related public interest.
- The portal will be linked to the Prime Minister's GatiShakti Portal, which will also make other departmental information easily accessible.
- The portal has been developed by the Department of Mines and Information Technology (DoIT) of Rajasthan.



2. National Affairs

National Cooperative Policy 2025



- The policy was launched by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on **24 July, 2025**.
- It was drafted by a **48-member committee** headed by Suresh Prabhu.
- **Objective:** To modernize the cooperative sector and link it to the idea of «Prosperity through Cooperatives».
- The policy is targeted to be implemented by 2025 and will replace the country's first National Cooperative Policy 2002.

Main Goals

- Establishment of a cooperative society in every village.
- Formation of 2 lakh Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) by 2029.
- Directs all states to formulate their own state cooperative policy by **31 January 2026**.
- To make cooperatives more modern, transparent, inclusive and professional.
- **Training and Institutional Arrangements:** Tribhuvan Cooperative University (TSU), Gujarat: The country's first national cooperative university.
- At least one cooperative training institute must be set up in every state.

Definition of Co-operative Sector: It is an organization in which people come together voluntarily to fulfill common economic, social and cultural needs.

Background

- 1904: The first law on co-operative credit societies came into force.
- 1912: Recognition of non-lending societies.
- 1951-2025: Cooperatives got a major role in the five-year plans.
- 2021: Establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation by the Central Government.

Constitutional Provisions (97th Amendment, 2011)

- Article 19(1)(c): Right of citizens to form co-operative societies.
- Part IX-B: Determination of Administrative and Electoral Structure of Cooperatives.
- Article 43B: Directions to state governments to encourage autonomy and professionalism of cooperative-based organisations.

27th Eastern Zonal Council Meeting

- Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation Amit Shah chaired the 27th Eastern Zonal Council Meeting in Ranchi on 10 July, 2025.
- The Eastern Council comprises states like Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.
- Discussions were held on a wide range of issues, including inter-state cooperation, transport, development and security.
- It was attended by the Chief Ministers, Deputy Chief Ministers, Ministers, and Central officials of the respective states.

Zonal Council System in India

- Recommendation of Establishment: Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru (1956)
- Legal Basis: States Reorganisation Act, 1956
- **Total Councils:**
 - 5 Zonal Councils
 - 1 North Eastern Council (under the 1971 Act)
- **Aim:**
 - Cooperation and coordination between states
 - Promoting National Integration
 - Control of tendencies of regional/linguistic isolation
- **Note:** These councils are advisory bodies; Their recommendations are not binding.
- Chairpersons of all councils: Union Home Minister

Council	Member States
North	Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Ladakh, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir
Central	Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand
Eastern	Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal.
Western	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli
Southern	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry
North Eastern Council	Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim

Tribal Genome Sequencing Project Launched in Gujarat

- Gujarat has become the first state in the country to launch "tribal genome sequencing project".
- This was announced by the state's Tribal Development Minister Dr. Kuber Dindor in Gandhinagar.
- The project will be implemented by the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC).

Objectives and Features:

- Sequencing of genomes of 2000 tribal individuals from 17 districts .
- Identification of genetic indicators associated with diseases such as sickle cell anaemia, thalassaemia, cancer.
- Creation of personalized medicine solutions, early intervention, and reference genome databases.
- Emphasis on cutting-edge genomic technology, data analysis, and scientific coordination.

Impact:

- Timely identification of diseases and targeted treatment will be possible.
- This project will promote policy making, academic research and inclusion in health services.
- It is a revolutionary step towards improving the health status of tribal communities.

- An Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based surveillance system will be set up in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly.
- This system will be able to keep track of the activities of MLAs and suspicious persons.
- It will be the first assembly in India where such technology is being used.
- This will cover the entire premises, and there will be a recording of every activity.

India's First Season Derivatives – NCDEX & IMD Initiative

- The National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) have entered into an agreement to launch India's first in-season derivatives.
- This financial innovation has been introduced to give protection to farmers and weather-based businesses from climate risks.
- **Weather derivatives:** These are financial instruments that help offset economic losses from weather uncertainties such as rains, heat waves or storms.
- NCDEX will develop rain-based futures contracts based on reliable IMD data.
- These contracts will be location-specific and weather-based, reflecting the actual farming conditions.
- NCDEX (Founded: 2003): India's largest agricultural commodity exchange, which facilitates pricing and risk management.

UP Assembly to become India's first AI-enabled surveillance assembly

Maharashtra: First state in the country to give agriculture status to animal husbandry and poultry

- The Maharashtra Cabinet on 11 July, 2025 recognised animal husbandry and poultry farming as agricultural activity.
- This policy change will directly benefit 3.7 crore livestock farmers.
- Traditionally, agricultural policies focused on crop production, while animal husbandry was seen as secondary.
- With this decision, livestock farmers will get equal rights and facilities as crop growers.

Profit	Details
Cheap electricity	Poultry sheds, fish ponds and cowsheds will get electricity at agricultural rates.
Tax Relief	Local taxes and entry fees now at non-business rates.
Agricultural Loan Eligibility	Schemes like Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Deshmukh Interest Relief Scheme will get benefits.
Solar Subsidy	Subsidy will now be available on solar pumps and equipments.

India launches World's First Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)

- India has recently launched the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) publicly.
- It is the world's first digital platform that makes traditional medical knowledge protected and accessible through modern technology (such as AI).
- **Objective:** To preserve and promote traditional knowledge, protect intellectual property rights and link India's medical heritage to the global health system.

Attributes:

- AI-based classification and translation, into five international languages (e.g. English, German, French etc.).
- Includes advanced analysis such as machine learning, pulse analysis, tongue testing, and Ayurgenomics / Urogenomics.

TKDL

- It is a joint project of the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- This library classifies and documents the traditional medical systems of India in a scientific manner.

Supreme Court implements reservation in its direct recruitment for the first time

- For the first time, the Supreme Court has issued a circular to implement the reservation policy in direct recruitment and promotion of its non-judicial employees.
- This decision was taken by Chief Justice B.R. Gavai under Article 146(2) and amended the Service Rules of 1961.
- Under the amendment, reservation will be provided for SC, ST, OBC, Divyangjan, ex-servicemen and dependents of freedom fighters.
- This reservation will be applicable to other posts including Registrar, Senior Personal Assistant, Assistant Librarian, Junior Court Assistant and Chamber Attendant.
- The Supreme Court enjoys this power under Article 146 of the Constitution, which empowers it to independently decide the recruitment and service conditions of its employees, subject to the approval of the President.

India's first national-level co-operative university

- India's first national-level co-operative university "Tribhuvan Sahakari University (TSU)" will be set up in Anand, Gujarat.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of the temple on July 5, 2025.
- This is a historic and visionary initiative towards capacity building in the cooperative sector and the goal of 'Sahkar Se Samridhi'.
- It will run flexible and multidisciplinary programs in line with the National Education Policy 2020:
 - PhD
 - Degree at the managerial level
 - Diploma at Supervisor level
 - Certifications at the Operational Level
- The government has set a target of setting up subject-specific schools and a national network across the country.
- Under this, there is a plan to train about 20 lakh cooperative personnel in the next 5 years.
- Apart from this, a national network will be developed by connecting more than 200 cooperatives.
- Research and Development Council will be established in this university.
- The Council will work on innovative and cost-effective technologies for cooperatives in rural areas.

Gujarat has become the third state in the country to have one crore investors in the stock market.

- Gujarat has become the third state in India to cross the one crore registered stock market investor mark.
- Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have already done so.
- These three states account for 36% of India's total investor base.
- As of May 2025, the total number of investors in India has reached close to 11.5 crore.
- In May alone, 11 lakh new investors were added, a growth of 9% after 4 months of decline.

23rd OPCW Regional Meeting of Asian Countries

- India hosted the 23rd Regional Meeting of National Authorities of the countries of Asia in New Delhi from 1st to 3rd July 2025.
- The meeting was organized by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), hosted by India's National Chemical Weapons Convention Authority.
- The objective of the meeting was to strengthen the capacity of national authorities of various countries to implement the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).
- Representatives of 24 countries of Asia participated in this regional meeting.

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

- The OPCW was established in 1997 and is responsible for implementing the provisions of the 1992 Chemical Weapons Convention.
- This organization completely bans the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemical weapons.
- 193 countries of the world have signed this Convention.
- The headquarters of the organization is located in the city of The Hague, Netherlands.

First state in India to formally join Cruise India Mission

- Gujarat has become the first state in India to officially join the Cruise India Mission.
- It aims to promote cruise tourism in Gujarat.
- Gujarat has a 2,340 km long coastline, the largest in India, but until now there was no dedicated cruise terminal there.
- Now, Gujarat will also develop cruise infrastructure like ports like Mumbai, Cochin, Chennai and Murmugao.

Cruise India Mission

- It was started by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on 30 September, 2024.
- **Objective:** To include India in the list of global cruise tourism destinations by 2029.
- The mission aims to increase maritime cruise traffic in India tenfold.

'TALASH' ❏❏❏

- It was launched by the 'National Aboriginal Students Education Society (NESTS)' on July 10, 2025, in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) India.
- It is a national programme to support the all-round development of students in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS).
- TALASH: Tribal Aptitude, Life Skills, and Self-Esteem Hub
- **Main Objectives:**
 - To provide guidance based on the interest, ability and skills of the students.
 - Encouraging career selection, life skills, and self-confidence.
 - To empower students in line with the goals of NEP 2020.
- In its first phase, 189 teachers of 75 EMRSs have been trained.
- By December 2025, it will be implemented in all EMRSs in 28 states and 8 Union Territories.

Smart Mosquito Monitoring System (SMoSS)

- An AI-based Smart Mosquito Monitoring System (SMoSS) has been launched in Andhra Pradesh for effective control of mosquito population during monsoon.
- The system has been piloted at 66 locations in 6 cities including Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Kurnool.
- The technologies being used in SMoSS include:
 - IoT based monitoring device.
 - Fogging and spraying of larvicides through drones.
 - AI-powered sensors to determine the species, sex, and number of mosquitoes
- When the number of mosquitoes exceeds a certain limit, the AI-based alert system automatically initiates the process of fogging or pesticide spraying.
- SMoSS aims to provide accurate, data-based, and technology-driven solutions to prevent diseases such as dengue, malaria.

Gaj Mitra Scheme

- The Government of Assam approved the implementation of the Gaja Mitra Yojana on 10 July, 2025.
- The scheme will be implemented in 8 human-elephant conflict affected districts of the state:
 - Goalpara, Baksa, Udalguri, Sontipur, Nagaon, Golaghat, Jorhat and Vishwanath
- **Objective:** To reduce conflict between elephants and local communities.
- It will involve community participation and the use of AI (artificial intelligence) cameras.
- In this, a team of 8 members will be formed in the affected villages, who will be trained to understand the behavior of elephants and measures to protect the crop.

Maharashtra: Public Ganeshotsav to be declared a state festival

- The Maharashtra government declared public Ganeshotsav as the official state festival.
- This festival was started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak in 1893.
 - **Objective:** To unite people, promote cultural pride and nationalism.
- Under this, the state government will now bear the basic expenses related to public events.
- The government will also make arrangements for pandals and police security and will give financial help to the organizers.
- This festival is considered a symbol of Maharashtra's cultural identity, social unity, self-respect and Marathi pride.

Bio-Economy Innovation Campaign

- India organized the Bio-Economy Innovation Campaign on World Bioproducts Day on 7th July 2025.
- The event was organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), BIRAC, and IBRIC+.
- **Objective:** To ensure people's participation in achieving the goal of a 300 billion dollar bio-economy by 2030.

Digi-Lakshmi Scheme

- The scheme has been launched by the Andhra Pradesh government on 30th June 2025.
- **Objective:** To make urban poor women digital service providers.
- The scheme will promote digital employment and women-led enterprises through the establishment of 9,034 Common Service Centres (CSCs).
- Women will provide 250+ services like

bill payments, certificates, applications for government schemes at these centers.

- The scheme is part of the "One Family, One Entrepreneur (OF-OE)" initiative.
- **Eligibility:** The woman must be 21-40 years old, permanently married, and a SHG member for at least 3 years, and must have a bachelor's degree and basic technical knowledge to operate the centre.
- Under this, women will be provided training and loans ranging from ₹2 to ₹2.5 lakh by MEPMA.

Mashreq: First UAE Bank in GIFT City

- Mashreq, the UAE's famous bank, has become the first UAE bank to open a branch in India's GIFT City.
- The bank has received in-principle approval from IFSCA (International Financial Services Centres Authority).
- Mashreq has also received the necessary approvals from the UAE's central bank and regulatory agencies in India.
- This bank will start its operations in GIFT City by the end of 2025.
- GIFT City is India's first international financial centre located in Gujarat, with facilities such as tax relief, easy trade, and better time zone coordination.

Himachal Pradesh: First state to provide ration through Aadhaar-Face Auth

- Himachal Pradesh has implemented a face authentication system for ration distribution, which is linked to Aadhaar.
- Earlier this work was done through OTP or biometric, but due to technical problems, there were obstacles.
- The Face Auth system has now made it possible for faster and accurate identification, which will improve transparency and access in the Public Distribution System.

First ASEAN-India Cruise Dialogue

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the first ASEAN-India Cruise Dialogue at MV Empress, Chennai Port on 30 June, 2025.
- The dialogue is an important initiative towards strengthening maritime cooperation between India and South-East Asian countries.
- The event was attended by representatives from 10 ASEAN countries and Timor-Leste.
- The objective of the dialogue was to discuss cruise connectivity and sustainable tourism.

- Under the Sagarmala project, a target has been set to add 10 lakh cruise passengers by the year 2029.
- Cruise ship trips in India have increased from 102 in 2013-14 to over 14,000 now.

NIPCCD renamed as Savitribai Phule National Institute for Women and Child Development

- The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) has now been renamed as Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development.
- Also a new regional centre will be inaugurated in Ranchi, Jharkhand on 4th July 2025.
- This centre will be for Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.
- The objective is to strengthen the programmes of the Ministry by providing training and support to frontline workers.

Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development

- It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- Its regional centres are located in Bengaluru, Guwahati, Lucknow, Indore and Mohali.
- The institution is the apex body for training, research, documentation and capacity building in the field of women and child development

'Drug-Free Youth, Developed India' Campaign

- The Central Government launched a national movement against drug abuse 'Drug Free Youth, Developed India' under the leadership of youth.
- The initiative was launched during the Youth Spiritual Summit held in Varanasi on 19-20 July, 2025.
- The Kashi Declaration was adopted at the Youth Spiritual Summit, in which a blueprint of the role and action plan of youth for the eradication of drug addiction was presented.
- **Note:** From 2025, the National Youth Festival was renamed as "Developed India Youth Leaders Dialogue". (Celebrated every year on 12th January on Swami Vivekananda Jayanti)

The first state in the country to have a fixed number of voters at the polling station

- Bihar has become the first state in the country where each polling station will have a maximum of 1,200 voters.
- Earlier, up to 1,500 voters could vote at one centre, which has now been reduced to 1,200.
- The decision is aimed at reducing crowding at polling stations and improving voter experience.
- The change is part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process of electoral rolls.

Kerala's Ethical AI in Education For KITE Model

- The Kerala government has come up with an influential model of the use of ethical AI in the education sector. It is the first state in the country to do this.
- It was implemented through KITE (Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education).

Key Initiatives:

- **Teacher Training:** 80,000 teachers of classes 8-12 were trained on ethical AI, bias identification, and data privacy.
- **Open-source software:** More than 15,000 schools use free and open-source technology that ensures transparency and curriculum conformity.
- **Little KITES IT Clubs:** These clubs give practical training to students in AI and robotics. UNICEF has recognized this as a global best practice.
- **Holistic Plus AI:** Kerala has developed its own AI-based learning management system, which is based on local contexts and learning objectives.

World Food India 2025

- The 4th World Food India event will be held in New Delhi from 25 to 28 September, 2025.
- The event was first held in 2017, while the second and third editions were held in New Delhi in 2023 and 2024 respectively.
- It will be attended by representatives from more than 90 countries and will include more than 2,000 exhibitors and stakeholders associated with the food value chain.
- The event will be organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- India Trade Promotion Organisation is the co-organizer, FICCI is the national partner and Ernst & Young is the knowledge partner.
- Theme of the event: "Prosperity from Processing".

Jharkhand: India's First Mining Tourism Project

- Jharkhand will become the first state in the country to launch a mining tourism project.
- The project will be run jointly by the Jharkhand government and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL).
- The project aims to develop the state as a cultural and educational tourism hub.

- The initiative is inspired by Spain's 'Gava Museum', under which the mines will be opened to the general public.
- The initiative will highlight the industrial heritage, local culture and environmental vision associated with mining.

Highlights:

- The project will be started from the North Urimari (Birsā) open cast mine of Ramgarh.
- Two tour circuits are proposed:
 1. Rajrappa Route: ₹2,800 + GST, including Chinnamastika Temple and Patratu Valley.
 2. Patratu Route: ₹2,500 + GST, including excursions to the tourist sanctuary.

Chief Minister's Foreign Language Initiative (CM-FLIGHT)

- The Assam government has launched a foreign language skills scheme for overseas youths.
- **Objective:** To reduce unemployment and make employment opportunities accessible abroad.

Salient Features

- Japanese language training will be provided to eligible youth.
- A government subsidy of ₹1.5 lakh will be given to every enrolled student .
- Successful candidates will find short-term salaried employment opportunities in Japan.
- These institutions will assist in language training and employment under Japan's SSW visa program.

Bullet train project: Target to be completed by 2029

The Gujarat section (Vapi to Sabarmati) of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project will be completed by 2027 and the remaining work from Sabarmati to Mumbai is targeted to be completed by 2029.

Indias Bullet Train Project

- The bullet train project in India, called the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR), will be the country's first high-speed rail service. The total length of this route is 508 km, which this train will cover in just three hours.

Structure and characteristics

- The maximum speed on this high-speed rail route will be 350 km/h.
- About 92% (468 km) of the train track will be elevated.
- There will be 70 highways and 21 rivers crossing the route.
- Its 7 km stretch will pass under the sea □ a unique feature of the project.

Technology & Collaboration

- The project is being implemented by the National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL).
- Japan's Shinkansen technology is being used in the construction which is counted among the most reliable and fast train technologies in the world.
- Japan's Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is funding about 80% of the total cost of the project.
- India will receive two Shinkansen train sets (E5 and E3 series) from Japan free of cost till 2026.
- Of these, the E5 series has a maximum speed of 320 km/h, which has been selected for this route in the initial phase.



3. Economic Affairs

Cabinet approves Pradhan Mantri Dhandhanya Krishi Yojana (PM-DDKY)

- On 16th July 2025, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved PM-DDKY.
- The scheme will be implemented in 100 districts of the country for six years starting from 2025-26.
- It is inspired by the Aspirational District Programme of NITI Aayog and is the first specific scheme focused on agriculture and allied sectors.

Main objectives of the scheme

- Enhancing agricultural productivity.
- Encourage crop diversification and sustainable agriculture.
- Expansion of storage capacities at Panchayat and Block level.
- Improvement in Irrigation Facilities.
- To ensure better availability of long-term and short-term agricultural credit to farmers.
- The 100 districts covered will be based on three key indicators:
 - Low productivity
 - Low crop density
 - Low loan disbursement
- At least one district from each State/UT will be covered.
- The districts will be selected on the basis of net cropped area and share of operational holdings.
- The scheme will be implemented through participation of 36 existing schemes of 11 departments, state governments and the private sector.
- Committees will be formed at national, state and district levels.
- The District Paddy Committee will finalize the district plan, in which progressive farmers will also be members.
- In this, 117 key performance indicators will be monitored monthly on the digital dashboard.
- The Central Nodal Officers in each district will also conduct regular reviews.

Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved a ₹1 lakh crore research, development, and innovation (RDI) scheme on 1 July, 2025.
- It aims to encourage the private sector to pursue research and development in emerging and strategic areas such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors, and green energy.
- Under this scheme, long-term financial assistance will be provided with little or no interest.
- The scheme will be implemented under the National Research Foundation (ANRF), which will be monitored under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

Key features:

- Goal:** Encourage private investment in high-tech projects, acquire and commercialize technology, and support innovation in strategic sectors.
- Structure:**
 - Tier 1:** A Special Purpose Fund (SPF) will function under ANRF and allocate funds.
 - Tier 2:** These fund managers will provide loans to startups and companies thereby promoting innovation.
- Monitoring:** The scheme will be operated as a collaborative model of government and industry, and will be overseen by the Governing Board headed by the Prime Minister.

Importance of the Scheme:

- Providing risk capital for startups and MSMEs.
- To develop India as a global innovation hub.
- Strengthening 'Make in India' and 'Self-reliant India'.
- Realizing the goals of the National Deep-Tech Strategy and Vision 2047.
- This scheme is important towards making the country technologically self-reliant and ready for global competitiveness in the field of innovation.

Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Employment **Linked Incentive** (ELI) scheme on 1 July, 2025.
- It aims to boost employment generation, strengthen social security and enhance employability especially in the manufacturing sector.
- The scheme is part of the Prime Minister's package of 5 major schemes announced in the Union Budget 2024-25.
- Total budget: ₹99,446 crore .
- Under the scheme, the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs will be encouraged between August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2027.

Two major parts of the scheme:

Part A: Incentives for First-Time Employees	Part B: Incentives to Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiaries: New employees who will join EPFO for the first time. • Incentive: Maximum ₹15,000 (in two installments – first on 6 months of service, second after 12 months and financial training). • Eligibility: Those whose annual income is up to ₹ 1 lakh. • Estimated number of beneficiaries: Around 1.92 crore new employees. • A part of this amount will be deposited in a savings account to promote the habit of saving. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: Assistance to companies for new job creation. • Eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishments with less than 50 employees: Hire at least 2 new employees. • Establishments with 50 or more employees: Hire at least 5 new employees. • Incentive period: Normally 2 years, 4 years for manufacturing sector. • Incentive amount (per employee per month): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers who employ new employees continuously for at least 6 months will be given an incentive of up to ₹3,000 per employee per month. • On salary up to ₹10,000: Maximum ₹1,000 (proportionate) • ₹10,001 - ₹20,000: ₹2,000 • ₹20,001 - ₹1,00,000: ₹3,000 • Estimated Number of Beneficiaries: Employment to around 2.60 crore persons.

- This scheme will increase new employment opportunities, youth will be connected to the formal workforce.
- This will increase the social security net and give an impetus to the manufacturing sector.

India's First Electric Truck Incentive Scheme (PM E-Drive)

- The government of India launched the first electric truck incentive scheme under the Prime Minister's e-drive initiative on 12TH, July 2025.
- The objective of the scheme is to promote clean, sustainable and carbon-free freight transport.
- This initiative is important towards India's target of net zero emissions by 2070.

Key Features

- The scheme includes N2 and N3 category e-trucks.
 - N2 Category: Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) from 3.5 Tons to 12 Tons
 - N3 Category: Gross Vehicle Load from 12 Tons to 55 Tons
- A maximum subsidy of ₹9.6 lakh per truck will be given as an upfront discount.
- This plan will play an important role in improving air quality, reducing carbon emissions and achieving India's climate goals.
- A total outlay of ₹100 crore has been earmarked under the scheme.
- It aims to encourage 5,600 electric trucks.
 - Of these, 1,100 trucks will be deployed in Delhi.
- The scheme is specifically designed keeping in mind the cement, steel, ports and logistics sectors, where heavy trucks are used.

ADEETIE Scheme: Initiatives to Promote Energy Efficiency in MSMEs

- **ADEETIE** : Assistance for Deployment of Energy Efficient Technologies in Industry Establishments.
- Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the ADEETIE scheme launched at a cost of ₹1,000 crore.
- It will be supported by the Ministry of Power and implemented through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- The scheme will be in force from the financial year 2025-26 to 2027-28.
- Objective: To reduce the energy consumption of MSMEs by 30–50%, increase production capacity, and contribute to green energy corridors.
- Covers 14 energy-intensive sectors, such as: Chemicals, Food Processing, Textiles, Steel Re-rolling, etc.
- Credit facility will be provided with 5% interest subvention to micro and small enterprises and 3% to medium enterprises.

Key features:

- Eligible, unregistered employers can register voluntarily without oversight or fear of prior dues.
- The online registration is available on the portals of ESIC, Ministry of Labour Facilitation and Corporate Affairs.
- There will be no penal action for registration within this period.

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)

- Founded: 24 February, 1952
- **Subordinate Ministry:** Ministry of Labour and Employment
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- The Employees' Insurance Scheme (ESI) is the largest social security scheme in India.

Integrated aqua park proposed in J&K

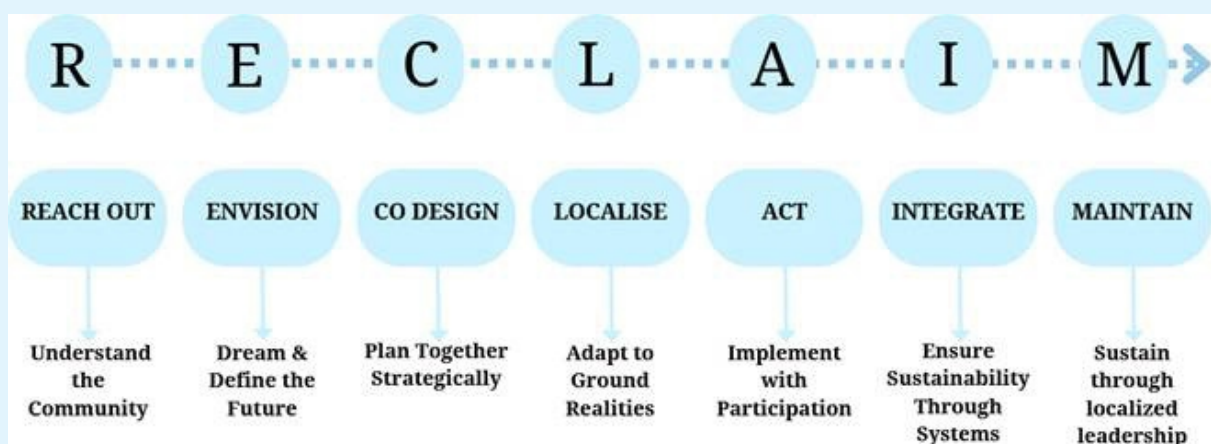
- The central government will set up integrated aqua parks at a cost of ₹100 crore in Jammu and Kashmir under the second phase of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- It was approved under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- **Objective:** To promote fisheries agriculture and encourage rural livelihood and entrepreneurship of youth.
- The Union Government has set up India's first 'Integrated Aqua Park' at Tarin (Zir) in Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Under the integrated aqua park, all fisheries related schemes will be operated under one roof. Under this, activities like fish processing unit, wholesale fish market, fish landing centre etc. will be operated.

SPRREE 2025 Scheme

- The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) relaunched the SPRREE 2025 (Scheme for Promotion of Registration of Employers and Employees) on 1st July 2025.
- It aims to expand the social security coverage in the country under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.
- The SPRREE scheme was first launched in 2016.
- SPRREE 2025 will be implemented from 1st July to 31st December 2025.

Ministry of Coal launches 'Reclaim' framework

- Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy launched the Community Engagement and Development Framework called 'RECLAIM' on 4th July, 2025.



Features:

- Developer: Coal Controllers Organization and Heartfulness Institute
- Objective: To ensure equitable and sustainable development for affected communities after the closure of mines
- Area of Influence: Livelihoods, Environment, Social Structure
- The framework serves as a clear guide for inclusive community engagement and development in the mine closure and post-closure phases.

PM Mitra Textile Park approved in Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)

- The Government of India has approved the setting up of a mega textile park at a cost of ₹1,900 crore under the PM MITRA scheme in Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu .
- It aims to make India a global textile manufacturing hub.

Infrastructure:

- 15 MLD ZLD Treatment Plant
- Hostel with 10,000 beds
- 1.3 Million Sq Ft Ready Industrial Area
- Project Target for Completion: 2026
- **Objective:** To provide plug-and-play factory facilities, promote technical textiles and export-oriented production, and adopt ZLD systems for sustainable industrial development

PM Mitra Scheme

- **PM MITRA:** PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel.
- Announcement: October, 2021
- Time Period: 2021-22 से 2026-27
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Textiles
- Total Budget: ₹ 4,445 crore
- **Objective:** To integrate the entire chain of textile production (such as spinning weaving, processing, garment manufacturing etc.), reduce logistics costs and create a globally competitive textile industry.
- The scheme is based on the Prime Minister's Vision of Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, which integrates the entire textile value chain from agriculture to global exports.
- Parks to be set up in 7 states of the country:
 1. Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)
 2. Warangal (Telangana)
 3. Navsari (Gujarat)
 4. Kalaburagi (Karnataka)
 5. Dhar (Madhya Pradesh)
 6. Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
 7. Amravati (Maharashtra)
- The selection process for the park is based on the Challenge Method, which includes parameters such as connectivity, existing ecosystem, policy support and infrastructure.

7 PM MITRA Parks



Key features:

- Both Greenfield and Brownfield projects.
- Maximum assistance of ₹500 crore for greenfield parks and ₹200 crore for brownfield.
- Competitive incentive of ₹300 crore for each park.
- The SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) will be formed in the partnership of the Centre and the State (State 51%, Centre 49%).

PM Modi inaugurates Durgapur-Kolkata gas pipeline

- The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the 132 km long gas pipeline from Durgapur to Kolkata under the Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-Dhamra pipeline sections in Durgapur, West Bengal on **18 July, 2025**.
- The pipeline will provide natural gas as a clean fuel to households, industries and transport sector in Purba Bardhaman, Hooghly and Nadia districts.

Inauguration of Pollution Control System

- The Prime Minister dedicated the Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) system at Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Plant and Raghunathpur Thermal Power Plant to the nation.
- These plants are coal-fired and emit high amounts of sulphur dioxide, which is one of the main causes of air pollution and acid rain.
- Through the FGD system, these plants will significantly reduce pollutant emissions.

Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project (JHBDPL)

- The project was initiated by the Government of India in 2016.
- It is also known as **the Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra Pipeline (JHBDPL)**.
- The project will connect eastern states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Assam with natural gas supply.
- It has a total length of 3,306 km and is being implemented by GAIL (India) Limited.
- It is coordinated under the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Target to increase the contribution of tourism sector to 10% of GDP by 2047

- The Government of India has set a target to increase the contribution of the tourism sector to GDP to 10% by 2047.
- The target is part of India's \$32 trillion economy.
- Currently, tourism contributes 5–6% to India's GDP.
- In 2023, India ranked 14th in global tourism revenue, accounting for 1.8%.



4. International Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Maldives

- Prime Minister Modi was on a 2-day visit to Maldives from 25-26 July 2025.
- Prime Minister Modi attended the 60th Independence Day celebrations of Maldives as the chief guest on July 26.
- This was his third official visit to the Maldives (first tour: November 2018, June 2019).

Important Agreements and Cooperation:

- India and Maldives signed 8 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs):
 1. Cooperation in Fisheries and Aquaculture
 2. Cooperation in Meteorology
 3. Cooperation in Digital Public Infrastructure
 4. Indian pharmacopoeia recognised in Maldives
 5. MoU for Implementation of UPI Payment System
 6. Maldives 4850 Credit assistance of Rs. crore, Which will be given in Indian rupees for the first time.
 7. Terms of Reference of India-Maldives Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

Under a separate agreement between India and Maldives, the amount of Maldives's debt repayment was reduced from \$51 million to \$29 million per year.

Inauguration of Development Projects:

- 3,300 social housing units built in Hulhumale handed over to Maldives.
- 72 vehicles and 2 units of Arogya Maitri Health Cubes were gifted to the Maldivian Defence Forces .
- Inaugurates Road and Drainage Project and 6 other community development projects in Addu town.
- Dedication of New Defence Ministry Building in Male (constructed with Indian assistance).

Maldives

- Location: Archipelago of the north-central Indian Ocean, part of South Asia
- Capital: Malé
- President: Dr. Mohamed Muaizzu

India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) 2025

- CETA was signed on 24 July 2025 during the official visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to India, the UK.
- It was signed by Piyush Goyal (India) and Jonathan Reynolds (UK).
- **Trade target:** Bilateral trade between the two countries is \$ 56 billion in 2024-25, a target has been set to double it by 2030.
- **Industry and manufacturing sectors:** leather, textiles, footwear, toys, gems and jewellery, sporting goods, auto parts, engineering products and chemicals – these sectors will increase market penetration in the UK.
- **Benefits in the agriculture sector:** 99% of Indian agricultural products will be subject to zero import duty in the UK. Such as: Basmati rice, spices, nuts, fresh grapes, tea, millet etc.

Social Security Coordination

- Under the agreement, Indian employees and employers will be exempt from social security contributions in the UK for 3 years. They have to contribute only in India.

- Similarly, UK nationals will also get this facility while working in India.
- This will eliminate double contribution and increase income.

Background

- The CETA negotiations began in 2020 after the UK's Brexit.
- A total of 13 rounds of talks were held, which were briefly halted due to the 2024 general elections.
- The talks resumed after the formation of new governments in 2024 and concluded on May 6, 2025.
- The Government of India has already received approval from the Cabinet.
- It will now get the approval of the UK Parliament. After this, it will be implemented with mutual consent of both the parties.

PM Modi's visit to United Kingdom

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on his fourth visit to the United Kingdom on 23-24 July, 2025.
- The two countries adopted the India-UK Vision 2035 document, which lays down a roadmap for the strategic partnership for the next 10 years.
- It prioritises cooperation in the fields of economy, defence, innovation, climate, education, health and people-to-people ties.
- The two countries have also formulated a 10-year defence industrial roadmap which envisages joint development of advanced weapon systems like jet engine technology and electric propulsion system.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the CBI and the United Kingdom's National Crime Agency (NCA) to deal with economic offences and serious frauds.

United Kingdom

- Official name: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
 - Includes: England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland
- Capital: London
- President: King Charles III
- Prime Minister: Keir Starmer

Ghana, and Trinidad and Tobago's highest honour, the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

- This was Prime Minister Modi's first bilateral visit to Brazil and his fourth overall.
- Earlier, he had visited Brazil to attend the BRICS Summit in 2014 and 2019 and the G20 Summit in 2024.
- It is after 57 years that an Indian Prime Minister has made a bilateral state visit to Brazil, the last visit being Indira Gandhi in 1968.

India- Six Major Agreements and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs)

1. Cooperation in combating international terrorism and organized crime.
 2. Agreement on the exchange and security of classified information.
 3. MoU on Sharing Solutions for Digital Transformation.
 4. Cooperation in the field of renewable energy.
 5. MoU between India's ICAR and Brazil's EMBRAPA for agricultural cooperation.
 6. MoU between DPIIT of India and MDIC of Brazil for cooperation in Intellectual Property
- Apart from this, India and Brazil have set a target of reaching bilateral trade of \$ 20 billion by 2030.

Brazil

- Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world by area and population.
- It is the largest country in South America.
- Capital: Brasilia

PM Modi gets Brazil's highest civilian award

- Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi was awarded the "Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross" by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on 8 July, 2025.
- It is Brazil's highest civilian honour.
- Prime Minister Modi was on a visit to Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil and Namibia from 2nd to 9th July 2025.
- During the visit, he also received Ghana's highest decoration, the Order of the Star of

PM Modi's visit to Namibia

- This was Prime Minister Modi's first state visit to Namibia.
- He became the third Prime Minister to visit Namibia after Vishwanath Pratap Singh in 1990 and Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 1998.
- It is after 27 years that an Indian Prime Minister visited Namibia.
- PM Modi and President Netumbo Nandi-Ndendwa signed four agreements/MoUs:

1. Health and Medical Cooperation
 2. Entrepreneurship Development
 3. Bilateral economic development
 4. Digital Payment System
- India will also assist in setting up entrepreneurship development centres in Namibia.
 - **Namibia is the first country in the world with which NPCI has tied up with the central bank to implement digital payment systems like UPI .**
 - The licensing agreement between NPCI and the Namibian central bank was signed.
 - The UPI system will be used for mobile-based instant payments.
 - Namibia announced participation in two India-proposed global initiatives:
 1. CDRI – Global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.
 2. GBA (Global Biofuel Alliance) – the platform created to promote biofuels, which was launched at the 2023 G20 Summit.

PM Modi gets Namibia's highest civilian award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the "Order of the Most Ancient Welwitsia Mirabilis" award in Windhoek, Namibia on 9 July, 2025.
- It is Namibia's highest civilian award.
- Modi is the first Indian leader to receive this honour.
- This is his 27th international civilian honour.
- This is the fourth highest honour given to Prime Minister Modi in his visit to 5 countries.
- Earlier, Ghana, Trinidad, Brazil and Namibia gave him their highest civilian honour.
- PM Modi addressed Namibia's Parliament, which is bicameral.
- This was his 17th foreign address to Parliament, the highest by any Indian Prime Minister so far.
 - Earlier, Dr. Manmohan Singh (7), Indira Gandhi (4), Nehru (3), Rajiv Gandhi (2), PV Narasimha Rao (1) addressed foreign parliaments.

Namibia

- Location: On the southwestern coast of Africa
- Independence: 1990 (from South Africa)
- Former name: South-West Africa (in colonial times)
- Capital: Windhoek
- President: Ntombi Nanditha Naidoo (first woman President)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Argentina

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a two-day bilateral visit to Argentina on 4-5 July, 2025.
- The visit was part of his five-nation tour (Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia) from 2–9 July, 2025.
- This visit to Argentina was the first independent bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister in 57 years.
- The last time Indira Gandhi visited Argentina was in 1968.
- PM Modi paid homage at the General Jose de San Martín Memorial, who is considered the Father of the Nation of Argentina.
- Mineral resources, energy, defence, nuclear cooperation, agriculture, etc. were discussed in the bilateral talks.
- Argentina has one of the largest lithium reserves in the world, which is used in renewable energy and batteries.
- India is 100% dependent on lithium imports, so this partnership is extremely important.
- **Note:** Argentina also has the world's second-largest shale gas and fourth-largest shale oil reserves.

'Key to Buenos Aires' Honour

- PM Modi was awarded the symbolic **Key to the City of Buenos Aires**.
- The award was given by the head of the city government, George Macri.
- The award is usually only given to distinguished individuals who make special ties to the city culturally, politically, or economically.

Argentina

- 8th largest country in the world (by area) □ similar in shape to an inverted triangle.
- Located: South America.
- The rich Pampas grasslands and the Patagonia Plateau are located here.
- Capital: Buenos Aires
- President: Javier Milei

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been awarded Trinidad and Tobago's highest civilian award.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with Trinidad and Tobago's highest civilian award "The Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago".
- He is the first foreign leader to receive this honour.
- The award was given to him for his inspiring leadership, supporting the voice of the Global

South and strengthening relations between the two countries.

- This is the 25th international honour bestowed on Prime Minister Modi.
- Earlier, Ghana had also conferred its highest award on him.

PM Modi 's foreign visit to 5 countries

- Prime Minister Modi visited Trinidad and Tobago on 3-4 July as part of his five-nation tour (Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil and Namibia) between 2 and 9 July, 2025.
- This was his first state visit to the country. This is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister since 1999.
- Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to address the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago. He addressed the joint session of Parliament on 4 July, 2025.

Agreements and Cooperation

- 6 Agreements/MoUs signed between India and Trinidad & Tobago, including:
 1. Consensus on Indian Pharmacopoeia
 2. Agreement on Sports Cooperation
 3. Agreed on diplomatic training
 4. Re-establishment of ICCR Chairs for Hindi and Indian Studies at the University of the West Indies
 5. Grants by India for Quick Impact Projects
 6. 2025–2028 Cultural exchange programs
- Trinidad and Tobago also announced to join the India-initiated Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and the Global Biofuels Coalition.

Trinidad and Tobago

- Location: Island countries in the Caribbean Sea
- Independence: From Britain in 1962
- Capital: Port of Spain (on the island of Trinidad)
- Currency: Trinidad and Tobago dollar
- Prime Minister: Kamala Prasad-Bisesar

PM Modi gets Ghana's highest civilian award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the 'Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana' award in Accra, the capital of Ghana on 2 July, 2025.
- The honour was conferred on him by Ghanaian President John Mahama for his global leadership and distinguished political contributions.
- PM Modi is on a visit to Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil and Namibia from 2 to 9 July, 2025.

- This was Prime Minister Modi's first visit to Ghana and he became the second Indian Prime Minister to visit Ghana in 30 years.



Bilateral cooperation:

- Four Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed between India and Ghana:
 1. Cultural Exchange Program
 2. Standardization and Certification Cooperation
 3. Cooperation in Traditional Medicine
 4. Agreement for the establishment of a Joint Commission

Ghana

- Location: Located along the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa.
- Old Name: Gold Coast
- Capital: Accra
- President: John Mahama

'3 by 35' Initiative

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a global initiative called "3 by 35".
- It aims to control non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by raising taxes on tobacco, alcohol and sugary beverages.
- The initiative seeks to ensure a 50% increase in the actual prices of these products by 2035.
- This will discourage unhealthy habits, reduce mortality and increase revenue.
- Health taxes are used to control the consumption of products that are injurious to health.

Construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) completed

- Ethiopia has officially completed the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) in July, 2025.
- The dam is Africa's largest hydropower project and has been a diplomatic dispute between Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan for years.
- The project is located on the Blue Nile River and has been constructed in the Benisangul-Gumuz area.
- The height of this dam is about 145 meters and the length is about 1,800 meters.
- The project has the capacity to generate 6,500 megawatts of electricity, which will help meet the energy needs of Ethiopia and nearby areas.

17th BRICS Summit 2025

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 6–7 July, 2025.
- The conference was hosted by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.
- At the end of this summit, Brazil handed over the chairmanship of BRICS to India, which will host the 18th summit in 2026.
- **The theme of the conference:** "Strengthening Global South Cooperation for More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance".
- Indonesia participated for the first time, as it became a member of BRICS in January, 2025.
- **10 Partner Countries:** Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Vietnam, Nigeria, Malaysia, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Uganda and Uzbekistan.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping did not attend the conference; He was replaced by Premier Li Keqiang.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin participated virtually due to a warrant from the International Criminal Court (ICC).



Rio Declaration

- The declaration condemned the terrorist attack in Phalagam in Kashmir on April 22, 2025.
- The declaration also criticized unilateral sanctions, which indirectly referred to the United States.

Significance of BRICS for India	
Profit	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New markets and partnerships (Egypt, Indonesia, Ethiopia etc.) • Energy security: Supply from oil-producing countries such as Saudi, Iran and UAE • Reduction in Dependence on Dollar: Boost Trade in Local Currencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's supremacy and India's demand for transparency • Political Diversity: Differences between Democracy and Totalitarian Rule • Consensus-based decision system, which slows down decision-making

BRICS and BRICS+

- The term "BRIC" was coined by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill in 2001.
- The first ministerial meeting was held in New York in 2006.
- BRICS was founded in 2009 (Brazil, Russia, India, China; South Africa joined in 2010).
- The first summit took place in Yekaterinburg, Russia in 2009.
- Objective: To balance cooperation among emerging economies and institutions dominated by Western countries.
- BRICS does not have a permanent secretariat or headquarters.
- Expansion in 2024 (BRICS+): New members □ Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia.
- This group of the world:
 - 47% of the Population
 - 37% of global GDP
 - Oil represents 45% of production.

Colombia and Uzbekistan become new members of the New Development Bank (NDB)

- Colombia and Uzbekistan joined NDB ahead of the 17th BRICS Summit.
- With this, the number of member countries of NDB has increased to 11.
- The announcement was made after the 10th board meeting of the NDB.
- Its main objective is to boost development and infrastructure in emerging economies.

New Development Bank (NDB)

- Establishment: 2014, by BRICS countries.
- Headquarters: Shanghai, China.
- **President:** Dilma Rousseff
- Objective: To finance infrastructure and sustainable development projects in member countries.

Early member countries	New members joined after 2021
1. Brazil	1. Bangladesh
2. Russia	2. Egypt
3. India	3. United Arab Emirates (UAE)
4. China	4. Uruguay
5. South Africa	5. Colombia
	6. Uzbekistan

10th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- The meeting was held on 2nd July, 2025 in Washington D.C.
- In this, the Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Kashmir's Pahalgam.
- This meeting was the second Quad meeting of the year. The first meeting was held on 21 January, 2025.

Announced Initiatives and Cooperation Areas

Critical Minerals Initiative:

- The four countries will make mineral supply chains secure and diversified.
- Emphasis on balancing China's more than 80% global share and its strategic interference.
- These minerals have major uses in defence, electronics and renewable energy.

Maritime Security Cooperation:

- Announcement of the start of the "Ports of the Future Partnership".
- The first Maritime Workshop in the Indo-Pacific Region (MAITIR) will be held in Mumbai in October, 2025.

Free and Open Indo-Pacific:

- All countries reaffirmed their commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific for regional prosperity.

Quad

- Idea of the startup: Proposed by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe as a cooperation forum after the 2004 tsunami.
- Establishment: 2007
- Countries Included: India, United States, Japan, Australia
- First Summit: March 2021
- Sixth Meeting: 21 September, 2024, Delaware, USA (Host: Joe Biden)
- Seventh Summit Meeting: To be hosted by India in 2025.

First Quad At Sea Observer Mission

- This mission was first launched under the Wilmington Declaration.
- This mission marks the beginning of historic cross-deck operations and collaboration between the Coast Guards of India, the US, Japan and Australia.
- This mission is an important one towards implementing the strategic decisions taken at the 2024 Quad Leaders Summit.
- It aims to strengthen coordination and interoperability among the Coast Guard forces of the four countries.
- The mission will work to improve maritime domain awareness and regional response capability in the Indo-Pacific region.
- One of its major goals is to promote a rules-based maritime order.
- The mission will enable cooperation to combat illegal fishing, piracy and other non-traditional maritime threats.
- The participating forces include the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Japan Coast Guard (JCG), US Coast Guard (USCG) and Australian Border Force (ABF).

Europe's oldest human habitation found under lake in Albania

- Scientists have found the remains of an ancient lake settlement in Albania, on the shores of Lake Ohrid.
- It is probably the oldest human settlement in Europe.
- The settlement may be 6,000 to 8,000 years old, where people lived by hunting, farming, and animal husbandry.
- The team of archaeologists from Switzerland and Albania have discovered wooden pillars, human bones and copper objects in the water of the lake only 3 meters deep.

UPI service launched in Trinidad and Tobago

- Trinidad and Tobago became the 8th country in the world to adopt the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) service.
- It is the first country in the Caribbean region where Indian travelers can make payments through UPI.

Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a real-time, fast and secure digital payment system developed in India.
 - The system allows users to make payments through mobile number or UPI ID only, without entering bank details.
 - With the international expansion of UPI, Indian tourists will not need cash or forex cards for payments abroad.
- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| 1. United Arab Emirates (UAE) | 2. Singapore | 3. France | 4. Bhutan |
| 5. Nepal | 6. Sri Lanka | 7. Mauritius | |
| 8. Trinidad and Tobago | | | |

UAE 's Enrollment-Based Golden Visa Program

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has launched the enrollment-based Golden Visa scheme as a pilot project for citizens of India and Bangladesh.
- The objective of the scheme is to provide lifelong residency facility to eligible persons without investment.

Key Features of the Enrollment-Based Golden Visa

- **Lifelong validity:** The duration of this visa will be lifetime, while the traditional visa is for 5-10 years.
- **No investment compulsion:** One can apply by paying a fee of only ₹23.3 lakh, no investment in any real estate or business is required.
- **Pre-approval** can be taken only in India or Bangladesh through OneVASCO centers, no need to go to Dubai.
- An agency called Rayad Group will conduct background checks on applicants, including criminal records, money laundering, and an evaluation of social media activities.
- The UAE government will make the final decision on how the applicant can be useful to the UAE.
- Upon receipt of the Golden Visa, the applicant can also bring their family members, personal employees (such as drivers or domestic helpers) along to the UAE.
- **Golden Visa:** This is a special long-term residency visa that allows an individual to live, work, and study in the UAE for 5 to 10 years or lifelong.
- It is usually given to individuals with high investment, special talents or educational qualifications.

UAE 's traditional Golden Visa model

1. Investors and entrepreneurs

- Business or real estate investment of 20 lakh dirhams (approx. ₹4.67 crore) or
- Starting a project worth more than 5 lakh dirhams (approx. ₹1.17 crore).

2. People with special talents

- Doctors, scientists, engineers, artists, athletes, outstanding students in higher education, etc.
- Eligibility in these categories requires proven achievements or contributions linked to the UAE's priorities.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's official visit to 3 countries

- India's Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is on a three-nation tour to Spain, Portugal and Brazil .

4th International Conference on Financing for Development of the United Nations (FFD4)

- It took place from 30 June to 3 July, 2025 in Seville, Spain.
- India was represented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman .
- The objective of the conference is to deliberate on global development and resource mobilization, especially for developing countries.
- Pre-Conference on Financing for Development:**
 - 1st Conference □ 2002, Monterrey, Mexico
 - 2nd Conference □ 2008, Doha, Qatar
 - 3rd Conference □ 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

10th Annual Meeting of the New Development Bank (NDB)

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the 10th Annual Meeting of the New Development Bank (NDB) held in Rio de Janeiro on 4-5 July, 2025.
- She represented India on the NDB Board of Governors. It is the highest decision-making body of the bank.
- NDB was established in 2015 by BRICS countries. It has 9 member countries:
 - India, Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa, Bangladesh, UAE, Egypt and Algeria.

Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG):

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will also participate in the first BRICS FMCBG meeting to be chaired by Brazil.
- The 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro on 6 July, 2025, which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

US Stablecoin Law: 'GENIUS Act'

- GENIUS Act:** Guiding and Establishing National Innovation for U.S. Stablecoins Act
- US President Donald Trump signed the 'GENIUS Act' to regulate cryptocurrencies on 18 July, 2025.
- The GENIUS Act is the first federal law in the U.S. designed to regulate cryptocurrencies such as Stablecoin.

Key Provisions:

- Stablecoin issuers will have to hold reserves in dollars or short-term Treasury bonds equivalent to their digital currency.
- It will be mandatory to give public information of the reserve structure every month.
- Those with a circulation of more than USD 50 billion will have to undergo an annual audit.
- Promises of interest or returns that mislead consumers have been banned.

Influence:

- The Act will promote transparency and security in the digital financial system.
- This will further strengthen the global position of the US dollar.
- Stablecoin:** It is a cryptocurrency whose price is linked to external assets (such as the dollar or gold), ensuring its stability.

'One Big Beautiful Bill' Bill

- Recently, the much-discussed 'One Big Beautiful Bill' bill was passed by the US Senate.
- The bill focuses on tax cuts, immigration controls, border security, and military spending.
- Donald Trump's key bill passed in the US Senate by a 51-49 margin.
- There is an attempt to extend the tax deduction law of 2017.
- More funds will be allocated for border infrastructure, immigration enforcement and defence.
- It will now be introduced in the House of Representatives.

U.S. Congress

- The U.S. Congress consists of two houses:
 - Senate (Upper House)
 - House of Representatives (Lower House)
- Together, they make up the bicameral legislature of the United States.

Bulgaria will become a member of the Eurozone from 2026

- The Council of the European Union has allowed Bulgaria to adopt the euro currency from 1 January, 2026.
- Bulgaria will become the 21st eurozone member country to adopt the euro.
- The Eurozone is a group of countries in the European Union that have adopted the euro as the official currency; It currently consists of 20 countries.
- Bulgaria has met the Maastricht criteria required for the adoption of the euro.
- Bulgaria is located in southeastern Europe, with Sofia as its capital, and is a member of both the EU and NATO.
- The European Union (EU) was established in 1993 under the Maastricht Treaty and is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

Russia officially recognises Taliban

- Russia has become the first country in the world to officially recognize the Taliban government in Afghanistan.
- The Taliban call Afghanistan the "Islamic Emirate".
- The basis for recognition is the Montevideo Treaty (1933), which has four conditions – permanent population, border, government, and the ability to make relations with foreign countries.
- Most countries, including India and the US, have not yet recognised the Taliban.
- The Taliban seized power in Afghanistan on August 15, 2021.

Pakistan to become President of UN Security Council for July, 2025

- Pakistan assumed the monthly presidency of the UN Security Council with effect from 1 July, 2025.
- The chairmanship is part of Pakistan's non-permanent member term (January 2025–December 2026).
- The presidency of the UN Security Council changes alphabetically every month.
- Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmed will chair the council's meetings in July, 2025.
- Pakistan has been a temporary member of the Security Council a total of 8 times (including the present).

Successful trial of driverless air taxi in Abu Dhabi

- The world's first driverless air taxi has been successfully tested in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE.
- The test was carried out by the American company Archer Aviation, which flew its Midnight eVTOL taxi from Dubai's Al Bateen Airport.

Features of the taxi:

- It can take off and land automatically without a pilot.
- Fully electric, zero carbon emission and suitable for urban transportation.
- Its test was successful even in conditions like extreme heat and humidity.
- This technology will help in relieving traffic jams, reducing travel time, and emergency services.
- It's ability to fly in inaccessible areas makes it a better option than a conventional helicopter.

World's largest Legoland park opens in Shanghai

- The world's largest Legoland park was opened in the trail area located in Shanghai, China.
- The park is spread over an area of 3.18 lakh square meters.
- It features more than 75 interactive rides, shows, and attractions.
- Legoland Park is an entertainment venue based exclusively on Lego toys and models.
- It is China's first Legoland park.

Historic agreement between France and New Caledonia

- A new agreement has been reached between France and its Pacific region of New Caledonia.
- Under this, New Caledonia will be given more rights but it will still be part of France.

Key Points:

- New Caledonia would receive the status of a "state", which would be incorporated into the French Constitution.
- The people of New Caledonia will be given the new nationality, which will be valid as well as French nationality.
- French citizens who have lived for 10 years or more will receive New Caledonian nationality.
- In order for the agreement to come into force, the French Parliament and the people of New Caledonia must approve it through a referendum.

US designates TRF as Foreign Terrorist Organization

- The announcement was made on July 18, 2025, in Washington D.C. This was done by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio.
- **Note:** TRF (The Resistance Front) had claimed responsibility for the terror attack in Pahalgam, South Kashmir on 22 April, 2025.
- Twenty-five Indian nationals and a Nepalese tourist were killed in the attack.

Effects of sanctions

- TRF's assets in the US will be confiscated.
- TRF members will not be admitted to the US, and they will be able to be deported.
- It would be illegal for any U.S. person or entity to provide aid to this group.
- This will put a stop to the supply of money and financial support.
- **Note:** The Government of India declared it a banned terrorist organization on 5 January, 2023 under the UAPA Act, 1967.

4th BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise (DMEx)

- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of India hosted the 4th BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise (DMEx) virtually.
- It was a tabletop exercise in which disaster management experts from BIMSTEC countries – India, Thailand, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka – participated.
- It tested the preparedness and response mechanism for disasters such as cyclones and floods in the Bay of Bengal region.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

- Establishment: 23 December, 2005, under Disaster Management Act 2005
- Subordinate Ministries: Union Ministry of Home Affairs
- Chairperson: Prime Minister of India
- Functions: It is the highest body in the country to formulate policy, guidelines, and plans for disaster management.

WHO declares Senegal trachoma free

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared Senegal free of trachoma.
- Senegal is now the 25th country in the world and the 9th in Africa to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem.

Trachoma

- Causative bacteria: Chlamydia trachomatis
- Affected organs: Mainly eyes
- Effects: Contagious, vision loss or blindness in severe cases
- Global Data:
- 1.9 Million People Affected by Blindness
- Responsible for 1.4% of global blindness cases.

EU bans Indian Nayara refinery

- The European Union (EU) has imposed sanctions on India's Nayara Energy Limited for the first time under its 18th sanctions package **on Russia**.
- The refinery is located at Vadinar in Gujarat and is owned by Russian company Rosneft.
- These sanctions are aimed at undermining the Russian economy and support for the Ukraine war.
- Nayara Energy will no longer be able to export petroleum products to the EU and the UK.
- The EU has also imposed sanctions for third countries on imports of products made from Russian crude oil. (Exemption to some countries: Switzerland, Canada, Norway, UK, USA).

The United States will withdraw from UNESCO again .

- The United States has decided to withdraw from the UN's cultural agency UNESCO.
- This decision was taken under the Donald Trump administration, a repeat of the earlier decision taken in 2017.
- The USA cited ideological disagreements, saying that UNESCO promotes a "woke" and "divisive" agenda.

Main causes:

- Granting full membership to Palestine in 2011
- Anti-Israel bias in UNESCO resolutions
- Support for anti-US policies and global agenda
- Distancing from multilateral organizations under America First policy

World's largest hydroelectric dam on Yarlung Tsangpo River (Brahmaputra River)

- Chinese Premier Li Keqiang launched the Motuo Hydropower Station on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in the Tibet Autonomous Region.
- The project is the largest hydroelectric dam in the world in terms of size and energy generation capacity.
- The Yarlung Tsangpo River originates in Tibet and flows through India under the name Siang/Brahmaputra and enters Bangladesh as the Jamuna.
- This dam will be built in the world's deepest land canyon.
- The estimated cost of this project is 1.2 trillion yuan (about 167 billion US dollars).
- It is part of China's "West-to-East Power Supply" (Xidiandongsong) plan, which will send energy from Tibet to eastern parts of China.

Key Features

- Power generation: 5 successive hydropower stations will be built by diverting water through 20 km long tunnels.
- In this, the flow of the river will be "straightened" so that energy efficiency can be maximized.
- It will be able to generate three times more clean energy than China's Three Gorges Dam.

India and France sign Skill Development Agreement

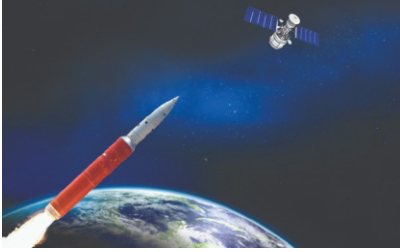
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and France on 22nd July 2025 at the **India Skill Next 2025** event in **New Delhi for skill development**, vocational education and training.
- The aim is to create a workforce that can acquire skills relevant to the economic needs of both countries.
- The key areas of cooperation are aeronautics, hospitality, energy, media, fashion and arts and crafts.
- It proposes to set up a French-Indian vocational complex that will integrate Indian training centres with the French system.

Thailand-Cambodia border dispute

- Recently military tensions continue on the border between Thailand and Cambodia.

Background of the controversy

- **Cause of Dispute:** There is a process of demarcation of boundaries during French rule in the 19th century.
- The main bone of contention between the two countries is an 11th-century Khmer-Hindu temple.
- In 2008, Cambodia attempted to register an 11th-century Khmer-Hindu temple as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Thailand protested, after which there have been violent clashes on the border several times, in which soldiers and civilians were killed.
- Cambodia claims that Thai troops violated the agreement near the temple area.



5. Space & Defence Technology

Space Technology

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla returns from ISS



- Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and other astronauts of the Axiom-4 mission successfully completed their 18-day space mission.
- They landed safely in the Pacific Ocean near San Diego on July 15, 2025, aboard a SpaceX Dragon capsule.
- Shubhanshu Shukla is the first Indian to go to space (the first to go to the International Space Station) after Rakesh Sharma.
- Shubhanshu became the first Indian to spend 20 days and 3 hours in space.
- The mission was launched on 25 June, 2025 by a Falcon-9 rocket from Florida.
- Shubhanshu Shukla is the first Indian and second Indian astronaut to reach the International Space Station (ISS) (after Rakesh Sharma in 1984).
- He carried out seven India-centric science experiments on the ISS which will be useful for future space missions.
- After the return of the Axiom-4 mission, scientists will study agricultural seeds sent to the ISS.
- It aims to analyse the effects on seeds in space conditions such as microgravity, radiation and temperature.

Israel Launches Most Advanced Communication Satellite DROR-1

- Israel successfully launched the DROR-1 communications satellite on 13 July, 2025 from Cape Canaveral, USA, aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- The satellite has been built by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) and will provide communication services for the next 15 years.
- This launch demonstrates Israel's self-reliance and strategic capabilities in space technology.
- It is the most advanced communication satellite to date.
- Its main objective is to provide secure and independent systems for military, government and civilian communications.
- It will be placed in a geostationary orbit of about 36,000 km.

GOSAT-GW Satellite Mission

- Japan successfully launched a climate change monitoring satellite named GOSAT-GW on 29 June, 2025.
- GOSAT-GW stands for Global Observing Satellite for Greenhouse gases and Water cycle.
- The main objective of this satellite is to accurately monitor atmospheric greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄).
- The satellite will make high-resolution observations of climate indicators such as rainfall, water vapour, cloud composition and sea surface temperature.
- The satellite will analyse the relationship between atmospheric processes and the water cycle to understand the causes and effects of climate change.
- GOSAT-GW will make high-quality climate data available to global organizations, including U.S. NOAA, within a year.
- This launch was done with Japan's H-2A rocket.
- The H-2A rocket was developed jointly by JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

Indian space station by 2035 and manned lunar mission by 2040

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced plans to set up an independent Indian space station by 2035 and complete the manned lunar mission by 2040.

Space Station by 2035:

- India will set up its national space station with indigenous technology by 2035.
- The station will serve as a laboratory for scientific experiments, preparation of long-duration space missions and human spacecraft.

Manned Moon Mission by 2040:

- India is planning to send an astronaut to the moon by 2040 and bring it back safely.
- The mission will be based on completely indigenous technology and will place India among select countries that have the capability of human lunar travel.

NASA's TRACERS Mission – 2025

- NASA successfully launched the TRACERS (Tandem Reconnection and Cusp Electrodynamics Reconnaissance Satellites) mission.
- It aims to understand how Earth's magnetic field protects the planet from solar storms and space weather.
- The mission consists of two satellites, flying at intervals of just 10 seconds and will collect more than 3,000 scientific measurements.
- These satellites were launched by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.
- This mission will study the process of magnetic recombination, which generates energy emissions from the collision of the Sun's and Earth's magnetic fields.
- The mission will provide real-time data, ensuring security of communication systems, satellites, power grids and space missions.

Along with tracers, 3 other payloads were also launched:

1. Athena EPIC: Focused on Advanced Satellite Design and Radiation Measurement
2. PExT: Testing of Dual Network Satellite Communication System
3. REAL: Study of Damaging Electrons from Van Allen Belt



INS Nistar, the Indian Navy's first indigenous diving support vessel



- It is the Navy's first fully indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV).
- INS Nistar was designed and built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL).
- It was handed over to the Indian Navy on 18 July, 2025 during a ceremony in Visakhapatnam.
- 'Nistar' means to cross/escape.

Features of Nistar

- Length: 118 meters
- Weight: About 10,000 Tons
- Indigenous content: about 75%
- **Depth capabilities:**
 - Diving Operations: 300 meters (with ROV)
 - Side Diving Stage: 75m
- **Purpose:** Rescue and diving assistance in the event of submarine accidents.
 - **Technology:** Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and Deep Submerged Rescue Vehicles (DSRVs) Operating Capability.
- **Deep Submerged Rescue Vehicle (DSRV)**
 - Task: Evacuating the crew from sunken submarines
- **Competence:**
 - Maximum Depth: 650m
 - Ability to rescue up to 16 people at a time
 - It can work in water for up to 10 hours.

Launch of INS Ajay (Yard 3034)

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) launched 'INS Ajay' in Kolkata on 21 July, 2025.
- It is the 8th and last anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (ASW SWC) of the Arnala class.
- The ship will strengthen the Indian Navy's anti-submarine capabilities in coastal waters.
- INS Ajay has been constructed with more than 80% indigenous materials.



Technical characteristics and capabilities

- The ship has a length of 77.6 meters, a width of 10.5 meters and a displacement of about 1,500 tons.
- It is powered by a diesel engine and a waterjet propulsion system.
- The ship is capable of anti-submarine warfare, surveillance under the surface, search and rescue operations in shallow waters.
- The vessel is designed for laying landmines, light sea operations in coastal waters and coordination with P8I aircraft.
- This ship is capable of detecting and attacking small submarines and unmanned underwater vehicles.
- The vessel is equipped with RBU-6000 anti-submarine rocket launchers and torpedo launchers.
- It is also fitted with an indigenously built 30 mm naval surface gun and two 12.7 mm stabilised remote control guns.

ASW SWC Programme

- The Government of India had sanctioned construction of 16 anti-submarine shallow vessels for the Indian Navy in 2014.
- These ships are being built under the public-private partnership (PPP) model.
- GRSE has been given the responsibility of building 8 Arnala class ships and Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) has been given the responsibility of building 8 Mahe class vessels.
- GRSE has collaborated with private sector L&T Kattupalli Shipyard in the construction of these vessels.
- These 16 ships will replace the older Abhay-class corvettes that were inducted into the Indian Navy between 1989 and 1991.

8 ships of INS Arnala class

- INS Arnala, INS Anjadeep, INS Amini, INS Agre, INS Androth, INS Akshay, INS Azhikkal and INS Ajay.
- The range is named after the historic Arnala Fort in Maharashtra.

INS Tamal inducted into Indian Navy

- India officially commissioned INS Tamal (F71) into the Indian Navy on 1 July, 2025 at the Yantar Shipyard, Kaliningrad, Russia.
- INS Tamal is a stealth multi-role warship built in Russia. This is the second warship of the Tushil class.
- INS Tamal is the eighth multi-role stealth frigate in the series of project 1135.6.
- All the 7 ships inducted so far are part of the

Indian Navy's Western Fleet - 'The Sword Arm' under the Western Naval Command.

- The first Tushil class ship (INS Tushil) was commissioned on 09 December, 2024.
- It is the last major foreign-built warship to be inducted into the Indian Navy.
- INS Tamal has an advanced NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical) defence system installed.
- INS Tamal is a stealth multi-role frigate, equipped with four-dimensional warfare capabilities (air warfare, surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare and electronic warfare).

Features:

- Length: 125 meters | Weight: 3,900 tons
- BrahMos supersonic cruise missile (dual role)
- Vertical Launch Surface-to-Air Missiles (VL-SAM)
- 100-mm Main Naval Cannon
- 30 mm Close-in Weapon System (CIWS)
- Anti-submarine rocket launchers and heavy torpedoes

INS Udayagiri (Yard 12652)

- On 01 July, 2025, Udayagiri Yard 12652 was formally handed over to the Indian Navy.
- It is the second stealth frigate built under Project 17A.
- Project 17A is an upgraded version of the Indian Navy's Shivalik class frigate (Project 17).
- Udayagiri has been developed as the second of seven frigates built by Mumbai-based Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and Kolkata-based Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- They have been designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau.
- The warship is designed for blue water (deep sea) operations.
- It is capable of dealing with both conventional and unconventional maritime threats.
- The ships of Project 17A are based on advanced stealth design, which makes their detection difficult by radar.
- It also deploys medium-range surface-to-air missiles (MR-SAM).

'Samudra Prachet': Launch of indigenous pollution control vessel

- Goa Shipyard Limited launched an indigenously developed second pollution control vessel 'Samudra Prachet' for the Indian Coast Guard on 23 July, 2025.
- It is 114.5 metres long and weighs 4,170 tonnes.
- The ship has two specialised arms and an advanced radar system capable of collecting oil spilled at sea while moving and detecting pollution spots on the sea surface.

Successful test of ERASR rocket from INS Kavaratti

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully test-fired the Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR) from the Indian Naval Ship INS Kavaratti.
- ERASR is a two-stage motorized anti-submarine rocket system, designed to carry out an effective attack on enemy submarines at sea.

Features of ERASR System

- The ERASR system is designed to destroy enemy submarines underwater.
- The system is capable of hitting targets from a distance of 500 meters to 8.9 kilometers.
- This rocket is equipped with a depth charge, which explodes at the depth of the submarine under water.
- It has a dual motor propulsion system, allowing it to be fired over both short and long distances.
- This system can fire a single or series of multiple rockets.
- ERASR has been designed by two Pune-based laboratories of DRDO:
 1. Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE)
 2. High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)
- The Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NSTL) has also contributed to it.
- This rocket and launcher are being manufactured by two companies:
 1. Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad – Public Sector Company
 2. Solar Defence & Aerospace Limited, Nagpur – Private Sector Company

ET LDHCM hypersonic cruise missile

- **ET LDHCM:** Extended Trajectory – Long Duration Hypersonic Cruise Missile.
- It has been developed under 'Project Vishnu'.
- It is one of India's most advanced hypersonic missile projects.
- The maximum flight speed of this missile is estimated at about Mach 8 (i.e. eight times the speed of sound).
- The missile has the capability to hit targets up to 1,500 km.
- It uses scramjet engines, which are helpful in maintaining high speed by using atmospheric oxygen as fuel.

Strategic Features:

- The missile is about three times faster than the current BrahMos cruise missile.
- Its flight capability and radar-dodge technology make it challenging for advanced air defence systems.
- Long distance, high speed and winding path make it more effective and deadly.
- So far, the prototype of this missile has been successfully tested recently.

Next generation fighter jet engine to be manufactured in India



- The Ministry of Defence of the Government of India plans to manufacture the next generation fighter aircraft engine in partnership with France.
- The project will have the French company Safran as the partner, which the technical committee considered the most suitable proponent.
- The cost of this project will be around Rs 61,000 crore.
- Under this, an engine with 120 kilo newton (kN) power will be developed.
- This engine will be used in the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) to be developed in the future.
- The main objective of this partnership is to reduce India's dependence on foreign engines.
- In India, an attempt was made to develop an indigenous fighter jet engine under the Kaveri project, but so far DRDO has not succeeded in it.

Sher: India's indigenous Kalashnikov rifle



- 'Sher' is a state-of-the-art assault rifle manufactured in India, based on Russia's famous AK-203 Kalashnikov series.
- The AK-203 rifle is known as 'Sher' in the Indian Army.
- It is replacing the traditional INSAS rifles being inducted into the Indian Army.
- It is being manufactured at the Korwa Ordnance Factory in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, in which India and Russia have joint participation.
- India's share in this is 50.5% and Russia's 49.5%.

Technical Features:

- The AK-203 is an advanced automatic rifle that fires 7.62×39 mm bullets.
- It has a firing capacity of about 700 rounds per minute.
- It is suitable for working even in extremely hot, cold, and humid areas.
- The rifle is designed to be used in harsh climates ranging from India's Siachen Glacier to the desert of Kutch.
- The design of the rifle is originally from Russia. It is being constructed in India under license based technology transfer.

Successful trial of Aakash Prime in Ladakh

- The Akash Prime missile was successfully test-fired by the Air Defence Unit of the Indian Army at an altitude of 15,000 feet in Ladakh.
- During the test, the missile destroyed two high-speed aerial targets with pinpoint accuracy.
- The missile is designed for high-altitude battle zones (such as the China and Pakistan borders) and is equipped with indigenous radio frequency.

Akash missile system

- Akash is a surface-to-air missile system that can target aircrafts, drones, cruise missiles and helicopters.
- A Sky battery contains:
 - Rajendra 3D Radar – 4 Launcher – 3 Missiles
- It can track 64 targets and target 12 targets simultaneously.
- The system can be launched from the mobile platform and is equipped with ECCM (Electronic Counter-Counter Measures).

Types of Akash missiles

Type	Speciality	Striking Distance	Condition
Akash Mark-1	Original version	4.5–25 km	In service
Akash-1-S	Upgraded, Indigenous Seeker	~30 km	In service
Aakash Prime	For high altitude areas	~30 km	In the test
Akash-NG	New Generation, Medium Range	~80 km	In development

- The Akash missiles are being manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Hyderabad.

DRDO and Air Force successfully test fire Astra missile

- DRDO and the Indian Air Force successfully test-fired the 'Astra' Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) off the coast of Odisha.
- In the test, Astra missile was launched from Sukhoi-30 MK-I fighter aircraft.
- The missile accurately destroyed high-speed unmanned aerial targets located at two different distances.
- It used Radio Frequency Seeker, which is indigenously developed.

Features of Radio Frequency Seeker

- It is a radar-based system that tracks the target by radio waves reflected or emitted from it.
- The system enables the missile to hit the target with pinpoint precision.
- It has a success rate of over 90%.

Astra Missile System

- It is an indigenously developed air-to-air tactical missile.
- It is capable of operating in all weathers, day and night.
- Its firepower is between 80 and 110 kilometers.
- It can fly at a maximum speed of Mach 4.5.
- It can target supersonic speed fighter aircraft.
- The missile has been manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited (Hyderabad).

K-6 Hypersonic Ballistic Missile

- The K-6 missile has been developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- It aims to further strengthen strategic deterrence through launches from submarines.

Main technical features:

- **Type:** Submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missile (SLBM).
- **Range:** About 8,000 km
- **Speed:** Mach 7.5 (~9,200 km/h), i.e. 7.5 times the speed of sound.
- **Payload capacity:** 2-3 tons, both nuclear and conventional weapons.
- **Fuel:** Solid-fuel-based, three-stage system
- **MIRV technology:** It is possible to independently attack multiple targets from one missile.
- **Stealth:** Equipped with advanced dodge technology, capable of evading radars and defence systems
- **Development:** DRDO's Advanced Naval Systems Lab, Hyderabad

Comparative analysis:

Missile	Range	Speed	Type
K-15	750 km	Supersonic	SLBM
K-4	3,500 Km	Supersonic	SLBM
K-5	5,000-6,000 Km	Supersonic	SLBM
K-6	8,000 km	Hypersonic (Mach 7.5)	SLBM + MIRV
BrahMos	290-800 Km	Mach 2.8–3.5	Cruise Missile

India to develop indigenous AWACS

- India will now develop an indigenous version of the Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AWACS).
- The central government has approved the project named 'Netra Mk-II' with a budget of Rs 20,000 crore.
- Under this, the Indian Air Force will get 6 indigenous AWACS aircraft, which will be equipped with surveillance and warning capabilities.
- The project has been entrusted to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- DRDO will install special antennas and systems on Airbus A321 aircraft in collaboration with Indian private companies and Airbus in this task.
- For the first time, the Airbus platform will be used for AWACS. (Previously, Boeing aircraft were commonly used for such tasks.)
- These aircrafts will be equipped with a 360° coverage dorsal fin-mounted AESA radar, which will provide surveillance capability up to thousands of kilometres.
- The project will be completed in 3 years, and testing may begin by 2029.

Aviation-CYGR partnership to strengthen India's UAV capabilities

- A partnership has been formed between Planes Limited (a branch of RRP Defence) and Franco-American company CYGR for drone manufacturing.
- A state-of-the-art UAV manufacturing centre will be set up in Navi Mumbai.
- Aircraft Limited is engaged in advanced aerospace and defence technology.
- CYGR is a high-performance UAV manufacturer, a leader in technical partnerships and exports.

- **Objectives of the partnership:** To develop a domestic UAV manufacturing facility and promote technology transfer and drone exports.
- Under this, hand-launched fixed-wing drones, nano drones, and ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance) drones will be made at the Navi Mumbai facility.

India successfully test-fires Prithvi-II and Agni-I missiles

- India successfully test-fired Prithvi-II and Agni-I missiles from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.

Attributes

Prithvi-II Missile	Agni-I missile
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range: 250–350 km • Propulsion system: liquid fuel based • Navigation: Advanced Inertial System • Warhead Capacity: 500 kg • Capable of carrying both nuclear and conventional warheads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range: 700–900 km • Propulsion system: solid fuel based • Payload capacity: 1,000 kg • Medium-range major interceptor missile.

- **Note:** Both Prithvi-II and Agni-I are important parts of India's three-pronged nuclear strategy.

DRDO successfully test-fires missile launch from drone

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the ULPGM-V3 missile from an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) at the National Open Zone Range (NOAR) in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- The missile is an upgraded version of the UGPGM-V2 and operates in fire-and-forget mode.
- The missile has been developed jointly by various laboratories of DRDO.
- The UAV used in the launch has been developed by Bengaluru-based NewSpace Research Technologies.

Highlights:

- Launchable from indigenous drones.
- Ability to hit targets in all weather with the help of imaging infrared seeker.
- Able to dodge radars from passive homing systems.

- Weighing only 12.5 kg, which makes launches possible even from small drones.
- It can strike effectively up to 4 km during the day and 2.5 km at night.

Portable Nano Sensor Developed by NIT Calicut

- Scientists at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Calicut have developed a low-cost portable nanosensor.
- It can detect life-threatening infections such as sepsis in a few minutes.
- Sepsis is a serious infection that can affect multiple organs and even lead to death if not treated on time.
- The sensor has been developed under the leadership of Prof. N. Sandhyarani.
- It has been used to check for insulin solutions, fruit juices, and endotoxins in human blood.



China makes world's lightest brain-controlled device for bees

- Scientists at the Beijing Institute of Technology have developed a brain controller that can control the flight of bees.
- The device weighs only 74 milligrams, making it the world's lightest brain-control device ever built.
- The system turns bees into a kind of 'cyborg' that can be used in military and emergency missions.
- This technology is more agile, durable and able to hide than drones or robots.
- It can be used in covert military missions, counter-terrorism operations, narcotics search and disaster relief.
- The device is mounted on the bee's back and sends electronic signals to its brain through three fine needles.
- These signals give the bee commands to fly right, left, forward or backward, so that its flight direction can be controlled.

Microsoft launches BioMu1

- Microsoft has launched a new AI system called BioMolecular Emulator-1.

- This system is designed to study the speed of proteins and speed up the process of drug discovery.
- BioMU-1 is a deep learning model that can generate thousands of protein structures every hour using the same GPU.
- Proteins play an important role in muscle growth, immunity and other biological functions.
- Scientists have made progress in understanding the structure of proteins, but estimating their size from the amino acid sequence is still challenging.
- BioMU-1 overcomes this challenge and allows researchers to study protein behaviour in depth.
- BioMU-1 can identify characteristics such as hidden binding pockets, which are important for drug-manufacturing.

'Sherpa Mecha': Humanoid robot developed in India

- Indian startup Ati Motors has developed an advanced human-sized robot 'Sherpa Mecha'.
- This robot is designed for industrial automation such as assembly line, material management and quality checking. It is currently in the testing phase.
- Apart from this, a semi-humanoid robot named 'Mitra' developed by Invento Robotics is being used in the healthcare and hospitality sector.
- **Note:** ISRO is preparing to send a humanoid astronaut named 'Vyommित्रा' for the Gaganyaan mission in 2025 itself.
- In addition, DRDO is developing prototypes of humanoid robots for work in military and hazardous environments.

Anant Tech to launch India's first private satellite internet service by 2028

- Ananth Technologies is a Hyderabad-based company, which has received approval from IN-SPACe for satellite internet service.
- The service will be operational by 2028 and will involve an investment of ₹3,000 crore.
- Internet service will be provided through a 4-tonne satellite located in Geo Stationary Orbit, which will provide a speed of 100 Gbps.
- The geostationary satellite remains stationary at an altitude of 35,000 km and can cover the entire subcontinent.
- Latency is higher than that of LEO (Low Earth Orbit) satellites, but the coverage is larger.

- Companies like Starlink, OneWeb, and Amazon Cooper use LEO technology.

Pregnancy possible with AI's 'STAR' technology

- The investigation was done with 'STAR (Sperm Tracking and Recovery)' technique at Columbia University Fertility Center, USA.
- In this case, the husband had a rare disease called azoospermia, in which the sperm count was low.
- In this, with the help of AI, three live sperm were discovered, which was not possible with a normal microscope. It was from these sperm that the woman became pregnant through IVE.

'STAR' Technology

- This technology places the semen on a special chip, which is scanned with high-powered imaging.
- AI identifies sperm by creating more than 80 lakh images out of it.
- The technique was developed by Dr. Jave Williams and team.
- This is the first case in the world where pregnancy has been made possible by sperm discovered by AI.

AMED API launched by Google

- Google launched the AMED API for the Indian agriculture sector on 10th July, 2025.
- It stands for Agricultural Monitoring and Event Detection API.
- It is an AI-powered open-source tool, which performs real-time monitoring of farms and crops across India.
- It has been developed jointly by Google DeepMind and Google Partnerships Innovation Team.

Key Objectives

- Transforming traditional agriculture into a data-driven system.
- Increasing farmers' productivity and income through crop management and monitoring.

Salient Features

- Surveillance through satellite imagery and machine learning.
- Real-time updates every two weeks.

New malaria drug approved for newborns

- A malaria drug called Cortem has been developed by Novartis for infants and young children.

- It is the world's first malaria treatment for newborns, especially those under the age of five.
- Previously, infants were treated with older children's supplements, which led to overdoses and other risks.
- The drug will be manufactured and distributed in Africa, where most deaths from malaria occur.

AdFalciVax – Indigenous Malaria Vaccine

- India is developing an indigenous malaria vaccine called AdFalciVax, which will be effective against the Plasmodium falciparum parasite.
- The vaccine is currently in the pre-clinical stage and has been found to have the potential to prevent infection and reduce community transmission.
- The vaccine is being jointly developed by ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) and NII (National Institute of Immunology).

Features of AdFalciVax:

- It is a multi-phase, recombinant, chimeric malaria vaccine.
- The vaccine targets two phases:
 1. When the parasite enters the human body.
 2. When it spreads in the community through mosquitoes.

Malaria

- Malaria is a parasitic disease caused by the Plasmodium parasite.
- The disease is transmitted by the bite of a female Anopheles mosquito.
- There are two main types in India – Plasmodium vivax and Plasmodium falciparum.

India's first 'Carbon Fibre Foot Prosthesis'

- It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and AIIMS Bibinagar, Telangana in collaboration with the country's first 'carbon fibre fake leg'.
- This prosthesis can carry loads up to 125 kg and its quality is comparable to foreign models.
- It has undergone biomechanical testing and will be available in three variants to enable users with different weights.
- This is different from the earlier popular 'Jaipur Foot', which is rubber-based.
- The new leg is lightweight, durable and flexible and has been designed keeping the Indian lifestyle in mind.

- Persons with disabilities will be able to easily do tasks like walking, running and climbing by wearing it.

India's first indigenous anti-malarial vaccine

- Indian scientists have developed the country's first indigenous vaccine against malaria.
- It is currently named AdFalciVax.
- This vaccine is effective against the malaria parasite Plasmodium falciparum and may provide protection for more than 10 years.
- It has been developed jointly by scientists from ICMR and Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC) in Bhubaneswar.
- The vaccine contains Pfs-230 and Pfs48/45 proteins, which inhibit infection by producing strong antibodies.
- This vaccine remains stable for more than 9 months at room temperature, simplifying its storage and distribution in remote areas.

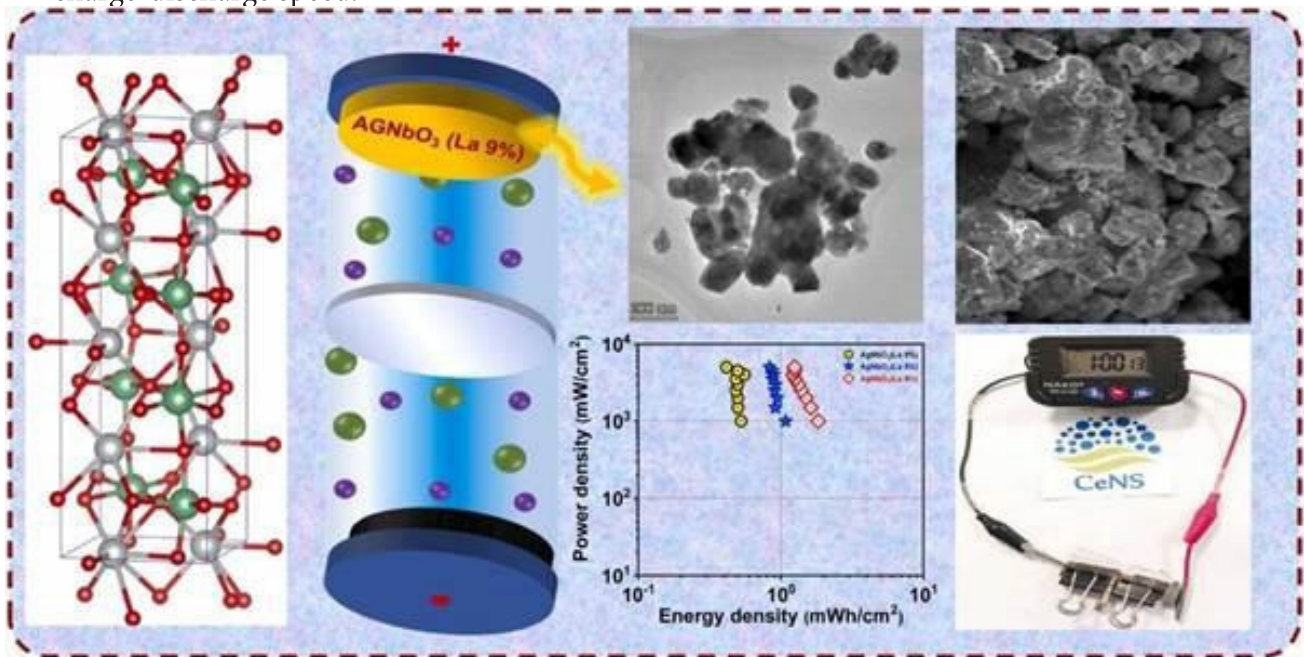
Indian Railways' hydrogen train test

- Indian Railways successfully tested the country's first hydrogen-powered train at the Integral Coach Factory in Chennai on 25 July, 2025.
- This train coach is indigenously manufactured and its testing is an important step towards green energy and clean transportation.
- This technology will be used especially on railroads that are not yet electrified.
- Hydrogen trains emit only water vapour and produce zero tailpipe emissions, making them environmentally friendly.
- Under the 'Hydrogen for Heritage' programme, India will operate 35 hydrogen trains.
- The estimated cost of each train is ₹80 crore and the cost of infrastructure per route is around ₹70 crore.
- As a pilot project, a diesel train on the Jind-Sonipat route will be converted with hydrogen fuel.

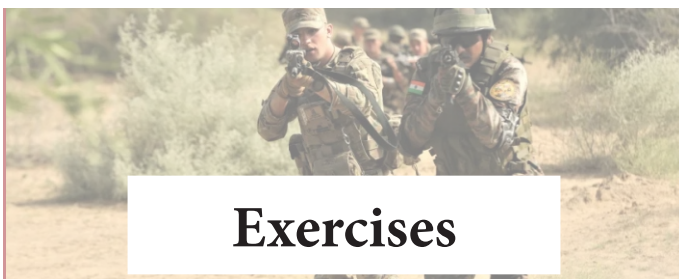
Advanced Green Material Developed

- Scientists at Bengaluru-based Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Science (CeNS) have developed a novel energy storage material in collaboration with Aligarh Muslim University.
- It can increase the efficiency of supercapacitors to a great extent.
- The team of researchers worked on the silver niobate (AgNbO₃), which is an eco-friendly and lead-free material.

- The inclusion of the element lanthanum (La) in the nanoparticles led to a significant increase in charge-discharge speed.



- This demonstrates the potential for rare earth doping (such as LA) in supercapacitor technology .



- It was held from 7–12 July, 2025 at Chennai Port (Tamil Nadu).
- The exercise deals with synergy in maritime strategy, search and rescue (SAR), security checks, etc.
- 'Jaa Mata', which means "See you later".

SIMBEX 2025

- It is the India-Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise (32nd).
- Major warships like INS Delhi, INS Satpura, INS Kiltan and INS Shakti participated in the exercise.
- It is held annually between the navies of India and Singapore.
- The aim of this exercise is to promote maritime cooperation and strengthen mutual military interoperability between the two countries.

'Bold Kurukshetra 2025'

- The 14th edition of the Indo-Singapore joint military exercise "Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025" was held in Jodhpur from 28 July to 4 August 2025.
- It was attended by the Mechanised Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army and the 42 Singapore Armoured Regiment of Singapore.
- The format of the exercise is based on table-top and computer-based warfare tactics.
- Its main objective is to examine the procedures of mechanized warfare operations and enhance interoperability between the armies of the two countries.

PASSEX Exercise

- The Indian Navy and the Hellenic (Greek) Navy conducted a joint PASSEX exercise off the Mumbai coast in the Arabian Sea on 10 July 2025.
- Under the PASSEX exercise, friendly naval ships are in close proximity to each other, thereby promoting operability and interoperability.
- INS Tarkash represented the Indian Navy, while HS PSARA was deployed from the Greek side.

Telesman Sabre 2025 military exercise

- India participated in Australia's largest military exercise "Talisman Sabre 2025" for the first time, which began on 13 July, 2025.
- Armies of 19 countries, including India, Australia, the US, are involved in this exercise, in which a total of more than 35,000 soldiers are participating.
- India's involvement is linked to its security role in the Indo-Pacific region.

Jaa Mata Coast Guard Exercise

- It is a joint exercise between the Indian and Japanese Coast Guards.



6. Sports

National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the National Sports Policy 2025 (NSP 2025) on 1st July 2025.
- This policy is important for comprehensive reforms in India's sports sector and national development.
- The NSP 2025 aims to encourage overall national development through sports.
- The policy will replace the National Sports Policy of 2001.
- NSP 2025 seeks to propel India towards emerging as a global leader in sports.
- The policy aims to make India a strong contender in global sporting events.
- This policy focuses specifically on preparations for the 2036 Olympic Games.

Five Key Pillars of NSP 2025

The policy has been premised on five pillars that strengthen the diverse aspects of sports development:

1. **Excellence on the Global Stage** – Measures to improve performance in international competitions.
2. **Sports for Economic Growth** – Expanding the sports industry, employment and investment opportunities.
3. **Sports for Social Development** – Promotion of inclusion, gender equality, and healthy lifestyles.
4. **Sports as a Mass Movement** – To increase the participation of sports among the masses.
5. **Integration with Education** – Integrating sports into the education system under the National Education Policy 2020.

Aayush Shetty becomes first Indian to win US Open badminton tournament.

- Karnataka's Ayush Shetty won the men's singles title at the 2025 BWF US Open badminton tournament.
- This is the first senior title of her career and the first title win by an Indian player in the 2025 BWF World Tour.
- He defeated Canada's Brian Yang 21-18, 21-13 in the final.
- India's Tanvi Sharma (16-years) finished runner-

up in the women's singles and became the youngest Indian player to reach the final of this tournament.

- Tanvi lost to Beiwen Zhang of the United States 21-11, 16-21, 21-10 in the final.
- The US Open 2025 was held from June 24 to 29 at the Mid-America Center, Iowa, USA.
- The tournament was included in the BWF Super 300 category.

Badminton World Federation (BWF)

- **Establishment:** 1934 (former name: International Badminton Federation).
- **Name change:** BWF (Badminton World Federation) in 2006.
- It is the international governing body of the men's and women's badminton game.
- Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Archery World Cup 2025 (Madrid)

- India won a total of three medals (two silver and one bronze) in the fourth stage of the Archery World Cup held in Madrid, Spain from 8 to 13 July 2025.
- South Korea topped the medal tally with 3 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze.
- India finished 8th in the medal tally.
- India won all the medals in the compound event .

Silver Medal (2):

- Jyothi Surekha Vennam: Women's Compound Individual Event.
- Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Preneet Kaur and Prithika Pradeep in women's compound team event

Bronze Medals (1):

- Jyothi with Surekha Vennam and Rishabh Yadav in the compound mixed team event .

FIFA Club World Cup 2025: Chelsea become champions

- Its final was played on 13 July, 2025 at the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey (US).
- Chelsea defeated PSG 3-0 to win the FIFA Club World Cup 2025 title.

- Cole Palmer scored two goals and assisted in the third goal.
- This is Chelsea's second title; The first was won in 2021.
- The tournament took place in the United States from 14 June to 13 July, 2025.
- It was attended by 32 clubs (for the first time).
- **Note:** This title has been won by Real Madrid the most 5 times.

Wimbledon 2025

- Italy's Jannik Sinner won the Wimbledon Trophy for the first time.
 - He defeated Spain's Carlos Alcaraz 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in the final.
 - Sinner became the first Italian player to win the Wimbledon title.
 - This is Sinner's fourth Grand Slam title.
- Wimbledon 2025 Winners List

Category	Winner	Country
Men's Singles	Janick Sinner	Italy
Women's Singles	Iga Swiatek	Poland
Men's Doubles	Julian Cash, Lloyd Glasspool	Britain
Women's Doubles	Veronica Kudermetova, Alice Mertens	Russia, Belgium
Mixed Doubles	Sam Verbeek, Katerina Siniakova	Netherlands, Czechia

Harikrishnan AR becomes India's 87th Grandmaster

- 23-year-old chess player Harikrishna AR from Chennai has become India's 87th Grandmaster (GM).
- He achieved this feat during the La Plagne International Chess Festival held in France on 11 July, 2025.
- In this tournament, he finished fourth overall.
- Grandmaster is the highest and most prestigious title in chess, awarded by FIDE (International Chess Federation).

Under-20 Freestyle Wrestling Championship 2025

- India's Under-20 freestyle wrestling team finished runners-up at the 2025 Under-20 World Championships held in Bishkek.
- Indian wrestlers won a total of 8 medals in freestyle wrestling, including 2 gold, 1 silver and 5 bronze.
- In this, Iran won the championship trophy.

Gold Medal Winners

- Ankush (57kg category)
- Amit (79kg category)

Silver medalist

- Ashwini (65kg)

Bronze Medalist

- Saurabh (70kg)
- Sachin (both 86 kg and 92 kg)
- Vishal (97kg)
- Jaspuran Singh (125kg)

India to host ISSF shooting competitions

- India will host the ISSF Shooting World Cup in 2027 and the Junior World Championships in 2028.
- It was announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) on 10th July, 2025.
- The decision was taken by the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF).

Major Competitions Assigned to India:

- » Junior World Cup – September 2025
- » Asian Rifle and Pistol Championships – February 2026
- » ISSF Shooting World Cup – 2027
- » World Junior Championships – 2028

Shooting League of India:

- India will kick off the first-ever Shooting League of India in Delhi in November, 2025.
- The world's top shooters will participate in this unique league and will be held in a new and exciting format.
- The aim is to popularise shooting among the younger generation, connect with new audiences and give a platform to talent from across the country.

Harvinder Singh won the gold medal in the recurve open category

- Harvinder Singh won the gold medal in the men's recurve open category at the Asian Para-Archery Championships held in Beijing.
- He defeated Thailand's Hanreuchai Netsiri with a strong score of 7-1.
- This is his first individual gold medal in this competition.
- Harvinder also won a gold medal in the mixed recurve event with Bhawna.
- In addition, he also won a silver medal in the men's team recurve event along with Vivek Chikara.

India won 11 medals in World Boxing Cup 2025

- India won a total of 11 medals at the World Boxing Cup 2025 held in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan. These include 3 gold, 5 silver and 3 bronze.

Gold Medal	Silver medal	Bronze medal
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sakshi (54kg category) Jasmine Lamboria (57kg category) Nupur (80+ kg category) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pooja Rani (80kg, Women) Meenakshi (48kg, Women) Avinash Jamwal (65kg, Men) Firefly (85kg, Men) Hitesh Gulia (70kg, Men) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sanju (60kg, Women) Narendra Berwal (90+ kg, Men) Nikhil Dubey (75kg, Men)

Mexico beats USA to win 10th Gold Cup

- Mexico defeated the United States 2-1 in the final of the CONCACAF Gold Cup 2025.
- The final match was played at the NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas.
- This is Mexico's second consecutive Gold Cup win and 10th trophy overall.
- Mexico also recently won the CONCACAF Nations Championship.

Asmita Weightlifting League 2025

- Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the season of Asmita League 2025 in Modinagar, Uttar Pradesh on 8th July, 2025.
- For the financial year 2025-26, it is planned to conduct 852 Asmita Leagues across 15 sports, pairing 70,000+ female athletes.
- The Asmita initiative was launched in 2021 with an aim to increase women's participation in sports.
- The initiative is part of the Khelo India Mission and involves conducting competitions at the national and regional levels with the help of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and National Sports Federations.

Lakshmi Jadala qualifies for 2027 Special Olympics

- Indian para lawn tennis player Lakshmi Jadala has qualified for the 2027 Special Olympics World Games, which will be held in Cairo, Egypt.
- Despite her intellectual disability, she is Asia's top-ranked para lawn tennis player.
- He achieved this qualification by winning a gold medal in the under-17 junior category at the 2025 National Tennis Championship held in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

Olivia Smith becomes the most expensive female footballer of all time

- Canada's young star footballer Olivia Smith has set a new record in the history of women's football.
- He has signed a four-year contract with English club Arsenal worth ₹1 million (about ₹11.53 crore).
- This is the biggest contract ever made by a female player.
- With this deal, Olivia has become the first female player to join the 1 million pound club.
- His annual salary will be around ₹3 crore.

Italy and Netherlands qualify for T20 World Cup 2026

- Italy and the Netherlands have qualified for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 on the final day of the Europe qualifiers.
- The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 will be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka.
- Italy has made it to the T20 World Cup for the first time.
- So far, 15 teams have qualified.
- In this way, this tournament with 20 teams will be the biggest edition so far.

ICC Player of the Month June, 2025

Men's Category: Aiden Markram (South Africa)

- Aiden Markram was named the ICC Player of the Month for June 2025.
- He played a winning knock of 207 off 136 balls against Australia in the WTC final at Lord's.

Women's Category – Hayley Matthews (West Indies)

- Hayley Matthews was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for June, 2025.
- She scored 104 runs and took 4 wickets in the ODI series against South Africa.

Indonesia to host 2025 Artistic Gymnastics World Championships

- The Artistic Gymnastics World Championships 2025 will be held from 19 to 25 October, 2025 in Senayan, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- This will be the first time that a South East Asian country will host this prestigious competition.
- 86 countries and territories have registered for this championship, which is a record.
- More than 600 athletes will compete in various men's and women's artistic gymnastics events.

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) became the most valuable team in IPL

- Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) has surpassed Chennai Super Kings to become the most valuable team in the IPL.
- The brand value of Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) has reached \$269 million.
- Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) recently won the IPL 2025 title.
- The total enterprise value of IPL has increased by 12.9% to \$ 18.5 billion.
- Mumbai Indians (MI) is at the second spot with a value of \$242 million, while Chennai Super Kings (CSK) is at the third spot with \$235 million.
- Punjab Kings (PBKS) registered the fastest growth with a 40% annual growth.

D. Gukesh wins Zagreb SuperUnited Rapid Chess title

- Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh clinched the title in the rapid format of the SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz tournament held in Zagreb, Croatia.
- The tournament is part of the Grand Chess Tour 2025.
- Gukesh scored 14 out of 18 points.
- In the final round, he defeated Wesley So of America in 36 moves.
- He won 6 out of 9 matches, drew 2 and lost one.
- He defeated Carlsen for the second time in a month in this tournament.
- The blitz stage of the tournament will take place from July 5 to 6. The combined score of both Rapid and Blitz will determine the overall winner.

Neeraj Chopra Classic

- Neeraj Chopra won the first ever Neeraj Chopra Classic Championship held at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.
- He threw the javelin 86.18 meters in the third attempt to finish first.

- Kenya's Julius Go took the second spot with 84.51m and Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirange was third with 84.34m.
- Neeraj organised the tournament in association with JSW Sports and the Athletics Federation of India.
- The event has been rated 'A' category by World Athletics.
- Neeraj had earlier topped the Paris Diamond League (June 20) and Ostrava Golden Spike (June 24).

Vaibhav Suryavanshi hits fastest century in U-19 ODIs

- India's young player Vaibhav Suryavanshi set the record for the fastest century in Under-19 ODIs by scoring a century in 52 balls.
- He achieved this feat in an ODI match against England in Worcester.
- Earlier this record was in the name of Kamran Ghulam of Pakistan (53 balls).
- Vaibhav had scored a century in 35 balls even at the age of 14 years and 32 days in the IPL – this is the second fastest century in the league and he is also the youngest centurion.

India win two gold medals at European Athletics Meet

- India's Mohammed Afsal Pulikkalakath won the 800m race and Praveen Chiravel won the triple jump titles.
- Afsal finished the race in 1:47.01 minutes at the Swiatelsky Grand Prix Tabor 2025 held in the Czech Republic.
- **Note:** Mohammed Afsal won the silver medal in the 800m at the Asian Games 2023 with a timing of 1:48.43.
- In Spain, Praveen Chittravel won the **gold medal in the triple jump event at the X Meeting Memorial Jose Luis Hernandez 2025** Athletics Meet in Pamplona.
- Praveen Chiravel jumped 16.80 meters.

First Indian woman player to score a century in all three formats (Test, ODI, T20)

- Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana has become the first Indian woman player to score a century in all three formats (Test, ODI, T20) in women's international cricket .
- He achieved this feat in the first T20I against England in Nottingham, where he scored 112 runs.
- She is one of the 5 female players at the global level who have scored centuries in all three formats.

Divyanshi Bhowmik wins U-15 girls' singles title at Asian Youth Championships

- Divyanshi Bhowmik has won the Under-15 Girls Singles title at the 29th Asian Youth Championships.
- In the final, she defeated China's Zhu Kihei 4-2.
- The championship was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- Divyanshi has become the first Indian in this age group to win the title in 36 years.
- Earlier, Subramaniam Bhuvaneshwari had won the title in 1989 in New Delhi.

Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025

- Bihar won the Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025 title in both the men's and women's categories.
- The boys and girls teams from Bihar won the titles in the 10th Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025 held in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- For the second time after the year 2022, the Bihar team has won the title together in both categories.
- The Bihar girls' team defeated Odisha 14-5 in the final.
- The boys team of Bihar won the title by defeating Odisha 17-15 in the final.
- The competition was organised in association with the Rugby Football Association of India, Government of Uttarakhand and Uttarakhand Rugby Association.
- Players under the age of 18 participated.

1st India Open Athletics Meet 2025 to be held in Bihar

- The first-ever Indian Open Athletics Meet was held on 19 July, 2025 at the Patliputra Sports Complex in Patna, the capital of Bihar.
- It was a one-day event, in which more than 400 athletes participated.
- It was the first major national athletics event to be held in Bihar.
- It aims to encourage interest in athletics and sports development in Bihar.

134th Durand Cup 2025

- 3 trophies – Durand Cup, Shimla Trophy and President's Cup were unveiled by President Droupadi Murmu on 4 July, 2025.
- The tournament is the world's third oldest and Asia's oldest club-based football competition.
- It will be organized from 23rd July to 23rd August 2025 in 5 states of India – West Bengal, Jharkhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur.
- It will be organized in five states for the first time.

- A total of 24 teams will participate in it, divided into six groups.
 - **Note:** For the first time the Indonesian army team is participating
- **Defending winners:** NorthEast United FC won the title in 2024 by defeating Mohun Bagan Super Giant.

Sujith wins gold at Polyac Imre and Varga Janos Memorial Ranking Series 2025

- Indian wrestler Sujith Kalkal won the gold medal in the 65kg freestyle category at the Polak Imre and Varga Janos Memorial Ranking Series 2025 held in Budapest, Hungary.
- Sujit defeated Ali Rahimzadeh of Azerbaijan 5-1 in the final.
- This is India's first gold medal in the 2025 United World Wrestling ranking series.
- Apart from this, India's Rahul won the bronze medal by defeating Germany's Niklas Stachelle 4-0 in the 57 kg category.

India to host FIDE Chess World Cup 2025

- The FIDE Chess World Cup 2025 will be held in India from 30 October to 27 November, 2025.
- The tournament will be held in a knockout format, in which 206 players will participate.
- The top three players will directly qualify for the 2026 Candidates Tournament, which will determine the Challenger of the World Championships.

Major Chess Tournaments Held in India

- 2022 – FIDE Chess Olympiad
- 2024 – Tata Steel Chess, FIDE World Junior Under-20 Championship
- 2025 – FIDE Women's Grand Prix (fifth leg) held in April

Divya Deshmukh becomes the first Indian woman to reach World Cup final

- India's young chess player Divya Deshmukh has reached the final of the FIDE Women's Chess World Cup.
- She has become the first Indian woman player to make it to the finals of this tournament.
- In the semi-finals held in Batumi, Georgia, Divya defeated former world champion Tan Zhongyi of China by a margin of 1.5-0.5.
- With this win, the 19-year-old has also qualified for the 2026 Candidates Tournament and has also received the Grandmaster Norm.

FIDE Women's World Cup 2025: Koneru Humpy 1st Indian woman to reach semi-finals

- Koneru Humpy is the first Indian woman player to enter the semi-finals of the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025 held in Batumi, Georgia.
- She defeated China's Song Yuxin in the quarter-finals.
- For the first time in this tournament, four Indian women players reached the quarter-finals:
 - Koneru Humpy
 - Harika Dronavalli
 - R. Vaishali (Lost)
 - Divya Deshmukh

Murali Sreeshankar wins gold medal at Maia Sports Meet

- Indian athlete Murali Sreeshankar won the gold medal with a jump of 7.75 meters at the Maia Sports Meet held in Portugal.
- The event was part of the World Athletics Continental Tour (bronze level).
- Sreeshankar's second-best jump was 7.69m, which earned him the winner via a tie-break method.
- Poland's Piotr Tarkowski won the silver, while Australia's Chris Mitrevski won the bronze.

Other Achievements of Sreeshankar:

- Silver medal at the 2022 Asian Games
- 3rd place in Long Jump at the 2023 Paris Diamond League
- He is the third Indian to reach the top-3 in the Diamond League after Neeraj Chopra and Vikas Gowda.

Ancy Sojan wins bronze at Lugano Athletics Meet

- Indian Navy's Ancy Sojan won the bronze medal with a jump of 6.36m at the Lugano Athletics Meet (Continental Tour – Bronze level) held in Italy.
- The gold went to Australia's Delta Amidzowski (6.47m) and South Africa's Danielle Nolte (6.44m).
- Ancy Sogen has won a silver medal at the 2022 Asian Games.

Janhvi Jindal sets 5 Guinness World Records in skating

- 17-year-old Jahnvi Jindal from Chandigarh has set 5 Guinness World Records simultaneously in freestyle inline skating.
- She is the first Indian woman skater under the age of 18 to achieve this feat.
- She has won a gold medal in the National Roller Skating Championship (Visakhapatnam) in 2019.

Olympics Los Angeles 2028 includes T20 format

- Cricket has been included in the Olympics after 128 years, and it will be played in the T20 format at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics.
- Six men's and women's teams will take part, and all matches will take place at the Fairgrounds Stadium in Pomona, California.
- Earlier, cricket was played only in the 1900 Paris Olympics, in which there was only one match between Britain and France.
- Along with cricket, baseball/softball, flag football, lacrosse and squash have also been included in the 2028 Olympics.

Polyak Imre and Varga Janos Wrestling Competition 2025

- Indian wrestlers won a total of 10 medals (3 gold, 3 silver, 4 bronze) at the Polyak Imre and Varga Janos Memorial Wrestling Competition 2025 held in Budapest (Hungary).
- It was United World Wrestling's (UWW) final ranking competition of the year.

India's Medal Winners:

Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sujit Kalkal – Men's freestyle, 65kg Final Panghal – Women's Freestyle, 53kg Harshita – Women's Freestyle, 72kg 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Neha Sangwan – Women's Freestyle, 57kg Priya Malik – Women's Freestyle, 76kg Sumit – Men's Greco-Roman, 60kg 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Neelam – Women's Freestyle, 50kg Manisha – Women's Freestyle, 62kg Rahul – Men's Freestyle, 57kg Anil Mor – Men's Greco-Roman, 55kg

Sudhanshu Mittal re-elected as President of Kho Kho Federation of India

- Sudhanshu Mittal has been elected unopposed as the President of the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) for the period 2025 to 2029.

Key members of the new Executive:

- General Secretary: Upkar Singh Virk (Punjab Kho-Kho Sangh)
- Vice President: 8 members

Kho Kho-Kho Federation of India:

- Establishment: 1955
- It is the premier organization promoting the game of Kho Kho in India.
- The Kho Kho World Cup 2025 was held (January 13–19, New Delhi).
- In this, both the men's and women's team of India won the title.

First ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival 2025 at Dal Lake

- The first-ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival will be held on 21-24 August 2025 at Dal Lake, Srinagar.
- This was announced by Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.
- Competition format: Open-Edge
- Participation: 400+ athletes from 36 States/UTs

Included Water Games:

- Kayaking and canoeing
 - Rowing
 - Water Skiing
 - Shikara Race
 - Dragon Boat Race
- Aim:** To provide a platform to budding sportspersons at the national level, promote local tourism, youth engagement and sports culture.

World University Games 2025

- They are being held in Rhine-Ruhr, Germany from 16 – 27 July, 2025
- These were held in the German cities of Bochum, Duisburg, Essen, Müllheim en der Ruhr, Hagen and Berlin.
- There were 18 games included.
- The pair of Preneet Kaur and Kushal Dalal won the gold medal by defeating South Korea 157-154 in mixed compound archery.
- This is India's first gold medal at WUG 2025.

England to host ICC World Test Championship finals 2027, 2029 and 2031

- The ICC has assigned the England and Wales Cricket Board to host the upcoming three World Test Championship (WTC) finals—2027, 2029 and 2031.
- In addition, Timor-Leste and Zambia were included as new associate members of the ICC, bringing the total number of member countries to 110.

ICC World Test Championship (WTC) Final Results

Year	Location	Teams	Winner
2021	Southampton	India vs New Zealand	New Zealand
2023	The Oval, London	India vs Australia	Australia
2025	Lord's, London	South Africa vs Australia	South Africa

Anahat Singh wins bronze medal at World Junior Squash Championships 2025

- India's top female squash player Anahat Singh won a bronze medal at the World Junior Squash Championships 2025 held in Cairo (Egypt).
- Anahat is only the second Indian woman to do so, after Dipika Pallikal who won a bronze in 2010.

Anahat Singh

- Won gold medal in British Open Under-11
- First Indian to win 2021 US Open U-15
- 2023 British Junior Open U-15 Singles Title Winner
- Two bronze medals at the Hangzhou Asian Games 2023 (in women's team and mixed event)
- Won 9 PSA Challenger titles in 2024
- Best Women's Challenger Player of the Year and Women's Young Player of the Year at the 2024–25 PSA Awards (shared honours with Egypt's Amina Orfei) (2 honours)



India's medals at the FISU World University Games 2025

- Preneet Kaur/Kushal Dalal Archery (Compound Mixed Team) – Gold Medal
- Indian Team, Archery (Men's Compound Team) – Silver Medal
- Indian Team, Badminton (Mixed Event) - Bronze Medal
- Vaishnavi Adkar, Tennis (Women's Singles) - Bronze Medal
- Indian Team, Archery (Women's Compound Team) - Bronze Medal

Riley Powell wins IBSF World 6-Red Snooker Championship 2025

- 16-year-old Riley Powell from Wales won the IBSF World 6-Red Snooker Championship 2025 title by defeating India's Pankaj Advani 5-4 in the final.
- The championship was held in Manama, Bahrain.
- Advani took the lead in the opening frames, but Powell came back to win four of the last five frames to clinch the final.

Badminton Asia Junior Championships 2025

- The championship was held in Solo, Indonesia.
- India won two medals in the women's singles category for the first time in the same edition of the Badminton Asia Junior Championships.
- Tanvi Sharma and Vennala Kalagotla both won bronze medals in their respective categories.
- Tanvi Sharma was defeated by Chinese player Yin Yi Ching 13-21, 14-21.
- Tanvi was recently the youngest Indian finalist of the US Open 2025.

In addition, Vennala Kalagotla lost to China's Liu Si Ya by 37, 15-21, 18-21 and won the bronze medal.



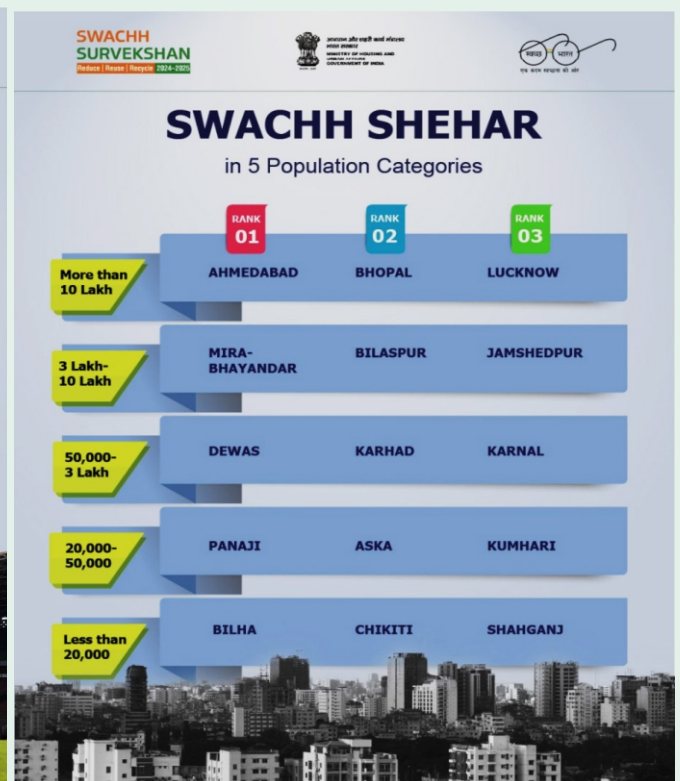
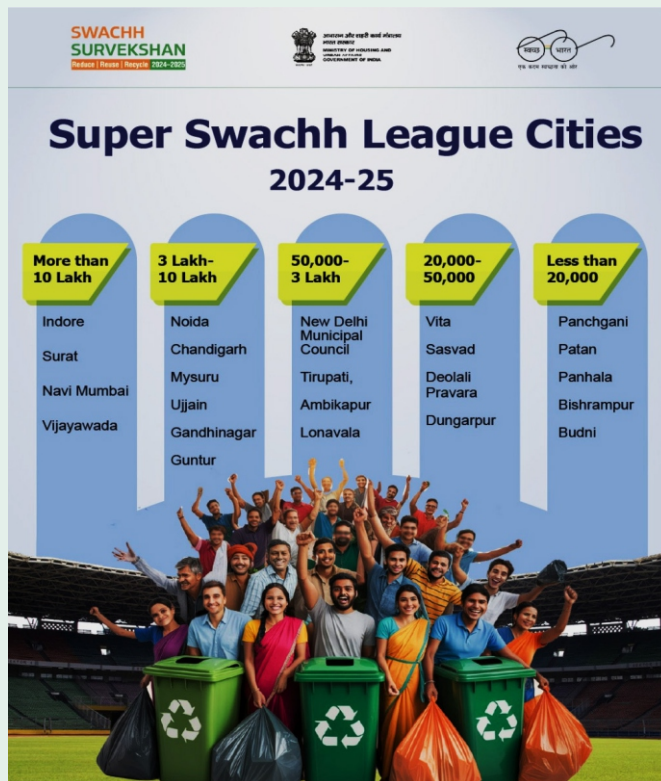
7. Awards & Honours

Swachh Survekshan 2024 □ 25 Awards

- President Droupadi Murmu distributed the awards on 17 July, 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Presented the Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 awards organized by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- In the Swachh Survekshan Awards, 43 national awards were announced, including special recognition for Mahakumbh.
- In this, 23 Super Clean League cities were rewarded.

Main Winning City	
Category	Winner
Premier Super Clean League	Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai
New Top Clean Cities in India	Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Lucknow
Best Ganga Cities	Prayagraj
Best Cantonment Boards	Secunderabad
Cleaning Friends Safe City	Visakhapatnam, Jabalpur, Gorakhpur

- Prayagraj Mela Officer and Municipal Corporation were awarded a special award (for best waste management) for Mahakumbh 2024.
- Under this, awards were given to 78 cities in 4 categories by the President.



- Under this, □Future Outstanding Performance Potential□ awards were given to cities from 34 States/UTs.
- In this, on the basis of □one city, one award' principle, all small and big cities have been given equal opportunities.

The "Clean City Partnership" initiative

- The initiative was launched by Union Minister Mr. Manohar Lal on 17 July 2025 .
- Under this, cities with complete sanitation will motivate other cities to adopt cleanliness.
- Under this initiative, all 78 top performing cities (across all population categories) will adopt one low performing city each from respective states.
- These cities will provide guidance and support to the low performing cities through their experiences.
- Mantra: "Every single one, clean a city".

Dumpsite Treatment Special Campaign

- A one-year garbage cleaning program will start from August 15, 2025.
- **Objective:** Quick disposal of old solid waste and garbage free urban areas.
- Scientific waste processing capacity will also be boosted.

Geetanjali Shree gets PEN Translate Award 2025

- Renowned Hindi writer Gitanjali Shree was awarded the PEN Translate Award 2025 for the English translation of her book 'Once Elephants Lived Here' (Original Language: Hindi).
- It was translated by Daisy Rockwell.
- The PEN Award is given to literary work that have been translated into English and make a special contribution to global literature.
- The award is presented by the English PEN Foundation in collaboration with SALT Publishing.

Other Key Winners of PEN Translate Award 2025

1. Sara Shagufta (Pakistan)
2. Mohamed al-Assad (Palestine)
3. Daniela Catrileo (Chile)
4. Concealed Averisto (Brazil)
5. Maria Stepanova (Russia)
6. Ana Paula Maia (Brazil)

Gitanjali Shree

- She hails from Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh
- **Renowned creation:** Sand Mausoleum (Translation: Tomb of Sand)
- **Major Awards:** International Booker Prize 2022, PEN Translate Award 2025
- She is the first Hindi writer to win the Booker Prize

- This honour has been given to him for his outstanding contribution to India's space program and leadership of cutting-edge technologies.
- The awards given to individuals who have made impactful contributions in the field of science, education and culture.
- The award has been instituted in the memory of Ghanshyamdas (G.P.) Birla and is headed by Nirmala Birla.
- Dr. Narayanan has done significant work in the field of cryogenic propulsion technology in ISRO and has also been the Director of LPSC (Liquid Propulsion System Center).
- Under his leadership, missions like Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1 have been successfully tested and integrated.

Leila Abulela wins 2024 PEN Pinter Prize

- Sudanese-British writer Leila Abuelela was awarded the 2024 PEN Pinter Award.
- She received this award for her influential writings on faith, migration and women's lives.
- His major works include The Translator, Elsewhere, Home, and River Spirit published in 2023.
- The official awards ceremony will take place on October 10 at the British Library, London.
- The award is presented to writers from the UK, Ireland or Commonwealth countries.

ISRO chief Dr V Narayanan gets G.P. Birla Memorial Award 2025

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan was presented with the G.P. Birla Memorial Award for the year 2025.

Deepika receives 2024-25 Polygrass Magic Skill Award

- Indian hockey player Deepika and Belgium's Victor Wegnez won the women's and men's **FIH Polygrass Magic Skill Awards 2024** 25, respectively .

- She is the first Indian player to win this award.
- The award recognises the best individual creative playing moments in the FIH Pro League.
- Deepika received this honour for her brilliant singles goal against the Netherlands, which took place at the Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar.

Varsha Deshpande wins 2025 United Nations Population Prize

- Maharashtra's Varsha Deshpande was awarded the United Nations Population Award in 2025 in the individual category.
- She received this honor for promoting gender equality and her lifelong struggle against sex-selective abortion.
- The award was presented at a ceremony held in New York on 11 July, 2025 (World Population Day).
- He also conducted sting operations for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act and to stop illegal sex determination.

United Nations Population Award

- The award was instituted in 1981 and was first presented in 1983.
- It carries a gold medal, citation and a cash prize.
- It aims to give global recognition to individuals and organizations working in population and reproductive health.

Dharmendra Pradhan to receive Kalinga Ratna Award 2024

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the Kalinga Ratna Award 2024 to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in Cuttack (Odisha).
- The award was presented to Dharmendra Pradhan for his academic reforms and policy leadership.
- This honour is given by Sarala Sahitya Sansad.
- Sarala Das is considered to be the Adikavi of Odia literature; He wrote the Odia Mahabharata.
- The Kalinga Ratna award is given every year to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to education, literature, culture or public service.

Sharankumar Limbale gets Chintha Ravindran Award 2025

- Marathi writer and critic Sharankumar Limbale has been awarded the Chintha Ravindran Award 2025.

- This award will be given to him for his outstanding contribution to literature and social thought.
- The award carries a cash prize of ₹50,000, a memento and a citation.
- The award will be presented at a ceremony to be held on 26 July, 2025 at K.P. Kesavmenan Hall, Kozhikode.
- The Chintha Ravindran Award is given annually to a writer who has made an impact on issues such as Dalit discourse, equality and human rights.
- The award is instituted in memory of leftist thinker Chintha Ravindran.

Deepika Padukone honoured with Hollywood Walk of Fame star

- Deepika Padukone has become the first Indian actress to get a Hollywood Walk of Fame star.
- The announcement was made on 3 July, 2025, and she joined the Class of 2026.
- **Other selected celebrities:** Miley Cyrus, Timothée Chalamet, Emily Blunt, Gordon Ramsey, Rachel McAdams, Marion Cotillard.

Deepika's Global Achievements:

- She made her Hollywood debut in 2017 with the film 'XXX: Return of Xander Cage'.
- She has represented India at the Met Gala and Cannes Film Festival.
- He has also been included in Time Magazine's list of 100 most influential people.

Bhadradi Kothagudem (Telangana) was given open-source GIS award

- Telangana's **Bhadradi Kothagudem district** has been awarded the open-source GIS cohort award for effective use of GIS technology for public welfare.
- The award was given to District Collector Jitesh V. Patil.
- The award was given for the innovative use of GIS in flood forecasting and resolution of public problems related to the Godavari River.
- The district also made effective use of GIS in skill development programmes and integration of data from various departments.

'Meri Panchayat' App Receives WSIS 2025 Champion Award

- The "Meri Panchayat" app of the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj has won the WSIS 2025 Champion Award.

- The award was announced during the high-level event of the United Nations World Information Society Summit (WSIS)+20 Forum.
 - It took place between 7 and 11 July, 2025 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The app was declared a champion in the category of "Cultural Diversity and Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local Content".

'Meri Panchayat' App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The app is a mobile governance platform, developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC). • The app digitally connects 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats and empowers 25 lakh elected representatives and nearly 95 crore rural citizens. • The app provides real-time information on governance and development to rural citizens on mobile phones.
WSIS+20 Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WSIS+20 Forum is a high-level international event that has been held in Geneva every year since 2004. • It is an important platform to promote digital innovation and the development of an inclusive information society.

8

Person in News

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigns

- Jagdeep Dhankhar, the 14th Vice President of India, resigned on 21 July, 2025 due to health reasons.
- He submitted his resignation to President Droupadi Murmu under Article 67 (a) of the Indian Constitution to step down from the post of Vice President.
- Note:** There is no provision for an Acting Vice President in the Indian Constitution.
- When the post is vacant, the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha becomes the presiding officer of the House.
- According to Article 68 (b) a fresh election shall be held "as soon as possible" when the office falls vacant due to resignation, death or other cause.



Vice President who resigns before the completion of his term

- V.V. Giri (1967–1969):** resigned to contest the presidential election.
- Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (2002–2007):** resigned after losing the presidential election.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar (2022–2025):** Resignation due to health reasons.
- Note:** R. Venkataraman, Shankar Dayal Sharma, K.R. Narayanan resigned from the post of Vice President after becoming President.
- Krishnakant was the only Vice President of India who died during his term (1997–2002)

Jagdeep Dhankhar

- Born: 18 May 1951, Kithana Village, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan
- Profession: Lawyer; Youngest President of Jaipur Bar Association in 1987
- 1989: Member of Lok Sabha from Jhunjhunu
- 1993: MLA from Kishangarh
- 1990: Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs
- 2019–2022: Governors of West Bengal
- 2022–2025: Vice President of India

Shri Narendra Modi has reached the second position in terms of being the Prime Minister of the country continuously

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi surpassed Indira Gandhi's record of 4077 days by staying in office for 4078 days continuously.
- He has now become the second person to hold the longest-serving (consecutive) Prime Minister post after Jawaharlal Nehru (6126 days).



- Narendra Modi is the first non-Congress Prime Minister to win 3 consecutive Lok Sabha elections (2014, 2019, 2024).
- He has led the government for 24 years as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and the Prime Minister of India.
- He is the first Prime Minister since Indira Gandhi (1971) to be re-elected with full majority.
- Note:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi is currently at number three in terms of total tenure.

Name	Appointment	Preceding	Key Background Experience
Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju	20 th Governor of Goa	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai	Telugu Desam Party leader, Minister of Civil Aviation from 2014–2018
Ashim Kumar Ghosh	19 th Governor of Haryana	Bandaru Dattatreya	Professor of Political Science (Manindra Chandra College, Kolkata); BJP Bengal President in 1999–2002
Kavinder Gupta	Third Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh	Bri. (Retd.) B.D. Mishra	Senior BJP leader (J&K); Deputy Chief Minister in Mehbooba Mufti government

Governor

- Part VI of the Constitution and Articles 153 to 161 deal with the provisions related to the Governor .
- Governors are appointed by the President.
- The term of office of the Governor is five years, but it functions till the pleasure of the President.
- A person can also be the Governor of more than one state.

Dr Abhijat Sheth appointed as new chairman of National Medical Commission (NMC)

- The Appointments Committee of the Government of India has appointed Dr. Abhijat Sheth as the new Chairman of the National Medical Commission (NMC).
- He replaced Dr. Suresh Gangadhar.
- Dr. Abhijat Sheth has been appointed for a period of four years from the date of assumption of charge or till the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- Dr. Abhijat Sheth is a well-known cardiothoracic surgeon.
- He is currently the Chairman of the National Board of Medical Sciences Examinations (NBEMS).

National Medical Commission (NMC)

- Establishment: 25 September 2020
- Ministry: Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Headquarters: New Delhi

Sonali Mishra has been appointed as the first woman Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).

- Sonali Mishra has been appointed as the first woman Director General (DG) of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).
- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Central Government on 13 July 2025.
- She will succeed Manoj Yadav, who is retiring on 31 July 2025.
- Sonali Mishra's tenure will be till 31 October 2026.
- Sonali Mishra is a 1993 batch IPS officer and belongs to the Madhya Pradesh cadre.
- He has been awarded the President's Police Medal and Meritorious Service Medal.

Aastha Punia becomes Navy's first woman fighter pilot

- Sub Lieutenant Aastha Punia has become the first woman fighter pilot of the Indian Navy.
- He successfully completed the Basic Hawk Conversion Course.
- She was awarded the 'Wings of Gold' at a ceremony held on 3 July, 2025 at INS Dega.

Women in Armed Forces in India

- **Navy's first woman helicopter pilot** - Sub Lieutenant Anamika B. Rajeev (2024).
- Avani Chaturvedi, Mohana Singh, and Bhawana Kant – became the first women fighter pilots in the Air Force in 2018.
- Avani Chaturvedi made her first solo flight in a Mig-21.
- Namrata Chandi became the first woman pilot to fly in Siachen (2001).

Central Government notifies transfer of 18 High Court Judges

- The Central Government has recently notified orders relating to transfer/repatriation of 18 judges.
- Article 222 of the Constitution empowers the President to transfer a judge of a High Court to another High Court on the advice of the Chief Justice.
- This process is completed on the recommendation of the Supreme Court Collegium.

Major Transfers

- Justice Arun Monga – Rajasthan to Delhi High Court
- Justice Chandra Shekhar – Bombay High Court from Rajasthan
- Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma – Rajasthan High Court from Punjab and Haryana

New Chief Justices appointed in 5 High Courts

- President Droupadi Murmu has appointed five new Chief Justices to the High Courts of Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gauhati, Patna and Jharkhand.
- Along with this, the Chief Justices of 4 High Courts have also been transferred.
- The appointments were made on the recommendation of the Supreme Court collegium.

Newly appointed Chief Justice:

- Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva – Madhya Pradesh High Court (29th Chief Justice)
- Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi – Patna High Court (45th Chief Justice)
- Justice Vibhu Bakhru – Karnataka High Court (35th Chief Justice)
- Justice Ashutosh Kumar – Gauhati High Court (43rd Chief Justice)
- Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan – Jharkhand High Court (17th Chief Justice)

Transferred Judge

Judge	Former Chief Justice	Current Chief Justice
Manindra Mohan Srivastava	Rajasthan	Madras
Aparesh Kumar Singh	Tripura	Telangana
M.S. Ramachandra Rao	Forest of bushe	Tripura
K.R. Sriram	Madras	Rajasthan

Appointment Process of Chief Justices of High Courts

- Under Article 217(1) of the Constitution, the President of India appoints the Chief Justice of the High Courts.
- Before the appointment, the President has to consult the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Governor of the concerned state.

Prajakta Koli becomes first Indian to feature in TIME 100 creators list

- Digital creator and actress Prajakta Koli has found a place in the TIME 100 Creators List 2025.
- He is the only Indian in this list announced by Time Magazine in July 2025.
- This recognition recognizes their global identity, creativity and social impact.
- Prajakta started her career in 2015 with the YouTube channel 'MostlySane'.
- In 2025, she published her first book, Too Good To Be True.
- She has worked with organizations such as the UN, the Gates Foundation, the World Economic Forum and the COP Summit.
- She has also been ranked in Forbes India 30 Under 30 and GQ India's Influential Young People List (2025).

Keshavan Ramachandran

- Kesavan Ramachandran has been appointed as the **Executive Director in the Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) with effect from 1st July 2025.
- He has served as Principal Chief General Manager in the Risk Monitoring Department.
- He has worked in key areas such as currency management, banking and NBFC supervision, training and administration.

Home Secretary Govind Mohan's tenure extended

- The central government has extended the tenure of Home Secretary Govind Mohan till 22 August, 2026.
- Earlier, he was due to retire on September 30, 2025.
- The extension has been given under FR 56(D) and Section 16(1A) of the All India Services Rules, 1958.
- Govind Mohan took over as the Home Secretary on 22 August 2024.
- Home Secretary is the second most important post in the Union Government after the Cabinet Secretary.

Govind Mohan

- Native:** Uttar Pradesh
- Cadre:** Sikkim, 1989 batch IAS officer

Principal Secretary to the Government of India (July 2025)

Post	Name of the Officer
Cabinet Secretary	T. V. Somanathan
Foreign secretary	Vikram Misri
Secretary of Defence	Rajesh Kumar Singh
Finance secretary	Ajay Seth
Commerce Secretary	Sunil Barthwal

Sanjog Gupta appointed as new ICC CEO

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) appointed Sanjog Gupta as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on 7th July 2025.
- He replaced Geoff Allardye.
- Sanjog Gupta took charge from 8th July 2025 and will be the seventh CEO of ICC.
- Currently he is the CEO (Sports and Live Experience) of Jio Star.
- In 2020, he became the sports head of Disney Star.
- The current ICC Chairman is Jay Shah.

Priya Nair became the first woman CEO of Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)

- Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) has announced that Priya Nair will become the CEO and Managing Director (MD) of the company with effect from 1st August 2025.
- She will replace Rohit Jawa.
- In 2023, she was appointed president of Unilever's Global Beauty and Wellbeing Unit.

Ajay Kumar Srivastava: New Director (Engineering & R&D) of HAL

- Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been appointed as Director (Engineering & R&D) at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Srivastava has over 37 years of experience in aircraft design and development.
- Held important positions at ARDC (Aircraft Research and Design Center) and TARDC.
- Prior to becoming Director, he was the Executive Director of ARDC.

Sukanya Sonowal appointed as Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassador

- Sukanya Sonowal, a resident of Assam's Lakhimpur district, has been elected as the Head of Communications and Public Relations in the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (CYPN).
- Her term will be for two years from 2025 to 2027.
- Sukanya Sonowal is currently a fourth-year B.Tech student in Biosciences and Bioengineering at IIT Guwahati.

Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (CYPN)

- CYPN is an initiative of the Young Commonwealth, supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat.
- It aims to promote peace, respect and mutual understanding and prevent violent extremism.

Commonwealth

- The Commonwealth is a group of 56 independent countries, many of which were once part of the British Empire.
- India became a member of the Commonwealth in 1949 while becoming a republic.
- Currently, there are four countries (Mozambique, Rwanda, Gabon, and Togo) that have never been British colonies.

Sunil Kadam appointed as SEBI's executive director

- Sunil Kadam has been appointed as the Executive Director (ED) at the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- He is an expert in regulation, transparency and safety in Indian financial markets.
- SEBI is the premier regulatory organisation for the stock market and financial transactions in India.

Prof Uma Kanjilal: First woman Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU appointed

- The Government of India has appointed Professor Uma Kanjilal as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).
- The Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU is appointed by the Visitor of the University, i.e. the President of India.
- The tenure of the Vice-Chancellor is limited to 5 years or 70 years of age, whichever is earlier.

IGNOU

- **Establishment:** 1985, under the IGNOU Act 1985
- Central University under the Union Ministry of Education
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- It is the largest open university in the world.

R. Doraiswamy- appointed as new MD & CEO of LIC

- The government of India has appointed R Doraiswamy as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- His appointment will be effective from 15 July, 2025 to 28 August, 2028.
- LIC is India's largest insurance company and plays an important role in the country's financial sector.
- He has over 38 years of work experience in LIC.
- LIC is headed by a team of one CEO and four Managing Directors (MDs).
- The company is a listed entity under the Ministry of Finance.

Nitin Gupta appointed chairman of NFRA

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet of the Government of India has appointed Nitin Gupta as the new Chairman of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).
- She replaced Ravneet Kaur.
- He became the first full-time chairman of NFRA after Ajay Bhushan Pandey .
- Nitin Gupta will have a tenure of three years or till the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
- He is a retired IRS officer of the 1986 batch.
- He has also served as the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- New members of NFRA
- 3 full-time members of NFRA were also appointed:
 1. Smita Jhingran (IRS officer)
 2. P. Daniels
 3. Sushil Kumar Jaiswal

NFRA

- NFRA is a statutory body established on 1st October, 2018 under Section 132 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- This institution works under the Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Sabih Khan becomes Apple's new Chief Operating Officer (COO)

- Sabih Khan was appointed as the new Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Apple on 8 July 2025.
- He will replace Jeff Williams, who is retiring at the end of the year.
- He holds a dual degree in Economics and Mechanical Engineering from Tufts University.
- He has a Masters in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).
- He has extensive experience in engineering design and logistics.

Sanjay Kaul appointed as new CEO of GIFT City

- Sanjay Kaul, a 2001 batch Kerala cadre IAS officer, has been appointed as the new Managing Director & CEO of GIFT City Company Limited (Gujarat).
- The appointment was announced through a government order on 15 July, 2025.
- He will serve in this post on deputation for a period of three years or will continue till further orders.
- At present, Sanjay Kaul is the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- GIFT City is India's first smart and international financial services focused city.

Elon Musk launches new political party in US

- United States famous tech entrepreneur Elon Musk has announced the launch of a new political party named "America Party".
- Musk said the party aims to "return freedom" to the people, fight against government corruption and unnecessary spending.
- This party will emerge as an alternative to America's two-party system.
- However, the Federal Election Commission (FEC) of the US has not yet confirmed the registration of this party.

Sahil Kinney becomes the new CEO of RBI Innovation Hub (RBIH)

- Sahil Kinney was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the RBI Innovation Hub (RBIH) on 7th July 2025.
- He will succeed Rajesh Bansal, who had served as the founding CEO.
- Sahil Kinney is an IIT Madras graduate and has worked at McKinsey, Aspada Investments, Titan.

RBIH

- RBIH is an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India, which was established in 2022 in Bengaluru.
- It aims to promote fintech innovation, create digital financial solutions and strengthen inclusive credit and fraud control.

Jennifer Gerlings-Simons becomes Suriname's first female president

- Suriname's parliament elected Jennifer Gerlings-Simons unopposed as the country's first female president on 6 July, 2025.
- He was elected by the National Assembly by a two-thirds majority.
- She will officially take office on 16 July, 2025.
- Jennifer is a 71-year-old doctor and veteran parliamentarian.
- In Suriname, a coalition government has been formed due to not getting an absolute majority in the May, 2025 general elections .
- **Note:** Recently oil reserves have been discovered under the sea in Suriname.

Yulia Sviridenko sworn in as Ukraine's new prime minister

- Yulia Sviridenko elected by Ukraine's parliament as the country's new Prime Minister.

- She is the second female Prime Minister of Ukraine. (1st PM: Yulia Tymoshenko)
- He was recommended by the current President Volodymyr Zelensky.
- She has previously been Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy.
- He replaced Dennis Schmihl who had been in the position since 2020.
- Yulia played a key role in securing the mineral agreement with the US.

Deepak Bagla appointed as new director of Atal Innovation Mission

- The Union Government has appointed Deepak Bagla as the new Mission Director of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).
- He has distinguished experience in the field of investment promotion and policy making.
- AIM is a flagship initiative under NITI Aayog, which aims to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.
- This mission works to develop curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills in students and young entrepreneurs.

Demises

Kota Srinivasa Rao passes away

- Famous Telugu actor Kota Srinivasa Rao passed away in Hyderabad at the age of 83.
- He made a distinguished mark as a villain, character actor, and comedian.
- He acted in about 750 films.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2015.
- He was elected MLA from Vijayawada East constituency on a BJP ticket in 1999.

V.S. Achuthanandan passes away

- Former Kerala Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan passed away.
- He was a senior leader of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).
- He served as the Chief Minister of Kerala from 2006 to 2011
- He was the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly from 2001 to 2006.

Oscar-winning songwriter Alan Bergman passes away

- Alan Bergman, the famous American songwriter and three-time Oscar winner, passed away on 17 July, 2025 at his Los Angeles residence.
- Alan Bergman received 3 Academy Awards (Oscars), 3 Emmy Awards.

Places in News

India's First Indigenous 50 KW Geothermal Power Plant

- India's first fully indigenous 50 KW geothermal plant will come up in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - The plants will be set up in Mago, Thingbu and Damateng.
- The plant will generate electricity from the Earth's internal energy at a low temperature of 68°C.
- The project will be implemented by the Centre for Earth Sciences and Himalayan Studies in collaboration with the Shriram Industrial Research Institute.
- It will be funded by the Union Ministry of Science and Technology.

- According to the Geological Survey of India, India has about 10,600 MW of geothermal potential at 381 sites.

Major Landmarks:

- Puga (Ladakh)
- Tatapani (Chhattisgarh)
- Manikaran (Himachal Pradesh)
- Bakreshwar (West Bengal)
- Tuva (Gujarat)
- Rajgir-Munger (Bihar)
- Unai and Jalgaon (Maharashtra)

Also Know

- Geothermal energy is generated from the heat present in rocks and liquids within the earth. Underground hot water and steam are used to run turbines to generate electricity.
- The largest producer in the world is the United States. The largest geothermal zone in the world is in the Geyser region of the US (California).

Maratha military landscape inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List

- The Maratha military landscape has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as the 44th property of India.
- Earlier in 2024, Moidam in Assam was listed as the 43rd Indian destination.

Maratha military landscape

- The landscape is a group of 12 forts built between the 17th and 19th centuries, reflecting the military strategy of the Maratha Empire.

- Of these, 11 forts are located in Maharashtra and one in Tamil Nadu.
- Forts of Maharashtra: Salher, Shivneri, Lohargarh, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgarh, Pratapgarh, Suvarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg, Sindhudurg
- Tamil Nadu Fort: Gingee Fort
- All these forts are National Heritage Sites.

India and UNESCO List

- With 44 landmarks, India ranks sixth in the world and second in Asia.
- The earliest listed Indian sites were Ajanta and Ellora caves (Maharashtra), Taj Mahal and Agra Fort (Uttar Pradesh) in 1983.

UNESCO

- Establishment: 16 November, 1945, as a specialized agency of the United Nations
- Headquarters: Paris, France.
- Current Director-General: Audrey Azoulay (France)
- Membership: 194 member states and 12 associate members
- Main Scope: To promote global cooperation and development in the fields of education, natural sciences, oceanography, social and human sciences, culture, communication and information.

India's first digital nomadic village – Yaktan (Sikkim).

- Yaktan village in Sikkim's Pakyong district has been declared as India's first digital nomadic village.
- The initiative aims to provide a calm, natural and work-appropriate environment to digital professionals.
- The project is a joint effort of the Pakyong district administration and the NGO 'Sarvhati'.
- Under this, homestay owners will be provided with a steady source of income in the off-season.
- The village has dual internet lines, Wi-Fi, power backup, and better water supply facilities.
- This initiative promotes a "work and stay" model, in which tourists can also work with the local culture.
- Visitors can enjoy cultural experiences such as Sikkimese cuisine, folk music, monastic visits, and trekking.
- This model connects rural areas with the digital economy and reduces dependence on seasonal tourism.

India's First AI+ Campus– BITS Pilani, Amravati

- BITS Pilani will set up India's first AI Plus Campus (AI+ Campus) in Amravati, Andhra Pradesh.
- The campus will focus on artificial intelligence and related technological fields and admissions will begin from 2027.
- Around ₹1,000 crore is being invested in the project and will be spread over 70 acres of land.
- The campus will feature smart buildings, renewable energy systems, and IoT-based services.
- The courses taught here will include data science, robotics, cyber-physical systems, and computational linguistics.
- It will be developed as a digital-first, AI-focused educational institute.
- BITS Pilani will also spend ₹1,200 crore on the expansion of its Pilani, Goa and Hyderabad campuses under Project Vistara .

India's first Aqua Tech Park

- Recently, the country's first Aqua Tech Park was inaugurated in Sonapur near Guwahati, Assam.
- The park has been set up by a non-governmental organization called Kolong Kopili.
- The project is being conducted in collaboration with NABARD, ICAR-CIFA, SELCO Foundation and the State Fisheries Department.
- It aims to increase fish production, increase farmers' income, promote techniques like biofloc, aquaponics and ornamental fish farming.
- Aqua Tech Park is one such training and innovation center, where modern fisheries methods are demonstrated and trained .

Asia's largest jungle safari to be built in Haryana

- The Haryana government announced on 6 July, 2025 that it will develop Asia's largest jungle safari in the Aravalli mountain range.
- The state government plans to develop safaris in Haryana on the model of the Vantara Wildlife Facility in Jamnagar, Gujarat .
- The safari will be spread over an area of about 10,000 acres.
- The project has been designed with an aim to promote wildlife conservation, eco-tourism and local employment.
- In the proposed safari, a variety of animals, birds and plants will be preserved in their natural habitat.

India's first national biobank

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Phenom India 'National Biobank' in New Delhi on 6th July.

- This biobank has been set up at CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), New Delhi.
- The biobank has been developed under the health monitoring project PI-CHeCK of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- This biobank is based on the United Kingdom Biobank model.
- It currently stores genomic, lifestyle and clinical data of 10,000 individuals from all over India.

Project 'Phenom India-CSIRHealth Cohort Knowledgebase' (PI-CHeCK)

- It was launched by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on 7th December 2023.
- The objective is to develop prediction models based on the genetic and lifestyle characteristics of Indians.
- Currently, India uses research based on western populations, which are not considered to be suitable for the Indian population.
- The project has been initiated to understand the risk factors for cardio-metabolic diseases in the Indian population.
 - Cardio-metabolic diseases include obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and liver disease.

India's second longest cable-stayed bridge inaugurated

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Sigandur Bridge in Shivamogga district of Karnataka on 16 July, 2025.
- The bridge is 2.44 kilometers long and 16 meters wide, and is built on the Sharavati backwaters.
- The bridge connects Sagar town to Sigandur, where the famous Choudeshwari temple is located.
- This bridge has now become the second longest cable-stayed bridge in India.
- The bridge spans the Sharavati backwaters and connects the towns of Sagar and Markutika.

India's first RoRo ferry service launched on Mandovi river in Goa

- The Goa government launched India's first RoRo (Roll-on/Roll-off) ferry service on the Mandovi River on 14th July 2025.
- It is India's first inland (river based) Ro-Ro (Roll-on/Roll-off) ferry service .
- Under this service, two modern ferries namely 'Gangotri' and 'Dwarka' will run between Chorao Island and Ribandar.

- The project has been designed by Vijai Marine Shipyards and is based on the BOOT model (Build-Own-Operate-Transfer).
- These ferry services are capable of carrying up to 100 passengers, 15 cars, and 30–40 two-wheelers simultaneously.
- The ferry speed is 10 knots, which is twice as fast as traditional boats.
- This will reduce the travel time from 30 minutes to about 12–13 minutes.

Other Ro-Ro Services:

Service	Place Of Origin	Kind
Konkan Railway RoRo	Maharashtra-Karnataka	Rail Route
Ghogha-Dahej Ferry	Gujrat	Of the sea
Muzaffarpur-Varanasi Waterway	Proposed	River

Southampton University inaugurates Indian campus in Gurugram

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the University of Southampton's first overseas campus in Gurugram.
- This is the first foreign university campus opened in India under the new UGC regulations.
- This initiative is in line with the New Education Policy 2020 and the India-UK Roadmap 2030.
- The campus will provide UK-class education to Indian students at a low cost.
- Subjects such as computer science, business management, economics, accounting and finance will be taught.
- Its courses will start from 2025; The first batch will consist of students from India, UAE and Nepal.

India's first horse disease-free compartment

- India's first Equine Disease-Free Compartment (EDFC) has been installed at the RVC Centre and College in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.
- It was granted international recognition by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) on 3 July, 2025.
- This facility makes possible international movement and competition of sports horses in India.
- The compartment conforms to global biosafety standards and has implemented strict biosafety protocols and SOPs (such as pest control, surveillance, waste management, etc.).
- This initiative will promote global participation of equestrian sports in India and open up new opportunities for trade, training and breeding of high value horses.

World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)

- It was established in the year 1924.
- Its headquarters is located in Paris, France.
- Formerly known as OIE (Office International des Epizooties), it was changed to WOAH in 2022.

The country's first Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) will come up in Mumbai

- The first campus of the Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) was inaugurated on 18th July 2025 at the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) Complex in Mumbai.
- The institute will be set up at the Film City campus in Goregaon, Mumbai.
- Rs 400 crore will be spent by the central government on its construction.
- The plan for this institute was presented at the World Audio-Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to develop on the lines of IITs and IIMs.
- The Maharashtra government has provided land for the project in Goregaon Film City.
- Until the construction at the Film City complex is completed, it has been made operational at the NFDC campus in South Mumbai.
- The institute will provide advanced training in areas such as animation, gaming, post-production, XR, and VFX in collaboration with global companies such as Google, Meta, Microsoft, and Apple.
- This institute will promote creative and technical education at a global level.

Arthunkal Police Station becomes India's first ISO certified police station

- The Arthunkal police station in Kerala's Alappuzha district has become the first police station in the country to receive IS/ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) certification.
- This certificate was awarded by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for outstanding service quality in policing and public safety.

Areas of Certification

- Crime Prevention
- Testing Process
- Traffic control
- Public Grievance Redressal
- Excellent operation of law and order

Mumbai's Carnec Bridge is now 'Sindoor Bridge'

- The renovated Carnac Road Over Bridge (ROB) located in Mumbai, Maharashtra has been renamed as 'Sindoor Bridge'.
- The name is inspired by India's military action 'Operation Sindoor', which was carried out in response to the terrorist attack in May, 2025.
- This change was made to remove colonial symbols and reveal Indian pride.
- The bridge was earlier named after British Governor James Rivett-Carnec, who is accused of conspiring against Chhatrapati Pratap Singh Raje and Rango Bapuji.

Puducherry: First state to link TB screening with family adoption programme

- Puducherry has become the first Union Territory in India to include TB screening in the family adoption programme.
- The initiative is being run in collaboration with medical colleges, students and local health departments.

Family Adoption Program:

- It is an initiative run by the National Medical Commission, in which medical students adopt 3-5 families and do health monitoring for three years.
- The programme has become health-centric in Puducherry, where students are regularly screened for TB.

India's first QR based digital house address system

- India's first QR-based digital address system has been officially launched in Sudama Nagar, Ward 82 of Indore city in Madhya Pradesh.
- This initiative is integrated with the national DigiPin system and provides a scalable model for digital urban infrastructure.

Key features:

- A metal plate is placed on each house, which has a unique QR code.
- This QR code links to GPS coordinates, making accurate identification of the address possible.
- By scanning the QR, citizens can make tax payments, register complaints, and get access to services.
- The system is in consonance with the Smart City Mission and the Digital India Mission.

India's first wooden gurdwara

- India's first wooden gurdwara "Sri Nanak Niwas" has been built at the Police Lines in Fazilka district of Punjab .
- The purpose of this gurdwara is to provide a peaceful, accessible and pious place of worship to the families and personnel living in the police quarters.
- The structure is made from cedar wood imported from Finland, which is durable, pest-resistant and durable in different climatic conditions.
- The gurdwara was designed and built by Ludhiana-based artisan Iqbal Singh.
- This Gurudwara is a beautiful amalgamation of traditional Sikh architecture and modern construction techniques.

Neolithic and Iron Age remains discovered in Tirupur



- Historical relics belonging to the Neolithic and Iron ages have been found in the Vellakoil area of Tirupur district of Tamil Nadu .
- Discoveries made by the Yakkai Heritage Trust include nine distinctive grinding grooves built on granite rocks, which were likely used to sharpen ancient tools.
- Such grooves are considered to be typical indicators of Neolithic culture and indicate that they may have been used by pastoralists.
- Apart from this, a surface survey conducted in the Kollan Kadu area has also found microstone tools made of quartz and metallic fragments of the Iron Age.

Military base to be developed on Bitra Island

- The Indian government will set up a military base at Bitra Island in Lakshadweep.
- The island is located in the Arabian Sea and is strategically important.
- For this, the process of acquiring about 1 lakh square meters (0.10 sq km) of land has been started.

- **Note:** Bitra Island is the smallest and northernmost inhabited island of Lakshadweep.
- It will be the third major defence hub after India's first two operational naval bases - Kavaratti and Minicoy - in Lakshadweep.
- About 105 to 350 families reside on Bitra Island.
- The inhabitants are mainly dependent on fishing and coconut agriculture.
- The island of Bitra is located near international sea routes. This will strengthen India's maritime surveillance, coastal security and strategic outreach.

India's first UPI-powered bank branch

- Indian fintech company Slice has launched India's first UPI-based bank branch and UPI ATM in Koramangala, Bengaluru.
- This is Slice's first physical branch, marking its first move from digital to physical banking.

It has the following facilities:

- **Slices UPI Super Card:** No entry fee or annual fee, credit card through UPI scan & payment and up to 3% cashback.
 - **UPI ATM:** Cash deposit and withdrawal facility through UPI.
 - **Objective:** To make the formal credit system accessible to the common people and to facilitate credit to the disadvantaged sections.
- Slices :** Slice is an Indian fintech company, which provides digital credit services to youth and new credit consumers.

Lungfun Ropui declared a monument of national importance

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has declared Mizoram's Lungfun Ropui as a monument of national importance.
- It is the second megalithic site in Mizoram to get this status. Earlier, Kawchhua Ropui (first site) in Wangchia has also got status.
- It was given the status under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- With the declaration of a national monument, the ASI will be responsible for the conservation and maintenance of Lungfun Ropui.
- Any construction or activity within 100 metres of the site will be considered as a prohibited area.
- It will be a regulated area between 100 to 200 metres, where any construction activity can be carried out only with the prior permission of the competent authority.

Lungfun Ropui Site

- The site is located near the Myanmar border, about 54 km from Champhai town in Mizoram.
- It is a megalithic site, in which ancient menhir (vertically standing stones) are found.
- These stones are carved with human figures, animals, birds, lizards and traditional cultural motifs.

Panchakarma Centre inaugurated at Mahayogi Gorakhnath University

- President of India Droupadi Murmu inaugurated several new projects at Mahayogi Gorakhnath University in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- This will give a boost to Ayurveda and Elipathy.
- He also inaugurated a new auditorium, academic block and Panchakarma centre.
- These projects will boost education, health and women empowerment in eastern Uttar Pradesh.
- The Gorakhnath Medical College is constructing an 1800-bed hospital, which will improve the health services of the area.

Centre of Excellence for Hornbill Conservation

- A Centre of Excellence for Hornbill Conservation will be set up at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- The initiative will be funded by the state government with an amount of ₹1 crore from the Endangered Species Conservation Corpus Fund.
- It aims to promote the conservation of four major hornbill species found in the Western Ghats.
- Their populations are at risk due to housing loss, deforestation, and climate change.

Miscellaneous

Telangana gets National Award for Battery Manufacturing (IESA Excellence Award 2025)

- The state of Telangana was awarded the IESA Industry Excellence Award 2025 for leadership in battery manufacturing.
- The award was given by the India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) at the 11th India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2025.
- The award was received by S.K. Sharma (Director – Electronics & EV/ESS) on behalf of the Government of Telangana at a function held in New Delhi.
- Telangana is a leading centre in battery manufacturing, EV assembly and energy storage systems.

India Energy Storage Week 2025

- The India Energy Storage Week 2025 was inaugurated by Union Minister of State Harsh Malhotra at Yashobhoomi, Delhi on 10th July 2025.

Policies and Schemes:

- Measures like PM e-Drive, FAME-II, and EV retrofitting are making the EV ecosystem robust.
- Toll tax exemption for electric vehicles.
- The multi-modal logistics parks will now have EV charging and green energy features added.
- The government aims to achieve net zero by 2070 and 500 GW of renewable energy generation by 2030.

'Operation Kalnemi'

- A police operation called 'Operation Kalnemi' has been launched in Uttarakhand.
- The purpose of this operation is to take action against fake babas who are cheating the public by wearing religious garb.
- These people have serious charges like cheating in the name of faith, damaging the image of Sanatan Dharma, and targeting women.
- The name 'Kalnemi' is derived from a demon from Hindu mythology, who used to mislead people by disguising himself as a monk.

Bihar's Makhana gets international recognition (HS code)

- Mithila Makhana of Bihar has been awarded HS (Harmonized System) code for international trade.
- This code has been given for identification and classification of different products of Makhana in the global market.

Makhana Cultivation:

- 85% of India's makhana is produced in Bihar.
 - Major Districts: Darbhanga, Madhubani, Saharsa, Supaul, Purnia, Katihar.
- It is a water-intensive crop, sown in ponds in April-May and harvested in September-October.
- GI tag: Mithila Makhana got it in 2022.
- It is used in fasting, snacks, medicinal uses and offerings.

HS Code

- HS Code is a global system developed by the World Customs Organization (WCO).
- It is used for export-import classification, taxation assessment, and trade statistics.
- In India, this code is of 8 digits and it is useful in customs and GST.

Prasar Bharati signs MoU with Handball Association

- Prasar Bharati has signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Handball Association of India (HAI).
- Under this agreement, all national and international handball competitions to be held in India will be produced and broadcast.
- The handball matches will be broadcast on DD Sports, Waves OTT and other public digital platforms.
- It aims to increase the visibility of handball in India, give recognition to players and promote the sport in an organised manner.
- Chairman of Prasar Bharati:** Navneet Kumar Sehgal.

Operation Shiva

- The Indian Army launched Operation Shiva 2025 to secure the Shri Amarnath Yatra.
- The operation has been launched to deal with growing threats from Pakistan-backed terror groups in Jammu and Kashmir.
- More than 50 anti-drone systems have been activated under the C-UAS system.

Central Government and Sri Aurobindo Society Partners for Inclusive Education

- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS) on 7th July 2025.
- The partnership aims to promote inclusive education for children with disabilities by providing training and tools to teachers and education workers.
- The initiative is part of 'Project Inclusion', which is being run under the 'Roopantar' initiative of the Sri Aurobindo Society.
- Under this project, training will be provided through mobile app and website.

'Mukhyamantri Sehat Yojana'

- The Punjab government has announced Mukhyamantri Sehat Yojana, which provides annual free health insurance of Rs 10 lakh for 65 lakh families of the state.
- The scheme will be launched on 2 October, 2025, Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti.
- Under this scheme, all Punjabi families, regardless of income or place of residence, will be issued health cards.
- The beneficiaries will get free and cashless treatment in government and empanelled private hospitals.

- It will also cover retired Punjabi government employees living in other states, patients from outside the state undergoing treatment in Ayushman Bharat empanelled hospitals.
- The scheme will provide an additional coverage of ₹5 lakh to 45 lakh families covered under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, taking the total sum insured to ₹10 lakh.
- Punjab will become the first state in India to provide universal health insurance without income or residency conditions .

C-FLOOD Flood Forecasting System

- Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launched the flood forecasting web portal named C-FLOOD in New Delhi on 2 July, 2025.
- The portal is capable of giving early warning of floods up to two days in advance up to the village level.
- C-DAC Pune developed the portal in collaboration with Central Water Commission.
- This portal covers Mahanadi, Godavari and Tapi river basins, in future it will be extended to other river areas.
- The system is based on 2-D hydrodynamic modelling, which simulates possible scenarios of flooding.
- The analysis of the Mahanadi basin is provided by C-DAC Pune, while the data of Godavari and TAPI are provided by NRSC Hyderabad.
- This portal has been developed under the National Supercomputing Mission.

Tec-Verse 2025

- The two-day 'Tec-Verse 2025' Technology Showcase was launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- The event was attended by 1000+ stakeholders, including startups, industry representatives, academia, and researchers.
- It aims to bring research, startups, and industry on one platform and promote the development and commercialization of tech products.

Operation Cycle V

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted operations against cyber fraud and money laundering cases under Operation Chakra-V.
- The campaign was launched in Rajasthan, Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh .
- **Money Mule Banks:** Accounts that are used to transfer illegal funds.
- Money mules are people who commit this act knowingly or unknowingly with the help of fraudsters.

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- Establishment: 1 April 1963 (under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946)
- Ministry: Under the Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- Functions: Investigation of corruption, economic offences and special crimes.
- Current Director: Pravin Sood.

Punaura Dham (Sitamarhi) Development Project

- It was approved by the Government of Bihar on 1st July 2025 .
- Punaura Dham is located in Sitamarhi district (Bihar).
- It is worshipped as the birthplace of Mother Sita.
- This holy site will be developed grandly on the lines of the Ram temple of Ayodhya.
- For this, the Bihar government has allocated a total budget of ₹ 882.87 crore.
- The Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC) will take over the responsibility of implementing the project.

Schemes Launched by Bihar Government Chief Minister's Pledge Scheme

- The objective of this scheme is to help the youth to gain practical experience by providing financial assistance during internship.
- 12th, ITI, Diploma, Graduate or Masters and youth with skill training are eligible.
- **Monthly Support:**
 - 12th Pass: ₹4,000
 - ITI/Diploma: ₹5,000
 - Graduation/Post Graduation: ₹6,000
 - In other districts: ₹2,000 extra
 - Outside Bihar: ₹5,000 (up to 3 months)

Chief Minister's Artist Pension Scheme

- Senior artistes aged 50 years or above, having 10 years of artistic experience and having an annual income of less than ₹1.2 lakh will be given a monthly pension of ₹3,000.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra resumes

- The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra was resumed from 30 June 2025 after a gap of 5 years.
- The yatra started from two routes -- Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La Pass in Sikkim .
- This religious pilgrimage leads to Mount Kailash (18,000 feet) and Lake Mansarovar, which are considered sacred for many religions.

- This year, 750 Indian nationals, divided into 15 groups, have been granted permission to take part in the pilgrimage.
- The first batch of 36 pilgrims left for Sikkim route.
- Apart from this, 250 pilgrims will travel in 5 batches from Lipulekh route.

Bankcherla Project

- The Bankcherla project is a proposed water resources project in Bankaccherla village located in Pechalapadu mandal of Nandyal district of Andhra Pradesh.
- It is disputed between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Objective:** To construct a balancing reservoir for the Srisailem right bank canal system.
- The project is proposed to supply the excess water of the Godavari river to various canal systems, the Rayalaseema region and cities like Chennai.
- On 16th July, 2025, the Central Government announced the constitution of a high-level technical committee to resolve water disputes between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- It will monitor telemetry based water measurement and distribution.

Operation Asmita

- 'Operation Asmita' is a campaign run by the Uttar Pradesh Police
- Under this, large illegal conversion networks have been exposed.
- This racket used to motivate young women to change their names through love jihad.
- The network is linked to the banned organization PFI, SDPI and Pakistani terrorist groups, and was funding from countries like Canada, America.

Inauguration of 'Mahila Arogyam Room'

- The Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice has launched a special health and wellness centre – 'Mahila Arogyam Room' – for women employees at Shastri Bhawan Complex, New Delhi.
- This initiative is the first of its kind towards institutionalizing healthcare facilities at government workplaces.
- It envisages this facility with the aim of promoting physical and mental fitness of women employees, as well as work-life balance.
- It also includes a fitness zone with gym equipment and a private room for lactating mothers.
- **First Law Secretary of India:** Dr. Anju Rathi Rana.

India wins 4 medals at International Chemistry Olympiad (ICHO) 2025

- India won a total of 4 medals, including 2 gold and 2 silver medals, at the 57th International Chemistry Olympiad 2025 held in Dubai, UAE.
- India ranked sixth globally.
- ICHO is an annual international competition in which high school students' chemistry knowledge and experimental skills are tested.

India ranked 7th in International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO)

- The International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) 2025 was held in the Sunshine Coast, Australia.
- The six-member Indian team finished with a total of 193 points to win three gold, two silver and one bronze medal.
- India also secured 7th position for the third time (previously in 1998 and 2001).
- Kanav Talwar, Aarav Gupta, Aditya Mangudi won gold, Abel Mathew and Adish Jain won silver and Archit Manas won bronze medal from India.

RailOne App – Integrated Railway Passenger Services Platform

- Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the RailOne app on 1st July 2025.
- It aims to integrate all railway passenger services on a single platform.
- The app offers 3% discount on unreserved tickets and platform tickets, live train tracking, grievance resolution, e-catering, porter booking and last mile taxi services.
- Booking of reserved tickets will still be done through the IRCTC platform.

Conferences

First Global Conference on Manuscript Heritage

- The first-ever Global Manuscript Heritage Conference in India was held from 11-13 September, 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- The event was organized by the Ministry of Culture with an aim to preserve and propagate the ancient manuscript-knowledge tradition of India.
- Theme of the Conference: "Retrieval of India's Knowledge Tradition through Manuscript Heritage".
- India has more than 10 million manuscripts, which provide information on subjects such as philosophy, science, medicine, literature and art.
- It marked the launch of the 'Manuscript Research Partners (MRP)' programme.

'Youth Spiritual Summit'

- A 'Youth Spiritual Summit' will be organized in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh from 18 to 20 July, 2025.
- The conference was announced by Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.
- It aims to encourage youth participation for a drug-free India.
- The conference is based on the theme 'Drug Free Youth for Developed India'.
- The event will be held at the holy ghats of river Ganga and will be attended by more than 500 youth representatives from 100 spiritual organisations .

ShalyCon 2025

- The 3rd National Shalyacon 2025 was held from 13–15 July 2025 in New Delhi.
- It was organized in association with All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and Rashtriya Sushruta Sangh.
- The conference provides a platform for experts in the field of Ayurvedic surgery.
- It was attended by around 500 participants from India, Nepal and Sri Lanka .
- **Note:** The birth anniversary of Sushruta, who is considered the father of Ayurvedic surgery, is celebrated on July, 15.

2nd BIMSTEC Ports Conclave 2025

- The 2nd BIMSTEC Port Conference in India was held on 14-15 July, 2025 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- It was inaugurated by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- **Objective:** To promote maritime cooperation, port connectivity, green energy, and smart logistics.
- Theme: "Direction of the Future: Blue Economy, Innovation and Sustainable Participation".
- Topics such as the Kaladan Transit Corridor, coastal tourism, and green hydrogen were discussed.
- **BIMSTEC member countries:** India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.
- BIMSTEC was established in 1997. Its secretariat is in Dhaka (Bangladesh).

First National Conference of Chairpersons of Urban Local Bodies inaugurated

- The 1st National Conference of Chairpersons of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) was inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on 3rd July, 2025 at the International Centre for Automotive Technology, Manesar, Gurugram.

- **Objective:** To underline the democratic role of urban local bodies and discuss emerging urban governance models .
- **Theme of the Conference:** "Role of Urban Local Bodies in Strengthening Constitutional Democracy and Nation Building".

Urban Local Bodies

- These are considered to be the third level of democracy.
- Under the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, Urban Local Self Government got constitutional status.
- This amendment came into effect from 1st June, 1993 and Part IX-A and the 12th Schedule were added.
- There are 18 tasks in the 12th Schedule that must be assigned to municipalities.

National Urban Cyber Security Conference 2025

- The conference was held on 18th July, 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- It aimed to make cities safer from growing cyber threats and strengthen urban cyber resilience.
- The event was attended by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs along with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Electronics and IT.
- In this, the ministry announced initiatives such as a city-specific cybersecurity framework and mandatory appointment of CISO (Chief Information Security Officer).
- Discussing the role of SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle), it was recommended to make it an innovation-based and flexible framework.

National Vice-Chancellors' Conference of Central Universities

- The National Vice Chancellors' Conference for Central Universities was held on 10–11 July, 2025 in Kevadia, Gujarat.
- The conference was organized by the Ministry of Education to commemorate the completion of 5 years of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- The objective of the conference was to focus on the emerging role of Central Universities and to underline their contribution in educational reforms.
- The programme reviewed the progress made under NEP 2020 and set the direction for its next phase of implementation.

India Maritime Investment Summit

- The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India organized the India Maritime Investment Summit at India House in London.
- The objective of this conference was to strengthen global maritime cooperation and promote foreign investment in India's maritime sector.
- **Note:** India's global shipbuilding ranking has improved from 23rd position to 16th position.

Behdinkhalam festival

- The festival was celebrated by the Panar community in Meghalaya with traditional fervour.
- This three-day annual festival is held in July and is celebrated to wish for a good harvest, freedom from diseases and ward off evil powers.
- 'Behdinkhalam' means – "to overcome the epidemic", which reflects the religious spirit of this festival.
- In recent years, the festival has not only remained religious, but has also become a medium for public awareness on social issues such as drug addiction, ill effects of alcohol and climate change.

First Astro Tourism Festival in Ladakh

- The first Astro Tourism Festival was held in Leh, Ladakh on 27-28 June, 2025.
- The two-day event was jointly organised by the Ladakh Tourism Department and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru.
- Objective: To make Ladakh a major hub of astro tourism and connect the common people with astronomy and space science.
- **Note - Hanley Dark Sky Reserve:** India's first dark sky reserve.

Aadi Thiruvathirai Festival 2025

- The Union Ministry of Culture organized the Aadi Thiruvathirai Festival from 23 to 27 July, 2025.
- The festival was celebrated on the birth constellation Thiruvathirai (Ardra) of the Chola Emperor Rajendra Chola I to commemorate his birth anniversary.
- The year 2025 marks the 1000th anniversary of the construction of the Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple.
- It is also the 1000th anniversary of Rajendra Chola's maritime expeditions to South-East Asia.
- The closing ceremony took place on July, 27, which was also attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Rajendra Chola I and the Chola Empire

- The reign of Rajendra Chola I lasted from 1014 to 1044 AD.
- He took over the reigns from his father Rajaraja Chola I and expanded the empire to Sri Lanka, Maldives, Indonesia and Malaysia.
- He is considered to be the forerunner of Indian maritime power.
- He established the new capital Gangaikonda Cholapuram.
- The Shiva temple built in the town reflects the excellence of Chola architecture and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

10

Indexes & Reports

Delhi Declared Most Affordable Student City in QS Best Student Cities Rankings 2026

- Delhi has been declared the most affordable city in the world in the 2026 Best Student Cities Rankings released by QS .
- Mumbai and Bangalore are also included in the list of top-15 affordable cities from India.
- The rankings are based on several indicators such as academic reputation, affordability of life, employment prospects, diversity and attractiveness.
- Delhi has secured the first position in the world in the Affordability Index with a score of 96.5.
- Employment opportunities are another key indicator, with Delhi and Mumbai breaking into the global top 50.

City	Overall Global Rank (2026)	Index Status	Total Score
Mumbai	98	Top 100, Top 50 in Job Opportunity	86.3
Delhi	104	Ranked first globally in affordability	60.5
Bangalore	108	Global Top 60 in Job Opportunity	59.6
Chennai	128	Improve job opportunity	54.1

Top 5 student cities in the world (2026)

1. Seoul (South Korea) – 1st place
2. Tokyo (Japan)
3. London (UK)
4. Munich (Germany)
5. Melbourne (Australia)

NITI Aayog's NER SDG Index Report 2023–24

- The report has been prepared by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
- Technical Assistance: Provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in India.
- In this, 121 districts of 8 North Eastern States (Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Tripura, Meghalaya) were evaluated.
- This is the second edition of this report; The first edition came out on 26 August, 2021.

- Mizoram's Hannathial district topped the list of 121 districts (score: 81.43).
- Arunachal Pradesh's Longding district was ranked last (121st).

Statistics & Indicators	4 Categories based on performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 84 indicators, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 41 Indicators from Central Government Ministries/ Departments ○ 43 Indicators from state sources 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achiever (100 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Achieve all goals 2. Front Runner (65□99 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Near the target 3. Performer (50□64 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Medium performance 4. Aspirant (<50 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Weak performance

- Under this, 85% of the districts came under the 'Front Runner' category.

Top 5 districts (by score)

Rank	District	Kingdom	Score
1	Hanhathiyal	Mizoram	81.43
2	Champhai	Mizoram	79.86
3	Gomti	Tripura	78.89
4	Mokokchung	Nagaland	78.43
5	West Tripura	Tripura	77.64

NITI Aayog

- **Establishment:** 1 January, 2015 (replaced Planning Commission)
- **Chairman:** Prime Minister of India (ex-officio)
- **- Vice President:** Suman Berry
- **Chief Executive Officer:** BVR Subrahmanyam

CREA Report (January-June 2025)

- According to the report of the Centre for Energy and Clean Air Research (CREA), Byrnihat (Meghalaya) is the most polluted city in the country.
- The average level of PM 2.5 in Byrnihat was recorded at 133 µg/m³, which is much higher than the national standard (40 µg/m³).

- Aizawl (Mizoram) was declared the cleanest city in the country.
- The report analysed 293 cities, out of which 122 exceeded the national air quality standards.

UNCTAD 's "Trade and Development Vision 2025" Report

- The report was released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- The report titled "Trade and Development Foresights 2025: Under Pressure – Uncertainty Reshapes Global Economic Prospects".
- Global growth is projected to decline from 2.8% in 2024 to 2.3% in 2025, indicating a slowdown and stagnation.
- The major reasons behind this are the decrease in global demand, increase in trade barriers, and financial instability.

Analysis

- Growth will slow in some regions of Latin America, Europe and Asia.
- Sub-Saharan Africa, South and East Asia will be comparatively better on the back of strength of domestic demand and trade.
- Uncertainty in economic policy is at an all-time high in the 21st century.
- In addition, many G7 countries are increasing the defence budget by reducing social spending – such as the UK's target for the defence budget is 2.5% of GDP.
- The European Union (EU) has launched an €800 billion 'Rearm Europe' plan.
- This can have a negative impact on the SDGs (health, education, climate).

India ranks 4th in the world in income equality

- According to the Gini index, India's score is 25.5, which has made it fourth in the world in income-equality.
- Slovakia, Slovenia and Belarus are ranked first, second and third respectively.
- India has achieved this feat by improving from a score of 28.8 in 2011.
- This is better than China (35.7) and the US (41.8).
- According to the World Bank's 2025 report, 17.1 crore Indians came out of extreme poverty between 2011–2023 and the poverty rate declined from 16.2% to 2.3%.

India is the second largest country in the world in social security.

- 64.3% of India's population (about 94 crore people) is now covered under social security.

- China ranks first, where 70% of the population gets social security.
- The ILO (International Labour Organization) recognized schemes with cash-only benefits, such as:
 - Schemes of States: Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu etc.
 - Centre's Schemes: Ayushman Bharat, Kisan Samman Nidhi
- The ILO did not include MNREGA and PM Garib Anna Yojana as they are not cash-based.
- This figure could go up to Rs 100 crore if more schemes are added in the next phase.
- Only 19% of the population was covered by social security 10 years ago.

Satellite race in space: US tops, India 6th

- There are currently 12,952 active satellites in orbit around the Earth, 90% of which are held by just 10 countries.
- The United States is in first place, which has 8,530 satellites. Most of these belong to SpaceX.
- India has 136 active satellites and is ranked sixth.

Top 10 Countries and their Satellites:

Rank	Country	Number of Satellites
1	USA	8,530
2	Russia	1,559
3	China	906
4	United Kingdom	763
5	Japan	203
6	India	136
7	France	100
8	Germany	82
9	Italy	66
10	Canada	64

Global Unicorn Index 2025

- It was released by the Hurun Research Institute.
- Unicorns are private startups that have a valuation of \$1 billion or more.
- The total number of global unicorns in 2025 has risen to 1,523, with a combined value of \$5.6 trillion.

Top 10 countries with the most unicorns in 2025

Rank	Country	Number Of Unicorns
1	USA	758
2	China	343

3	India	64
4	United Kingdom	61
5	Germany	36
6	France	30
7	Canada	28
8	Israel	20
9	South Korea	18
9	Singapore	18

- India has 64 unicorns. And it ranks third globally.
- The major unicorn cities in India are: Bengaluru (36 unicorns), Mumbai, and Gurugram.

Top 10 Global Cities in Unicorns

Rank	City	Number Of Unicorns
1	San Francisco	199
2	New york	142
3	Beijing	91
4	Shanghai	69
5	London	55
6	Shenzhen	46
7	Bangalore	36
8	Paris	32
9	Palo Alto	30
10	Boston	27

India becomes world's third largest domestic aviation market

- India recently became the third largest domestic aviation market in the world.
- The United States is in first place and China in second place.
- India's domestic air traffic registered a growth of 10% in April, 2025, which is higher than the global average of 8%.
- India's domestic traffic has grown by 30% and international traffic has increased from 55 million to 72 million.
- The Indian government aims to achieve a \$4 billion share in the global MRO (Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul) market by 2031.

India's progress in the MSME sector

- Union Minister for MSME Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi has said that the MSME sector is the second largest contributor to India's economy.
- **MSME Contribution:**
 - GDP 30.1%
 - 35.4% of Manufacturing
 - 45.73% of Exports

- As of now, 3.80 crore units have been registered on the Udyam portal (Launch: 1 July, 2020).
- This portal provides simple, self-declared, and paperless registration process.
- There are currently 6.5 crore MSME units in operation, which have provided more than 28 crore jobs.
- PM Vishwakarma Yojana provides assistance to artisans associated with 18 traditional craft businesses.

MSME: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Revised Classification of MSMEs (Effective from 1st April, 2025)

Category (classification)	Investment in Plant & Machinery/ Equipment (Max)	Annual Turnover (Maximum)
Micro	Up to ₹2.5 Crore	Up to ₹10 Crore
Small	Up to ₹25 crore	Up to ₹100 crore
Medium	Up to ₹125 crore	Up to ₹500 crore

- **Note:** This definition of MSME is equally applicable to both manufacturing and services providing enterprises.
- Both conditions (investment and turnover) have to be met — this is called the composite criterion.

India tops fastest payment system: IMF report

- According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), 18.39 billion transactions were recorded by the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) as of June, 2025. (Total value of over Rs 24.03 lakh crore)
- In June last year, this figure was 1388 crore transactions and there was a growth of 32% in 1 year.
- According to the IMF report 'Rising Retail Digital Payments: The Value of Interoperability', India has become the global leader in fast payments.
- According to the report, India is rapidly moving towards digital first economy.
- More than 49.1 crore people and 65 lakh merchants are connected to UPI in the country. It has become 85% of India's total digital payments.
- India contributes to nearly 50% of the world's total real-time digital payments.
- UPI has allowed users to make instant payments by linking multiple bank accounts through a single app.
- UPI was launched in 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Henley Passport Index 2025

- The index is released by Henley & Partners, a London-based consultancy.
- India ranked 77th in this index. (Last year: 85th place)
- Indian passport holders can avail visa-free or visa-on-arrival facility in 59 countries.
- The index is based on data from IATA (International Air Transport Association).
- The ranking is based on the number of countries with visa-free or visa-on-arrival access by a passport.

Top 5 countries (2025)

Rank	Country	Visa-Free Destinations
1	Singapore	193
2	Japan, South Korea	190
3	France, Germany, Italy, Spain etc.	189
4	Austria, Sweden, Portugal etc.	188
5	New Zealand, Switzerland, Greece	187
77	India	59

Top 10 International Airports in the World

- The Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2025 include Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai among the top 10 international airports in the world.
- It is the only airport in India to feature in this list for the third consecutive year.
- The survey evaluates airports on factors such as passenger experience, food and amenities, design and innovation, and ease of navigation/commuting.

Top 10 International Airports of 2025

Rank	Aerodrome	Country
1	Istanbul Airport	Turkey
2	Changi Airport	Singapore
3	Hamad International Airport	Qatar
4	Zayed International Airport, Abu Dhabi	UAE
5	Dubai International Airport	UAE
6	Hong Kong International Airport	Hong kong
7	Helsinki-Wanta Airport	Finland
8	Tokyo Haneda Airport	Japan
9	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Airport, Mumbai	India
10	Incheon International Airport	South Korea

11. Important Days

Day/ Opportunity	Date	Key Info/Aim
National Chartered Accountants Day	July 1, 2025	Commemoration of the establishment of ICAI (1949); Contribution of CAs to financial discipline and transparency.
Goods and Services Tax Day	July 1, 2025	introduction of GST (2017); Integrated indirect tax system which is based on value addition.
SBI 's 70 th Anniversary	July 1, 2025	Formation of SBI in 1955; The largest and oldest commercial bank in India.
103 rd International Day of Cooperatives	July 5, 2025	Observed on the first Saturday of July, the theme of 2025: 'Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions', 2025 was declared as the International Year of Cooperatives.
World Rural Development Day	July 6, 2025	Observed for the first time; Objective: To address the quality of rural life, poverty, hunger, and digital inequality.
World Organic Products Day	July 7, 2025	Awareness on the role of bioproducts and climate action; Theme of 2025 : 'The BioE ³ Way'; Beginning: 2021.
National Fish Farmers Day	July 10, 2025	In recognition of contributions to fisheries; First success of artificial breeding in 1957; Total fish production in 2024-25: 195 lakh tonnes.
World Population Day	July 11, 2025	Theme: 'Empowering young people to build families in a fair and hopeful world'; India is the most populous country.
World Youth Skills Day	July 15, 2025	Theme: 'Youth Empowerment through AI and Digital Skills'; Objective: To promote vocational skills among youth.
AI Appreciation Day	July 16, 2025	Appreciate the contribution of AI; The role of AI in health, education, business; Beginning: 2021.
World Snake Day	July 16, 2025	Conservation awareness of 3,500+ snake species; Beginning: 1970s.
World Day for International Justice	July 17, 2025	in commemoration of the Rome Statute (1998); affiliated with the ICC; Prevention of crimes against humanity.
Nelson Mandela International Day	July 18, 2025	Theme: 'Fighting poverty and inequality is still in our hands'; Contribute to global justice and equality.
World Chess Day	July 20, 2025	Anniversary of FIDE's founding (1924); Chess originated from the 'Chaturanga' of India.
National Flag Day	July 22, 2025	Commemoration of the acceptance of the Tricolour in 1947; Symbolic significance of the colours of the flag and the Ashoka Chakra.
World Brain Day	July 22, 2025	Theme: 'Brain Health for People of All Ages'; Awareness on the importance of brain health.
National Broadcasting Day	July 23, 2025	Establishment of the IBC (1927); Beginning of organized radio broadcasting.
Chandra Shekhar Azad Jayanti	July 23, 2025	Born: 1906; Active in revolutionary activities; Founder of HSRA.
World Mangrove Day	July 26, 2025	Objective: To spread global awareness towards conservation, protection of mangrove ecosystems.
Kargil Vijay Diwas	July 26, 2025	Objective: To honour India's victory in the Kargil War (1999) and the martyrdom of soldiers.

