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# MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS August: 2025



# Rajasthan Affairs

### Major Programmes, Schemes, Campaigns

### **Important decisions of Rajasthan Cabinet**



### Developed Rajasthan@2047 Vision Document & Policies

- The state cabinet approved the Viksit Rajasthan@2047' vision document and two policies.
- The objective of this document is to make the state economically empowered, self-reliant and a developed state.
- It aims to make Rajasthan a \$350 billion economy by 2030 and a \$4.3 trillion economy by 2047.
- The key sectors include public welfare, social empowerment, employment generation, physical infrastructure, sustainable development, fiscal policy and governance.
- The vision document gave priority to 100 per cent literacy, skill-based education, youth and women empowerment, quality healthcare, water management, smart urbanization, affordable housing, modern transport, environment protection and green energy.

## Vishwakarma Youth Entrepreneur Incentive Scheme

- It was approved to make the youth self-reliant and provide new employment opportunities.
- In this, youth between 18 and 45 years of age will get loans and margin money assistance at low interest rates through financial institutions.
- Interest subvention up to 8% will be available on loans up to a maximum of Rs. 2 crore.
- An additional 1% interest subvention will be given to women, SC/ST, differently-abled, rural enterprises, weavers and artisans (on loans above Rs. 1 crore and up to Rs. 2 crore).

• There is a provision of margin money grant of 25% or up to a maximum of Rs 5 lakh on loans given by institutions.

## Establishment of Rajasthan Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS)

- Rajasthan government approves draft bill to upgrade Rajasthan University of Health Sciences to set up RIMS in Jaipur.
- This institute will be the only post-graduate level medical institute on the lines of AIIMS, New Delhi
- It has the potential to improve super-specialty services, medical education, research, and patient care.
- RIMS will also include the state cancer institute run under the Sawai Man Singh Medical College.
- RIMS will be headed by the chief secretary and run by a director.

#### **Land Allotment Policy for Urban Areas-2025**

- The Rajasthan Cabinet has approved a new policy for allotment of land in urban areas for various uses.
- This new policy will replace the land allotment policy of 2015.
- **Objective:** To make the land allotment process for various units simple, transparent and uniform.
- It includes educational, medical, industrial, business and tourism units for public, social, religious, charitable institutions, trusts, private investors, companies and government departments.

#### **Key Points:**

- For social use, land allocation will be reserved or at 40% of the DLC rate.
- RIICO and Housing Board will get undeveloped land at agriculture DLC rate.
- Land will be given free of cost to government departments up to the prescribed limit for their activities.
- Allotment of land under special policies such as tourism and IT industry will also be allowed with the approval of the state government.
- Land allotment will not be made to residential projects, commercial premises, retail fuel stations, gas projects, gas warehouses and red category industries.

### **Land Lease Policy of Airstrips for Aero Sports**

• A new policy has been approved to promote aero sports and adventure tourism in Rajasthan and to utilize the underutilized airstrips.

#### **Provision:**

- The lease fee per square metre per annum will be Rs 100 and the concession fee per airstrip will be Rs 6 lakh.
- The rates will increase by 5% for the first 5 years and an annual increase of 10% from the 6th to 20th year.
- A maximum of 2000 square meters of land will be leased for a maximum period of 20 years.
- Benefits: Direct and indirect employment opportunities will increase and will contribute to the revenue and GDP of the state.

#### **Rajasthan Mandapam & GCC Tower Project**

- The Rajasthan Cabinet has approved a development project of RIICO on 95 acres of land in Jaipur.
- Components of development: Rajasthan Mandapam (Convention Centre), Global Capability Centre/IT Tower, 5-star and 4-star hotels, residential and commercial towers.
- The total estimated cost is about Rs 3700 crore, of which Rs 635 crore will be contributed by the state government.
- The Rajasthan Mandapam will be developed at a cost of Rs 2200 crore in about 25 acres with a capacity of 7000-7500 people.
- Unity Mall is also being constructed by RICO on 15,000 sqm of land.

### The Factories (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill, 2025

• The state approved a new bill to amend the Factories Act, 1948.

#### **Key Modifications:**

- The daily working hours will be increased from 9 hours to 10 hours and the working hours before rest will be increased from 5 hours to 6 hours.
- The total working hours (including work and rest) will be increased from 10.5 hours to 12 hours.
- The overtime limit has been fixed at 144 hours in the quarter, the consent of the worker will be required
- Women workers will be allowed to work in night shifts (7 pm to 6 am) with safety conditions and written consent.

#### The Rajasthan Fisheries (Amendment) Bill-2025

• Cabinet approves draft of a new Bill to amend the Rajasthan Fisheries Act, 1953.

#### **Key Provisions**

- » The fine for fisheries offences will be increased to Rs 25,000.
- » In case of a repeat offence, this amount will be up to Rs 50,000.
- The determined amount for the compounding of an offense will be increased from 100 rupees to 25,000 rupees.
- » These changes are aimed at effective control over fisheries offences as the current penalty amount is quite low.

#### Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

- The scheme will be implemented under RDSS in all the three discoms of the state.
- **Objective:** To bridge gaps in infrastructure, health, education and livelihood for socio-economic improvement in tribal-dominated areas.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Villages that have a population of 500 or more and have at least 50% tribal residents.
- Villages in aspirational districts where tribal population is 50% or more will also be covered.

### New guidelines issued for Swami Vivekananda Scholarship 2025-26

- The Higher Education Department of Rajasthan has issued a new guideline.
- It has fixed 150 seats for foreign institutions and 350 seats in the country. (Last year there were 300 and 200 seats respectively).

#### **Key Terms:**

- Those who receive the scholarship will have to give priority to employment in Rajasthan on completion of the course.
- During the study period, a comparative study and project report on the state's plans will have to be prepared.
- Technical support will be taken from engineering students.
- Candidates will send their research, project and academic report to the state government by email.
- On receiving the invitation, one has to participate in online interaction and cooperate in the promotion of the scheme.
- It will also have the responsibility of guiding needy students in study abroad.

### Cabinet approves amendment in Krishak Uphaar Yojana

- The Rajasthan government has approved the proposal for amendment in the 'Krishak Uphaar Yojana'.
- **Objective:** To promote the sale of agricultural commodities to farmers in a transparent and digital manner
- **Eligibility:** Farmers who will sell their commodities through the e-NAM portal and receive payments through the e-payment (electronic payment) system.
- Beneficiary farmers: Only farmers who make sales through e-NAM portal and receive payment through e-payment will be eligible for gift coupons.
- Gift coupons will be issued by the e-NAM software on the amount of Rs. 10,000 per sale of agricultural produce and in multiples thereof.
- **Prize distribution:** Draws will be held every 6 months at the market level, in which:
  - 1. 1st Prize (Rs. 50,000)
  - 2. 2nd Prize (Rs. 30,000)
  - 3. 3rd Prize (Rs. 20,000)

## Pradhan Mantri Micro Food Industry Upgradation Scheme (PM-FME)

- This scheme run by the Central Government promotes entrepreneurs in the food processing sector.
- Under this, new and existing entrepreneurs can get a grant of up to 35% of the project cost or up to a maximum of Rs 10 lakh (whichever is lower) if they set up a new unit or expand an existing unit.
- Eligible Industries: Food industries like fruits and vegetable products, cereals-pulses, milk and oilseed products, animal feed, bakery, tapioca, asafoetida etc. to be set up after June 2020.
- The State Nodal Agency for the scheme is Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board, Jaipur.

#### **Key Terms:**

- The cost of land will not be involved in this project.
- The technical civil works cannot exceed 30% of the project cost.

#### **Fortified Balahar Premix**

- On August 5, 2025, Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma launched the fortified Bal Ahar Srimad packets for children struggling with malnutrition, increasing the quantity of skimmed milk from 15 grams to 25 grams.
- In Rajasthan, about 40 lakh women and children are receiving micronutrient supplements through Anganwadi centres.
- **Note:** Mukhyamantri Amrit Aahar Yojana has been implemented to provide hot sweet milk 5 days a week to children between the age of 3 to 6 years.
- Note: The Rajasthan government has increased the honorarium of Anganwadi workers, helpers and saathins by 10% each in the year 2024 and 2025.

#### Revised draft of Rajasthan AYUSH Policy released

- The Rajasthan government has released the revised draft of AYUSH Policy-2025.
- The Department of AYUSH has given place to Electropathy in addition to traditional medical systems like Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy in this policy.
- The process of education, training and registration for this medical system will be started in Rajasthan.
- The revised policy will provide for dispensaries at the Gram Panchayat level, specialized services at the district and block level, setting up of AYUSH hospitals in deprived areas, and facilities for treatment of non-communicable diseases.
- The policy also includes sonography and CT scan facilities in AYUSH hospitals and many other improvements.
- Apart from this, the Directorate of AYUSH Education will be set up in Jaipur.
- Mention has been made about the establishment of an international level Ayurveda research center in Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Jodhpur, establishment of State Drug Manufacturing and Marketing Corporation from Central Ayurveda Research Institute, etc.

#### Also Know

- In addition to the above medical practices, the Rajasthan Electropathy System of Medicine Act was passed in the year 2018.
- The board was formed before it by issuing a gazette notification on 1 May 2025.
- **Note:** The AYUSH policy was released in Rajasthan in the year 2021.

#### "Sashakt Naari Zimmedari Humari" Campaign

- Women Awareness Safety Week was organized from August 20-26 in Jaipur Police Commissionerate area.
- Objective: To make women and girls aware of their rights, laws and safety measures and to increase trust and communication between the police and the public.
- Women police officers and staff made women aware in their respective areas through walk and talk programs.
- Information was given about the Need Help feature of the RajCop Citizen App.

### Hariyalo Rajasthan Tree Plantation Maha Abhiyan: Target of planting 10 crore saplings completed in Rajasthan



- Rajasthan has crossed the annual target of 10 crore saplings under the 'Hariyalo Rajasthan Tree Plantation Mahaabhiyan'.
- So far, 10.21 crore saplings have been planted in Rajasthan for the year 2025.
- Under 'Mission Hariyalo Rajasthan', a target has been set to plant 50 crore saplings in the coming 5 years.

#### Vriksha Mitra Yojana

- The Rajasthan government has started the Vriksha Mitra Yojana to give further impetus to plantation.
- The person who plants 200 saplings will be given the status of *vriksha mitra*.
- In Rajasthan, 2000 *vriksha mitras* are being prepared and they will also be provided honorarium.

## Pilot project to be launched in Rajasthan to provide medicines to elderly at home

- A pilot project will be started in Rajasthan to provide free medicines at home to the elderly above 70 years of age.
- After this, it will be implemented in a phased manner across the state.
- **Note:** It was announced in the Rajasthan Budget 2025-26.

### 'Saksham Jaipur Abhiyan'

- Special camps were organized from August 18 under the Saksham Jaipur campaign.
- In these camps, artificial limbs and assistive devices were provided to the differently-abled and senior citizens of BPL category in the district.

### **Person in News**

### Arun Chaturvedi appointed as Chairman of State Finance Commission

- The Rajasthan government has appointed Arun Chaturvedi as the chairman of the 7th State Finance Commission of Rajasthan.
- Arun Chaturvedi has been given the rank of cabinet minister by the state government.
- His tenure will be 1.5 years.
- Naresh Kumar Thukral, a retired IAS officer, has been appointed as the Member Secretary of the Commission.
- This commission will determine the financial share of panchayats and urban bodies out of the taxes and other revenues of the state government.
- Arun Chaturvedi is a former state president of the BJP and a former cabinet minister.
- He is a former MLA from Jaipur's Civil Lines constituency.
- He was the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment from 2013 to 2018.

#### **State Finance Commission**

- It is a constitutional body. (Mentioned in Article 243I and Article 243Y)
- The Governor of the State will constitute a Finance Commission to review the financial position of the Panchayats after every five years.
- So far, 7 Finance Commissions have been constituted.
- Chairman of the current Finance Commission Arun Chaturvedi.

#### **Finance Commission Functions -**

- Distribution of taxes, fees and tolls collected by the state between the state and the panchayats.
- Recommendation of grants to Panchayats from State Consolidated Fund.
- Recommendations to strengthen the financial position of the State.

#### **State Finance Commission in Rajasthan**

S.No.	Head	Members	Period
First	Shri K. K. Goyal	3	1995-1996 to 1999-2000
Second	Shri Hira Lal Devpura	3	2000-2001 to 2004-2005
Third	Shri Manikchand Surana	3	2005-2006 to 2009-2010
Fourth	Shri B. D. Kalla	3	2010-2011 to 2014-2015
Fifth	Dr. Jyoti Kiran MD	2	2015-2016 to 2019-2020
Sixth	Dr. Pradyuman Singh	2	2020-2021 to 2024-2025
Seventh	Arun Chaturvedi		

## Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma appointed administrative judge

- The Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court appointed Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma as the Administrative Judge.
- Currently he is the Executive Chairman of the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority and is second only to the Chief Justice in seniority.
- Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Sriram Kalpati Rajendran

### Vivek Jain scales Europe's highest peak, Mount Elbrus

- Vivek Jain, a resident of Jaipur, Rajasthan, recently climbed Europe's highest peak, Mount Elbrus (5642 meters).
- The summit expedition consisted of an 11-member team, led by Samir Patham.
- The campaign was carried out in collaboration with the State Sports Council.
- President of Rajasthan State Sports Council: Dr. Neeraj K. Pawan

## Prof. Nand Kishore Pandey appointed as Vice-Chancellor of University of Journalism

- Governor Haribhau Bagade appointed Prof. Nand Kishore Pandey as Vice Chancellor of Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication, Jaipur.
- The Governor of the State is the Chancellor of all the State Universities located in the State (except Law Universities).
- The order was issued by the Governor in consultation with the state government.
- The appointment will be for a period of 3 years from the date of assumption of charge by Prof. Pandey or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

## Dr. Shivam Agarwal from Rajasthan will represent India at the G-20 Youth Summit



- Dr. Shivam Agarwal from Sikar district represented India at the G20 Youth Summit (Y20) in Johannesburg, South Africa on behalf of the Government of India.
- He spoke on climate change and environmental sustainability.
- The conference was held from 18th to 22nd August 2025.
- The Government of India has selected 5 youth for this prestigious international conference.
- The theme of the summit is 'Promoting Equality, Sustainability, United for Youth Solidarity for Global Progress'.

## **100 Farmers Selected Under "Knowledge Enhancement Program"**

- The Rajasthan government has approved foreign tours and training of 100 farmers of the state under the "Knowledge Enhancement Programme".
- Under this scheme, farmers will visit the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand and Brazil.
- This will provide information to farmers about the latest farming techniques and innovations.

- The farmers will also study the operation of agricultural cooperatives in these countries.
- This training will help farmers to adopt advanced agricultural practices in their area and increase crop production.

#### **Colonel Sonaram Chaudhary passes away**

- Former Barmer MP Colonel Sonaram Chaudhary passed away on August 20.
- He was a four-time MP from Rajasthan (3 times from Congress and 1 time from BJP) and once MLA.
- He first became an MP from Barmer-Jaisalmer in 1996. After this, he was also elected MP in 1998, 1999 and 2014.
- In 2008, he was elected as an MLA from Baytu (Barmer) constituency.

#### Former minister Madan Kaur passes away

- Senior Rajasthan leader and former minister Madan Kaur passed away on August 5, 2025.
- She became the MLA for the first time from Pachpadra in 1967 and represented the area for three consecutive terms (1967–72, 1972–77, 1977–80).
- In 1989, she was elected MLA from Gudhamalani on a Janata Dal ticket.
- She was a member of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly for four terms.
- She was the Minister of Environment and Forests during 1990-92.

### **Places in News**

## Cloud Seeding Trial Launched in Jamwaramgarh

- On August 12, 2025, the process of making artificial rain with drones was started in the area of Jawmaramgarh dam in Jaipur. However, initial attempts were unsuccessful.
- For the first time in the country, artificial rain is being done in this area by drones.
- Cloud seeding has been planned to fill the Ramgarh dam.
- The main objective of this test is to revive the Ramgarh lake, reduce the water crisis and restore the balance of the ecosystem in the area.
- In the past, airplanes have been commonly used in such technologies.
- In this, an AI powered platform called 'Hydro Trace' is being used.

- The mission will start from August 12 and will last for about 60 days.
- **Note:** For the first time in the country, cloud seeding was done in 1951 by the Tata firm on the Western Ghats of Kerala.

## SMS, Jaipur: India's first hospital to have robotic surgery for cancer treatment

• SMS Hospital has become the first state-level government hospital in the country to have robotic surgery for the treatment of kidney cancer.

#### **Benefits of Robotic Surgery:**

- Magnification 10 times more than normal surgery.
- Only tumor removal instead of removing the entire kidney.
- The remaining kidneys function as before.

## Khairthal-Tijara district to be renamed as Bhartriharinagar

- The Rajasthan government has announced to change the name of Khairthal-Tijara district to Bhartriharinagar.
- Apart from this, Bhiwadi will be made the headquarters of this district.
- A proposal in this regard will be prepared by the Revenue Department.
- The decision was taken on the recommendation of the State Administrative Units Reorganisation Advisory Committee headed by former IAS officer Lalit K Panwar.

#### **Procedure for Change of Name:**

- » The proposal will be prepared by the Revenue Department and presented in the state cabinet meeting.
- » After the approval of the state cabinet, it will be placed in the Assembly.
- » Once passed by the Assembly, the resolution will be sent to the Union Home Ministry.
- » The name can be officially changed after the approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

## North India's first technical girls football academy

- North India's first technology-based girls football academy has been launched in Zawar (Udaipur), Rajasthan.
- It was developed in partnership with Hindustan Zinc and All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- It has been named Zinc Football Girls Academy.
- The academy is part of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program of Hindustan Zinc,

- a Vedanta Group company.
- It aims to give opportunities to young girls to pursue a career in football and at the same time prioritize their education.
- The AIFF will provide technical and strategic support to this initiative.
- In its initial batch, 20 girls below the age of 15 years were selected.

## 200 million year old fossils found in Jaisalmer

- For the first time, pre-Jurassic fossils have been found in India during the excavation of Harpal pond in Megha village of Fatehgarh in Jaisalmer district.
- These fossils belong to an aquatic organism called phytosaurs, which had a crocodile-like shape.
- This creature became extinct 200 million years ago.
- This creature was not a dinosaur, but lived on the edge of the water and its length was about one and a half to two meters.
- Some of these stones have been converted into fossils, which have a wood-like structure. Apart from this, a skeletal structure has also appeared.

### Jaisalmer: Gas production starts in Chinnewala

- Chinnewala Tibba block of Jaisalmer started producing 1 lakh cubic meters of gas per day.
- ONGC has taken up the work of reviving gas wells closed years ago.

## Union Cabinet approves Kota Greenfield Airport

- The Union Cabinet approved the development of a greenfield airport at Kota-Bundi at an estimated cost of Rs 1507 crore.
- The airport will be constructed at **Shambhupura** (between Kota-Bundi), about 20 km from the existing airport.
- It will be possible to operate A-321 class aircraft here.
- Along with this, a modern terminal building will be constructed in an area of 20,000 sqm which will be able to handle 1000 passengers (PHP) at a time and will have a capacity of 20 lakh passengers per annum (MPPA).

### **Greenfield Airport**

 A greenfield airport is an airport that is developed at a completely new location. There was no airport or airline facility in the past.

## Indian Railways' first international level rifle shooting range inaugurated

- Indian Railways' first and only international level rifle shooting range was inaugurated in Ajmer by Indian Railways and Ajmer Divisional Sports Association
- This rifle shooting range will provide a high level of training to the players.

### Rajasthan's first Sex-sorted Semen Lab launched

- A state-of-the-art Sex Sorted Semen Lab was set up at Bassi (Jaipur) in Rajasthan.
- It has been set up at RCDF's Frozen Semen Bank at Bassi in collaboration with National Dairy Development Board, Anand.
- The lab was inaugurated by Animal Husbandry Minister Shri Joraram Kumawat on 11 August 2025.
- This lab has been started for the first time in Rajasthan and such a lab is present only in Anand, Gujarat.
- This unit will play an important role in enhancing the quality of animal husbandry, improving the breed and bringing qualitative increase in milk production.
- The unit will produce 10 lakh doses of semen per annum.

## Signing of Tripartite MoU on Management and Operation of Bassi Semen Bank and Lab

- Under this, a tripartite MoU was signed between Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation (RCDF), Rajasthan Livestock Development Board and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).
- **Aim:** To increase the production and supply of conventional and sex-sorted semen doses for animal artificial insemination in Rajasthan.
- RCDF has entrusted the management of Bassi Seamen Station to NDS for 10 years, which can be extended by mutual consent.
- Under this, about 10 lakh sex-sorted semen doses will be produced per year.

#### Technical support from NDDB for biogas plant

- The Compressed Biogas Plant will be set up by the Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation (RCDF) in Bassi, Jaipur.
- The project will be backed by technical support from the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), and will be operated by RCDF.

#### • Profit:

- 1. Production of Biogas and Bio Fertilizer.
- 2. RCDF will collect cow dung and pay the cattle farmers in return.
- 3. Biogas pumps will be installed, it will be an example of fuel circulatory combination of this project.

### Jodhpur-Pali Marwar Industrial Area: Largest Industrial Area of Rajasthan

- Under the Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP), the process of developing the 'Jodhpur Pali Marwar Investment Region' (JPMAY) i.e. the twin city has started.
- The project will be developed as a Smart Industrial City in an area of Jodhpur and Pali.
- The project is under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC).
- A total of 154 sq km (3604 ha) will be developed in three phases under this project.
- An amount of Rs 465 crore has been released for the first phase.
- In this phase, basic infrastructure, design, construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance plans will be made.
- The project is expected to entail an investment of Rs 7,500 crore, and generate 40,000 employment opportunities.

#### **Profit:**

- **Employment growth:** Direct employment to over 40,000 people and indirect employment to 2 lakh people.
- **Investment:** The investment of Rs 7500 crore will strengthen the industrial image of the state.
- **Industrial Sector:** Solar, Logistics, Textile, and Handicraft Industries.
- **Export Hub:** Increase in overseas market share of handicraft, textile products.
- **Economic Growth:** The region will become the industrial hub of western Rajasthan.

## Approval for setting up of bio-CNG plant at Muhana Sabzi Mandi (Jaipur)

- The Rajasthan government has approved a stateof-the-art bio-CNG plant for organic waste management at Muhana Fruit and Vegetable Market in Jaipur.
- Objective: To treat organic waste of fruits and vegetables generated in the market in a scientific manner and convert it into compost and bio-CNG.

- The plant will be set up under the public-private partnership (PPP) model.
- The total cost of the project will be Rs 27 crore, which will be borne by WAPCOS Limited, a Government of India undertaking.
- The plant will process 100 tonnes of organic waste per day and generate 5 tonnes of compost and bio-CNG.
- The plant will be operated by WAPCOS Limited for 10 years, after which its assets will be transferred to the concerned Mandi Committee.

## Rajasthan's first biological park with portable x-ray facility

- Nahargarh Biological Park has become the first biological park in Rajasthan where a portable X-ray machine has been installed to treat wildlife.
- This machine has been installed in the Veterinary Hospital located at the Rescue Center.
- Additionally, multipara oximeters and modern surgical equipment have also been installed, which will enable immediate surgeries if needed.
- A blood and urine analyzer facility will also be started here.

### The longest water tunnel in the country

- It is located in Kodiyat (Udaipur).
- It carries water from the Akodara dam to the lakes of Udaipur.
- This water tunnel is about 11.1 kilometers long.
- The tunnel was constructed under the "Devas Project-2".
- In this, water is provided to the lakes of Udaipur by constructing a tunnel.

## Cabinet approves allotment of land for solar park in Jaisalmer-Bikaner

- Approves land allotment for renewable energy projects in Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts.
- The Cabinet also approved the allotment of land for setting up of 5,000 MW and 2,700 MW solar park in Ramgarh tehsil of Jaisalmer.
- The Cabinet also approved the allotment of land for 12,500 MW solar park and 6,200 MW solar park in Fatehgarh tehsil of Jaisalmer.
- Approval has also been given for allotment of land for solar park in Bikaner in Dinsar and Barala villages of Pugal tehsil, Sawaisar village of Bikaner tehsil, Bikolai village of Bajju tehsil and Karnisar Bhatian village of Pugal tehsil.

### 2 MW solar plant installed in Laxmansar

- A 2 MW AC grid connected solar plant was launched by MRS Green Energy at Laxmansar village in Fatehgarh tehsil.
- It has been set up under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM).

### Installation of 765 KV power substation at Jaisalmer

- A 765 KV power sub-station will be set up at Phusasar village in Bhaniyana tehsil of Jaisalmer district.
- For this, the State Government has approved the allotment of land.
- This substation will be built by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (RVPNL) on 80 hectares of land.
- This will improve the quality of regional power supply and ensure continuous and stable power service to the citizens.

## IIT Jodhpur to have an expansion campus in coaching hub

- The Jaipur-based coaching hub will be developed as an extended campus of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jodhpur by the Rajasthan government.
- Under this, the coaching hub will be handed over to IIT Jodhpur in a phased manner.
- In the first phase, three towers will be extended by IIT Jodhpur, while the remaining three towers will be used for academic purposes.
- It will be established as a major centre for expansion of technical education.
- The state government will provide the IIT with a free campus and provide 20,000 square meters of land for the development of hostels and other facilities.

### **Awards & Honours**

#### **Mathuradas Mathur Award 2024-25**

 Rajasthan Cricket's prestigious Mathuradas Mathur Award was announced at the Jaipur Club.







- Senior Category: Ranji captain Mahipal Lomror
- Junior Category: Karthik Sharma
- Sub-Junior Category: Yatharth Bhardwaj
- The selection committee was headed by former Ranji player Ved Ahuja.
- The players were selected on the basis of their performance throughout the year.
- The award carries a cash prize, a certificate of excellence, a memento and a cricket kitbag.
- **Note:** Mahipal Lomror has received this honor for the second time. (The first time in 2017)
- Earlier, Pankaj Singh, Aniket Chaudhary and Ashok Menaria have won the award 2-2 times.

#### **National Award for Rajkisan Saathi**

 Rajkisan Saathi, a project of the Department of Information Technology and Communication of Rajasthan, was awarded the National CIPS Innovation Award 2024.



- The award was presented by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at a function held in Srinagar.
- The portal offers more than 120 services to farmers on a single platform, including facilities such as DBT schemes, licensing, crop disease management, and seed minikit distribution.
- The initiative has also found a place in the 'Minimum Government Maximum Governance' handbook of DARPG.

## **Neelam Yadav wins National Teachers' Award**

 Neelam Yadav from Rajasthan has been selected for the National Award for Teachers for her outstanding contribution and innovation in the field of education.

- She is the principal of Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Tapukara, located in Khairthal-Tijara district.
- The award was announced by the Union Ministry of Education.



- A total of 45 teachers from across the country have been selected for this award.
- The award was presented on Teachers' Day (5th September) in New Delhi.

## Rajasthan gets two awards for outstanding contribution in the field of organ donation



- SMS Hospital, Jaipur in Rajasthan was awarded 2
   National Awards for Good Work in New Delhi on 3rd August in the program organized on Organ Donation Day.
  - 1. Emerging State in Organ Donation and Transplantation
  - 2. Excellence in Promotion of Organ Donation
  - These awards were given by the Government of India's National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO).
  - The family of the late Smt. Sumitra Devi (aged 43 years) of Alwar, Rajasthan was specially felicitated for her inspiring contribution towards organ donation.
  - **Note:** Rajasthan is at the top in the country in digital organ donation resolution, from where 69,523 resolution forms have been filled.

### Manika Vishwakarma crowned Miss Universe India

- Rajasthan's Manika Vishwakarma won the Miss Universe India 2025 title.
- The grand finale of Miss Universe India 2025 was held in Jaipur.



- Manika will represent India at the Miss Universe 2025 pageant on the international stage.
  - o It will take place on 21 November 2025 at Pak Kret, Nonthabari, Thailand.
- Tanya Sharma was the first runner-up, while Mahek Dhingra was the second runner-up.
- Manika hails from Sriganganagar, Rajasthan.
- Manika won the title of Miss Universe Rajasthan in the year 2024.

### Sanjay Vyas to receive Rajiv Gandhi Life Time Achievement Award



- Former Ranji captain Sanjay Vyas has been honored for his significant contribution to Rajasthan cricket.
- The award was presented by the Rajiv Gandhi Cricket Club.
- He was given a robe, a memento and a cash prize of Rs 11,000.

### Jaipur-based documentary on Rishiraj Agarwal wins National Film Award

- Jaipur-based filmmaker Rishiraj Agarwal's documentary 'God, Vulture and Human' has been awarded the National Film Award in the best documentary category.
- The film focuses on the life and work of transplant coordinators, who play a key role in the organ donation process.
- The documentary sensitively depicts the role, mental struggles and daily challenges of these professionals.

## Miss Ocean World 2024: Sudan's Mohamed Salah winner

 Evalin Neem Mohamed Salah of Sudan won the title of Miss Ocean World at the international beauty pageant held in Grassfield Valley, Jaipur.

- It is one of the top 10 pageants in the world and participants from 20 countries participated.
- The first runner-up was Parul Singh of India, and the second runner-up was Nicole Slinkova of Czech Republic.
- The theme of the event was "Clean and Pollution-Free Ocean".

## Police Medals to 14 Police Personnel and 5 persons awarded for Meritorious Work



- On the eve of the state-level Independence Day celebrations in Rajasthan, an 'At Home' program was organized at Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur on 14 August 2025.
- On the occasion, 14 police officers and employees were honoured with Police Medals and 5 Commendation Certificates to 5 persons who have done remarkable work in various fields.
  - 1. Dr. Vinod Kumar Jain (Medical & Social Service)
  - 2. Parul Patanwal (Jaipur) (in Jewellery Design)
  - 3. Divyansh Bhardwaj (Village-Anwa, Tonk) (For Massive Development Work at Panchayat Level)
  - 4. Komal Verma Saluja (Kota) (For exceptional academic activities)
  - 5. Ved Prakash Patel (Deeg) (Social Service)
- Apart from this, Gram Panchayat Daulpura, Panchayat Samiti Mandalgarh (Bhilwara) were also honored for tree plantation.

## Roadways awarded SKOCH Order of Merit Award

- Rajasthan Roadways was awarded the Skoch Order of Merit Award.
- The officials of the technical branch of Roadways saved 9 lakh liters of diesel in a year due to better monitoring of buses and use of new technology.
- From October 2024 to March 2025, the average number of buses was increased on the instructions of the roadways administration.
- In this, monitoring of buses through VTS (Vehicle Tracking System) and training of drivers to save diesel was provided.

#### **Divyansh gets Best Sarpanch Award**



- Divyansh M Bhardwaj, sarpanch of Anwa gram panchayat in Tonk district, was awarded the best sarpanch of Rajasthan.
- Divyansh has become the sarpanch of Anwa village after completing his MBA from Switzerland.

#### Major development works

- Two heritage crematoriums.
- Heritage Panchayat Ghar.
- Marriage Garden with Banquet Hall.
- Ghat facility with dressing room at Rajkaleshwar Tirth.
- Separate AC and internet enabled library for students.
- Note: The model of Anwa Gram Panchayat has been adopted by Maharashtra.

### Rajasthan Tourism wins Excellence Award at TTF

- Rajasthan Tourism was awarded the Excellence Award at the Travel and Tourism Festival (TTF) held from July 31 to August 2, 2025 at the International Gandhi Exhibition and Convention Centre in Gandhinagar (Ahmedabad).
- The festival was organised by India's Travel Show Network.
- Rajasthan Tourism was declared the winner in the "Design & Decoration" category at the TTF.

## Increase in Sunderkanti Joshi Women's Cricketer Award money

 The Radha Niwas Cricket Club has increased the amount of the Sundar Kanti Joshi Award given to the best women cricketers of the state every year.

#### **Revised Prize Amount:**

- Sub-Junior Category: Rs 11,000
- Junior Category: Rs 15,000
- Senior Category: Rs 21,000.
- Along with cash prizes, the players will also be given kit bags, travel bags, trophies and identical letters.
- **Note:** This is the only award given to women cricketers in Rajasthan.

#### **President's Medal for 4 Officers**



• On the occasion of Independence Day 2025, the Union Home Ministry announced the President's medal for outstanding services to 4 officers of the Rajasthan Prison Department.

#### President's Medal of Honour

- 1. Shri Ramakant Sharma
- 2. Mr. Yogesh Teji
- 3. Shri Sugar Singh Gurjar
- 4. Shri Lokojjwal Singh

#### **Group Captain Animesh Patni awarded Vir Chakra**

- Animesh Patni (Baran) of Rajasthan was awarded the Vir Chakra by the Central Government for his contribution in making Operation Sindoor a success.
- Animesh Patni is currently a Group Captain in the Indian Air Force.
- He successfully carried out an air strike inside Pakistan.
- **Note:** The Government of India announced the awarding of Vir Chakra to 9 officers of the Air Force.

## Two Rajasthan officers awarded President's Police Medals

- The Union Home Department has awarded the President's Police Medal and Meritorious Service Medal to two officers from Rajasthan.
  - 1. Company Commander Bhanwar Singh (3rd Battalion of RAC)
  - 2. Narendra Singh (SI of Crime Branch AGTF)
- Apart from this, 16 police officers and personnel have been selected for meritorious service medals.

## Martyred Sergeant Surendra Moga awarded Air Force Medal

- President Droupadi Murmu announced the award of Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry) to martyred Sergeant Surendra Moga.
- The award is given for bravery, devotion to duty and supreme sacrifice.
- Sergeant Surendra Moga was martyred in a Pakistani attack in the Udhampur sector of Jammu and Kashmir on May 10, 2025, during Operation Sindoor.

### Agreements/MoUs

## MoU between Election Department and Education Department

- The MoU was signed on 25th August 2025.
- This will make it easier for 17-year-old students studying in classes 9 to 12 in Rajasthan to register voters in advance.
- These students will automatically get a voter ID card when they turn 18.
- This MoU will be applicable to all government and private secondary and higher secondary schools in the state.
- For this, Electoral Literacy Clubs have been formed in schools, in which students from class 9 to 12 are being included.
- Rajasthan is the first state in the country to develop digital infrastructure for strengthening school ELCs (Electoral Literacy Clubs).
- Note: The Chief Electoral Officer of Rajasthan is Naveen Mahajan.

### MoU between Rajivika and EESL

- The Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajeevika) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).
- It aims to increase livelihood opportunities for women self-help groups (SHGs) in rural areas.
- Under this, the adoption of renewable energy solutions and energy-efficient technologies will be encouraged.

## MoU between Rajeevika and RVJBVS to Empower Forest-Based Livelihoods



• A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Rajasthan Rural Livelihood

- Development Council (Rajeevika) and Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Development Committee (RVJBVS) on 07th August.
- This MoU has been specially done under the Rajasthan Forest and Biodiversity Development Project (RFBBDP).
  - It is being implemented by RVJBVS in collaboration with the Rajasthan Forest Department.
- The MoU is aimed at strengthening the livelihoods of forest-based communities and linking them to sustainable and diverse income sources.

### Rajasthan Forest and Biodiversity Development Project (RFBBDP)

- The project is being implemented in 800 villages of 13 districts from 2023-24 to 2030-31.
- The project is co-financed by AFD France.
- Under this, 1200 Self Help Groups (SHGs) will be formed and empowered.
- These SHGs will be organized into Village Organization (VO) and Cluster Level Organization (CLF).
- It aims to connect forest-dependent communities with alternative and sustainable livelihoods.

### **Sports**

## Ashwini Bishnoi wins gold medal at World Wrestling Championships

- Ashwini Bishnoi of Bhilwara, Rajasthan won the gold medal in the 65 kg category at the Under-17 World Wrestling Championship held in Athens (Greece).
- In the final, she defeated the wrestler of Uzbekistan 3-0.
- Ashwini is the first female wrestler from Rajasthan to win a gold medal in the World Championship.

### **Anantjeet Singh Naruka wins gold**

- Indian shooter Anantjeet Singh Naruka (Jaipur) won the individual gold medal in the men's skeet at the Asian Championships held in Shymkent, Kazakhstan.
- He defeated Kuwait's Mansoor Al Rashidi 57-56 in the final.
- This is Naruka's fifth medal in the Asian Championships.

- Central India Slam Squash Championships: Divyanshi and Subhash win titles
- Players from Rajasthan won 2 titles in the Central India Slam Squash Championship held in Indore (Madhya Pradesh).
- Divyanshi Jain emerged the winner of the girls U-13 category by defeating Maharashtra's Shanaya Rai 8-11, 11-5, 11-2, 11-3 in the final.
- In the boys U-19 category, Subhash Chaudhary defeated Rachit Shah of Maharashtra 12-10, 11-7, 11-5 to clinch the title.

## Judo Sub-Junior State Level Championship: Bhilwara won title in both categories

- In the state level sub-junior judo competition held at Soda (Tonk), Bhilwara won the double title of boys and girls category.
- **Boys category** Bhilwara captured the winner's trophy by winning 4 gold and 2 silver medals.
  - o Ajmer secured the runner-up position by securing 3 gold and 1 silver.
- **Girls category** Bhilwara got first place with 3 gold and 3 silver.
  - Hanumangarh secured the second position with 3 gold and 1 silver.
- Best Judoka Title
  - o Girls: Kanishka Rajawat (Tonk).
  - o In Boys: Rahul Karol (Bhilwara).

# Anita wins 4 medals in National Masters Classic and Equipped Powerlifting Championship

- It was held in Kozhikode, Calicut.
- **Organizer:** Under the joint aegis of Kerala State Powerlifting Association and Powerlifting India.
- In this competition, Anita Rathi of Rajasthan won 4 medals in the 63 kg master one weight category.
- Anita won a gold medal in bench press, a silver medal in squat, a silver medal in dead lift, and an overall silver medal by lifting a total weight of 290 kg.

## HCL India Tour Squash Tournament: Egypt's Shohdy, Nour win titles

- The HCL India Squash Tour-2025 was held at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- **Organizer:** Squash Rackets in collaboration with Federation of India and HCL.
- In the first leg, Egypt's Yasin Shohdy and Nour Khafagy have been seeded top in the men's and women's section respectively.

- Rajasthan's Chhavi Saran has got a place in the main draw
- **Men's category:** Yassin Shohdy of Egypt won the title by defeating Mohammed Gohar of Egypt 3-0.
- Women's category: Egypt's Nour Khafagy defeated Indian player Tanvi Khanna 11-3, 5-11, 11-5, 12-10 to win the title.
- **Note:** India's Tanvi Khanna finished runner-up in the women's category.

### Pushpendra Chaudhry wins FIDE Arbiter title

- The International Chess Federation (FIDE) has conferred the prestigious title of FIDE Arbiter on Pushpendra Kumar Chaudhary of Rajasthan.
- He is one of the arbitrators of Rajasthan which is technically very proficient.
- He has successfully played a role as an arbiter in several national and international chess competitions.

## Sahil Gupta won bronze medal in Junior National Swimming

- Swimmer Sahil Gupta of Rajasthan won the bronze medal in the 200m butterfly event at the 51st Junior National Swimming Championships held in Ahmedabad.
- Assam's T. Pegu won the gold medal and Karnataka's S Darshan won the silver medal in the event.
- President of Rajasthan Swimming Association: Anil Vyas.

### 2 players from Rajasthan in Indian Para Archery team

- Two players from Rajasthan will participate in the World Ranking Para Archery Competition to be held in the Czech Republic from August 23 to 31.
- Rajasthan's Shyam Sundar Swamy will represent India in compound team and Dhanaram Godara in recurve team.

## Rajasthan's Norti Kumari wins Asian Junior Women's Handball Championship

- Rajasthan's Norti Kumari Mewada has been included in the 18th Asian Junior Women's Handball Championship to be held in Tashkent (Uzbekistan) from August 20 to 29.
- Sujata (SAI) will be the captain of the Indian team in this.

## Harsh Chaudhary selected for World Boxing Championships

- Rajasthan's Harsh Chaudhary has been selected in the Indian team for the World Boxing Championships.
- They will play in the 90 kg weight category.
- The championship will be held in Liverpool, England, from 4-14 September 2025.
- For the first time, a player from Rajasthan has been selected in the World Boxing Championship.

## 4 players selected from Rajasthan for World Youth Muaythai Championship

- Four players from Rajasthan have been selected in the Indian contingent for the World Youth Muaythai Championship.
- The championship will be organised by the International Federation of Muaythai Associations in Abu Dhabi (UAE) from September 10 to 19.
  - 1. Vidhi Sharma
  - 2. Mohini
  - 3. Mudit Gupta
  - 4. Grahil Verma

## Kachnar Chaudhary won the gold medal at the National Inter-State Championship

- In the Senior National Inter-State Championship held in Chennai, Kachnar Chaudhary of Rajasthan Police won the gold medal with a throw of 15.75 meters in the shot put event.
- In this competition, Vidhi of Uttar Pradesh won silver and Shiksha of Haryana won bronze medal.
- It is India's largest national athletics competition.

## Pro Kabaddi League Season 12: Nitin Rawal is the new captain of Jaipur Pink Panthers

- Jaipur Pink Panthers have appointed all-rounder Nitin Rawal as the captain of the team for the 12th season of the Pro Kabaddi League, which is going to start in September 2025.
- Iran's Reza Mirbagheri has been given the responsibility of vice-captain.
- Nitin Rawal joined the Pink Panthers as a youngster in season 5 and played for the team till season 8.

## Arshaan Khan wins gold medal at Asian Bodybuilding Championships

• Jodhpur's Arshan Khan won the gold medal in the 100 kg weight category at the 57th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship.

- It was organized in Bangkok, Thailand.
- He has become the first player from Rajasthan to achieve first place at the Asia level.

### **Shootingball Subjunior: Rajasthan's Boys Team Wins Title**

- Rajasthan's boys team won the title in the 44th Sub-Junior National Shooting Ball Championship held in Bodh Gaya.
- Rajasthan defeated Punjab 21-18, 21-17 in the final.
- In this, the Maharashtra team was in third place.
- Rajasthan captain Mitesh was adjudged the "Best Player" of the tournament.

## Anil Joshi appointed coach of Indian team in para archery

 Anil Joshi of Rajasthan has been appointed coach of the Indian team in Para World Ranking Archery to be held in Czech Republic from 23 to 31 August and World Championship to be held in Korea in September.

## Girish Gupta won 2 gold and 1 silver medal in Asian shooting

- Rajasthan's Girish Gupta won 2 gold and 1 silver medal in the 10m Air Pistol Youth event of the 16th Asian Shooting Championship held in Kazakhstan.
- Girish won the gold medal in the individual with 241.3 points.
- She won a silver medal in the team event and a gold medal in mixed doubles.

## Rajasthan's Ashwini and Komal win medals at World Wrestling Championships

- Junior wrestlers from Rajasthan won 2 medals at the World Under-17 Wrestling Championship held in Athens.
- Ashwini Bishnoi of Jaipur won the gold medal in the 65kg category, while Komal Verma won the bronze medal in the 49kg category.
- In this championship, India won a total of 7 medals, including 3 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze medal.
- The Indian women's wrestling team also won the overall title with 151 points.

## Pankaj Singh and Megha Gaur become mentors of Rajasthan cricket team

• The Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) has announced new mentors for the Rajasthan men's and women's cricket teams.

- International cricketer Pankaj Singh has been appointed as the mentor of all the men's teams of Rajasthan.
- Megha Gaur has been appointed as the guide for the women's teams.

#### Also Know

- Convener of the ad hoc committee of the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA): DD Kumawat
- RCA Senior Selection Committee Chairman (Men) - Rahul Kanwat
- RCA Senior Selection Committee Chairman (Women) Komal Chaudhary

## Dilip Singh Shekhawat appointed as head of delegation for Asian Football Championship

- Dilip Singh Shekhawat has been appointed as the head of the Indian delegation for the Under-20 Women's Asia Cup 2026 qualifiers.
- The tournament will be held from August 4 to 11 in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Dilip Singh Shekhawat is the secretary of the Rajasthan Football Association.
- For the first time, an office-bearer of the Rajasthan Football Association will lead India's delegation at the international level.

### Miscellaneous

### Project to connect Mahi Dam to Jawai Dam

- It aims to provide a permanent solution to the drinking water crisis in Pali, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur and Barmer districts.
- It will cost around Rs 7,000 crore.
- In the budget for the year 2024-25, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma had announced to bring the excess water of Mahi and Som rivers to Jawai dam by filling other dams including Jaisamand.
- The completion of this project will provide irrigation facilities to about 16,000 hectares of land with drinking water facility.

### India's Most Powerful Electric Engine High-Speed Trial Test

- Trial of India's most powerful electric locomotive (capacity: 9,000 horsepower) will be done in Rajasthan.
- The trial will be conducted on a 64-km long track from Gudha to Meethdi on the Jaipur-

- Jodhpur route.
- It is possible to test trains up to speeds of more than 220 kmph.
- The track is being built at a cost of around Rs 800 crore.

## Laying of foundation stone of Isarda-Dausa drinking water project in Lalsot



- The foundation stone of Isarda-Dausa drinking water project was laid in Dungarpur village of Lalsot assembly constituency of Dausa district.
- The cost of the project will be around Rs 350 crore.
- Under this, 8 clean reservoirs, 5 pumphouses and 47 high reservoirs will be built.
- Under this scheme, 280 km of rising main pipeline, more than 200 km of main pipeline and 1360 km of VDS pipeline will be laid.
- After the completion of the project by 2027, the scheme will provide drinking water to about 5.58 lakh people of 302 villages and 69,000 population of Lalsot.

### **Country's First Motor Bike Animal Ambulance**

- The country's first motor bike animal ambulance has been prepared for the treatment of animals in Jaipur.
- This special ambulance has been designed by modifying the Honda company's bike, which has other medical facilities including first aid.
- With this, the treatment of street dogs and stray cows will be completely free.
- Ambulance service will be free for pets but the cost of their treatment will have to be borne by the animal owners.
- This facility will be available 24x7.

### 'Language Lab' to be set up in Rajasthan

- On the initiative of the Rajasthan government, a 'Language Lab' will be set up for the youth in the state.
- The project will start in collaboration with the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU)

- and the Union Ministry of Human Resources.
- In this lab, training of foreign languages like English, French, Spanish, and Japanese will be provided.
- Its aim is to prepare the youth for the international platform so that they can get employment abroad.
- This initiative will also help the youth to get opportunities in tourism, business, IT, education and service sectors of the country.

### Jaipur Metro will be driverless in Phase-2

- In Phase-2 of Jaipur Metro, the metro running for a distance of 43 km will operate without a driver.
- It will be based on Communication Based Train Control (CBTC) technology.
- The Grade of Automation 4 (GoA 4) technology will be used in this metro, which is controlled with sensors and singles in real-time.
- Automatic Train Operations: For the first time, automatic train operations will be done through CBTC technology.
- Train availability: Trains will be available at every stand every 180 seconds.
- **Safety:** The train will always be on the designated route, and the operation will be completely safe, ruling out the possibility of accidents.

### **CBTC** technology

- Its full name is Communication-Based Train Control.
- This technology is a state-of-the-art train control system, which enhances safety and efficiency in metro and railway operations.
- This technology makes train operations completely digital and automated.
- This technology is already in use in Singapore, Dubai, London and Shanghai.
- It is also being used in metro operations in Delhi and Mumbai in India.

### National Level DBT Programme under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

- A national DBT programme was organised under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana on 11 August 2025 in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
- Under this, the first installment of the insurance claim amount of Rabi season 2024-25 and Kharif season 2024 was transferred to the accounts of farmers through DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer).
- Under this programme, a total amount of Rs.1200 crore has been paid to about 27 lakh crop insurance holder farmers of Rajasthan.

 Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma and Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan were present on the occasion.

## Rajasthan will get an equity fund of Rs 100 crore and a grant of Rs 5 crore for startups

- The Rajasthan government will set up a Rs 100 crore equity fund to encourage innovation.
- Under this, a grant of up to Rs 5 crore will also be given to unique startups.
- Rajasthan is the third state after Kerala and Telangana to give such an impetus to innovation.



#### **Areas of Expertise of Different States**

(Source: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade)

- Construction & Engineering: Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Bihar
- Manufacturing: Gujarat
- Food Processing: Punjab, Maharashtra
- App Development: Kerala
- IT Consulting: Telangana, Karnataka
- Product Development: Tamil Nadu
- Business Support Service: West Bengal, Goa

## Committee constituted for successful implementation of Census-2027

- A State Level Census Coordination Committee
  has been constituted under the chairmanship of
  Chief Secretary Sudhansh Pant for the systematic
  and successful implementation of Census-2027 in
  Rajasthan.
- The task of this committee is to supervise, guide and coordinate with the concerned departments in various phases of Census-2027.
- Its administrative department will be the Department of Statistics.
- It is a temporary committee, which will be working till the end of Census-2027.

## Army Day parade held for the first time in Rajasthan

• In the year 2026, for the first time the Army Day Parade will be organized in front of the general public outside the army area.

- The event will take place on 15 January 2026 in Jaipur.
- Note: Army Day Parade is organized annually in honor of the indomitable courage, valor and sacrifice of the Indian Army.

#### Fourth Session of the 16th Legislative Assembly

- The fourth session of the 16th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly have begin on September 1, 2025.
- Governor Haribhau Bagade issued a notification in this regard.
- During this session, various important issues of the state, legislative business and issues of public interest will be discussed.
- An all-party meeting will also be convened before the fourth session of the 16th Assembly (for the first time).
  - The meeting was initiated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Shri Vasudev Devnani.
- Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker: Shri Vasudev Devnani
- Principal Secretary of Vidhan Sabha: Shri Bharat Bhushan Sharma

#### **Gogamedi Mela**

- The famous Gogamedi Mela of Shri Gogaji began on 9th August this year on the occasion of Bhadrapada Purnima.
- Gogamedi Mela is a famous religious fair held in the village of Gogamedi in the Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan.
- This historic religious fair will last for a month.
- The fair, one of the major religious events of North India, is expected to attract 30 to 35 lakh devotees this time.

### 500 New Farmer Producer Organizations to be formed

- 500 new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) will be formed in Rajasthan in a phased manner.
- A new FPO policy is being introduced to make farmers financially prosperous and happy.
- In this, one district-one product and panch pride will be included on priority.
- **Objective:** To strengthen FPOs, provide assistance to farmers in company patents, licenses and marketing leakages, etc.
- Apart from this, recently under the 'Knowledge Enhancement Program' in Rajasthan, 100 farmers associated with FPOs have been approved to travel abroad and train.

### Salaries and Allowances for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Commissions

- The Rajasthan government has decided to give Rs 75,000 monthly to the chairman and vice-chairmen working in various commissions, corporations, boards and committees.
- This payment will be applicable from the date of joining and the expenses will be borne by the concerned department.
- This payment will be made only if other pay/ allowances are not taken. If someone else is taking the facility, he/she has to choose an option.

## The National Forensic Science University (NFSU) will begin in Jaipur

- The campus of the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in Jaipur, Rajasthan will start in September 2025.
- Under this, a 40-room tower has been given to the university in the coaching hub of Pratapnagar, Jaipur.
- It will start with 80 seats in two programs of forensic science.
- Apart from this, there will be training programs for judges along with forensic investigations and officers of ED, CBI, IB, NIA will also be trained along with narco, brain mapping.
- Forensic matters related to border security will also be investigated.
- It will become a big center for forensic investigation.

#### **Operation Alert**

- The Border Security Force (BSF) carried out a high-intensity security operation, 'Operation Alert', along the Rajasthan border from 11 August to 17 August 2025.
- It was aimed at strengthening border security, rehearsing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and countering potential threats.
- Under this, foot and vehicle patrolling was intensified in sensitive areas of the Indo-Pak border.
- Advanced equipment and sensors were used for real-time monitoring and intelligence gathering.

### Hindustan Zinc: Becomes 1st Indian Company to Join ICMM

- Hindustan Zinc Limited has become the first Indian company to join the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM).
- It is India's largest integrated zinc producing company.
- It is the first new member of the ICMM since 2021.

- ICMM comprises 25 of the world's leading mining and metals companies.
  - It sets standards for responsible and sustainable mining.

### First institute at government level in the country to manufacture organs with 'plastination technique'

- The Department of Anatomy of the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur has created several organs such as the brain, lungs with the 'plastination technique' by Ayurveda doctors.
- This technique is being used in this institute for the first time at the government level.
- Models of organs prepared with this technique can be preserved for a long time.

#### **Plastination Technique**

- In this, water and fat are replaced with special plastic liquids
- This allows organs to be preserved for a long time without any chemical treatment.
- This technique helps medical students understand the composition of the body.

## Under the pilot project, Saras Mini Mart will be started in Jaipur rural area

- Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation Ltd. (RCDF) will open Saras Mini Mart in villages under the "International Year of Cooperative-2025".
- Under the pilot project, 43 Saras Mini Mart will be opened in rural areas of Jaipur.
- In addition to dairy products, food products, groceries, gift items, fruits and vegetables, agricultural products etc. will be available in these marts.

#### **IEC Campaign for AIDS Awareness**

- On the occasion of International Youth Day, a state-level program was organized by the Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society on 12 August 2025.
- The full name of IEC is Information, Education, and Communication.
- This campaign will be conducted in Rajasthan for 2 months
- The message of HIV/AIDS awareness was conveyed to the youth through street plays and other performances.
- Under this, check-ups, counseling and camps were organized to give information especially to the youth.

## Two new Vande Bharat trains to be launched in Rajasthan

Indian Railways has decided to connect Jodhpur

- and Bikaner with Vande Bharat train service.
- Both these trains will run from Jodhpur and Bikaner to Delhi Cantt.
  - 1. From Jodhpur to Delhi Cantt via Jaipur.
  - 2. From Bikaner to Delhi Cantt via Churu.
- Jaipur is already connected by two Vande Bharat trains
  - 1. Ajmer–Chandigarh (Via Delhi Cantt)
  - 2. Udaipur–Jaipur
- Jaipur is the only station in the state connected with the facility of 3 Vande Bharat trains.

## Exemption in registration for employment of up to 10 workers in Rajasthan

- In order to promote Ease of Doing Business, the Government of Rajasthan has given exemption under Section-4 of the Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Institutions Act-1958.
- Under this, institutions employing 0 to 10 workers will be exempted from the provisions of registration under the said Act.
- This will facilitate ease of doing business for small traders and commercial establishments and they will not be required to go through an additional process for registration.

## Draft of Rajasthan Shops and Establishments Act, 2025 approved

- The Rajasthan government approved the draft of the proposed Rajasthan Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2025.
- It deals with controlling the staff employment and service conditions of shops and business establishments in the state.
- **Objective:** To protect the rights and safety of employees at workplaces.

#### **National Deworming Day Programme**

- National Deworming was conducted in various states of the country including Rajasthan.
- Under this, National Deworming Day was celebrated on 22 August.
- Under this, a target has been set to give Albendazole medicine to about 3.33 crore children and adolescents in the age group of 1 year to 19 years in Rajasthan.
- For effective implementation of this campaign, medicine doses are being given to children between 1 and 19 years from Anganwadi centers to schools.
- Worms spread through dirt and unhygienic conditions and enter the body through infected soil.
- Infections have a negative impact on children's

physical development, haemoglobin levels, nutrition and mental development.

#### MiG-21 aircraft takes off from Nal Air Base

- Indian Air Force (IAF) chief AP Singh took the last flight in a MiG-21 fighter aircraft from Bikaner's Nal Air Base.
- He visited the MiG-21 last squadron 23 'Panthers' at the Nal airbase.
- The MiG-21 was inducted into the Air Force in the 1960s.
- This aircraft is one of the most created and used supersonic fighter aircraft in the world.
- It will be replaced by modern aircraft like Tejas, Tejas Mk-II, Rafale and Sukhoi-30.

## Helicopter service starts from Delhi to Khatushyamji

- A trial run of helicopter service from Delhi for the pilgrims of the famous Khatushyamji and Salasar Dham was conducted on August 23.
- During the trial, two helicopters flew from Delhi to the helipad at Jalund near Khatushyamji.
- This service will start regularly after getting permanent permission.
- The yatra will cover a distance of about 700 km from Delhi to Khatushyamji and Salasar Balaji.

#### **TTF Travel and Tourism Fair 2025**

- The TTF Travel and Tourism Fair for India's travel and tourism industry, held on 11-13 August 2025 at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.
- It was inaugurated by Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari on August 11.
- This annual exhibition provides travel and tourism sector professionals, travel agents, hoteliers, tourism boards, and other stakeholders with an opportunity to showcase the latest trends, products and services.

### **Conferences, Meetings, Festivals**

## State-level celebrations on 79th Independence Day

• The 79th Independence Day celebrations in Rajasthan were held at the Barkatullah Khan Stadium in Jodhpur.

### "Drone Show" on Operation Sindoor Theme

• It was held from Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur.

• In this show, about 550 drones displayed the valour of the Indian Army in the sky.

### Rising Rajasthan Partnership Conclave 2025

- The "Rising Rajasthan Partnership Conclave" will be organized by the Government of Rajasthan on 9-10 December 2025.
- The conclave is a follow-up to the "Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024" held last year.
- It aims to promote strategic partnerships across industries, expand investment opportunities and strengthen cooperation with international and multilateral institutions.
- The conference will have discussions on key areas like youth and women empowerment, healthcare, energy, industry.
- It will present the socio-economic outcomes of the 2024 investment agreements.
- The first "Pravasi Rajasthani Diwas" will also be organised in the state on December 10.
- The Pravasi Rajasthani Samman Awards (PRSA) will be conferred on migrant participants in the fields of business, science, art, industry, social service, music etc.
- Note: At the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit held in December 2024, agreements worth Rs 35 lakh crore were signed.

### **All India Speakers' Conference**

- The conference was held on 24-25 August 2025 in Delhi.
- Organizer: Delhi Assembly.
- It was attended by about 60 Speakers and Deputy Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils of the country.
- The centenary celebrations of Veer Vithalbhai Patel, the first elected Indian Speaker of the Central Assembly, were also held.
- Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani also participated in the conference.

#### 'Al Innovation Summit 2025'

- It was held in Jaipur on 22 August.
- It was organized by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Jaipur Branch.
- On this occasion, the 'AI 2.0' course designed for the training of ICAI members was also launched online.

#### Shravan Kumbh Mahotsav in Salumbar

• The 45-day Shravan Kumbh Mahotsav was held at Dhaulagarh Dham in Kenar village of Salumbar district on Saturday.

#### Also Know: Tribal faith based tourism circuit

• In the Rajasthan Budget 2025-26, it has been announced to develop tribal faith-based tourism circuits covering religious places like Tripura Sundari, Mangarh Dham, Baneshwar Dham, Sitamata Sanctuary, Rishabhdev, Gautameshwar Temple, Matrikundia etc.

### **Reports & Indexes**

## 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam': Uttar Pradesh tops, Rajasthan second

- Rajasthan ranked second in the 'Ek Tree Maa Ke Naam Maha Abhiyan' launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5 June 2024 (World Environment Day).
- Top 3 States
  - 1. Uttar Pradesh (37.51 crore saplings)
  - 2. Rajasthan (8 crore saplings)
  - 3. Gujarat (6.05 crore saplings)

#### Rajasthan tops in renewable energy investment

- According to the latest report of 'Projects Today', Rajasthan ranked first in the country in the first quarter (April-June) of the financial year 2025-26 in the field of investment in solar and wind energy projects.
  - 1. Rajasthan 419 new projects, investment of Rs 2.69 lakh crore (86% in solar and wind energy sector)
  - 2. Maharashtra 684 new projects, Rs 2.66 lakh crore
  - 3. Gujarat 459 new projects, Rs 2.1 lakh crore

निवेशकों का पसंदीदा: वित्त वर्ष 2026 की पहली तिमाही में नई निवेश योजनाओं में टॉप पर							
राज्य परियोजनाएं		लाख करोड़ हिस्सा रुपए में		वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 की आखिरी तिमाही हिस्सा			
<ul><li>राजस्थान</li></ul>	419	₹2.69	15.47%		08.29%		
■ महाराष्ट्र	684	₹2.66	15.30%		14.59%		
<b>■</b> गुजरात	459	₹2.09	12.05%		12.31%		
<ul><li>ओडिशा</li></ul>	147	₹1.09	06.26%		07.74%		
🔳 आंध्रप्रदेश	148	₹1.08	06.24%		04.91%		
<ul><li>कर्नाटक</li></ul>	141	₹0.99	05.68%		10.30%		
<ul><li>मध्यप्रदेश</li></ul>	132	₹0.65	03.70%	स्रोत: प्रोजेक्ट्स टुडे	05.55%		

## Rajasthan ranks second in the country in generating Abha IDs

• Rajasthan is second in the country by creating

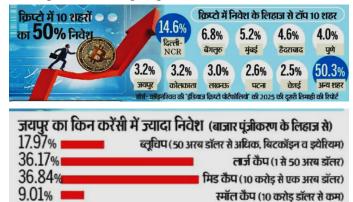
- Abha IDs of more than 6.20 crore citizens.
- Apart from this, more than 1.68 crore Abha linked e-health records have also been created by the health camps in Rajasthan.
- Apart from this, Rajasthan Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) is being established on the lines of AIIMS, Delhi by upgrading the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS) for super specialty medicine in the state.

# Rajasthan ranks second in the country in availing benefits of Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana

- According to the report up to the 19th installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, 24.18 lakh women farmers in Rajasthan have benefited from it.
- Rajasthan ranks second in the country in getting benefits, while Uttar Pradesh ranks first.
- A total of Rs 597.28 crore has been transferred to the accounts of women farmers in Rajasthan so far.
- In Uttar Pradesh, women farmers have received Rs 1199.72 crore.
- Under this scheme, farmers of the country receive assistance of Rs. 6,000 each year.

## Jaipur ranks 6th in crypto investment in the country

- Jaipur ranked sixth for cryptocurrency investment in the country.
- 71.7% of those who invest in cryptocurrency in Jaipur are under 35 years of age.
- Investors in Jaipur are more interested in largecap and mid-cap digital assets.



## Rajasthan High Court ranks first in the country in case disposal

• The Rajasthan High Court has been ranked first in the country in terms of case disposal.

• This change has come due to the geo-tagging of summons, paperless e-module, SMS service, video conferencing (VC), e-filing center, live cause list, pending case settlement mechanism, email to the order concerned, e-statement, etc.

## Top 5 districts of Rajasthan in 'Give Up Campaign'

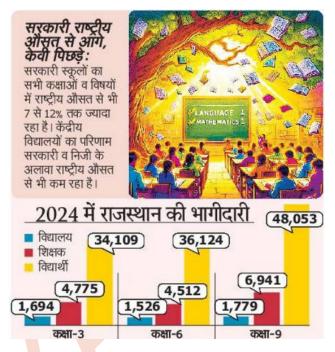
- Under the ongoing 'Give Up Campaign' under the National Food Security Act, about 27 lakh people of the state have voluntarily removed their names from the scheme.
- With this initiative, new eligible persons have been able to get the benefit of the scheme.
- The districts that have been removed the most during this campaign are:
  - 1. Jaipur (2,06,596)
  - 2. Sikar (95,582)
  - 3. Udaipur (92,428)
  - 4. Bikaner (88,787)
  - 5. Banswara (86,530)
- The campaign started on 1st November 2024 and has now been extended till 31st August 2025.
- Its purpose is that capable and ineligible persons leave the scheme on their own, so that the needy can get its benefit.

### Achievements of Rajasthan in Parakh National Survey 2024

- The survey was conducted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training.
- In the 'Parakh National Survey 2024', students of Rajasthan are better than the national average in language and mathematics performance.
- This assessment was done on students of classes 3, 6 and 9, in which the results of students, rural-urban, government-non-government schools and all social groups (ST, SC, OBC and others) were above average.
- The main objective of the survey is not limited to subject knowledge but to develop critical thinking, problem-solving and application-based skills.
- Based on the results, districts have been classified

- into four categories-Udit, Uday, Udyan, and Udbhav.

  The students of government schools in Rajasthan
- The students of government schools in Rajasthan have performed remarkably well in this assessment.



## 9.25 lakh women became Lakhpati Didi in Rajasthan

- So far, 18.25 lakh women have been trained under the Lakhpati Didi scheme in Rajasthan
- Of these, 9.25 lakh women have become 'Lakhpati Didi'.

### 2. National Affairs

### **79th Independence Day Celebrations**



Theme: "New India"

#### **Special Guests:**

- Around 5,000 invitees, including Special Olympics 2025 contingent, international sports winners and Khelo India Para Games gold medalists.
- Women Panchayat leaders were invited as special guests.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation from the Red Fort for the 12th time on the occasion of 79th Independence Day (15 August 2025).
- The Prime Minister's speech was 103 minutes long, which is the longest Independence Day speech by the Prime Minister so far.

#### Mission Sudarshan Chakra

- Modi launched a ten-year national security initiative named "Mission Sudarshan Chakra".
- Objective: 2035 To protect India's vital institutions and establishments with indigenous technology.
- By 2035, all important places in the country, including the strategic and civil sectors, will be provided with full security cover through the new platform of indigenous technology.

#### Pradhan Mantri Vikas Bharat Rozgar Yojana

- On the 79th Independence Day, the Central Government implemented the ₹1 lakh crore "Pradhan Mantri Vikas Bharat Rozgar Yojana" on 15 August 2025.
- **Objective**: To create jobs for the youth at a rapid pace, provide 3.5 crore jobs under the Developed India 2047 Vision.
- Under this, ₹ 15,000 will be given to the youth who get jobs for the first time in the private sector.
- **Employers** will be provided assistance of up to ₹3,000/month on joining new employees.

- The scheme will be implemented by the Ministry of Labor and Employment.
- The identification and verification of beneficiaries will be done by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).

#### **Next Generation GST Reforms**

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates will be reduced by November 2025.
- This will benefit consumers and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.
- The Finance Ministry has also submitted a proposal to the GST Council to have only 2 tax slabs.

#### "Next-Generation GST Reform"

- The Union Government has proposed a new structure of two main rates (5% and 18%) to simplify the GST system.
- Along with this, it is suggested to impose a 40% special tax on tobacco, pan masala and luxury items.

#### **Objectives:**

- To make GST more friendly to the common consumers.
- Giving impetus to sectors such as agriculture, textiles, automobiles, renewable energy, handicrafts, health and insurance.

#### **New Rate Structure**

- **5% slab:** Daily use and general consumer goods (mostly items falling at 12% will be included in this).
- **18% slab:** White goods like TV, refrigerator (currently 28%).
- **40% Rate:** Luxury and harmful products (e.g. tobacco).
- **Note:** There will be no tax on essential food items.

#### **Economic impact**

- 67% of the current revenue comes from the 18% slab. In this, the reduction in rates will increase consumption, GDP will increase.
- Revenues may decline in the short term, but this will be offset by rising consumption.

#### **New Missions in Energy and Minerals Sector**

- Two national missions were announced to make the country self-reliant in the field of energy and mineral resources:
  - National Deepwater Mission Exploration of Oil and Gas Reserves.
  - **2.** National Critical Minerals Mission For Discovery of Rare Minerals.

#### **High Demography Mission**

- PM announces **High Demography Mission**.
- **Objective:** To prevent imbalance in the demographic pattern caused by infiltration
- Further, amid a tariff war with the United States, the Prime Minister made it clear that the interests of farmers, cattle rearers and fishermen will not be compromised.
- The Prime Minister also called upon the youth of the country to develop indigenous jet engines and indigenous social media platforms.

## Historical Record of Flag Hoisting on Independence Day

- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru holds the record of hoisting the national flag 17 times consecutively on Independence Day .
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become the second Prime Minister of India to hoist the flag consecutively after Pandit Nehru.
- Note: Indira Gandhi hoisted the national flag at the Red Fort 16 times on Independence Day. (11 times consecutively)

## Speaker forms committee to probe Justice Verma case



- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on August 12 approved the impeachment motion against Allahabad High Court judge Justice Yashwant Verma.
- Accepting the notice of impeachment, a three-member inquiry committee has been formed.
- The other members of the committee are Supreme Court Justice Arvind Kumar, Madras High Court Justice Manindra Mohan Srivastava and Karnataka High Court senior advocate V.B. Acharya.

• The process of removing him from office will be initiated as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 and the rules made thereunder.

#### **Further Processing:**

- This committee will submit the inquiry report to the Speaker. If the allegations are found to be true, the impeachment motion will be brought in Parliament.
- Justice Verma will have to be informed 14 days before bringing the motion.
- This will be followed by a debate in the Lok Sabha. During the discussion, Justice Verma will also be given a chance to present the case.
- After this, the proposal will have to be passed by a majority in both houses. The proposal will be sent to the President. Then the notification of removal will be issued.
- **Note:** For the third time in the country, the impeachment process has started against a judge. However, no judge has been removed from impeachment so far.

#### 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill

- On 20 August 2025, the central government introduced the 130th Constitution Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha to keep tainted leaders away from power.
- Under this, Articles 75, 164 and 239AA will be amended.

#### **Key Provisions:**

- In serious criminal cases (those with punishment of 5 years or more), if the Prime Minister, Chief Minister or a Minister remains in jail for 30 consecutive days, his post will automatically be terminated.
- **Note:** After release from jail, the concerned person can be re-appointed.

#### Provisions of the Bill

- 1. Prime Minister and Union Ministers (Article 75 Modifications):
  - A new Article: 75 clause 5A will be added to it.
  - If a Union Minister is in jail for up to 30 days or has serious criminal cases (with imprisonment for 5 years or more), the President will remove him from office on the advice of the Prime Minister.
  - If the Prime Minister does not advise, the Minister will automatically be relieved from office from the 31st day.
  - This provision will also apply to the Prime Minister.

### 2. For State Governments (Article 164 Modifications):

- A new Article 164 clause 4A will be added to it
- If a minister of the state is in jail for up to 30 days or has serious criminal cases (with imprisonment for 5 years or more), the Governor will remove him on the advice of the Chief Minister.
- If the Chief Minister does not advise, he will automatically be out of office from the 31st day.
- This provision will also apply to the Chief Minister and Ministers of Union Territories.

### 3. Union Territory of Delhi For (Article 239AA Modifications):

- A new clause 5A will be added to it.
- If a minister of Delhi is in jail for up to 30 days or has serious criminal cases (with imprisonment for 5 years or more), the President will remove him on the advice of the Chief Minister.
- If the Chief Minister does not advise, he will automatically be out of office from the 31st day.
- Note: It also provides that the Prime Minister, Chief Minister or Minister, on being released, can be reappointed.

### Example (Leaders who remained in office while in jail)

- 1. Arvind Kejriwal (AAP) Chief Minister of Delhi.
- 2. Satyendar Jain (AAP) Minister of Delhi.
- 3. Senthil Balaji (DMK) Minister of Tamil Nadu.
- 4. Nawab Malik (NCP) Minister of Maharashtra.

### President's rule extended in Manipur

- The President's Rule in Manipur was extended by the Parliament for another 6 months from 13 August 2025.
- President's rule has been imposed in Manipur since 13 February 2025.
- Under Article 356, in the event of a constitutional crisis in a state, the central government can impose President's rule in the state.
- This can be implemented if the Governor gives a report or the Center confirms that the situation has worsened.

#### Causes of President's Rule:

- 1. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh resigns.
- 2. Political instability and inability to form government.
- 3. Failure of the constitutional mechanism.
- 4. Poor law and order situation, Administration affected especially due to ethnic clashes.

#### **Effects of President's Rule:**

- The executive and legislative powers of the state come to the Centre.
- The Governor is given the responsibility of the state administration.
- It can be kept in force for 6 months, and can be extended with the approval of Parliament for a maximum of 3 years.

### The National Sports Administration Bill, 2025 and the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- Both the bills were passed by both the Houses of Parliament.
- The objective of these bills is to prepare India for bidding for the Olympics and building world-class sports infrastructure.

#### 1. National Sports Administration Bill, 2025:

- o The Bill provides recognition and regulation to national sports bodies.
- Olympic Committee, a National Paralympic Committee, and regional sports federations.
- o National sports bodies have been mandated to include outstanding sportspersons and women in their Executive Committees.
- o A National Sports Tribunal will be set up to adjudicate sports related disputes.

#### 2. National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill, 2025:

- o The bill amends the National Anti-Doping Act 2022 and prohibits doping in sports.
- o Provides a framework for testing, enforcing and adjudicating doping violations.
- o Under this, the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has been established.
- A National Sports Anti-Doping Board will also be set up to monitor NADA's activities and advise the central government on antidoping laws.
- The Board will have the power to receive operational information from disciplinary committees.

## The Public Confidence (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025

- The Central Government recently passed the Public Confidence (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025 from Parliament.
- It is based on the Public Confidence Act, 2023 and expands the scope of reforms.
- Its main goal is to promote ease of doing business and ease of living, reduce the regulatory burden and decriminalize petty crimes.

- Coverage: Covers 16 Central Acts of 10 Ministries/ Departments.
- **Total amendments:** Changes have been proposed in 355 provisions, including 288 provisions to be made non-criminal and 67 provisions related to ease of living.

#### **Key Provisions**

- o Advice or warning for 76 offences of 10 Acts on first time violation.
- o **Non-Criminalization:** Removal of imprisonment for minor/technical lapses and provision of fine or warning.
- o **Rationalisation of Penalties:** Punishment according to the severity of the offence, increased punishment for repeat offences.
- o **Administrative Machinery:** The designated officer will decide the punishment, which will reduce the burden on the courts.
- o Revision of penalty: Provision for automatic increase of 10% every 3 years.
- o Under this, many minor offences were converted into civil penalties or monetary fines.

### The Online Gaming Regulation and Promotion Bill 2025

- The "Online Gaming Promotion and Regulation Bill 2025" was passed by both Houses of Parliament on 20-21 August 2025.
- It aims to promote e-sports and social online games and prohibit harmful real-money games.

#### **Main Categories**

- **1. e-Sports:** Skill-based and competitive digital sports.
- **2. Social online games:** For fun, without a monetary reward.
- **3. Online Money Games:** Games with economic benefits with bets or deposits, such as poker, rummy, etc.
- An online gaming authority will be formed, which will work on policies, regulation, collaboration of developers and infrastructure.

#### **Penalties and Enforcement**

- o For the first time offence, a maximum of 3 years imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs 1 crore.
- o Imprisonment of 3 to 5 years and fine up to Rs 2 crore for repeated offences.

## The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- The Lok Sabha has approved the Indian Institute of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- The Bill seeks to amend the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.
- It proposes to set up a new IIM in Guwahati, Assam.

- The Union Government has allocated ₹550 crore for the new IIM in Guwahati.
- There are currently 21 IIMs operating in India and next month the Dubai campus will also start functioning.

### **High Level Committees for Developed India Constituted**

- They were formed under the chairmanship of former Cabinet Secretary and NITI Aayog member Rajiv Gauba.
- **Objective:** To implement next-generation reforms to make India a developed nation by 2047.

#### **Two Main Committees:**

- **1. Developed India Goals Committee:** Will work on long-term policies and plans.
- **2. Non-Financial** Regulatory Reforms Committee: Work to improve competition and ease of doing business by simplifying the regulatory framework.
- A group of ministers, headed by Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has also been formed to coordinate them.
- A state-level committee has also been constituted under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary T V S Swaminathan.
- It will also include secretaries of key ministries, experts from the private sector and industry (e.g. Pawan Goenka, Manish Sabharwal, Janmejay Sinha) and secretary generals of industry chambers (CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM).
- **Note:** Prime Minister Modi had announced a special task force for reforms in his Independence Day speech.

## Lok Sabha to be held in 22 scheduled languages

- During the Monsoon Session, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced that the proceedings of the Lok Sabha will be available in all the 22 languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.
- Earlier, it was translated into Hindi, English and 18 other languages.
- This is an initiative to facilitate MPs to speak in regional languages.
- According to Article 343, Hindi (in Devanagari script) is the official language of India.

#### **Languages of the Eighth Schedule**

 Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

- o The Eighth Schedule of the Constitution initially had 14 languages, later amendments added more languages:
  - Sindhi (1967), Konkani, Manipuri, Nepali (1992),Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Santhali (2003).
- o Six languages in the country have got the status of 'classical language': Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013) and Odia (2014) and Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Asmia and Bangali (20241)

#### **High Court vs. Supreme Court Dispute**

- Recently, the Supreme Court had issued an order against Allahabad High Court judge, Justice Prashant Kumar, which was later withdrawn.
- The case arose out of a civil dispute (unpaid amount in a sale transaction) being allowed to be treated as a criminal matter.
- The apex court termed it "ridiculous and flawed" and said Justice Kumar has passed such orders in the past.
- Following this, the Supreme Court directed the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court not to assign any criminal cases to Justice Kumar till his retirement and advised him to sit on the Division Bench along with a senior judge.
- The 13 judges of the Allahabad High Court through a letter dated 7 August 2025 sought nonimplementation of the Supreme Court order and appealed to convene a full court sitting.
- The High Court argued that the Supreme Court has no jurisdiction of administrative superintendence over the High Courts.
- Subsequently, on 8 August 2025, the **Supreme Court withdrew its order.**

#### **Statutory and Constitutional Aspects:**

- o Administrative Superintendence of the Supreme Court: The administrative superintendence of the Supreme Court is limited to the High Courts.
- o The administrative autonomy of the High Courts is constitutionally protected.
- o The tendency to convert civil disputes into criminal cases should also be stopped.

#### Conclusion

- o This case underlines the administrative autonomy of the High Courts and the balance of power between the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- The Supreme Court's move may be an attempt to promote judicial accountability, but it should be addressed through appellate or review processes.

## Jammu and Kashmir government sacks employees under Article 311

- Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha used Article 311(2)(c) to dismiss a teacher and an assistant stockman.
- They were accused of being involved in anti-national activities on the basis of reports of security agencies.
- This provision allows for dismissal without departmental inquiry in the interest of the security of the state.

#### Article 311

- It protects the civil servants of the Central and State Government from undue dismissal.
- **General rule:** It is important to give information and an opportunity to respond to the charges before dismissal.
- False accusation:
  - Conviction in a criminal case.
  - It is not possible to conduct a departmental inquiry.
  - o Not to investigate in the interest of state security.
- The final decision is made by the President, Governor or Lieutenant Governor.
- The purpose of these powers is to prevent antinational elements in the administration, take prompt action in security sensitive areas and maintain the integrity of the state.

## Punjab is first state in India to launch anti-drone system

- The Punjab government launched an anti-drone system named 'Baaj Akh', deploying state-of-theart technology for drone surveillance and control.
- Punjab is the first state in India to launch an antidrone system.
- It aims to prevent drug and weapons trafficking.
- The initiative is part of Punjab's anti-drugs drive along the 553-km-long border with Pakistan.
- Under this, three units have been deployed and there are plans to add six additional units.
- The system uses radar, electronic intelligence and automatic warning technologies to locate drones and their control centre.

## Punjab: First state to include sign language experts in justice system

- The Punjab government is the first state in the country to formally empanel sign language interpreters, translators and special educators under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- The initiative will also be extended to matters such as the POCSO Act, 2012.
- It aims to make the justice system more inclusive for children with hearing or speech impaired.

#### Vikash Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan

- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that the Vikash Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan will start from 3rd October 2025 and will continue till 18th October.
- The objective of this campaign is to increase direct communication between farmers and agricultural scientists.
- During this time, scientists and officials of the Agriculture Department will visit the villages.
- He will interact with farmers and apprise them about new techniques to increase food production.

#### AI tool 'SabhaSaar'

- The Government of India launched the AI-based tool 'SabhaSaar' to empower the functioning of Gram Panchayats.
- It has started from Tripura and will be implemented across the country.
- Objective: To make village level governance digital, standardized and democratic.
- It is an AI-enabled documentation tool.
- Converts video and audio proceedings of Gram Sabha meetings into structured Minutes of Meeting (MoM).

### PM Modi inaugurates 'Kartavya Bhawan'



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first building of the Common Central Secretariat (CCS) project 'Kartavya Bhawan 3' on 6th August 2025.
- The building is an important part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Plan, which aims to integrate and modernise the central government offices.

#### Central Vista Project

- The Central Vista is a major administrative area of New Delhi, which includes important buildings such as the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament House, North and South Blocks, India Gate, and the National Archives.
- In 2019, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, outlined the 'Central Vista Redevelopment Project'.
- Under this, a total of 10 Common Central Secretariat

(CCS) buildings are being constructed, with plans to bring 50+ ministries under one roof.

#### **Major Proposed Works:**

- Construction of New Parliament House (completed).
- Construction of modern buildings for the Central Secretariat.
- Vice President Enclave
- Redeveloped Kartavya Path (Vijay Chowk to India Gate)
- Executive Enclave which includes the new Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat, India House, National Security Council Secretariat
- New Prime Minister's House
- Converting North and South Block into museums.

## India launches \$1 billion Green Affordable Housing Fund

- International Finance Corporation (IFC) and HDFC Capital Advisors launched a \$1 billion H-DREAM Fund.
- **Objective:** To address the housing shortage in India and promote sustainable development.
- IFC, which is a member of the World Bank Group, will make an anchor investment of \$150 million (₹1,320 crore) and the remaining \$850 million will be raised from global and domestic investors.
- The fund will be managed by HDFC Capital Advisors, with a focus on affordable and mid-income housing projects, green building technology and sustainable urban development.
- All the funded projects will comply with green building standards to reduce carbon emissions, increase energy efficiency and conserve water.

#### Delhi Section of Dwarka Expressway and Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II) launched

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched two major highway projects in New Delhi on 17 August 2025.
- The total cost of these projects is around ₹11,000 crore.
- This includes the Delhi stretch of the Dwarka Expressway and the Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II).
- A 10.1 km long section of the Dwarka Expressway in Delhi has been built.
- The stretch will connect Yashobhumi, Delhi Metro's Blue and Orange lines, the proposed Bijwasan railway station and the Dwarka cluster bus depot.
- The section of UER-II extends from Alipore to Dichaon Kalan.
- This will ease traffic on the inner and outer ring roads of Delhi.

#### **Tato-II Hydropower Project**

- The project was approved by the Union Government of Arunachal Pradesh at an investment proposal of Rs 8,146.21 crore with a capacity of 700 MW in Shi Yomi district.
- The project will strengthen the region's power supply, strengthen the national grid, and spur socio-economic development in the remote district.
- It will have an installed capacity of 700 MW, which will be divided into 4 units of 175 MW each.
- This will generate 2,738.06 million units of clean energy per year.
- The project will be implemented as a joint venture of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO) and the Arunachal Pradesh government.



### Delhi Assembly becomes India's first fully solarpowered and digital assembly

- The Delhi Assembly has come into effect from August 4, 2025, with a fully digital and solar power based system.
- Delhi is the first assembly in the country to be fully solar-powered.
- National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) and 500 KW rooftop solar plant were inaugurated in the Delhi Assembly.
- The NeVA initiative makes the legislative processes under the Digital India Mission paperless, transparent and expeditious.

# FSSAI and Ministry of AYUSH release official list of "Ayurveda Diet" products Symbolic 5 Leaves represents 5 Elements viz Ether (Akash), Air (Vayu), Fire (Agni), Water (Igl/Apgs) and Farth (Prithy)

Letters "3T and "A" Combined in such a way that they appear to be a single form

Single form

Water (Jal/Apas) and Earth (Prithvi)

Single Gram Single form

Water (Jal/Apas) and Earth (Prithvi)

To Help Consumer to Identify the Product as Ayurveda Aahara

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) in association with the Ministry of AYUSH has published a formal product list for Ayurveda diet.
- This list is based on the Ayurveda Dietary Regulations of 2022 and includes recipes, ingredients, and manufacturing methods taken from classical texts.
- The list has been released under regulatory Schedule 'A' and 'B'.
- It will act as a trusted reference for enterprises in the Ayurvedic food sector.

#### Annadata Sukhibhava Yojana

- It is a farmer assistance initiative of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- It was launched on 2 August 2025 at Veerayapalem in Prakasam district.
- The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to small and marginal farmers.
- As many as 46.85 lakh farmers will be benefited from the scheme.
- Under this, each eligible farmer will be given an assistance of  $\gtrless 20,000$  in a year.
  - o ₹6,000 from central government's PM-Kisan scheme
  - o ₹14,000 from Government of Andhra Pradesh

### 3. Economy

## Govt approves 4 new semiconductor projects in the country



 The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved 4 new semiconductor projects under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM).

- These projects will entail an investment of about Rs 4,600 crore, which will provide direct employment to 2,034 professionals.
- The total number of projects sanctioned under the ISM so far has gone up to 10.
  - Of these, Rs 1.60 lakh crore will be invested in 6 states.

#### **New Projects**

#### **Bhubaneswar** (Odisha)

- Two units of SiCSem and 3D Glass Solutions Inc. will be installed.
- In collaboration with HDFC Bank, Clas-SiC Wafer Fab Ltd. of SiCSem, UK. will set up the country's first commercial compound semiconductor Fab.
- 3D Glass Solutions will install an advanced packaging and glass substrate unit, which will include technologies such as 3DHI modules.

#### **Andhra Pradesh**

• ASIP Company with APACT Co. Ltd. of South Korea will set up a semiconductor unit with a capacity of 96 million units per annum.

#### Mohali (Punjab)

• Continental Device India Ltd. (CDIL) will expand its existing plant, where high-power semiconductor devices will be made.

### Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan: Responsive Governance Programme

- The Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs officially launched the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan on 19 August 2025.
- It has been considered as the world's largest tribal leadership programme.
- **Objective:** To empower tribal communities, promote citizen-centric governance, and create opportunities for local leadership.

#### **Key Initiatives**

- o Adi Seva Kendras will be set up in tribaldominated villages, where officials and communities will work together to solve problems and provide guidance to the youth.
- o Every fortnight will be dedicated 1-2 hours under 'Adi Seva Samay' .
- o Government laboratories will be run from state to village level.

- o The GAPs will be in consonance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national and international commitments.
- o Saturation of government schemes will be ensured.

#### The Role of Volunteers

- Associates: Teachers, therapists, professionals
   will guide the community.
- o **Adi Saathi:** Self Help Group members, elderly, youth and local leaders will help in implementation and public relations.
- o **Leadership Training:** Tribal youth, women and community leaders will be trained in governance, problem solving.
- o Apart from this, this campaign will reach more than 1 lakh tribal villages.

- 20 lakh volunteers will be organized in 550 districts of 30 States/UTs.
- This initiative is aligned with major government campaigns such as Dharti Aba Tribal Village Utkarsh Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Jatiya Adivasi Nyay Mahaabhiyan (PM Janman) and National Mission for Elimination of Sickle Cell Anaemia.

# The duration of the Prime Minister's e-Drive Scheme has been extended till March 2028.

- The central government extended the duration of the Prime Minister's e-Drive scheme till March 2028.
- The scheme was launched on 1st October 2024 with a budget of ₹10,900 crore.
- It aims to promote electric mobility in India.
- It aims to incentivise the purchase of EV vehicles, expand charging infrastructure, and expand testing facilities.
- **Target:** To have 24.79 lakh electric two-wheelers, 3.16 lakh three-wheelers, 14,028 buses and trucks, and 88,500 charging points by 2028.

#### Financial Allocation:

- o For electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, ambulances and trucks: ₹3,679 crore
- o For electric buses, charging stations, and testing facilities: ₹7,171 crore
- o The subsidy for electric two-wheelers has been reduced from ₹5,000 per kWh to ₹2,500 per kWh from April 2025.
- o From July 2025, the subsidy for electric trucks has been reduced to ₹5,000 per kWh or 10% of the ex-factory price.
- o The subsidy for two-wheelers and three-wheelers will end after 31st March 2026.
- o It has been decided to run this scheme to a limit of ₹ 10,900 crore. If this amount is fully spent, the scheme may be closed prematurely.

## Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) allocated ₹6,520 crore by 2025-26

- The Union Cabinet approved a total budget of ₹6,520 crore for the PMKSY scheme.
- Out of this, an additional allocation of ₹1,920 crore has been made for the 15th Finance Commission period (2021-26).
- It will cover the period from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- The ₹1,000 crore will lead to the creation of 50 multi-product food irradiation units (under the ICCVAI component) and setting up of 100 NABL certified food testing laboratories (under the FSQAI component).

 In addition, ₹920 crore will be used to finance other projects.

#### Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)

- The PMKSY was launched in 2017-18 and has been extended till 31st March 2026 in line with the period of the 15th Finance Commission.
- It is a Central Sector Scheme run by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- PMKSY aims to develop modern food processing infrastructure in India by creating an efficient supply chain from farm to market.

#### **Major Sub-Components of PMKSY**

- At present the scheme has 6 sub-components:
  - 1. Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure
  - 2. Creation/Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacity Expansion (Unit Plan)
  - 3. Infrastructure Development for Agro Processing Clusters
  - 4. Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure
  - 5. Human Resources and Institutional Development (including Research & Training)
  - 6. Operation Greens, which initially focused on tomato onion, Potato (TOP) now covers 22 perishable products.

### Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Meeting

- The 56th meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was held between 4th to 6th August 2025.
- The meeting was presided over by Governor Shri Sanjay Malhotra, and included Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Shri Saugat Bhattacharya, Prof. Ram Singh, Dr. Poonam Gupta and Dr. Rajiv Ranjan.
- The committee decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 5.50%.
- The SDF rate was kept unchanged at 5.25% and the MSF and Bank Rate at 5.75%.
- Further, due to global headwinds, CPI inflation may go above 4%. Core inflation is likely to remain above 4%.
- The GDP outlook for FY26 is estimated at 6.5%.

### Indranil Bhattacharya appointed as MPC member

 The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Indranil Bhattacharya, Executive Director of the Monetary Policy Department, as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

- The appointment comes ahead of the October 2025 policy meeting (September 29 to October 1) and he will succeed Rajeev Ranjan.
- Bhattacharya has experience in central banking.
- He has served as the Executive Director of the Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR) since March 2025.

#### **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)**

- Founded: On 29 September 2016, under Section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- Objective: To set the policy interest rate to achieve the inflation target set by the Government of India.
- Total Members: 6

#### **Current Member**

- 1. Sanjay Malhotra (**Head**) (RBI governor)
- 2. Dr. Nagesh Kumar MD
- 3. Pro. Ram Singh
- 4. Saugat Bhattacharya
- 5. Indranil Bhattacharya
- 6. Dr. Poonam Gupta MD

### RBI approves merger of New India Cooperative Bank and Saraswat Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the merger of the New India Co-operative Bank (NICB) with Saraswat Co-operative Bank, the country's largest urban co-operative bank.
- The merger came into effect from 4 August 2025.
   Now all the branches of NICB are working under Saraswat Bank.
- In February 2025, a fraud of ₹122 crore was reported in NICB, after which the RBI had imposed a moratorium.
- All branches of New India Bank will now work under Saraswat Bank.
- All its customers and depositors will be treated as customers of Saraswat Bank and their safety will be ensured.

### Central Scheme for Cooperative Sector Approved

- The Union Government has approved a new Central Sector Scheme aimed at supporting the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- Under this, a grant-in-aid of Rs 2000 crore will be provided.
  - o Grant per annum: Rs 500 crore
- The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 31 July 2025.
- **Duration of the Scheme:** 2025-26 to 2028-29 (for 4 years)
- This amount will not be refundable from the central

- government and will be given through budgetary allocations.
- Apart from this, NCDC will also raise Rs 20,000 crore from the market in 4 years.
- Nodal agency for implementation of scheme, monitoring and recovery of loans: NCDC.

#### Role of NCDC:

- o Providing loans to cooperatives through state governments or directly.
- Financial assistance for capital and running expenses for greenfield projects, expansion of plants, purchase of raw materials, payment of salaries etc.

#### National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)

- o Establishment: 1963
- o Headquarters: New Delhi
- o Statutory Bodies: Under the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962
- o Functions: To provide financial assistance to cooperatives and to provide loans to state governments for financing primary and secondary level cooperatives.

## The Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 came into effect from August 1

- The Act has been enacted to strengthen the administration in the banking sector and to provide better protection to depositors and investors.
- The Act came into force from 1st August 2025, which was notified on 15th April 2025.
- The Act aims to improve audit standards in public sector banks.
- This extends the tenure of directors of cooperative banks, but the change will not apply to Chairmen and full-time Directors.
- The limit of "substantial interest" has been increased from ₹5 lakh to ₹2 crore, which was unchanged since 1968.
- The Act increases the tenure of Directors from 8 years to 10 years, in line with the 97th Constitutional Amendment.

### Record increase in foreign investment in India in FY 2025

- Foreign investment of Indian companies increased by 67.74% in FY 2024-25.
- It increased to \$41.6 billion from \$24.8 billion in the previous year.
- According to EY's report "India Abroad: Navigating the Global Landscape for Overseas Investment 2025", the increase was due to factors such as the emphasis on ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) and global regulatory pressures.
- Gujarat's GIFT City became a major hub of foreign investment, with investments rising to \$0.81 billion in FY25 from \$ 0.04 billion in FY23.

### 4. International Affairs

### Putin-Trump Alaska Summit 2025



- The talks took place on August 15, 2025, between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump at the Elmendorf-Richardson military base in Anchorage, Alaska.
- The theme of the dialogue was "Pursuing Peace".
- The two countries discussed the Russia-Ukraine conflict but failed to reach a formal peace agreement.

#### **World's First Planned Migration Plan**

- The country of Tuvalu has launched the world's first planned migration plan due to the threat posed by climate change.
- Under this plan, Tuvalu is relocating its population to Australia under the Falopily Union Treaty (2023).
- Tuvalu is a small island nation in the Pacific Ocean with an average elevation of only 2 meters above sea level and a population of about 11,000.
- This country is highly vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding, and storms.
- According to NASA, most of its land could be submerged by 2050.
- Under the Faleppili Union treaty, 280 Tuvalu citizens will receive permanent residency in Australia every year.
- The treaty is the first international example of planned migration due to climate change.
- The capital of Tuvalu is Funafuti, which gained independence from Britain in 1978.

### 9 agreements signed between India and Philippines

 Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Philippines President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. announced the strategic partnership on 5 August, 2025.



### The following 9 agreements were signed between the two countries:

- 1. Action Plan for Establishment and Implementation of Strategic Partnership (Action Plan).
- 2. Air force, Army and Naval Staff Talks Terms of Reference Agreed.
- 3. Two bilateral treaties on Mutual Legal Assistance and Transfer of Sentenced Persons.
- 4. Programme for Cooperation in Science and Technology for 2025–2028.
- 5. Implementation Programme for Tourism Cooperation (2025–2028).
- 6. MoU on Mutual Cooperation in the field of Digital Technologies.
- 7. Statement of Intent for Cooperation on the peaceful uses of outer space.
- 8. Indian and Philippine Coast Guards agree on enhanced maritime cooperation.
- 9. Agreement on Cultural Exchange Programme.
- **Note:** Philippines is the first country to buy the BrahMos missile developed by India.

## **Visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi** to India

- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi recently visited India
- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting to be held in Tianjin, China.

#### **Key decisions**

- India and China have decided to set up an expert group to resolve the six-decade-old border dispute.
- o The two countries have agreed to enhance trade, people-to-people contacts and mobility.

- o China has lifted restrictions on exports of fertilisers, rare earth and tunnelling machines to India.
- o Direct flights between India and China will resume soon and the visa process will also be simplified.
- o The two countries agreed to share information in emergency situations regarding transborder river waters.
- The old trading routes of Lipulekh, Shipki La and Nathu La will be reopened for trade.
- Efforts will be made to maintain peace and confidence in the border areas through dialogue and cooperation.

## 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9)

- In August 2025, Japan hosted the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) in Yokohama.
- TICAD 9 is the platform to strengthen the partnership between Japan and African countries.
- It focuses on aid, as well as investment, innovation, education, health, green energy, and women empowerment.
- The main objective is to facilitate the participation of Japan's private sector and encourage investment and industrial development in Africa.
- Under this, new investment agreements and bilateral investment treaties were signed between Japan and African countries.
- New projects were launched in the infrastructure, technology, industrial development, health and green energy sectors.

#### **India's Perspective and Significance**

- o African countries will benefit from Japan's capital, technology and innovation, which is seen as an alternative to China's Belt and Road Initiative.
- o India and Japan can have complementary partnerships in Africa, which can balance China's influence.

## Sergio Gore appointed as US Ambassador and Special Envoy to India

- US President Donald Trump has nominated Sergio Gore as the next US Ambassador to India and Special Envoy for South and Central Asian Affairs.
- The appointment comes amid heightened Indo-US relations due to tariff and geopolitical differences.
- The position had been vacant since January, 2025 following the resignation of Eric Garcetti.

#### **India becomes Chairman of AIBD Executive Board**

• India was elected Chairman of the Executive Board

- at the 23rd Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) held in Phuket, Thailand on 19–21 **August**, **2025**.
- India is also the President of the AIBD General Conference till August, 2025.

### Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)

- **Founded:** In 1977.
- It is a regional intergovernmental organization.
- **Members:** 92 organizations (26 government, 44 associates) from 45 countries.
- India is a founding member. (**Representative**: Prasar Bharati)

## US designates Balochistan Liberation Army as terrorist organisation

- The United States declared the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and its armed wing, Majeed Brigade, as Foreign Terrorist Organisations (FTO) on 11 August, 2025.
- The announcement was made during Pakistan's Field Marshal Asim Munir's visit to the USA.
- The BLA claimed responsibility for the suicide bombings near Karachi airport and Gwadar port in 2024, in which several people were killed.
- Train Hijacking in March, 2025: The BLA hijacked the Zafar Express train going from Quetta to Peshawar, killing 31 people and holding more than 300 passengers hostage.

### Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Majeed Brigade

- o **The BLA** is an armed group fighting for independence in Balochistan.
- o **Majeed Brigade:** BLA has a special terrorist wing, which is involved in suicide attacks and high-intensity attacks.

## Moldova becomes 107th member of International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- Moldova has formally joined the Global Initiative by becoming the 107th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- Ambassador of Moldova Ana Taban handed over the Instrument of Ratification to India's Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi.

#### **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**

- o It was established in 2015 by India and France during the Paris Climate Conference (COP21).
- o It aims to promote solar energy globally, improve energy access and security.
- ISA is an alliance of countries that encourages investment in solar energy, reduction of technological costs and its use in various sectors.

#### M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International WHO declares Nepal rubella-free Conference

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the conference in New Delhi on 7 August, 2025.
- The event was organised by Prof. M.S. Gupta. It was celebrated on the occasion of Swaminathan's birth centenary.
- **Objective:** To recognize Prof. Swaminathan's contribution to sustainable and equitable development and to guide global agricultural policies.
- Theme of the Conference: "Evergreen Revolution - The Pathway to Bio Happiness"
- Note: M.S.Swaminathan is considered as the 'Father of Green Revolution in India'.

#### 15th COP 2025 of Ramsar Convention

- **Venue:** Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- **Event Date:** 23 to 31 July, 2025
- Organizing Body: Ramsar Secretariat (located in Gland, Switzerland).
- The last COP Conference (14th) was held in Wuhan, China on 5-13 November, 2022.
- The Indian delegation was led by Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav.
- **Theme of COP-15:** "Conservation of Wetlands for Our Common Future"
- The meeting adopted a resolution submitted by India, which calls for the promotion of sustainable lifestyles for judicious use of wetlands.

#### **Ramsar Convention**

- The Ramsar Convention is officially called the "Convention on Wetlands of International Importance".
- It is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar, where the treaty was established in 1971.
- The Convention entered into force in 1975.
- India acceded to the treaty in February, 1982.

#### 1st BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival 2025

- **Inauguration:** 4 August, 2025, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Launch:** By External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar.
- Conducted By: Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- Participating Countries: India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- Theme: "Saptasura: Seven Nations, One Raga" — showcasing regional unity through music.
- The festival is an effort to enhance cultural cooperation under BIMSTEC.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the rubella outbreak in Nepal to be over, as a public health emergency.
- Rubella vaccination began in Nepal in 2012, with a national campaign targeting children aged 9 months to 15 years.
- By 2024, Nepal achieved more than 95% coverage for at least one dose of rubella vaccine.

#### Rubella

- Rubella, also known as German measles, is a contagious viral disease.
- This is especially dangerous for pregnant women, as infections can lead to miscarriage or birth defects in the baby.

### India-Zambia Cooperative Export **Agreement**

- India has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoU) with Zambia, which aims to strengthen business ties between the cooperatives of the two countries.
- The announcement was made by Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah in the Lok Sabha on 12 August, 2025.
- The objective of this initiative is to promote cooperatives, provide facilities for business alliances and increase market access for Indian cooperative products in Zambia.
- The Ministry of Cooperation will provide market information to exporters through Indian Embassies and Foreign Missions
- It will link National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) with potential importers.

### 'One Freezone Passport'

- Dubai has launched a unified licensing system called "One Freezone Passport" to further strengthen Dubai as a global business hub.
- Earlier, companies had to take separate licenses in each separate freezone of Dubai, which increased the complexity of time and cost.
- The new passport facilitates a single license in all freezones, making the compliance process simpler and faster.
- Through this, companies will receive tax exemptions, 100% foreign ownership and other freezone benefits.
- The initiative is in line with Dubai's D33 economic agenda, which aims to double Dubai's GDP by 2033 and place it among the top three global economic cities.

#### **Global Plastics Treaty Negotiations (INC-5.2)**

- The meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee 5.2 (INC-5.2) for the Global Plastics Treaty was held in Geneva on 5–15 August, 2025.
- It failed to reach an agreement between the countries, and INC-5.2 was postponed without drawing up any final treaty.
- In March 2022, an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) was formed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to draft a legally binding global agreement under the resolution UNEA-5/14.
- INC meetings took place in Uruguay (INC-1), France (INC-2), Nairobi (INC-3), Ottawa (INC-4), and then Busan (INC-5.1).
- Objective: Control of plastic production, removal of harmful chemicals, financial support—finalization and drafting a law.

### Kenya declared free of trypano somiasis

- The World Health Organization (WHO) declared Kenya free of human African trypano somiasis.
- Kenya is the 10th country in the world to be free from this disease.

#### Trypanosomyasis (HAT)

- The disease is spread by the blood parasite Trypanosoma brucei, which transmits to humans through the Tsetse fly.
- **Note:** India received the certification by WHO for the elimination of trachoma in May, 2025.

### India to host AI Impact Summit in 2026

- India will host the AI Impact Summit on February 19–20, 2026, which has been announced by MoEIT (Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology).
- The conference will advance the global AI conversation from 'Action' to 'Impact'.
- The AI Summit will go beyond policy making and focus on the real-world application of AI in health, education, agriculture, climate and good governance.

### Israel's plan to take over Gaza

- Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz approved a plan to take over Gaza City on August, 20.
- The Israeli military also aims to take control of parts of Gaza that are not currently under its occupation, including the border area and key eastwest corridors.
- The plan involves further relocating Palestinians towards southern Gaza.
- The aim of this is to force Hamas to release hostages and make concessions on ceasefire terms.

# North America's tallest Sri Rama statue in Canada

- A 51-feet-tall statue of Lord Shri Ram has been installed at the Mississauga Hindu Heritage Center in the province of Ontario, Canada.
- The statue, made of fibreglass on a steel frame, was crafted by Canadian artisans over a period of four years in Delhi.
- It will last for 100 years and is capable of withstanding winds of 200 km/h.

### Russia withdraws from Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty

- Russia has officially withdrawn from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty of 1987.
- The reason: tensions between the US and Russia are steadily increasing due to the deployment of nuclear submarines.
- The treaty prohibited surface-launched missiles from a range of 500 to 5,500 km.
- According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, under the current circumstances, the treaty is no longer relevant and Russia will no longer assume limits on its missile deployment.
- In 2019, the US had already withdrawn from the treaty, which it accused of violating by Russia.

# YouTube banned for children under 16 in Australia

- The Australian government has decided to restrict access to YouTube to children under the age of 16.
- This decision has been taken to strengthen the digital safety of minors.
- The ban will come into effect from December 10, 2025.
- Earlier YouTube was exempted due to educational utility. But according to new research, 37% of children watched harmful content on YouTube.
- The law was proposed in 2024 and already regulates Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat.
- Violators can be fined up to 49.5 million Australian dollars (about ₹270 crore).

# 5. Space & Defence Technology

### **Space Technology**

### Gaganyaan Mission: Successful Drop Test of Crew Module

 The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed the first Integrated Airdrop Test (IADT-01) of the Crew Module under the human space mission Gaganyaan.

#### Test Procedure:

- The crew module was released from the Indian Air Force's Chinook helicopter at an altitude of 4 km.
- The module, weighing about 5 tonnes, landed safely in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- Objective: Preparation and testing of a splashdown landing on the safe water surface of astronauts while returning from space.
- This module was jointly prepared by ISRO and DRDO.

#### Parachute system of the crew module

- The parachute system of the Gaganyaan crew module will consist of 10 parachutes.
- It will have 2 Apex Cover Separation Parachutes, 2 Droges, 3 Pilot Parachutes and 3 Main Parachutes.

### Gaganyaan Mission: India's First Human Space Programme

- According to ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan, India's first unmanned Gaganyaan Mission (G1) will be launched in December, 2025.
- It will include the humanoid robot Vyommitra.
- About 80% (7,700 tests) of the total tests of this mission have been completed and the remaining tests will be completed by March, 2026.
- Gaganyaan aims to send a three-member crew to a nearly 400-km Low Earth Orbit (LEO) for three days and bring them back safely.
- The project includes two unmanned and one manned flight, with the first manned flight likely to take place before 2026.
- The mission will make India the fourth country to achieve human spaceflight capability after the US, Russia and China.

• The mission will promote space research, microgravity experimentation, industry, academia and international cooperation, contributing to employment and economic growth.

#### **Techniques and systems**

- o The LVM3 rocket for Gaganyaan has been converted into a manned launch vehicle, which has a solid, liquid and cryogenic three-stage propulsion system.
- o Crew modules and service modules have been developed for the mission, including life support, control systems, energy and thermal controls.
- The Crew Escape System (CES) is designed to evacuate the crew safely in case of an emergency.
- A life support system consisting of oxygen, water, waste management and emergency evacuation has been developed to deliver an earth-like atmosphere.

#### **Astronaut Training**

o The selected astronauts are being given specialised training in Bengaluru, which includes classroom courses, physical fitness, simulator exercises, parabolic flying, aeromedical and emergency recovery training.

#### Phases of the Mission

- Phase 1: Test Phase Abort Test, Air Drop Test and Test Vehicle Flights.
- o **Phase 2:** Unmanned Mission Validation of technology and safety with Vyommitra.
- o **Third phase:** Manned mission Three astronauts will be sent into orbit.

# **India-France to build jet engines in joint partnership**

- India and French company Safran will jointly codevelop and manufacture jet engines in India.
- **Aim:** To give impetus to India's indigenous fifthgeneration stealth fighter aircraft AMCA.

#### **Project Description:**

- o **Cost:** Approx. ₹15,000 crore.
- o **Development:** DRDO and HAL.
- o **Versions:** Mark-1 (existing engine), Mark-2 (new 110 kN engine).

#### Partnership:

- o Safran from France; DRDO and HAL from India.
- o **Purpose:** 110 kN thrust engine, full technology transfer, local production.
- o **Development timeframe:** about 10 years.

#### Profit

- o This will reduce India's dependence on imports, self-sufficiency in engine technology.
- o It will increase Make in India and export capacity.

### **Discovery of Uranus's New Moon**

- NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has discovered Uranus's 29th moon on 2 February, 2025, named S/2025 U1.
- This moon is about 10 kilometers in diameter and orbits Uranus at a distance of about 56,000 kilometers.
- This moon is located between Ophelia and Bianca and did not appear during the flight of Voyager 2 in 1986.
- So far the names of the moons of Uranus have been taken from the works of Shakespeare and Alexander Pope, and the International Astronomical Union will decide the official name of this moon.

#### James Webb Space Telescope

- o The James Webb Space Telescope was launched in December, 2021 in collaboration with NASA, the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency.
- o It is located at the Sun-Earth L2 Lagrange point, which is about 1.5 million kilometers away from the Earth's orbit.
- o It is the largest and most powerful infrared space telescope ever built.

#### ISRO to launch US Bluebird satellite

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch the Bluebird communication satellite, developed by US-based AST SpaceMobile, a followup to the NISAR satellite.
- The satellite will be launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, India, through the LVM3 launch vehicle.
- The Bluebird satellite, weighing 6,500 kg, wil reach India by September, 2025.
- The satellite will significantly enhance India's communication capabilities and make the country more competitive in the global space market.
- Note: On 30th July, 2025, the successful launch of the NISAR mission (NASA-ISRO) was carried out with a GSLV-F16 rocket.

#### **Venera-D Mission**

- Russia announced the launch of the Venera-D mission to Venus before the year 2036.
- "Venera" means "Venus" in Russian.
- This mission will include:
  - o Lander
  - o Balloon Probe
  - o Orbital spacecraft
- Its design work will begin in January 2026 in cooperation with the Lavochkin Association.

### India's first commercial earth observation satellite Nakshatra

- For the first time in the Indian space sector, a private consortium led by Pixelspace India will invest more than Rs 1,200 crore in the next five years.
- **Objective:** To make India a global leader in space-based data solutions.
- For this, the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) has selected a consortium led by PixelSpace India.
- The consortium includes companies such as Piercite Space, Satsure Analytics India and Dhruva Space.

#### Key characteristics of Nakshatra

- o The project will establish a constellation of 12 state-of-the-art Earth observation satellites.
- o The satellites will have panchromatic, multispectral, hyperspectral and microwave synthetic aperture radar (SAR) sensors.
- o High-resolution images and a variety of data will be collected from these satellites.
- The phased deployment of the satellites will be done over the next four years to ensure continuous service and extended coverage.
- o **Objective:** To promote indigenous data production and strengthen India's data sovereignty and enhance the capacity of India's private space companies.

### Scientists discover the largest black hole in the universe

- Scientists claim to have discovered the universe's most massive black hole.
- This black hole is located in the center of a galaxy, whose light is distorted as it passes through another massive galaxy and forms a horseshoe-like shape.
- It has been named "The Cosmic Horse".
- Its mass is equivalent to about 36.3 billion suns and it is located about 5 billion light-years away from Earth.



- The full name of HOPE is Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration.
- HOPE is an analogue mission jointly launched by ISRO and Bengaluru-based startup Protoplanet.
- The mission aims to test human preparedness for future Moon and Mars missions.
- **Mission Duration:** 1 to 10 August, 2025
- Location: Tso Kar Valley, Ladakh
- The results obtained from this mission will lay the groundwork for permanent space stations, human settlements beyond Earth, and long-term exploration missions.

#### Highlights:

- A special research center (analog habitat)
  has been created in which the crew is kept in
  isolation.
- Physical, mental, biological and genetic tests are performed on the crew.
- The mission aims to test human adaptability, life-support systems, and movement and habitation equipment.
- HOPE habitat is divided into two parts:
  - 1. Housing module (8m diameter)
  - 2. Utility Module (5m Diameter)

#### Reason for choosing Ladakh

- o Altitude: ~4,530 m
- o Low air pressure and temperature
- o High UV radiation
- o Rough, rocky and salty surfaces
- o All these conditions correspond to environments such as the Moon and Mars
- o India plans to have its own space station by 2035 and manned lunar mission by 2040.

#### NASA's Crew-11 mission launched

- SpaceX successfully launched NASA's Crew-11 mission on August 1, 2025.
- The launch took place from the launch complex of the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

 Under this, 4 astronauts reached the International Space Station (ISS) via the Dragon capsule aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.

#### Crew-11 Mission Team

- 1. Zena Kardman NASA astronaut
- 2. Michael Finke Senior NASA Astronaut
- 3. Oleg Platonov Russian cosmonaut
- 4. Kimia Yui Japanese astronaut
- **Mission Objective:** The crew will participate in projects carrying out scientific experiments, station repair and furthering human space exploration.

### X-37B: America's Secret Space Plane

- The X-37B is America's reusable stealth spacecraft.
- It is also called Orbital Test Vehicle (OTV).
- It was initially developed by NASA, later developed by Boeing for the US Department of Defense.
- It is now operated by the US Space Force.

#### Attributes:

- o Length about 9 meters, wingspan 4.5 meters.
- o Payload as small as a truck.
- o **Record Mission Duration:** 908 days.
- **Objective:** Reusable technology testing, monitoring, material testing and military experiments.

### **Defence Technology**

Successful test of indigenous Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS)



- On 23 August, 2025, under the Sudarshan Chakra, India successfully tested the flight of indigenous IADWS for the first time.
- DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) shot down three different targets (2 high-speed fixed-wing drones and 1 multicopter drone) during this test.
- **Objective:** To provide a protective shield against drones and air attacks coming from multiple directions.

- The system is fully based on indigenous technology.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the Sudarshan Chakra mission in his August 15 speech.

#### 'Sudarshan Chakra' National Security System

- It is an indigenous national security system (air defence system).
- It is being jointly developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and ISRO.
- Its purpose is to protect the country from air attacks, missiles and drones.

#### Components of the multi-layered air defense system:

- 1. Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM)
- 2. Very Short Range Air Defence System **(VSHORADS)**
- 3. Laser-Based Direct Energy Weapon (DEW)

#### **QRSAM**

- Range: 30 km
- **Speed:** Mach 4.7 (approx. 5758 km/h)
- Targets: drones, helicopters and cruise missiles

#### **VSHORADS**

- **Range:** 6–7 km
- **Speed:** Approx. 1800 km/h
- Feature: Portable, suitable for low-flying targets

#### **Direct Energy Weapon (DEW)**

- **Type:** Laser Gun
- Usage: Extremely effective against drone swarms and small targets
- Together, these three form a strong security shield to counter multiple drone attacks.

#### Procedure

- 1. Radar Unit: Detects and classifies incoming threats
- **2. Command Center:** Activates the weapon system according to the type of threat.
  - o For high-speed and high-altitude targets QRSAM
  - o For low-altitude and slow-speed targets VSHORADS
  - o Drones for swarm or other targets
  - o Laser-based DEW

#### Salient Features of Sudarshan Chakra System

- **Capability:** Interception up to an altitude of 150 km and the ability to destroy missiles at a distance of up to 2500 km.
- Artificial intelligence and laser-guided systems.
- Ground-based and space-based hybrid structures (satellite and radar networks).

- **Speed:** Missile launch up to 5 km/s.
- **Targets:** ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and hypersonic weapons.
- **Estimated cost** around ₹50,000 crore.

# India's first intercontinental ballistic missile successfully test-fired

• India successfully test-fired its first intercontinental ballistic missile Agni-5 at the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.

#### **Key features of Agni-5**

- It is India's first and only surface-to-surface intercontinental ballistic missile.
- It has a range of more than 5,000 km, covering the whole of China and parts of Europe and Africa.
- The missile is equipped with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology, which enables it to attack multiple targets simultaneously.
- The missile is capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads.
- Its speed is Mach 24, i.e. it is 24 times faster than the speed of sound (about 29,401 km per hour).
- It is a three-stage solid fuel-based missile.
- It has a canisterized launch system, allowing it to be deployed instantly anywhere from a mobile platform.
- It is the most advanced missile in India's Agni series and is equipped with nuclear deterrence under India's "No First Use" (NFU) policy.
- Currently, only eight countries, including India, have ICBM technology, including the US, Russia, China, France, UK, Israel and North Korea.

#### Range of Agni missiles

Missile	Range (in kilometres)	First Test
Agni 1	700	22 May, 1989
Agni 2	2,000	11 April, 1999
Agni 3	3,000	9 July, 2006
Agni 4	4,000	10 December, 2010
Agni 5	5,000	April 19, 2012

# Two stealth frigates inducted into Indian Navy on August, 26

 Two modern stealth frigates of the Indian Navy – INS Udayagiri (F35) and INS Himgiri (F34) were commissioned at Visakhapatnam on 26 August, 2025.  For the first time, warships built from the country's two major shipyards joined the Navy simultaneously.



- INS Udayagiri was built by Mumbai's Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and was delivered to the Navy on 1 July, 2025.
- INS Himgiri has been built by Kolkata's Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- Both warships are built under Project 17A.

#### **Key features**

- o **Weight:** About 6,700 tons
- o Sleek design, thereby reducing grip on radar.
- o The use of both diesel engines and gas turbines.



# Govt approves purchase of 6 submarines from Germany

- The Indian government has approved the construction of six submarines with Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology with German company Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems.
- The cost of these submarines will be around ₹70,000 crore.

- They will be built under 'Project 75 India' at Mazagon Dockyard Limited (MDL).
- It aims to develop indigenous capability of designing and building conventional submarines in the country.

### Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) Technology



- Conventional diesel-electric submarines come to the surface in a few days to charge batteries, which can detect them.
- Submarines with AIP technology can stay underwater for about three weeks.
- Current Status of India: The Scorpene (Kalvari) class submarines plan to be fitted with a fuel cellbased AIP developed by DRDO.

# Israel's Rampage to buy air-to-ground missiles for Air Force

- The central government will buy a large consignment of Israeli Rampage air-to-ground missiles.
- This purchase will be done under a fast-track process.
- These Rampage missiles have previously been used in precision strikes on terrorist bases in Pakistan.
- The IAF will induct these missiles into all fleets and integrate them on other platforms.

#### Features of the Rampage missile

- o **Range:** up to 150–250 km.
- Targets: high-value targets such as command centers, airbases, weapons depots, radar stations.

- o **Speed:** Supersonic (Mach 2–3), making it difficult to intercept.
- o **Length** about 4.7 meters, **weight** about 570 kg, light and compact design.
- o **Launch platform:** Can be launched from jets like F-15, F-16, F-35 and Indian Sukhoi-30MKI.

# Indian Air Force receives C-295 aircraft from Spain

- India received its 16th and last Airbus C-295MW military transport aircraft from Seville, Spain.
- Out of the total 56 C-295 aircraft from India and Spain, 16 aircraft have come from Spain and 40 aircraft will be manufactured in India.

#### **Features of C-295MW Aircraft:**

- It is a tactical transport aircraft with a carrying capacity of 5–10 tons.
- It can fly for a maximum of 11 hours.
- It will replace the Indian Air Force's ageing Avro aircraft fleet.
- It will be used for tasks such as troop and material transportation, disaster relief, and medical evacuation.
- The remaining 40 Airbus C-295MW military transport aircraft are being manufactured at the Tata Aircraft Complex in Vadodara, Gujarat.
  - o It is **India's first private sector military** aircraft assembly line.

#### World 's First Anti-Drone Rifle Simulator

- Students of Russia's Southern Federal University (SFU) have designed the world's first anti-drone rifle simulator.
- It aims to teach the correct use of anti-drone rifles, working with a drone detector, and quick decision making in a stressful situation.
- This simulator is a virtual training platform that helps develop the ability to act in situations such as real drone warfare.
- It can be practiced using anti-drone rifle and drone detection systems.
- All virtual weapons and devices are like real models, giving the user the experience of real devices.

### 'Himgiri' frigate inducted into Indian Navy

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) handed over the stealth frigate 'Himgiri' to the Indian Navy on 31 July, 2025.
- The ship is one of the 7 Nilgiri class frigates built under Project 17A.
- It is the first Project 17A vessel built by GRSE.

#### Features of Nilgiri class frigates

• Made from 75% indigenous material.

- Combined diesel and gas (CODOG) propulsion system, including diesel engines and gas turbines.
- Equipped with stealth technology, modern weapons and sensors.
- Ability to hold two helicopters.
- Advanced Indian radar systems such as AESA Radar and 'Indra' Surveillance Radar.

#### PROJECT 17A

- Project 17A is the indigenous frigate building scheme for the Indian Navy.
- Under this, 7 stealth warships are being built.
- The scheme has been developed as an upgraded version of Project 17 (Shivalik category).

#### **Construction of Ships:**

#### Shipbuilder

#### Frigate

- o Mazagon Docks Limited (MDL)
- o Nilgiri, Udayagiri, Taragiri, Mahendragiri
- o Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)
- o Himgiri, Dunagiri, Vindhyagiri
- o INS Nilgiri and INS Udayagiri have already been handed over to the Navy.

### India's first indigenous hovercraft for Coast Guard

- The manufacturing of India's first indigenous hovercraft (air cushion vehicle) has begun at Goabased Chowgule & Co Pvt Ltd.
- This construction will be done under Make in India and Self-Reliant India initiatives.
- The Ministry of Defence awarded the contract for the construction of 6 hovercraft in October, 2024, which will be based on Griffon hoverwork designs.
- India has so far relied on imported hovercraft, but this will boost indigenous technology and capabilities.

#### **Features of Hovercraft:**

- o These vehicles run on air cushion and are capable of operating on land, water, snow and marshy areas.
- o These will be used for patrolling, rescue operations and quick response in inaccessible areas.
- Note: India's first indigenous hovercraft prototype, "Nandi", developed in 1958, was led by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, but was not taken forward.

# Govt approves procurement of 97 LCA Tejas Mark-1A fighter jets

 The Union Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) on August 19 approved the purchase of 97 LCA Tejas Mark-1A fighter aircraft.

- It costs around Rs 62,000 crore and will be built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Objective: To replace the old MiG-21 aircraft.
- Earlier in 2021, orders for 83 LCA Mark-1A (cost Rs 48,000 crore) were placed.
- At present, the IAF requires 31 new squadrons.
- Existing fleet: Sukhoi Su-30 MKI (260), Rafale (36), MiG-29 (65), Mirage 2000 (44), Jaguar (130), Tejas MK-1 (40).

#### Tejas aircraft

- Indigenous Design: Manufactured by DRDO-ADA, HAL.
- Lightweight, one-seat, single-engine multirole supersonic aircraft.
- Mark-1: 4.5 generation, 65% indigenous, equipped with AESA radar, electronic warfare, Astra missiles.
- Mark-II: GE F414 engine, 6,500 kg payload, will replace MiG-29, Mirage 2000, Jaguar.

### **Technology**

### AI model 'Surya'

- NASA and IBM launched a new AI model 'Surya' for accurate prediction of solar storms.
- The model is trained on more than 9 years of data from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO).
- The SDO takes pictures of the Sun's multiple wavelengths every 12 seconds and records magnetic activity.
- 'Surya' can catch early signals of phenomena such as solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) and can give forecasts up to about two hours in advance.
- This model is open-source, so that global researchers can use it.
- Explosions of charged particles and magnetic energy emanating from the Sun, called solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs).
- Aditya-L1 (ISRO): launched from PSLV-C57 in September 2023; India's first solar mission, studies the Sun from L1 point.

### Amazon: The World's Largest Industrial Mobile Robot Network

- Amazon now has more than 1 million robots active in fulfillment centers around the world. Due to which it has become the world's largest industrial robot fleet.
- Amazon announced this at the annual event "Delivering the Future" in Tokyo.
- Amazon has launched a new generative AI model, Deep Fleet, which will further improve the coordination of robots in fulfillment centers.

#### **Parallel Web Systems**

- o India's Parag Agrawal has launched a startup called Parallel Web Systems.
- o Its main focus is to enable AI agents to complete tasks instead of humans.
- o Parag Agarwal is the former CEO of Twitter.

#### **Parallel Web Systems**

- o **Mission:** To create a specialized web infrastructure for AI.
- o AI agents will be able to collect, verify, and organize real-time information from the web.
- Objective: To make machines research, analyze and automate faster and more efficiently than humans.

#### **Key Technologies & Products**

- o Based on the Deep Research API and low-level search tools.
- o AI agents can complete hours of research in minutes.
- o Custom infrastructure for web crawling, indexing, and search rankings.
- o Areas of use: Finance, Health, Insurance, Sales, Coding.

#### IIT Hyderabad's Electric AI Bus



- Recently, IIT Hyderabad's TiHAN (Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation) has developed a fully electric and AI-powered bus.
- The bus can run without a driver and operates completely autonomously.
- Unlike Tesla's self-drive car, it does not require the presence of a driver.
- The bus is available in two variants: 6-seater and 14-seater.
- It is currently operational at the IIT Hyderabad campus and has served more than 10,000 passengers so far .
- It has also been successfully tested in real conditions.

#### **Key features:**

- o Autonomous Emergency Braking
- o Cruise Control
- o Identifying obstacles and maintaining safe distance

# CRIB: World's new blood group discovered in India



- A new blood group in the world named 'CRIB' has been discovered in a 38-year-old woman from Kolar district of Karnataka.
- In 'CRIB', 'CR' stands for Cromer (existing blood group system) and 'IB' stands for India-Bangalore.

#### **Characteristics of CRIB Blood Group:**

- o This new antigen is part of the Cromer system.
- The woman's blood was not matching normal0+ blood despite having 0 Rh+.
- Advanced serological techniques revealed that her blood is "panreactive", that is, incompatible with all normal blood.
- o The discovery was officially announced in June, 2025 at the 35th Regional Congress of ISBT in Milan, Italy.

### Blood group system

Blood group	Antigens		Can give blood to	Can take blood from
A	A	Anti-B	A, AB	A, O
В	В	Anti-A	B, AB	B, O
AB	A, B	none	AB	All
О	none	Anti-A, B	all	О

- o O Group = Universal Donor
- o AB Group = Universal Recipient

# BSNL & NRL sign MoU to adopt Industry 4.0 in India

 Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Industry 4.0 technologies.

- It aims to transform India's industrial operations through 5G and other advanced digital technologies.
- The major technological solutions that will be adopted under this are:
  - 1. 5G Captive Non-Public Network (CNN)
  - 2. Digital Twins
  - 3. Internet of Things (IoT)
  - 4. Big Data Analytics
  - 5. Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) based applications

### 5G to be implemented in India's refinery for the first time Captive Non-Public Network (CNPN)

- o Under this partnership, India's first 5G CNPN network will be set up in the refinery sector.
- o This network will be secure, extremely reliable, and able to function in real time.

### **Military Exercises**

#### **Coordination Power 2025 Exercise**

- The Indian Army began a 10-day military-civilian integration exercise named "Samanvay Shakti 2025" in Assam's Tinsukia district.
- The aim of this exercise is to enhance cooperation, jointness and mutual understanding among the Indian Army, Air Force, Police, Intelligence Agencies and District Administration.
- The exercise focuses on strengthening emergency response capacity, disaster management, and community awareness.

#### **SLINEX-2025**

- It is a naval exercise held between India and Sri Lanka.
- **Event:** 14–18 August, 2025 in Colombo and adjoining areas in Sri Lanka.
- In this, INS Rana (Guided Missile Destroyer), INS Jyoti (Fleet Tanker) from India participated.

### 6. Sports

# Cincinnati Open 2025: Iga Swiatek and Carlos Alcaraz Winners

• It was held from August 5 to August 18, 2025 in Mason, Ohio (USA).

Category	Winner	
Men's Singles	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	
Women's Singles	Iga Svyatek (Poland)	
Men's Doubles	Rajeev Ram (USA)/Nicola Mektic.	
Women's Doubles	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada)/ Erin Routleaf (New Zealand)	

- Poland's star Iga Svyatek won the 2025 Cincinnati Open title.
- In the final, she defeated Jasmine Paolini 7-5, 6-4.
- This is the 24th title of his career.
- Spanish player Carlos Alcaraz won his first Cincinnati Open title.
- This is Alcaraz's sixth title of 2025.

# Rohit Krishna becomes India's 89th chess grandmaster

- Rohit Krishna S. became India's 89th Chess Grandmaster.
- He defeated International Master Artur Davatyan
  of Armenia in the final round of the Almaty Masters
  Konayev Cup held in Kazakhstan to earn a total of
  6 out of 9 points and complete the third and final
  Grandmaster norm.
- He won the first norm in March, 2025 at the Stockholm North Grandmaster round-robin tournament.
- The second norm was achieved in June, 2025 at the Dubai Open.
- Rohit became an International Master in 2022.

#### 12th World Games 2025

- The 12th World Games were held in Chengdu, China from 7 to 17 August, 2025.
- China topped the medal tally with 36 gold, 17 silver and 11 bronze for a total of 64 medals.
- India sent a contingent of 17 athletes who took part in 5 sports such as archery, billiards, racquetball, roller skating and wushu.

- India won a total of 3 medals, including 1 silver and 2 bronze, and finished 66th in the medal tally.
- Namrata Batra won the silver medal in the women's
   52 kg category in Wushu.
- Rishabh Yadav won a bronze medal in men's compound archery.
- Anandkumar Velkumar won the bronze medal in the men's 1000m sprint roller skating.

World Games - The World Games are held every 4 years and include sports that are not part of the Olympic Games.

### 12th Men's Asia Cup Hockey Championship

- Patna will host the championship for the first time in Bihar.
- It will be held from August 29 to September 7 at the Rajgir International Stadium.
- Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled the logo, mascot and trophy.
- The name of its mascot is "Chand", which is inspired by Major Dhyan Chand.
- Its mascot is inspired by the national animal tiger and symbolizes courage, agility and skill.
- Teams from India, China, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Malaysia, South Korea, Oman and Bangladesh will participate in it.

# **Devika Sihag wins Malaysia International Challenge title**

- Indian badminton player Devika Sihag won her first International Challenge title.
- She defeated compatriot Ishani Barua of India in the final of the women's singles title at the 2025 Malaysia International Challenge (Ipoh).
- Earlier, he won titles at the Swedish Open and Portugal International (International Series Event).
- The Malaysia International Challenge is part of the BWF Continental Circuit.



# First World Human Robot Games 2025



- Recently, the first World Human Robot Games were held in Beijing, the capital of China.
- Aim: The objective was to showcase the advancements and innovation taking place in human robotics.
- More than 500 human robots from 16 countries participated.
- A total of 26 competitions including track and field, football, dancing, kickboxing were held.
- The robots were also tested in real-life situations to test their autonomy, speed, balance and agility.

#### Asian Under-22 Boxing Championships 2025

- In the U-22 category, India won a total of 13 medals, including 1 gold, 4 silver and 8 bronze medals.
- The U-22 team finished fourth.

#### India's leading medallists

Gold Medal: 1. Ritika (Women's 80+ kg)
Silver Medal

- 1. Yatri Patel (Women's 57kg)
- 2. Priyanka (Women's 60kg)
- 3. Neeraj (Men's 75kg)
- 4. Ishan Kataria (Men's 90kg)

#### **Bronze Medal**

- 1. Bhavna (Women's 48kg)
- 2. Parthvi Grewal (Women's 65kg)
- 3. Pranjal (Women's 70kg)
- 4. Shruti (Women's 75kg)
- 5. Harsh (Men's 60kg)
- 6. Ankush (Men's 80kg)
- 7. Rocky (Men's 85kg)
- 8. Mayur (Men's 90kg)
- Note: In the Under-19 category, the Indian team secured second position by winning a total of 14 medals (three gold, seven silver and four bronze).

# Asian Surfing Championship 2025 - India's 1st Individual Medal

- India's Ramesh Budihal won the country's first individual medal by winning a bronze medal in the open men's category at the Asian Surfing Championship held in Mahabalipuram.
- The 27-year-old Budihal scored a total of 12.60 points in the final.
- The gold went to Indonesia's Pajar Ariana (14.57) and the silver went to South Korea's Kanoa Hijae (15.17).
- Budihal secured third place with 6.43 points.

# World Athletics Continental Tour (Bronze Level)

- It was held in August, 2025 at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- **Events:** 19 events in track and field
- More than 150 athletes from 17 countries participated in the event

#### Gold Medal Winners

**Event:** Men's 200m race

Men's Long Jump Women's Long Jump Women's Javelin Throw Women's 100m race

- In the men's long jump, Murali Sreeshankar and Shahnawaz Khan won the silver medal (8.04m).
- In the men's javelin throw, Shivam Lokhande won the silver medal with 80.73m.

#### **World Athletics Continental Tour (Bronze Level)**

- The World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze level is part of an international track and field competition series.
- It is organized by World Athletics.
- It is one of the four tiers—Gold, Silver, Bronze and Challenge.

#### Canadian Open 2025

- It was held in Toronto (men's) and Montreal (women's section) in Canada.
- In the men's singles event, Ben Shelton of the United States won the title, becoming the youngest winner since 2004's Andy Roddick.
- Canada's Victoria Mboko defeated Japan's Naomi Osaka to win her first WTA Tour title.

Category	Winner (country)	Runner-up (Country)
Men's Singles	Ben Shelton (USA)	Karen Khachanov (Russia)
Women's Singles	Victoria Mboko (Canada)	Naomi Osaka (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Julian Cash / Lloyd Glasspool (UK)	Joe Salisbury / Neil Skupski (UK)
Women's Doubles	Coco Goff/ McCartney Kessler (US)	Taylor Townsend (U.S.) / Flickr Zhang Shuai (China)

#### **Under-19 Asian Boxing Championships 2025**

• India won a total of 14 in the Under-19 Asian Boxing Championship held in Bangkok.

Category	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total Medals
Women's	2 (Nisha – 54kg, Muskan – 57kg)	5 (Aarti Kumari, Kritika Vasan, Parchi Tokas, Vinni, Nisha – 65kg)	2	9
Men's	1 (Rahul Kundu – 75kg)	2 (Mausam Suhag, Hemant Sangwan)	2 (Shivam – 55 kg, Gaurav – 85 kg)	5
Total	3	7	4	14

### 2025 Pan American Hockey Cup

- It was held in Montevideo, Uruguay.
- Argentina won the gold medal in both the men's and women's categories.
- The tournament was a qualifying event for the 2026 FIH Hockey World Cup.



### Men's Category:

- Final: Argentina beat USA 10-0.
- It was Argentina's 5th total and 4th title in a row.
- Tomas Domené scored 4 goals in the final and was voted the best player of the tournament.
- Women's Category:
- **Final:** Argentina beat USA 3-0.
- It was Argentina's 7th consecutive women's
- Agustina Gorzelani won the title of top scorer with 10 goals.

### Vedika Bhansali wins gold medal at US Kids World Championship Golf 2025



- India's golfer Vedika Bhansali (9-years) won the gold medal at the US Kids World Championship Golf 2025 held in Pinehurst Village, USA.
- She defeated Japan's Amy Minami by one shot and American Audrey Zhang by two shots.
- India's Aida Thimmaiah finished third in the 11-year age group.

# Asia Rugby U-20 (Sevens) Championship 2025 in Bihar



- It will be organized from 9-10 August, 2025 at Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar
- The official mascot of this championship 'Ashoka' (Rabbit) was unveiled.
- The mascot 'Ashoka' symbolizes speed and agility important attributes of the sport of rugby.
- **Format:** Rugby Sevens (7 players on the field in each team).

# Abdullah Abubakar won the gold medal at the Kosanov Memorial

- India's triple jump athlete Abdullah Abubakar won the gold medal at the Kosanov Memorial held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 3rd August, 2025.
- He took first place with a jump of 16.08 meters.
- South Korea's Yoo Gumin won the silver and Kim Jung-Woo won the bronze.

# Malta to host Commonwealth Youth Games 2027

- The 8th Commonwealth Youth Games (CYG) will be held in Malta in 2027.
- It is an island nation in Southern Europe, located in the Mediterranean Sea.
- This is the first time Malta has hosted the Games.

#### **Attributes:**

- o **Participating countries:** 74 Commonwealth countries and territories.
- o Number of athletes: About 1,150
- o **Age Limit:** 14 to 18 years.
- o **Number of games:** 8 games.
- o **First time included:** Sailing and water polo.
- o **Other sports:** Athletics and para athletics, netball, squash, swimming and para swimming, triathlon, weightlifting.

#### WCL 2025: South Africa becomes champion

 South Africa Champions won the World Championship of Legends (WCL) 2025 final by defeating Pakistan Champions by 9 wickets.

- The final was played at Edgbaston, Birmingham.
- South African captain AB de Villiers scored an unbeaten 120 off 60 balls, he was also named the 'Player of the Match'.

# Magnus Carlsen wins 1st Chess E-sports World Cup (EWC) 2025

- Magnus Carlsen won the first Chess E-sports World Cup title held in Riyadh.
- He defeated Alireza Firouzza of Team Falcons in the final.
- Magnus Carlsen received \$2,50,000 and 1,000 club championship points for becoming champion.

# Ahmedabad 2025 to feature 3 international sporting events

- Gujarat's Ahmedabad will host 3 major international sporting events in 2025.
- The Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships will take place from 24–30 August, 2025 at the Naranpura Sports Complex.
- The Asian Aquatics Championship will be held in September-October 2025.
- The AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers will take place from 22–30 November 2025 at the TransStadia Arena.

#### Future events in Gujarat

- o Asian Weightlifting Championship 2026
- o Archery Asia Para Cup 2026
- o World Police and Firefighting Games 2029
- o Commonwealth Games 2030

# India's Tanya wins Saipan International Badminton title

- India's Tanya Hemant won the women's singles title of the Saipan International Badminton Championship 2025.
- In the Northern Mariana Islands, Tanya defeated Kanai Sakai of Japan in the final yesterday.
- This is Tanya's first International Challenge title of the year 2025 and fourth of her career.

# **Under-17 World Wrestling Championships** 2025

- The championship was held in Athens, Greece from July 28 to August 3.
- India won a total of 6 medals, including 3 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal in this competition

Player	Weight Category	Medal
Rachana	43kg	gold
Ashwini Bishnoi	65kg	gold

Hardeep	110kg Greco- Roman	gold
Moni	57kg	silver
Kajal	73kg	silver
Komal Verma	49kg	Bronze

 Hardeep (110kg Greco-Roman) won the gold medal to become India's first medal in this category.

### The nation's first college sports league

- Kerala has launched the country's first collegesports-league.
- It aims to provide students with a competitive and engaging sports environment.
- It started on 18 July, 2025.
- The league is organised by the Sports Department of Kerala and Sports Kerala Foundation.
- This model is inspired by the American College Sports League and has been implemented for the first time in India.
- In its first season, football and volleyball were included.
- In the coming years, popular sports like cricket, basketball and kabaddi will also be included in it.

# First Khelo India Water Sports Festival in Jammu and Kashmir

- The first edition of the three-day Khelo India Water Sports Festival was held from 21 to 23 August, 2025 at Dal Lake, Srinagar.
- The festival's mascot is inspired by the Himalayan Kingfisher, which signifies adventure, energy and connection with nature.
- It was jointly organised by the Sports Authority of India and the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council.
- The festival includes **5 major water sports**: kayaking and canoeing, rowing, water skiing, shikara race and dragon boat race.
- More than 400 athletes from 36 states and union territories participated.

# India won a bronze medal at the 2025 World Junior Squash Championships

- The Indian men's team won a bronze medal at the 2025 World Junior Team Squash Championships.
- This medal is India's second medal after the bronze won by Anahat Singh in the women's singles.
- The competition was held in Cairo, the capital of Egypt.
- Players under the age of 19 were eligible to participate in this competition.

- In the semi-finals, India lost to the United States of America (USA) 2-0 to settle for the bronze medal.
- The team included Sandesh PR, Yusha Nafees, Arihant KS and Aryaveer Dewan.

### Mirabai Chanu wins gold medal at Commonwealth Championships

- India's female weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won the gold medal in the women's 48 kg weight category at the Commonwealth Championships.
- Chanu lifted 84 kg in snatch and 109 kg in clean and jerk to break the Commonwealth Championship record in all three categories.
- Chanu won the gold medal with a total lift of 193 kg.
- Prior to this, Mirabai has won gold medals in the 48 kg weight category once in the World Championships, twice in the Commonwealth Games and 3 times in the Commonwealth Championships.
- Mirabai Chanu also qualified directly for the Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow in 2026.

### Cheteshwar Pujara retires from all forms of cricket

- Indian batsman Cheteshwar Pujara announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on 24 August.
- He last played an international match against Australia in the 2023 World Test Championship final.

#### Achievements

- o 103 Tests, 7,195 runs, 19 centuries, 35 half-centuries (India's eighth highest run-scorer).
- o Played 130 List A matches (5,759 runs) and 70 T20 matches.
- o 21,301 First-Class Runs, 66 Centuries; First Indian to score three triple centuries.

### Annu Rani won the gold medal at the International Wislay Manik Memorial

- India's Annu Rani won the gold medal in the women's javelin throw event at the International Wisław Manik Memorial held in Poland.
- He threw the javelin to a distance of 62.59 meters.

### India will host the Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating Trophy 2025 for the first time

- India will host the Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating Trophy from 20 to 23 August, 2025 at Maharana Pratap Sports College, Raipur, Dehradun.
- The event is the biggest ever event in India's winter sports history.

- The competition will be led by the Ice Skating Association of India (ISAI).
- The event will have a total of 9 categories of events, ranging from 222m to 5000m relay.

### **Khelo India Water Sports Festival Muscat launched**

- The first ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival in India was launched on August 14.
- The mascot of these games is a Himalayan Kingfisher.
- The Games will be held from August 21 to 23 at Dal Lake in Srinagar.
- More than 400 athletes from 36 states and union territories will participate in it.
- It will include sailing, canoeing, and kayaking events.
- It will be organised by the J&K Sports Council and the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs.

# India approves formal bid to host Commonwealth Games

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has approved India's formal bid to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games.
- If successful, the event will be held in India again after 20 years after 2010.
- In 2010, India hosted the Commonwealth Games in Delhi.
- The host country of the Commonwealth Games will be selected in Glasgow at the end of November, 2025.



# Shubman Gill and Sophia Dunkley named ICC Player of the Month for July

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has selected Shubman Gill as the men's player and Sophia Dunkley as the women's player for July, 2025.
- 1. Player of the Month (Male) Shubman Gill (India):
  - Shubman Gill performed brilliantly against England in his first Test series as India's captain.
  - He scored 567 runs in 3 Tests, including 3 centuries (including a double century).

### 2. Player of the Month (Women) – Sophia Dunkley (England):

- Sophia Dunkley performed brilliantly against India and won her first ICC Women's Player of the Month award.
- He scored 144 runs in the T20I series, including 75 runs (53 balls) and 46 runs (30 balls), which helped England to a close win.

# Real Madrid: The Most Valuable Football Club of 2025

- Real Madrid was named the most valuable football club in the world in the Brand Finance Football 50-2025 report.
- The club's brand value was recorded at 1.921 billion euros and brand strength score of 94.9/100.
- The club's brand value has grown by 14% year-on-year.
- Recently, Real Madrid defeated Borussia Dortmund to win their 15th UEFA Champions League title.

#### **Top 5 Clubs of 2025**

- **1. Real Madrid - €**1.921 one thousand million
- **2. FC Barcelona -** €1.7 one thousand million
- **3. Manchester City -** €1.4 one thousand million
- **4. Liverpool - €**1.4 one thousand million
- 5. Paris Saint-Germain (PSG)

### 7. Awards and Honours

# M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace



- **Prof. Ademola Adenley** was presented the first MS Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace by the Prime Minister on 7th August, 2025.
- It has been launched by the Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).
- This international award honours individuals from developing countries who have made outstanding contributions to improving food security, whether through scientific research, policy development, grassroots engagement or local capacity building.
- The award carries a cash prize of USD 25,000 and a medal to the recipient.

#### 71st National Film Awards 2023

 The 71st National Film Awards for the films of the year 2023 were announced on 1 August, 2025 at a ceremony held in New Delhi.

#### Major Winners (Feature Film Category)

- o **Best Feature Film:** 12th Fail (**Director:** Vidhu Vinod Chopra)
- o **Best Entertaining Film:** Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani (**Director:** Karan Johar)
- o **Social themed film:** Sam Bahadur (**Director:** Meghna Gulzar)
- o **Best Children's Film:** Naal 2 (Marathi)
- o **Best Film in AVGC Category:** Hanu-Maan (Telugu)
- o **Best Director:** Sudipto Sen (The Kerala Story)
- o **Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Shared):** Shah Rukh Khan (Jawan), Vikram Massey (12th Fail)
- o **Best Actress:** Rani Mukerji (Mrs. Chatterjee vs Norway)

- Supporting Actors (Shared): Vijayaraghavan (Pookalam - Malayalam), Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar (Parling - Tamil)
- o **Supporting Actress (Shared):** Urvashi (Ullozhukku Malayalam), Janaki Bodiwala (Vaas Guiarati)
- Best Child Artist (Shared): Sukthi Veni Bandareddy (Gandhi & Chettu – Telugu), Kabir Khandare (Gypsy – Marathi), Trisha Thosar, Srinivas Pokale, Bhargav Jagtap (Naal 2)

#### Music Category

- Playback Singer: P.V.N. S. Rohit (Baby)
- Playback Singer: Shilpa Rao (Jawan Chhaliya)

#### Non-Feature Film & Writing Category

- Best Non-Feature Film: Flowering Man (Director: Soumyajit Ghosh)
- **Best Film Critic:** Utpal Dutta (Assamese)

#### Dadasaheb Phalke Award

- This award was started in 1969.
- The award was added as a new category of National Awards in honour of the father of Hindi cinema. Dadasaheb Phalke.
- Devika Rani was the first film personality to receive this award.
- In the year 2024, this honour will be given to actor Mithun Chakraborty.

### Bibi Fatima Women's Self Help Group gets Equator Award 2025

- The Bibi Fatima Women's Self Help Group based in Teertha village in Karnataka's Dharwad district has won the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Equator Award 2025.
- It is known as the "Nobel Prize" of bio-diversity conservation.
- The award was conferred on her for eco-friendly farming, community seed bank, promotion of millets, and women-led rural entrepreneurship works.
- The theme for 2025 was "Women and Youth Leadership for Nature-Based Climate Action"
- This year, a total of 10 winners were selected from Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Tanzania and India.
- The winners will receive a prize money of USD 10,000 (approx. ₹8.5 lakh).

# Neeraj Ghaywan's Homebound wins 2 awards at Melbourne Film Festival

- Neeraj Ghaywan's latest drama film Homebound won 2 awards at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) 2025.
  - 1. Homebound: Best Film Award
  - 2. Neeraj Ghaywan: Best Director Award
- The story focuses on displacement, belonging and the search for identity, and it shows the emotional struggle of returning home after a long time.
- The film stars Ishaan Khatter, Vishal Jetwa and Janhvi Kapoor in the lead roles.
- IFFM is a prestigious international platform of Indian cinema.

# Mohamed Salah wins PFA Player of the Year award

- Liverpool's star forward Mohamed Salah won the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Player of the Year award for the third time. (Before In 2018 and 2022)
- With this he became the first player to win the PFA Player of the Year, Premier League Player of the Season, Golden Boot and Playmaker Award in the same season.
- Salah is an Egyptian international footballer and is regarded as one of Africa's all-time greats.

#### Other winners of PFA Awards 2025

- Men's Youth Player: Morgan Rogers (Aston Villa, England)
- Women's Player: Mariona Caldanti (Arsenal, Spain)
- Women's Youth Player: Olivia Smith (Canada, Liverpool)

#### Premier League Team of the Year (2024–25)

- **Goalkeeper:** Matz Seles (Nottingham Forest)
- **Defenders:** Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool), Milos Kerkez (Bournemouth), William Saliba (Arsenal), Gabriel Magalhes (Arsenal)
- Midfielders: Declan Rice (Arsenal), Ryan Gravenburch (Liverpool), Alexis Mac Allister (Liverpool)
- Forwards: Mohamed Salah (Liverpool), Alexander Isaac (Newcastle), Chris Wood (Nottingham Forest)
- The PFA Player of the Year is a prestigious annual award given to players in English football for their outstanding performance in a season.

### **Gallantry Awards 2025**

The Central Government announced 127 Gallantry

Awards and 40 Distinguished Service Awards on 14 August 2025.

#### **Main Prizes:**

- 4 Kirti Chakra
- 15 Vir Chakra
- 16 Shaurya Chakra
- 2 times Sena Medal (Gallantry)
- 58 Sena Medals (Gallantry), (2 Agniveers included)
- 6 Navy Medal (Gallantry)
- 26 Air Force Medals (Gallantry)

#### War Service Medal:

- 7 Best War Service Medal
- 9 Uttam Yudh Seva Medal
- 24 Yudh Seva Medals
- Note: The CRPF received 23 gallantry awards for gallantry especially in Jammu and Kashmir and anti-Maoist operations, including 3 Shaurya Chakras and 20 gallantry awards.

# Tribeni Roy's 'Shape of Momo' selected in BIFF's 2025 vision section

- Sikkimese independent filmmaker Tribeni Roy's debut film 'Shape of Momo' has been selected for the vision section of the Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) 2025.
- BIFF is Asia's premier film festival, known for bringing new talent to the fore and connecting Asian cinema to global audiences.
- The Vision section showcases the innovative and bold works of independent filmmakers from Asia.
- The film will also be screened at the San Sebastián International Film Festival in September 2025, which is likely to get it international recognition.

#### Nitin Gadkari wins 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari was awarded the 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award.
- The award was given by the Lokmanya Tilak Memorial Trust for his contribution to nation building.

#### Lokmanya Tilak National Award

- The award was instituted in 1983.
- It carries a cash prize of ₹1 lakh and a memento.
- Former winners include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Indira Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Dr Manmohan Singh, Pranab Mukherjee, NR Narayana Murthy, and Cyrus Poonawalla.

### 8. Person in news

# C.P. Radhakrishnan: NDA's Vice Presidential candidate



- Maharashtra Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan has been declared the Vice Presidential candidate by the National Democratic Alliance.
- His full name is Chandrapuram Ponnuswamy Radhakrishnan.
- He was born on 20 October, 1957 in Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu.
- He belongs to the Velalla OBC caste of Tamil Nadu.
- He won the Lok Sabha election from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999, but lost three consecutive terms in 2004, 2014 and 2019.
- He was the state president of BJP Tamil Nadu from 2004 to 2007.
- He has been the Governor of Maharashtra since 31st July, 2024 and was also given the additional charge of the Governor of Telangana and the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.

### Vice Presidential Election: C.P. Radhakrishnan versus B. Sudershan Reddy

- The NDA has fielded Tamil Nadu leader C.P. Radhakrishnan as its candidate for the Vice Presidential election.
- The opposition India Bloc has named former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy as its candidate.

# Anish Dayal Singh appointed as new Deputy NSA

- Former CRPF and ITBP Director General Anish Dayal Singh was appointed as Deputy National Security Advisor (Deputy NSA).
- He will be in charge of internal affairs.
- Anish Dayal is a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Manipur cadre.

# Ajay Kumar Bhalla given additional charge of Nagaland

- Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla has been given the additional charge of the post of Governor of Nagaland.
- The decision was taken following the demise of Nagaland Governor L. Ganesan on 15 August, 2025.
- The Rashtrapati Bhavan announced this by issuing an official communique on 16 August, 2025.

#### Ajay Kumar Bhalla

- o He is a retired IAS officer.
- o He has also served as the Union Home Secretary of India.
- o He has been the Governor of Manipur since 2024.

#### Satish Golcha: New Delhi Police Commissioner

- The Union Home Ministry has appointed IPS officer Satish Golcha as the new Commissioner of Delhi Police.
- He belongs to the 1992 batch of AGMUT cadre.
- He has served in various positions in the Director General of Police (DGP) in Arunachal Pradesh, Special Commissioner in Delhi Police, and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

# S. Radha Chauhan appointed as chairperson of Capacity Building Commission (CBC)

- S. Radha Chauhan has been appointed as the full-time chairperson of the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) by the Union Government.
- The appointment has been made after the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- She will hold the post for three years from August 1, 2025 or until further orders.
- S. Radha has previously been the Secretary of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).
- She is a 1988 batch IAS officer of the UP cadre.

#### **Capacity Building Commission (CBC)**

- o It was established on 1st April, 2021 under Mission Karmayogi.
- o It aims at capacity building in civil services.

# Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh has been appointed as the 48th Vice Chief of the Indian Army.

- Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh took charge as the 48th Vice Chief of the Indian Army on 31 July, 2025.
- He replaced Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani.

### Sonali Mishra became the first woman Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF)

- The Central Government appointed officer Sonali Mishra as the first woman Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) on 1st August, 2025.
- She is a 1993 batch Madhya Pradesh cadre Indian Police Service officer.
- He has been awarded the President's Police Medal and Meritorious Service Medal.

#### Railway Protection Force (RPF)

- o The RPF was established in 1957 under an Act passed by Parliament.
- o Its foundation is based on the Watch and Ward system made in 1861.
- o The RPF got the status of an armed force after an amendment in 1985.
- o The force works under the Union Ministry of Railways.

# Dr. A. Rajarajan becomes Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)

- Dr. A. Rajarajan has been appointed as the Director of Thiruvananthapuram-based Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
- He replaced Dr. S. Unnikrishnan Nair.
- Dr. Rajarajan is also currently the Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR).
- Under his leadership, SHAR upgraded the launch infrastructure for the Gaganyaan mission and SSLV (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle).

# Sanjay Vatsyayan takes over as 47th Vice Chief of the Indian Naval Staff

- Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsyayan assumed charge as the 47th Vice Chief of Naval Staff on 1 August, 2025.
- He succeeds Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan (appointed Chief of Western Naval Command). )
- He specialises in artillery and missile systems.
- He has been awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and the Navy Medal (NM) for his contribution during service.
- **Current Navy Chief (26th):** Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi

# Khaled Jamil appointed head coach of Indian men's football team

- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) appointed Khalid Jameel as the head coach of the senior men's national team.
- Khalid Jameel has been awarded the AIFF's Men's Coach of the Year award 2 times (2023-24 and 2024-25).

# 2 Indian divers plunge to depths of over 5,000 metres for the first time



- 2 divers from India have achieved a major feat by reaching a depth of more than 5,000 meters in the North Atlantic Ocean for the first time.
- The operation was conducted earlier this month in collaboration with France.
- Two Indian divers Raju Ramesh and Jatinder Pal Singh made separate deep dives from the French submarine 'Nautile'.
- National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) scientist Raju Ramesh reached a depth of 4,025 metres.
- Retired naval commander Jatinder Pal Singh set a record of 5,002m.
- This is a significant step under the country's 'Deep Ocean Mission', which aims to gain first-hand experience of deep-sea expeditions with the Indian submarine 'Matsya 6000'.

# Rajiv Pratap Rudy re-elected as General Secretary of Constitution Club of India (CCI)

- Bharatiya Janata Party's Rajiv Pratap Rudy was reelected as the General Secretary of the Constitution Club of India (CCI).
- He defeated BJP's Sanjeev Balyan by a margin of 102 votes.
- He got 392 votes in the election, while Sanjeev Balyan got 290 votes.
- In addition, the following office bearers were elected:
  - o **Secretary- Culture:** Tiruchi Siva.
  - o **Secretary-Sports:** Rajiv Shukla.
  - o **Treasurer:** A. P. Jitender Reddy.

#### **Constitution Club of India (CCI)**

• Established in 1947, it is the premier social and professional forum of Members of Parliament.

# PB Balaji appointed as new CEO of Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)

- PB Balaji has been appointed as the new CEO of luxury unit Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) by Tata Motors.
- He will succeed Adrian Mardell on 31 December, 2025.
- PB Balaji is currently the Group Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Tata Motors.
- He is an alumnus of IIT Chennai and IIM Calcutta.

# Ajay Singh elected president of Boxing Federation of India

- Ajay Singh was elected as the President of the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) for the third consecutive time on 21 August, 2025.
- Pramod Kumar was elected general secretary and Pon Bhaskaran treasurer.
- Ajay Singh, who first became president in 2016.

### Mathura Sridharan becomes Solicitor General of Ohio, USA

- Indian-American lawyer Mathura Sridharan has been appointed as the 12th Solicitor General of Ohio State.
- The position is that of Ohio's highest appellate attorney, representing Ohioans in state and federal courts.

#### Works

- Argument in the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the State of Ohio.
- Formulating strategies and advising the Attorney General in complex legal matters.
- To present the state's stand on constitutional and legal questions.

# Krishangi Meshram - Becomes England and Wales' Youngest Solicitor

- Indian-origin Krishangi Meshram has become the youngest solicitor in England and Wales.
- He completed his Bachelor of Law (Hons) from the Open University of England (Milton Keynes) at the age of 18.
- He then secured a remote job in a law firm in Singapore.
- Krishangi, who hails from Mayapur in West Bengal.

### Professor Michel Dougherty: First female Royal Astronomer appointed in Britain

- Professor Michele Karen Dougherty has been appointed the first female Royal Astronomer in Britain.
- This honorary post is associated with advising the British monarchy on astronomy and promoting

- public interest in science.
- Dougherty is best known for his contributions to NASA's Cassini mission, where he played a key role in the discovery of water vapour jets from Saturn's moon Enceladus.
- He is the sixteenth Royal Astronomer, previously held the position by Martin John Rees from 1995 to 2025.

# Nikhil Ravi Shankar takes over as Air New Zealand CEO

- Air New Zealand has appointed Indian-origin Nikhil Ravi Shankar as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- He will officially take office on 20 October, 2025 and succeed Greg Foran.
- Nikhil Ravishankar is currently serving as the Chief Digital Officer (CDO) at the company.
- He has played a significant role in modernizing the digital infrastructure, improving customer experience and strengthening the loyalty system.

### **Demises**

### Nagaland Governor La Ganesan passes away

- Nagaland Governor La Ganesan passed away on 15 August, 2025 (while in office).
- He was born on 16 February, 1945, in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
- He was the President of Tamil Nadu BJP from 2006–2009.
- He was also a Rajya Sabha MP from Madhya Pradesh.

#### Shibu Soren

- Shibu Soren passed away on 4th August, 2025.
- He founded the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in 1973.
- He is a three-time Chief Minister of Jharkhand.
  - 1. 2 March 2005: JMM, Congress, RJD alliance
  - 2. August 27, 2008: JMM and BJP alliance
  - **3. December 30, 2009:** JMM-BJP alliance again
- He was also a member of the Rajya Sabha.
- He is also called "Dishom Guru" (leader of the land) for his contribution to the tribal community.

### **Satyapal Malik**

• Former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik passed away on August 5, 2025.

- He became an MLA from Baghpat in 1974 as a member of the Bharatiya Kranti Dal.
- He served as Lok Dal General Secretary and twice as a Rajya Sabha MP (1980 and 1989).
- In 2017, he became the Governor of Bihar.
- He was the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir when Article 370 was removed in 2019.
- After this, he also served as the Governor of Goa and then Meghalaya.

### **Hockey legend Wes Paes passes away**

- India's legendary hockey player Dr. Wes Paes passed away at the age of 80.
- He was a bronze medalist at the 1972 Munich Olympics and a former midfielder

- He was the President of the Indian Rugby Football Union between 1996–2002.
- As a sports medicine expert, he worked with BCCI and Asian Cricket Council

#### **Meghnad Desai**

- Eminent economist and author Lord Meghnad Desai passed away at the age of 85.
- He was from Vadodara (Gujarat).
- In 1991, he became a member of the Labour Party in Britain's House of Lords.
- The Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan in 2008.



### 9. Places in News

# India's first Archaeological Experiential Museum – Vadnagar, Gujarat.

- The country's first Archaeological Experiential Museum has been set up in Vadnagar in Mehsana district of Gujarat.
- Here visitors can experience the ancient heritage of Vadnagar through AR (Augmented Reality), VR (Virtual Reality), 3D projection and interactive walkways.



#### **Features of Vadnagar Museum**



### Bengaluru: India's second largest cricket stadium

- Recently, **India's** second largest cricket stadium has been approved at Surya City in Bommasandra, Bengaluru.
- It will be a cricket stadium with a capacity of 80,000 spectators.
- The estimated cost of the project is ₹1,650 crore.
- It will include eight indoor and eight outdoor sports facilities, modern gyms, training centres, swimming pools, guest houses, hostels, hotels and convention halls.
- It will be the second largest cricket stadium in India after Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium.
- The largest cricket stadium in India is the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, which has a capacity of 1,32,000 spectators and was inaugurated in 2021.
- The world's third largest cricket stadium is under construction in Jaipur's Champ with a capacity of 75,000 spectators.

### Mahasamund (Chhattisgarh): Nickel-Chromium-Platinum Reserves Found

- Potential reserves of nickel, copper and platinum groups of minerals (Ni–Cu–PGE) have been found in the Bhalukona-Jamnidih block of Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh.
- This discovery is strategically and industrially important for India.
- The discovery was made by Deccan Gold Mining Limited (DGML) in an area of 3,000 hectares.
- The area is located about 70 km from Raipur.

# India's first fully all-women run clean street food hub

- Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated India's first fully all-women run clean street food hub named "Mauli" in Kandivali near Mumbai.
- The hub is entirely managed by women from Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- These women have received FoSTaC training related to food safety and hygiene.
- This initiative has provided livelihood to women and promoted local entrepreneurship.
- "Molly" is an excellent example of women's empowerment, food security, and community development.
- The FoSTaC program, launched in July, 2017, trains food safety supervisors so that they can implement good hygiene and manufacturing practices.

# Kerala: India's first fully digitally literate state

- Kerala was declared the first fully digitally literate state in the country on 21st August, 2025.
- The campaign for a digitally literate state was launched in 2021 in Kerala's Pullampara panchayat.
- In Kerala, more than 2 lakh volunteers went door-to-door to impart digital education to 21.87 lakh people.
- The training included opening mobile apps, filling online forms, using services such as ration cards, pensions and banking.
- With this effort, Kerala has achieved the target of 99.98% digital literacy.

# Kerala becomes India's first woman tourist friendly state

- Kerala will be the first state in the country where women tourists will get a completely safe and convenient travel experience.
- In September 2025, the Kerala government will launch the "She Tourism Project" and a separate tourism policy will be introduced for this.
- The project aims to make Kerala the first choice of women solo travellers.
- Under this, local women will be trained in tourism-related professions such as chefs, drivers, tourist guides.
- Tour operators, guest house and boat house operators, shopkeepers, drivers and chefs all women.

- Bank loans will be made available to women for enterprises such as shops, hotels, restaurants and home stays at tourist centers.
- Currently, 70% of the enterprises created under the Responsible Tourism Mission are run by women.
- Prior to the implementation of this initiative, the pilot project was launched in 13 villages in October 2022 in collaboration with UN Women, the success of which will be implemented across Kerala.

# Navi Mumbai: Property ID card for the first time in the country

- The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) has issued property identity cards to property owners, a first in the country.
- This card will be available to about 3.5 lakh people and will have information related to property number, address, area and tax in one place like Aadhaar or PAN card.
- Property tax can be deposited directly online by scanning the QR code on the card.
- The initiative is aimed at making property tax management simple and transparent and smoothening the process of sale or transfer.

# Asia's Largest Rail Operation Command Center

- Asia's largest Rail Operations Control Command Centre has been set up in Ahmedabad, Gujarat under the Dedicated Freight Corridor.
- At present, the centre is monitoring 350 freight trains on a rail network spanning 1506 km spread across the states of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Haryana and Rajasthan
- After the construction of 100 km of track from Saphale (Mumbai) to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust by December 2025, 500 freight trains will be monitored from here.
- All technical aspects including speed, location, engine and other aspects of freight trains are monitored through a 72x3.5 meter long screen installed at the centre.

### OpenAI to open its first office in India

- OpenAI, the creator of ChatGPT, announced the opening of its first office in New Delhi by the end of 2025.
- Objective: To promote inclusive and trustworthy AI development under the India AI Mission.
- India is ChatGPT's second-largest market after the US.

- Weekly active users in India have grown four times in the last year, with students contributing the most.
- India is among the top 5 global developer markets, with a strong tech ecosystem and startup culture making it the first choice for OpenAI in South Asia.

#### Jalalabad was renamed as Parshurampuri

- Jalalabad town in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur district has now been renamed as Parshurampuri.
- This change has been approved by the Union Home Ministry.
- This place is considered to be the birthplace of Lord Parshuram and its history is said to be thousands of years old.

# Kandla (Gujarat): India's first 'Make in India' green hydrogen plant



 The Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) has commissioned the country's first indigenous green hydrogen plant in Kandla, Gujarat.

#### **Key features:**

- The initial capacity of the plant is 1 MW, which will be increased to 10 MW.
- The electrolyzer in this plant is completely indigenously manufactured.
- This is the first green hydrogen plant set up at a port in India.
- By next year, the plant will be capable of producing 140 metric tonnes of green hydrogen per year.
- **Note:** Green hydrogen is considered to be the fuel of the future, an environmental alternative to traditional fossil fuels.

### IIT Madras launches 'Agnishodh' research cell

- Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi inaugurated 'Agnishodh' research cell at IIT Madras.
- Agnishodh supports the Army's vision of "Indigenisation to Empowerment".

- The initiative is supported by IIT Madras Research Park, AMTDC and Promoter Technologies Foundation.
- It aims to transform initial research into useful technologies in the defence sector.
- The centre will impart training to military personnel in areas such as 3D printing, cybersecurity, quantum technology, wireless systems and drone platforms.

### FIFA launches India's first Women's Talent Academy in Hyderabad

- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) and FIFA have launched India's first FIFA Talent Academy for girls in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The academy is part of FIFA's Talent Development Scheme (TDS).
- The academy is located in the Gachibowli Stadium complex.
- This academy is FIFA's first talent academy for girls, and the second in India.

# For the first time in the country, solar panel system between railway tracks

- The country's first removable solar panel system has been installed in the middle of railway tracks in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- This will generate up to 15 kilowatts of electricity from a 70-meter long system.
- It will be used for signalling systems, CCTV cameras or lighting near the track.

### ISRO's space lab in Arunachal Pradesh

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) inaugurated a state-of-the-art space laboratory in Shi-Yomi district, Mechuka in Arunachal Pradesh on 16 August 2025.
- The initiative was launched in collaboration with Muskan Foundation.

#### Aim:

- Giving students a hands-on experience.
- To increase curiosity, innovation and scientific temper among rural youth.
- It is part of ISRO's larger mission to establish centres for scientific literacy and innovation in schools across the country.

### Miscellaneous

### Cloudburst in Uttarkashi (Uttarakhand)

- On 5 August, 2025 in Uttarakhand, a cloudburst in Dharali village (Harsil area) caused a flash flood in the Kheer Ganga river.
- Army, NDRF, SDRF and district administration are working together in rescue and relief work.

#### Cloudburst

- It is a localized and intense rainfall event, which occurs in a short period of time and usually causes severe damage in hilly areas.
- Cause: the rapid rise and cooling of warm, moist air, causing heavy rain to fall over a limited area.
- It occurs under conditions of atmospheric instability, mountain influence and high humidity.

#### UPSC's centenary year to be celebrated

- The centenary year will be celebrated from 1 October, 2025 to 1 October, 2026 to mark the completion of 100 years of the establishment of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- Special events, commemorative logos and new reform initiatives will be launched during this period,
- These aim to strengthen transparency, fairness and merit-based selection in the recruitment process.
- UPSC was established on 1 October 1926 as a Public Service Commission.
- In 1937, it was renamed the Federal Public Service Commission
- On 26 January 1950, under Article 315 of the Constitution of India, it was renamed as the Union Public Service Commission.

### Vande Bharat train with longest route

- India's longest covering Vande Bharat Express, Nagpur-Pune route was inaugurated on 11 August. 2025.
- The train travels between Nagpur to Pune in 12 hours.
- The route lies between Nagpur, Wardha, Badnera, Akola, Bhusaval, Jalgaon, Manmad, Kopargaon, Ahilyanagar, Daund and Pune.
- This train will enhance regional connectivity from Vidarbha to Pune.

### "Know Your Weaving Campaign 2025"

• The Union Ministry of Textiles launched the

- "Know Your Weaving Campaign 2025" on 1st August, 2025.
- **Objective:** To promote the rich handloom tradition of India and to raise public awareness about it.
- The campaign will run from 1st to 7th August 2025 at National Academy of Crafts and Handicrafts, New Delhi.

# 'Apna Ghar' Initiative – Innovative Scheme for Truck Drivers







- The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India launched an initiative called 'Apna Ghar'.
- **Objective:** To improve the comfort, health and safety of truck drivers.
- The initiative provides hygienic and convenient resting centres for truck drivers on national and state highways across the country.
- These units have been set up near fuel outlets of public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) to ensure easy access to them.

#### **Key features:**

- Dormitory Beds For Comfortable Sleep
- Affordable Canteen/Dhaba Affordable Food
- Clean toilets and bathrooms
- Self-cooking kitchen facility
- Availability of pure drinking water
- A 'Apna Ghar' mobile application has also been launched for truck drivers .
- Through the app, drivers can get real-time information about bed booking, registration and facilities.

#### Partnership of AIM and Bhashini

- NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and MeitY 's Digital India Language Division Bhashini signed a Letter of Intent (SoI).
- **Objective:** To encourage linguistic inclusivity and innovation in the local language.
- This collaboration will make innovation accessible to non-English speakers by integrating AIM's innovation framework with language technologies of speakers.
- In the initial phase, the teaching resources of WIPO Academy will be translated into several Indian languages.
- In the future, there are plans to make multilingual content game-based and provide a sandbox environment for startups to test language-inclusive products.

#### Govt approves Safe City project in Delhi

- New Delhi: Facial recognition system will be installed on CCTV cameras in the Union Territory of Delhi under the 'Safe City Project', which will be implemented by the Delhi Police.
- The project aims to empower women's safety and effective monitoring of crime.
- 'Safe City Project' is a scheme of the Government of India, launched under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to make urban areas safer.
- Under this, a facial recognition system will be installed on selected CCTV cameras, so that suspicious persons and criminals can be identified.
- Apart from this, the establishment of an Integrated Command, Control, Communication and Computer Center (C4I) is also included.

#### Shramshree Scheme

- It was launched in West Bengal by the state government on 18 August, 2025.
- The scheme aims to provide assistance to around 22 lakh Bengali migrant labourers.
- Under this, each beneficiary will be given a one-time travel allowance of ₹5,000 to return back to the home state (home).
- Apart from this, financial assistance of ₹ 5,000 per month will be given to the laborers for a maximum of 1 year or till they get employment.
- Free ration will be provided to migrant laborers and their families under the Khadya Sathi scheme.
- The workers will be given a job card under the Karmashree scheme.
- Families will receive health facilities through the Swasthya Sathi card.

- Community kitchens will be run by the state government for homeless migrant laborers.
- The children of labourers will be given the facility of free enrollment in state government schools.
- Skill development and training will be provided to migrant laborers under the Utkarsh Bangla initiative.

### Joint Rann Dialogue-2025

- The three forces of the country will organize a joint battle dialogue-2025 in Mhow on 26 and 27 August .
- The event will discuss warfare, modern technology and tactics.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and chiefs of the Army, Navy and Air Force will attend the event.

# "Ran Samvad": First Tri-Services Seminar of Ministry of Defence

- The Ministry of Defence will organize the first Tri-Services Seminar titled "Ran Samvad" on August 26-27 at Army War College, Mhow (Dr. Ambedkar Nagar).
- **Objective:** To promote strategic discussions and reforms in the defence sector.
- Its main theme is: "The impact of technology in warfare".
- It will include military officers, ex-servicemen, industry experts and government officials.

# India achieves 100 GW solar PV module manufacturing milestone



- India has achieved 100 gigawatt (GW) solar photovoltaic (PV) module manufacturing capacity under the Approved Model and Manufacturer List (ALMM)
- In 2014, it had a capacity of only 2.3 GW.
- This is crucial towards self-sufficiency in domestic solar generation and the goal of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030.

- The country recorded 8.2 GW of capacity in the first list in March 2021.
- In the last 4 years, this capacity increased more than 12 times to 100 GW.

#### 'Surya Dronanathan 2025'

- It is a drone competition, which has been started by the Indian Army at Sumdo in Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Organizer:** Surya Command and Drone Federation of India (DFI).
- **Objective:** To promote innovation in the defence sector using indigenous technology.
- The competition was held from August 10 to 24 at an altitude of 10,700 feet.
- The Surya Command is one of the seven commands of the Indian Army, covering parts of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- The Drone Federation of India (DFI) is a non-profit organisation, founded in 2017 to promote the Indian drone ecosystem.

#### 'Drone strike' exercise

 The Indian Army also successfully conducted the 'Drone Prahar' exercise in Arunachal Pradesh recently.

# UIDAI and Starlink sign MoU for customer verification

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has partnered with satellite-based internet service provider Starlink.
- It aims to make Aadhaar-based customer verification fast and seamless.
- This is the first time that a global satellite internet provider has adopted Aadhaar authentication.
- Aadhaar demonstrates the reliability and extensibility of the system and enhances transparency and accountability in digital services.
- This partnership will strengthen digital connectivity and access to services in rural and remote areas, thereby promoting digital inclusion.

# Biography of Manekshaw, Usman and Sharma included in NCERT syllabus

 Chapters on the life and sacrifice of India's brave warriors Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, Brigadier Mohammad Usman, and Major Somnath Sharma have been added to the NCERT syllabus from the current academic year by the central government.

- Chapters on Manekshaw have been included in Class 8 (Urdu), Usman for Class 7 (Urdu) and Sharma for Class 8 (English).
- The purpose of these chapters is to provide students with inspiring examples of courage and duty.

#### Nijut Moina 2.0 Scheme

- The Assam government has launched the 'Nijut Moina 2.0' scheme
- It aims to encourage girls to pursue higher education and reduce the dropout rate.
- Under this scheme, monthly financial assistance will be given to girl students from HS to PG, so that they can continue their studies.
- It is for girls from all economic categories and girl students studying in government/ government-aided institutions will be eligible.

#### **Details of Financial Assistance:**

- College first year: ₹10,000 annually (₹1,000 per month, 10 months)
- **Graduate:** ₹12,500 p.a. (₹1,250 per month, 10 months)
- Postgraduate: ₹25,000 p.a. (₹2,500 per month, 10 months)

#### **eSAKSHI** Portal

- The eSAKSHI portal has been developed by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- It is an initiative to make MPLADS fund management completely digital and transparent.
- It was launched on 1st April 2023 in collaboration with the State Bank of India.
- The system operates on a unified digital platform to streamline the entire process from recommendation of MPs to implementation.

#### **Highlights:**

- Dashboard for MPs, District Officers and Agencies
- Real-time monitoring of tasks
- Digital Process of Fund Transfer

### "Why the Constitution Matters"

• It is the first book of former Chief Justice of India, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud.

# "Hitman Unleashed: A Treatise for the Remarkable Rohit"

- The author of this book is R. Kaushik.
- This book explains the struggles and successes of Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma.

#### "The Conscious Network"

- This is a book written by Sugata Srinivasaraju.
- The book unravels the true story of the democratic struggle of Indian youth settled in America during the Emergency of 1975.

### **Major Conferences**

#### 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

- It will be held from 5 to 12 October, 2025 in **Bridgetown, Barbados**.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will lead the Indian delegation at the conference.
- Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh and officials of various state legislatures will also participate in the conference.
- Om Birla will deliver a keynote address at its General Assembly on the topic "Commonwealth: Global Partner".

#### Semicon India 2025



- It was held from 2-4 September, 2025 at Yashobhoomi (IICC), New Delhi.
- It is India's largest semiconductor and electronics programme.
- **Aim:** To establish India as a global hub in semiconductor and electronics manufacturing.
- Semicon India is part of the SEMI Global Network and is operated by the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) under the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) of India.
- **Theme:** "Building The Next Semiconductor Powerhouse".

#### Participant:

- 33 countries, 4 international pavilions, 9 Indian states.
- 350 Exhibiting Companies

#### 28th National e-Governance Conference

• It will be held from 22-23 September, 2025 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

- Organizer: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Theme:** "Developed India: Civil Services and Digital Transformation".
- **Knowledge Partner:** IIM Visakhapatnam.
- It has 6 plenary sessions and 6 breakout sessions; Senior executives, thinkers, academicians, industry experts and awardees will participate.

#### 'Bharat Steel'

- 'Bharat Steel' is the flagship international conference--exhibition of the Ministry of Steel, which will be held from 16-17 April, 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- It aims to showcase India's steel capabilities, connecting global industry leaders, policymakers and investors.
- Recently, its official logo, brochure and website were unveiled.

#### Mapiki Conference 2025

- It was held from 11–12 August, 2025 in New Delhi
- Organized: CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL).
- The theme of the conference was "Measurement for all time, measurement for all people".
- Researchers, scientists, technical officers and Ph.D. students presented their research in the field of measurement and metrology at the conference.
- Objective: To promote reforms to effectively implement the process of measurement in the country to various sectors of society and industry.

#### Meteorological traceability

• Metrological traceability means that the result of a measurement is linked to a national or international measurement standard.

#### **National Summit on Technical Textiles**

- The "Developed India Global Summit on Technical Textiles" was held in Patna, Bihar from August 22-23.
- It was jointly organized by the Union Ministry of Textiles and Metexil.
- The conference was attended by industry bodies, startups, researchers and executives.
- The objective of the event was to promote technical textiles and man-made fibre textiles in the domestic and export sector.



### 10. Indexes & Reports

### World Competitiveness Ranking (WCR) 2025

- It was released by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD).
- Switzerland is in first place with 100 points.
- India is ranked 41st out of 69 countries. (It was ranked 39th in 2024.)

#### **India's Performance:**

- **Economic performance:** 27th (20th last year).
- **Government efficiency:** 45th (unchanged).
- **Professional Efficiency:** 25th (unchanged).
- **Top 10 countries:** Switzerland, Singapore, Hong Kong, Denmark, UAE, Taiwan, Ireland, Sweden, Qatar and the Netherlands.
- According to this report, competitiveness is not only measured by GDP but also on many aspects such as political, social, cultural and infrastructure.

#### **Global AI City Index 2025**

- This index was released by Counterpoint Research.
  - This institution evaluates global cities based on AI development and infrastructure.
- Bengaluru, Karnataka, ranks 26th in the global AI City Index and is the leading hub for artificial intelligence activities in India.
- Bengaluru is strong in AI research, innovation, and the data center infrastructure sector.
- India 's Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata have also been included in the list.
- Mumbai and Delhi are leading the way in the use of AI in urban management and public safety.

### **Top 5 Global Cities:**

Singapore
 Seoul
 Beijing
 Dubai

5. San Francisco

### Report of SBI's Economic Research Department (ERD) on UPI usage

- Maharashtra ranks first in the country in Unified Payment Interface (UPI) usage.
- Followed by Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu.
- Maharashtra's volume share stood at 9.8% in July, while the value share stood at 9.2%.

- It is followed by Karnataka (5.5% volume, 5.8% value), Uttar Pradesh (5.3% volume and value), Telangana (4.1% volume, 5.1% value) and Tamil Nadu (4% volume, 4.7% value).
- **UPI transactions in the year 2025:** The average daily value in January was ₹75,743 crore, which has increased to ₹90,446 crore in August.
- In this, PhonePe is the first place in the ranking of the app, followed by Google Pay and Paytm.

# India becomes world's 5th largest aviation market

- According to IATA's World Air Transport Statistics (WATS) 2024 report, India ranked
   5th in the world with 24.1 crore passengers .
- India recorded an 11.1% passenger growth over 2023 (21.1 crore passengers in 2023).
- Apart from this, the Mumbai-Delhi air route was ranked as the 7th busiest route in the world.

#### **Global Traveller Ranking of 2024:**

- **1. United States –** 87.6 million passengers
- **2. China** 74.1 million passengers
- **3. United Kingdom –** 261 million passengers
- **4. Spain –** 241 million passengers
- 5. India 24.1 million passengers

### TopBrand 2025 Global Brand List

• TopBrand Union released the Top 500 Global Brands List 2025 at the China Brand Festival 7–11 August 2025 in Shenzhen (China).

#### **Top 10 Brands**

Microsoft
 Apple
 Amazon
 Alphabet (Google)
 Saudi Aramco
 Walmart
 Meta (Facebook)
 Berkshire Hathaway 10. Broadcom

# "\$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India" Report

- NITI Aayog released a report titled "\$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India" on 4th August 2025
- It analyses the prospects and strategies in the EV sector.

- The report provides a clear direction for the electric vehicle transition in India, as well as presents the current situation, challenges, and solutions.
- India has set a target of 30% electric vehicle sales across all vehicle segments by 2030.
- EV sales in the country were 50,000 in 2016, which increased to 2.08 million in 2024.

### SHRESTH: India's 1st State Health Regulatory Excellence Index

- The full name of SHRESTH **is** State Health Regulatory Excellence Index.
- The Union Health Ministry launched SHRESTH on 12th August 2025.
- It is an important initiative in the public health administration of India.
- It aims to evaluate and strengthen drug regulatory systems at the state level.
- It will act as a virtual gap assessment tool, which will benchmark the performance of the drug regulatory authorities of the states.
- It will have 2 categories
  - 1. Manufacturing states
  - 2. Distribution States/UTs.
- It will be monitored by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and it will provide guidance to the states in line with global standards.

### **District Flood Severity Index (DFSI)**

- Researchers from IIT Delhi and IIT Gandhinagar have developed the District Flood Severity Index to assess the severity of floods in India.
- The index measures district-wise flood frequency, duration, affected population and damage to help in flood risk management at the district level.
- Data on flood events, deaths, damage, and historical flood-prone areas have been taken from the India Flood Impact Database (IFI-Impacts Database) for the index.
- In addition, population and geospatial data from the National Hydrology-Hydrodynamics Modelling System have been used.

11. Important Days			
Days/Occasions	Date	Purpose/Theme/Specific Information	
World Wide Web Day	1 August	Recognition of the contribution of the WWW to the social, economic and information revolution.	
World Breastfeeding Week	August 1-7	Awareness on the benefits of breastfeeding and support to mothers. The theme of 2025: "Prioritize breastfeeding: create sustainable support systems".	
Clowes Syndrome Awareness Day	August 3	Timely diagnosis, treatment and sympathy and support for those affected.	
Hiroshima Day	6 August	Commemoration of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, a call for peace and disarmament.	
National Handloom Day	August 7	Commemoration of the Swadeshi Movement of 7th August 1905.	
International Youth Day	12 August	Focus on youth issues, opportunities and challenges. Theme of 2025: "Youth advancing multilateral cooperation through technology and partnerships".	
World Elephant Day	12 August	Awareness to conserve elephants and protect habitat. Theme of 2025: "Bringing the World Together to Help Elephants".	
Partition Horrors Remembrance Day	14 August	Remembrance of the victims and displaced persons in the 1947 Partition of India. Beginning in 2021.	
World Photography Day	19 August	Photography is a celebration of the impact on art, history and society. The first permanent picture was made by Joseph Nicefore Knippes in 1826.	
World Humanitarian Day	19 August	Honour to the workers who help those in distress. Theme of 2025: "Strengthening Global Solidarity and Empowering Local Communities".	
World Mosquito Day	20 August	Awareness about mosquito-borne diseases. On 20 August 1897, Sir Ronald Ross discovered the malaria carrier.	
Indian Akshay Urja Day	20 August	Promotion of Importance and Use of Renewable Energy. It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.	
World EntrepreneurShip Day	21 August	Promotion of entrepreneurship education and innovation.	
International Day of the Victims of Terrorism	21 August	Focus on the rights and dignity of victims of terrorism. The theme of 2025: "United with Hope: Collective Action for the Victims of Terrorism". Beginning in 2017.	
National Space Day	23 August	Honouring ISRO's achievements, inspiration in STEM. Theme of 2025: "Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Infinite Possibilities from Ancient Wisdom". Note: Launched on 23rd August 2023 to commemorate the successful lunar landing of Chandrayaan-3.	



