



Samyak
An Institute For Civil Services

MONTHLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2025

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सभी प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के लिए समान रूप से उपयोगी

सम्यक् है, तो संभव है

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विशेषताएँ -

1. नवीनतम पाठ्यक्रम के अनुसार अनुभवी विषय विशेषज्ञों द्वारा तैयार अध्ययन सामग्री ।
2. प्रारम्भिक एवं मुख्य परीक्षा के सम्पूर्ण पाठ्यक्रम के लिए बेहतरीन अध्ययन सामग्री ।
3. अवधारणात्मक स्पष्टता (CONCEPTUAL CLARITY) के साथ तथ्यात्मक समावेश ।
4. सहज बोधगम्य 'सरल' भाषा शैली में नवीनतम तथ्यों का समावेश ।
5. **ONLINE COURSE व SELF STUDY** के लिए **SELF SUFFICIENT** अध्ययन सामग्री ।
6. **UPSC/RPSC** के नए पैटर्न एवं फॉर्मेट का अनुसरण ।
7. टॉपर्स द्वारा अनुमोदित परिणामोन्मुखी पाठ्य सामग्री ।
8. प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों एवं अकादमिक विषय विशेषज्ञों द्वारा नियमित रिव्यू एवं अपडेशन ।
9. प्रारम्भिक एवं मुख्य परीक्षा हेतु **TOPIC WISE** महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्नों का संग्रह ।
10. **NCERT** व राजस्थान बोर्ड की पुस्तकों के आवश्यक तथ्यों का समावेश ।



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Near Riddhi-Siddhi Circle, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur

1. RAJASTHAN AFFAIRS

Polity and Governance

New Formula for Ward Delimitation in Panchayati Raj in Rajasthan

- The Panchayati Raj Department of Rajasthan has finalized the new criteria for ward delimitation for the panchayat elections to be held in the state and has sent guidelines to the Collectors of all 41 districts.
- Now, in Gram Panchayats, there will be 7 wards for a population of 3000, and 2 wards will be added for every additional 1000 population. Example: In a panchayat with a population of 4000, the number of wards will become 9.
- In Panchayat Samitis, 15 wards will be determined for a population of 1 lakh, and 2 new wards will be added for every additional 15 thousand population.
- In addition, in Zila Parishads, there will be 17 wards for a population of 4 lakh, and thereafter 2 more wards will be added for every increase of 1 lakh.
- After the formation of new panchayats in Rajasthan, the number of Gram Panchayats has increased to 14635.

Re-determination of Election Expenditure Limits in Panchayati Raj and Urban Body Elections

- The State Election Commission, Rajasthan, on 23 December, increased the maximum limit of election expenses to make the election process more transparent and practical.

Revised Expenditure Limits in Urban Body Elections

Post / Election	2019 (₹)	2025 (₹)
Nagar Nigam Election	2.50 lakh	3.50 lakh
Nagar Parishad Election	1.50 lakh	2 lakh
Nagar Palika Election	1 lakh	1.50 lakh

Revised Expenditure Limits in Panchayati Raj Institutions

Post / Election	2019 (₹)	2025 (₹)
Zila Parishad Member	1.50 lakh	3 lakh
Panchayat Samiti Member	75 thousand	1.50 lakh
Sarpanch Post	50 thousand	1 lakh

- The purpose of this decision is to provide candidates with a practical expenditure limit in line with the rising costs of election campaigning.
- In addition, a ban has been imposed on the use of large vehicles and animal-drawn carts for election campaigning.
- It will be mandatory to submit the details of election expenses to the District Election Officer within 15 days.
- Zila Parishad members can use a maximum of three vehicles, Panchayat Samiti members two, and Sarpanch one vehicle for campaigning.
- Candidates will not be able to install loudspeakers at their election offices for campaigning.

Proposal for Educational Qualification in Urban Body Elections

- A major change has been proposed in the rules before the urban body elections in Rajasthan.
- Under this, the minimum educational qualification for candidates for the post of councillor will be fixed as tenth or twelfth.
- Currently, there is no requirement of any kind of educational qualification in urban body elections.
- Along with this, a proposal to remove the restriction of maximum two children for those contesting elections in Rajasthan has also been included.
- Earlier, during the second term of the Vasundhara Raje government in Rajasthan, mandatory educational qualification was implemented for representatives of Panchayati Raj institutions and urban bodies.
- This arrangement was removed during the tenure of the Ashok Gehlot government.

Rajasthan Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Ordinance-2025

- The Gazette notification of the Rajasthan Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Ordinance-2025 was issued by the Law Department on 12 December, 2025.
- This ordinance has been prepared on the lines of the Government of India's Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act-2023.
- Through this ordinance, criminal provisions have been removed from 11 Acts.
- Objective: To decriminalize minor violations and technical errors, replace criminal penalties with penal fines (penalties), and reduce unnecessary litigation.

Major Changes in Rajasthan Forest Act-1953

- Earlier, grazing cattle on forest land attracted imprisonment up to 6 months or fine up to 500 rupees or both. After the amendment, imprisonment has been removed and only fine provision has been retained.
- Compensation as per rules will also be mandatory for damage caused to the forest.

Changes in Rajasthan State Aid (Industry) Act-1961

- Earlier, there was a provision of imprisonment for not presenting books of accounts, accounts or documents for inspection.
- Now, only monetary penalty will be imposed for such minor procedural violations.

Changes in Rajasthan Water Supply and Sewerage Board Act-2018

- Earlier, there was a provision of imprisonment for wastage of water, misuse, non-domestic use, obstructing sewerage line or taking connection without permission.
- After the amendment, imprisonment has been removed in these cases and only economic penalty provision has been made.

Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Ordinance-2025

- By implementing a new ordinance in the state, the minimum age of minors working in shops, hotels, restaurants and commercial establishments has been increased.
- Now, the minimum age for working has been increased from 12 years to 14 years.
- Adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years will not be allowed to work in night shifts.
- Earlier, the age limit for working at night was fixed from 12 to 15 years.

- All these provisions have been implemented across Rajasthan from 18 December, 2025.
- This ordinance has received the approval of Governor Haribhau Bagde.

New Rules Related to Working Hours and Rest

- Under the earlier Act (1958), adolescents aged 12 to 15 years could work a maximum of 3 hours per day.
- In the new ordinance, this limit has been applied to adolescents aged 14 to 18 years, and the working hours will still remain a maximum of 3 hours.
- Earlier, no employee could be made to work continuously for more than 5 hours.
- In the new rules, this limit has been increased to 6 hours.
- Even now, no person can be made to work beyond the prescribed period without a half-hour rest.
- **Note:** Since the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly session was not in progress at this time, the ordinance was brought using the powers conferred by the Constitution.

Rules of Rajasthan Dead Body Dignity Act Implemented

- The Rajasthan government has approved the rules related to the ban on keeping dead bodies on roads for protest.
- This Act was passed in the Legislative Assembly on 20 July, 2023.
- The Governor approved it on 17 August and the notification was issued on 18 August, 2023.
- Rajasthan is the first state in the country to make and implement such a law.
- The law was effective, but due to non-framing of rules, the procedures could not be implemented.
- If the last rites are not performed within 24 hours despite the notice of the Executive Magistrate, the police can take possession of the body and perform the last rites.
- Under this, protesting with a dead body has been considered a legal offence.
- Convicts can face imprisonment from 6 months to 5 years or fine.
- The notice to the family members will be served by the Executive Magistrate, which can also be sent through e-mail or electronic medium.
- The hospital administration will have to hand over the body respectfully to the family members or public authority.

Major Provisions

- For not taking possession of the body: Imprisonment up to 1 year or fine or both.
- For protesting with the body by family members: Jail up to 2 years or fine.
- For protesting by other persons: Imprisonment from 6 months to 5 years or fine.
- For breach of privacy of genetic data: Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years.

□Seizure of Passport Violates Fundamental Rights□: Rajasthan High Court

- The Rajasthan High Court has recognized foreign travel as a fundamental right conferred by the Constitution.
- The court said that keeping the passport seized violates the right to life and personal liberty.
- The court quashed the order of passport seizure.
- Directions have been given to release the petitioner's passport for renewal.
- The petitioner has also been directed to give an undertaking not to travel abroad without permission.
- This order was passed by Justice Anoop Kumar Dhand on the petition of Charan Singh Singaria.



Major Programmes, Schemes, Campaigns

Green Credit Voucher Initiative-2025

- In Rajasthan, on 30 December 2025, this scheme was approved to provide additional incentives to local bodies and investors for projects related to green and sustainable development.
- Its objective is to promote green and circular economy by linking environmental goals with economic incentives.
- Under this, tradable and redeemable green credit vouchers will be issued, which will encourage investment in environment-friendly projects.
- It will promote work in renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management, water conservation, air pollution control, sustainable building and infrastructure, sustainable agriculture and other environment-friendly sectors.
- Eligible investors will be issued green credit vouchers in addition to the green incentives received under RIPS-2024.

- For green investments up to 1 crore rupees, 5 percent and for investments above 10 crore rupees, up to 10 percent, vouchers worth a maximum of 2.50 crore rupees will be provided.

MAA Scheme Introduces Outbound Portability

- Under the Mukhyamantri Ayushman Arogya (MAA) Scheme, cashless treatment facility has now been made available to the residents of the state even outside the state.
- Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma inaugurated the outbound portability facility on 19 December, 2025 during the state-level women's conference held in Dholpur.
- Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to implement outbound portability through the National Health Claim Exchange.
- Under this arrangement, residents of Rajasthan will be able to get treatment in all other states of the country except Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
- Eligible beneficiaries of the MAA Scheme will connect with listed hospitals outside through the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) application.
- Currently, around 1800 hospitals in Rajasthan are affiliated with the MAA Scheme.
- After this integration, the residents of the state will also get the benefit of approximately 31,000 hospitals of other states linked to the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- For this, the Rajasthan State Health Assurance Agency (RSHA) has completed integration with the National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX).
- A Golden API has been developed to ensure the eligibility of beneficiaries in outbound portability.

City Accelerator Program for Rooftop Solar

- The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched the City Accelerator Program under the PM Suryaghar Scheme on 5 December, 2025.
- Under this program, 100 cities of the country have been selected.
- From Rajasthan, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer and Udaipur have been included in this scheme.
- Under the program, public awareness activities will be conducted in these cities.
- Vendors will be trained to promote rooftop solar installation.
- Special emphasis will be given to motivating people to adopt solar energy.

Progress of PM Suryaghar Scheme

- In Rajasthan, more than 1.09 lakh rooftop solar plants have been installed under the PM Suryaghar Scheme.
- The highest number, 15,932 plants, have been installed in Jaipur.
- 6,436 in Jodhpur, 5,794 in Udaipur and 2,759 plants have been installed in Ajmer.

Major Decisions in Rajasthan Cabinet Meeting

- A meeting of the Rajasthan Cabinet was held on 30 December 2025 in the Chief Minister's Office under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma.

Rajasthan Vehicle Scrapping Policy-2025

- In line with the announcement of Rajasthan Budget year 2025-26, the Rajasthan Vehicle Scrapping Policy-2025 was approved on 30 December, 2025.
- The objective of this policy is to phase out unfit and polluting vehicles and ensure their safe and scientific disposal.
- Under this, Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities (RVSF) in the state will be promoted.
- The scrapping process will be made completely digital, transparent and traceable, and integrated with the Vahan portal.
- Along with this, tax exemptions, circular economy, investment and start-up promotion, and environmental protection will be encouraged.

Topic	Major Provisions
Vehicles Eligible for Scrapping	1. Government vehicles older than 15 years 2. Vehicles without fitness/registration 3. Accident-damaged or unusable vehicles 4. Auctioned scrap vehicles and voluntary scrapping vehicles
Certificates	COD (Certificate of Deposit) and CVS (Certificate of Vehicle Scrapping) issued by the scrapping centre
Tax Exemption	Up to 50% exemption in motor vehicle tax on purchase of new vehicle based on COD, maximum ₹1 lakh
Chassis Number Security	6 months with scrapper + 18 months with District Transport Officer (total 2 years)
Circular Economy	Reuse of steel, aluminium, plastic, rubber, etc.
Benefits to Industries	Cheap raw material for automobile, steel and manufacturing sectors
Investment Promotion	Capital subsidy, tax exemption, interest subsidy, concession in stamp duty and electricity charges for initial 20 scrapping units
Start-up Support	Assistance to recycling and scrapping start-ups under Rajasthan Start-up Policy

Rajasthan AI-ML Policy-2026

- The Rajasthan government approved the Rajasthan AI-ML Policy-2026 on 30 December, 2025.
- The objective of this policy is to make public services faster, transparent and citizen-centric through the responsible, ethical and secure use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML).
- This policy will help in enhancing administrative efficiency, promoting innovation-based economic development, and developing Rajasthan as an emerging centre for investment and innovation.
- Special emphasis has been laid in it on data security, cyber security, AI education, capacity building and industry-start-up collaboration.

Topic	Major Provisions
Cyber Security	Clear system for reporting and resolution of AI-related cyber crimes
AI Centre of Excellence	Establishment of Artificial Intelligence Centre of Excellence in the state
AI Nodal Officer	Appointment of nodal officer for AI works in every department
Digital Infrastructure	Promotion of AI cloud, secure data storage and testing platforms
AI Education	Promotion of AI education in schools, ITIs, polytechnics and colleges

Training Programmes	AI training for youth, teachers and government personnel
Industry and Start-up Support	Top-up incentives to industry, MSMEs, start-ups and research institutions
Bias Control	Provisions to reduce bias in AI systems and make decision processes transparent

Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy

□2025

- In Rajasthan, on 24 December, 2025, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma launched the Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy-2025 in Mandawa town of Jhunjhunu.
- The objective of this policy is to make Rajasthan a major centre for national and international film shooting.
- The state government has made provisions for subsidies, incentives and ease of doing business to promote film production.
- Along with financial assistance, administrative processes will also be simplified.

Subsidy Provisions for Shooting

- Up to 30 percent subsidy will be given on the expenditure incurred on shooting of feature films, web series, TV serials and documentaries in Rajasthan.
- The benefit of maximum subsidy will be available on completing 50 percent shooting days of the feature film in Rajasthan.
- If the entire film is shot in Rajasthan, an additional 5 percent subsidy will be given within the prescribed limit.

Maximum Subsidy Limits

- ◆ Feature Film: 3 crore rupees
- ◆ Web Series: 2 crore rupees
- ◆ TV Serial: 1.5 crore rupees
- ◆ Documentary: 2 crore rupees
- **Note:** The minimum expenditure for subsidy has been fixed at 2 crore rupees for feature films and 1 crore rupees for web series, TV serials and Rajasthani language films.

Additional Incentives for Locations on Screen-Time

- 5 to 15 percent screen-time: 10 percent incentive
- 16 to 30 percent screen-time: 20 percent incentive
- More than 30 percent screen-time: 30 percent subsidy

Full Reimbursement of Permission Fees

- 100 percent reimbursement of permission fees and charges (maximum 5 days) at shooting locations controlled by the state and central government will be provided.

- Internationally awarded feature films shot in Rajasthan will get an incentive of up to 1 crore rupees.
- National Film Award-winning films will get an incentive amount of up to 50 lakh rupees.

Scholarships and Training Assistance for Students

- Scholarships will be provided to students from Rajasthan studying or training at FTII Pune, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute-Kolkata and National School of Drama-New Delhi.
- 10 students will be selected every year.
- Selected students will get 100% tuition fee assistance up to a maximum of 50,000 rupees.
- In addition, a stipend of up to 5,000 rupees per month will also be provided.

Heal in Rajasthan Policy 2025

- The Rajasthan government launched the “Heal in Rajasthan Policy-2025” on 15 December, 2025 in the direction of developing the state as a major medical tourism centre.
- Objective: To develop Rajasthan as a reliable, accessible and affordable Medical Value Travel (MVT) destination.

Main Features:

- **Advanced health system:** More than 8,000 hospitals, 40+ medical colleges and high-level private hospitals are operational in the state.
- **Multi-specialty medical services:** Treatment facilities in line with international standards will be provided in multi-specialty hospitals.
- **Inclusion of traditional medicine:** Focus will be given on improving health and lifestyle by promoting Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani and Siddha systems of medicine.
- **Technological innovation:** A dedicated cell will be established to certify service providers. In addition, an MVT portal and mobile app will be developed which will provide treatment, facilities and technical information to tourists.
- **Digital services:** Expansion of telemedicine, teleconsultation, biotechnology and app-based diagnostic services will be done.

- **Language assistance:** Multilingual helpline services will be started for domestic and foreign tourists.
- **Formation of committees:** An executive committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and a technical committee under the chairmanship of the Medical Education Secretary will be constituted for the implementation of the policy.

Approval to 3 Important Policies in Rajasthan Cabinet Meeting

- A meeting of the state cabinet was held on 3 December, 2025 under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma.
- In this meeting, several important decisions related to promoting ease of living and ease of doing business were taken.
- The cabinet approved the Non-Resident Rajasthani Policy-2025, Rajasthan Trade Promotion Policy-2025 and Rajasthan Tourism Policy-2025.

Non-Resident Rajasthani Policy of Rajasthan-2025

- The objective of the Non-Resident Rajasthani Policy-2025 is to strengthen the social, cultural and economic connection of non-resident Rajasthanis with the state.
- This policy will promote the contribution of NRRs in investment, trade, knowledge exchange, research and social sectors.

Major Provisions

- Under the policy, a better ecosystem will be created in the state to accelerate investment.
- An NRR Investment Facilitation Cell will be established for coordination of investment processes.
- Investment Liaison Officers will monitor investment proposals and ensure departmental coordination.
- Investment Coordinators will be appointed in the chapters of Rajasthan Foundation.
- NRR Investment Advisory Councils will be constituted with the cooperation of diaspora experts and industry.
- These councils will prepare policy suggestions and sector-wise investment roadmaps.
- Pravasi Rajasthani Day and Pravasi Rajasthani Samman Award will be organised to honour the contributions of the diaspora community.
- A Diaspora Database will be prepared with information related to the location, skills, business and investment potential of migrants.

- Under the policy, innovations like Global Youth Connect, Celebrate Rajasthan and Diaspora for Development will be launched.
- A systematic grievance redressal and coordination mechanism will be established for resolving the problems of non-resident Rajasthanis.

Rajasthan Trade Promotion Policy□2025

- The Rajasthan Cabinet has approved the Rajasthan Trade Promotion Policy-2025.
- The objective of this policy is to provide equal opportunities like big trade, e-commerce platforms and logistic networks to small traders.
- With the implementation of this policy, the retail and wholesale trade of the state will become more empowered.
- This policy has been prepared keeping in mind the more than 10.5 lakh retail stores present in the state and the rapidly growing consumer market.
- Through the policy, investment in the trade sector will be promoted, which will create new employment opportunities.

Major Provisions

- Easy access to market and credit will be provided to small traders.
- Special incentives will be given for the development of MSME enterprises in retail and wholesale trade.
- Reforms related to ease of doing business have been given a prominent place in the policy.
- Under this, consideration will be given to bringing relaxation as required in the provisions of the Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958.
- These reforms will make the operation of commercial units simpler and more business-friendly.

Rajasthan Tourism Policy□2025

- In the Rajasthan Tourism Policy-2025, special emphasis has been laid on encouraging private sector investment.

Major Provisions

- Under the policy, priority has been given to the development of tourism infrastructure.
- Measures will be taken to improve connectivity to major tourist destinations.
- Cleanliness and security at tourist places will be strengthened.
- Special attention has been given to the expansion of digital facilities.

- Branding and marketing of tourism will be strengthened.
- Skill development in the tourism sector will be promoted.
- A favourable environment will be created for tourism units.
- The policy includes provisions for the development of religious tourism routes.
- Tourism hubs will be established around forest and religious areas.
- Shaurya Circuit and Bird-Watching Circuit will be developed.
- Projection mapping and light-and-sound shows will be promoted.
- Facilities like prepaid taxi booths, e-vehicle tours and Rajasthan Travel Card will be developed.
- Home-stay and paying guest facilities will be encouraged.
- Special Tourism Zones (STZ) will be developed in selected districts.
- A single web portal will be launched for approval of tourism projects.
- Tourism projects will be developed under PPP model.
- Provision has been made for establishment of skilling centres and scholarships for tourism students.
- Craft museums will be developed to promote cultural heritage and local crafts.
- New tourism portals, mobile apps and digital museums will be created.
- Viability Gap Funding will be provided to increase air connectivity.
- Major fairs and festivals will be organised on a large scale.
- Astro-tourism, adventure tourism, culinary tourism, large entertainment projects and wellness tourism will be promoted.
- For the safety of tourists, 24x7 call centre, Tourist Assistance Force, panic button system, CCTV and feedback system will be implemented.

Rajasthan Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Policy

- The Rajasthan government will implement this TOD policy in all urban bodies of the state by issuing a notification.
- **Objective:** To promote organised and sustainable development in urban areas in view of growing traffic congestion, pollution, disordered land use and economic loss.

- TOD is a modern urban development model, whose objective is to create compact, mixed-use and high-density areas around public transport stations.
- This will encourage walking and non-motorised transport and help in making the city more accessible, environment-friendly and liveable.
- It will also provide opportunities for revitalisation of old residential areas, development of new housing options, expansion of economic centres and increase in land value at major nodes.

Developed Rajasthan @ 2047: Formation of Sectoral Group of Secretaries

- Keeping in view the long-term development goals of the state, the Rajasthan government has constituted 'Sectoral Group of Secretaries' on the lines of the central government.
- The Administrative Reforms and Coordination Department of the state issued orders related to the formation of a total of 7 sectoral groups on 22 December, 2025.
- The responsibility of these groups will be to continuously review the major schemes, budget announcements and flagship programmes of the state.
- The main objective of these groups is to ensure the achievement of development goals by effective strategy formulation, preparing clear action plans and resolving challenges related to inter-departmental coordination.

Classification of Groups:

- ◆ Group 1: Rural Development and Agriculture
- ◆ Group 2: Infrastructure, Industry and Commerce
- ◆ Group 3: Resources
- ◆ Group 4: Social and Welfare Sector
- ◆ Group 5: Finance and Economy
- ◆ Group 6: Governance and Technology
- ◆ Group 7: Security

□ Eat Right School □ Campaign

- Under the 'Eat Right India' initiative, the 'Eat Right School' programme will be implemented in Rajasthan.
- The objective of this programme is to promote habits of safe, healthy and nutritious food in schools and ensure compliance with food safety and nutrition standards.
- The Directorate of Food Safety and Drug Control, FSSAI and the Education Department

will establish coordination to provide necessary support to schools.

- A target has been set to connect 10 thousand schools of Rajasthan with this campaign.
- Schools will be selected by the Rajasthan Education Department and arrangements for necessary resources and monitoring of activities will be made.

Anaemia-Free Campaign for Pregnant Women

- In Rajasthan, the FCM Injection Campaign was launched on 15 December, 2025 with the aim of protecting pregnant women from anaemia.
- Under this initiative, screening of students for thalassemia and sickle cell disease will also be done.
- Along with this, eye examination and free spectacles distribution programme for students studying in government schools has also been implemented.

□Nav Utthan-Nai Pehchan, Badhta Rajasthan-Hamara Rajasthan□ Exhibition

- Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma inaugurated the state-level development exhibition organised at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur on 15 December, 2025.
- This exhibition will be held till 18 December.
- It displayed the achievements, schemes, development works of the state government in two years through models, photo and video panels and publications.

□Badhta Rajasthan□Hamara Rajasthan□ District-Level Programme

- On the occasion of completion of two years of the Rajasthan government, this programme was organized at the district level on 13 December.
- On this occasion, press briefing, dispatch of development chariots and road safety awareness campaign were organized.

□Child Marriage Free Gram Panchayat□ Campaign

- In Baran district, the 'Child Marriage Free Gram Panchayat' programme was launched on 13 December, 2025.
- Along with this, a 100-day public awareness campaign was also started.
- During this, the 'Child Marriage Free India and Gram Panchayat Awareness Chariot' was flagged off.
- This campaign is being conducted under the direction of Baran District Collector Rohitashva Singh Tomar.

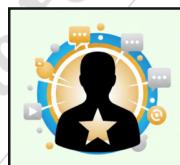
- According to NFHS-5, Baran district falls in the high-risk category in cases of child marriage.

Launch of □Mission Samriddh Didi□ Campaign by Rajeevika

- Rajasthan State Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajeevika) launched the "Mission Samriddh Didi" campaign on 12 December, 2025.
- This is a one-month state-level special campaign.
- The objective of the campaign is to economically empower women of Self-Help Groups (SHG).
- Objective: The objective of this campaign is to provide timely bank loans to women of Self-Help Groups (SHG), promote enterprises run by women and strengthen digital financial inclusion in rural areas.

TB Free India Campaign: Second Phase of House-to-House Survey

- In Rajasthan, the second phase of the Active Case Finding (ACF) campaign under the TB Free India Campaign started from 25 December, 2025, which will continue till 15 January, 2026.
- The objective of this campaign is to identify hidden cases of TB in time and ensure treatment.
- Under this, house-to-house screening will be done of HIV-affected persons, diabetic patients, people above 60 years of age, malnourished persons, smokers or alcoholics, migrant workers, tribal communities, former TB patients, as well as people living in mining and construction sites, jails and urban slums.



Famous Personalities

Sunil Sharma Appointed Member of Rajasthan State Information Commission

- Former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Sunil Sharma has been appointed as the new member of the Rajasthan State Information Commission.
- He has become the fourth member of the Commission.
- Mohan Lal Lathar (former DGP) is currently the Chief Information Commissioner of Rajasthan State.

Other 3 Members of the Commission:

1. Sureshchandra Gupta (former IAS)
2. Mahendra Parkh (former IAS)
3. Tikaram Sharma (former Law Service Officer)

Neeru Yadav Participated in National Sarpanch Shakti Training Programme

- A four-day national training programme 'Sarpanch Shakti' was organised in New Delhi by the Quality Council of India (QCI).
- 50 innovative and influential Sarpanches from across the country participated in it.
- From Rajasthan, Neeru Yadav, Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Lambi Ahir in Jhunjhunu district, also participated.
- In it, Neeru Yadav shared the innovations and progressive works done in the panchayat.

Anjali Singh

- Anjali Singh from Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan secured first position in the National Youth Parliament-2025.

Appointment of Anil Kaushik as ASG

- Senior advocate Anil Kaushik from Rajasthan has been appointed as Additional Solicitor General (ASG) by the Central Government in the Supreme Court.
- His tenure will be for three years.
- This appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet, after which a notification was issued by the Union Ministry of Personnel.

Mansvi Agarwal Becomes First Rajasthani to Hoist Tricolour on Antarctica

- Mansvi Agarwal from Udaipur hoisted the Tricolour on the highest peak of the Antarctic continent, Vinson Massif, on 12 December, 2025.
- She has become the first female mountaineer from Rajasthan to reach this inaccessible peak.
- The height of Vinson Massif is approximately 5,000 metres (16,500 feet) above sea level.
- This area is included among the world's most difficult and extremely cold mountainous regions.
- The temperature here often reaches minus 60 degrees Celsius.

Shashikant Appointed Chief Town Planner of Rajasthan

- The Rajasthan government has appointed Shashikant as the new Chief Town Planner of Rajasthan.

Dr. Rajendra Babu Dubey Appointed Vice-Chancellor of Agriculture University Bikaner

- Governor and Chancellor Haribhau Bagde issued orders on 18 December, 2025 appointing Dr. Rajendra Babu Dubey as the Vice-

Chancellor of Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner.

- This appointment is for 3 years from the date of assuming charge or until attaining the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Vikram Singh Appointed Technical Officer for Rollball World Cup

- Vikram Singh from the Pink City has been selected as a technical officer for the 7th Rollball World Cup held in Dubai.
- Earlier in 2023, he had been the coach of the Indian men's rollball team.
- Under his coaching, the Indian team won the silver medal.

Lalchand Becomes International Volleyball Referee

- Lalchand from Rajasthan has achieved the honour of becoming an international volleyball referee.
- He passed the international referee examination of the Asian Volleyball Confederation held in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.
- Lalchand has become the third international volleyball referee from Rajasthan.



Famous Places

Silseda Lake of Alwar Gets Ramsar Site Status

- Silseda Lake located in Alwar district of Rajasthan has been recognized as a Ramsar Site under the Ramsar Convention.
- In addition, Kopra Reservoir located near Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh has also been declared a new Ramsar Site.
- With the inclusion of these two sites, the total number of Ramsar Sites in India has become 96.
- Rajasthan now has a total of 5 Ramsar Sites.

Rajasthan's 5 Ramsar Sites

Ramsar Site	Declaration Year	District
Keoladeo Ghana National Park	1981	Bharatpur
Sambhar Lake	1990	Jaipur
Menar Wetland Site	2025	Udaipur
Khichan Wetland Site	2025	Phalodi
Silseda Lake (Latest)	2025	Alwar

Importance of Siliserh Lake

- ♦ Siliserh Lake and its surrounding wetland areas are rich in biodiversity.
- ♦ A large number of migratory and foreign bird species breed here.

India's First Interstate Tiger Translocation

- This first interstate tiger translocation has been carried out in Rajasthan with the aim of increasing the genetic diversity of tigers.
- Under this, a tigress was directly released into Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve from Pench Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- A tigress was brought to Jaipur from Pench Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh by Indian Air Force helicopter MI-17.
- Thereafter, the tigress was sent to Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve located in Bundi via road.

New Airbase to be Built in Sadulshahar in Rajasthan

- Land acquisition will be done for an airbase in Sadulshahar tehsil of Sri Ganganagar district in Rajasthan.
- The airbase will be established in Lalgarh Jatan and surrounding areas of Sadulshahar tehsil.
- After Jodhpur, Uttarlai (Barmer), Jaisalmer, Nal (Bikaner) and Suratgarh (Sri Ganganagar) in Rajasthan, this will be the sixth airbase.
- From this airbase, fighter jets of the Indian Air Force will be able to reach three major airbases of Pakistan in less time.
- The new Sadulshahar airbase will be approximately 40 kilometres away from the India-Pakistan border.
- This will be the second Airforce station in Sri Ganganagar district, while Suratgarh Airforce Station already exists.
- In a war situation, fighter jets from this airbase will be able to reach Pakistan's Jacobabad, Bholari and Rahim Yar Khan Airbases quickly.



Rajasthan's First Bio waste De-Composition Plant

- A bio waste de-composition plant based on the Surat model will be established in Muhana Mandi, Jaipur.
- The project has received approval from the Rajasthan government, and the plant will be inaugurated in August, 2026.
- This will be Rajasthan's first such plant that will produce CBG gas on its own.
- In this plant, approximately 50 tons of green waste generated daily from the mandi will be used to produce CBG (Compressed Bio Gas).
- The estimated cost of this project is around 28 crore rupees.
- CBG will be made available at the rate of 62 rupees per kilo for CNG vehicles.
- The slurry and solid manure produced from the plant will be useful for farmers and domestic gardening.

Jalore to Become Rajasthan's Largest Bio-CNG Production Centre

- Production of bio-CNG gas in Rajasthan will take place in Chandrai village in the Ahor area of Jalore district.
- A total of 10 bio-CNG plants will be established here with an investment of approximately 600 crore rupees.
- After Gujarat, this will be the first of its kind in Rajasthan and the largest bio-CNG project in the state.
- Each plant will be developed in about 15 acres of area, and in this way, a large fuel production hub will be ready in approximately 150 acres within one year.
- A pipeline network will be developed here to deliver the gas to various parts of Rajasthan.
- In the future, this gas can be used as PNG for domestic purposes along with CNG.

5 Districts of Rajasthan Selected Among Country's 20 Hi-tech Cyber Fusion Centres

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs will establish 20 hi-tech cyber fusion centres in the country for fast and technology-based action on cyber crimes.
- 5 districts of Rajasthan—Bhiwadi, Alwar, Khairthal-Tijara, Deeg and Sawai Madhopur police districts—have been included in the priority list.
- A rapid increase has been recorded in cases of online investment fraud, fake call centres, banking fraud, money-mule accounts and social media blackmailing in these districts.

- Fusion centres will function as modern cyber control rooms, where real-time monitoring and investigation using advanced technology will be conducted.
- Integrated use of data related to banks, telecom, NCRP, KYC and financial intelligence will be made in these.
- As soon as a complaint is received, it will be possible to identify the suspicious network and issue location alerts.
- A state-level cyber fusion centre will be established in Jaipur for coordination across the entire state.

Kota: Country's Longest 8-Lane Tunnel

- In Kota, the country's longest 4.80 kilometre 8-lane tunnel is being built on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway.
- Out of the two tunnels being built near Chehat, one tunnel is likely to start by March, 2026.
- This tunnel is being built under a hill approximately 600 feet high in Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve.
- The plan is to operationalise the tunnel coming from the Mumbai side by the end of March.
- After the tunnel starts, the travel duration from Delhi to Mumbai will reduce from approximately 24 hours to 12 hours.
- This will make movement on the Dara route easier and smoother, and the tunnel construction will ensure the safety of wild animals and trees.



Rajasthan's First Government Poison Detection and Drug Level Lab

- Rajasthan's first government Poison Detection and Drug Level Lab is being established at Sawai Man Singh Hospital in Jaipur.
- With the commencement of this lab, treatment of patients affected by consumption of poisonous substances like pesticides, sleeping pills or sulphur will be possible based on scientific investigation.
- This lab will be equipped with modern equipment such as HPTLC and UV-Visible Spectrophotometer.
- Through testing in it, the type and quantity of poison can be accurately determined.

- This will reduce side effects of medicines and also decrease the cost of treatment.

Centre of Excellence for Conservation and Promotion of Indigenous Cow Breeds

- A Centre of Excellence for the conservation and promotion of indigenous cow breeds will be established at the Animal Research Centre in Dag, Jhalawar district.
- In this centre, work related to conservation, upgradation and breed improvement of local cow breeds including Malvi and Gir breeds will be carried out.
- Modern dairy management, breeding technology, artificial insemination and other state-of-the-art facilities will also be developed here.
- The cost of this project is approximately 15 crore rupees.

Baran: Herbivore Wildlife Enclosure to be Built to Increase Prey Base for Panther-Cheetah

- A special herbivore enclosure for herbivorous wildlife will be developed in Shahabad Talhati Conservation Reserve in Baran district.
- Its objective is to strengthen the prey base for panthers and other carnivorous animals.
- This conservation reserve, famous for dense forests, has an area of approximately 17,884 hectares, out of which this enclosure is being built in 19 hectares.
- Herbivorous wildlife like deer, sambar, chital will be brought from other areas and released here by the Forest Department.
- After sufficient increase in the number of these wildlife, they will be released in the open forest, which will promote biodiversity in the entire area.

PM Gati Shakti Multimodal Logistic Terminal

- Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) has also approved the establishment of PM Gati Shakti Multimodal Logistic Terminal.
- This project will be established in the RIICO industrial area located in Parbatsar Phase II of Kuchaman-Deedwana area.
- An initial investment of approximately 50 crore rupees will be made in this project.
- This project will be developed in line with Rajasthan's Logistic Policy.

IT Technocity on the Lines of Dubai to be Built in Jodhpur

- An MoU has been signed between the state government and investors to develop Jodhpur as an IT hub.

- This MoU is related to an investment of approximately 60,000 crore rupees.
- Under this, a modern IT Technocity like Dubai will be developed in Jodhpur.
- In its first phase, employment opportunities will be created for approximately 60 thousand youth.

□Centre of Excellence for Climate Change Adaptation□ to be Established in Jaipur

- This centre will be developed in Jagatpura area of Jaipur.
- This will be the first institution of its kind in Rajasthan.
- The cost of this project will be approximately 150 crore rupees.
- **Note:** The Rajasthan government had announced the establishment of Centre of Excellence for Climate Change Adaptation in the budget year 2025–26.
- The responsibility for the formation and operation of the centre has been assigned to the Rajasthan Pollution Control Board.
- Along with this, IIT Jodhpur has been made the knowledge partner of this institution, for which an MoU will be signed between both institutions.
- This centre will prepare scientific studies and data related to climate change, which will be shared with various departments of the state.
- This will help in preparing better strategies by making development plans and policies climate-friendly.
- Through this centre, detailed research will be conducted in Jaipur on potential climate changes for the next 50 years.
- It will include assessment of changing patterns of rainfall, possibilities of storms and other climate impacts, and early warnings and policy advice will also be given to departments regarding future risks of climate change.

Discovery of Two Billion Year Old Rocks in Iswal Area of Udaipur

- Approximately two billion year old rocks of the Aravalli mountain range have been found in Iswal area of Udaipur.
- Dr. Ritesh Purohit of the Geology Department of Mohanlal Sukhadia University and his international team have conducted research on this.
- Chemical signals have been found in this research, which can be helpful in understanding the origin of life on Earth.
- The study has challenged old beliefs related to the origin of microscopic carbonate spheres called ooids.

- Earlier, ooids were considered to be formed by high tidal energy or microbial activities.
- According to the research, these spheres are formed by an abiotic chemical process called 'oscillating reaction'.
- This research has been published in the Geological Society of America Bulletin.

Budget Approved for 4 Religious Tourism Sites of Rajasthan

- The Central Government has approved a budget of 180 crore rupees for the development of four major religious tourism sites of Rajasthan.
- Under this, 53 projects worth 2208.27 crore rupees across the country and 36 projects worth 648.11 crore rupees under the CBDD scheme have been approved.

Approved Projects in Rajasthan

1. Keshoraypatan of Bundi
2. Khatu Shyamji Temple
3. Karni Mata Temple in Bikaner
4. Malaseri Dungri of Bhilwara

Richest Deposits of Rare Earth Niobium Found in Rocks of Siwana

- Some of the world's richest rare earth treasures have been found in the Siwana Ring Complex located in Barmer district of Rajasthan.
- The quantity of niobium in the rocks of Siwana has been recorded from 246 to 1681 PPM and zirconium from 800 to 12,000 PPM.
- This study has been conducted by scientists from the central government's Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research located in Hyderabad and Jaipur.
- Raw materials necessary for electric vehicles, mobile phones, rockets and nuclear energy are found in the rocks of this area.
- According to the report, where the density of rare earth elements in normal areas is 100 to 200 PPM, it has been found approximately 100 times more in the Siwana area.
- This area can play an important role in making India self-reliant in the production of rare earth elements.

Geological Features

- The Siwana Ring was formed about 70 to 80 crore years ago (Neoproterozoic era) from volcanic activities.
- This area is different from other places because an extremely high quantity of rare earth elements and specific metals is found here.
- This mineral wealth reached the surface from a depth of 35 to 3000 kilometres in the Earth's mantle through volcanoes.

Common Facility Centre for Metal and Stone Sector

- A Wooden Handicraft Common Facility Centre has been constructed in Jodhpur, Rajasthan at a cost of 1800 lakh rupees.
- This state-of-the-art centre has been developed with the objective of empowering Rajasthan's famous wooden handicraft industry, especially the furniture manufacturing sector, with modern technology.
- Through this centre, production efficiency has been increased and the capacity for global competition has been developed.
- Their objective is to provide modern machinery, large-scale production facilities and access to national and international markets to the related artisans.
- The Rajasthan government is providing 25 percent freight subsidy to promote exports under the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme-2024.

□Atal Kavya Smarak□ and □Atal Loktantra Upvan□ to be developed in Jaipur

- On the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna and former Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma announced two important development works in Jaipur on 25 December, 2025.
- 'Atal Kavya Smarak' will be constructed in City Park located in Mansarovar, where e-library, library and other literary facilities will be available.
- 'Atal Kavya Smarak' will be an inspirational and vibrant centre dedicated to poetry and literature.
- In addition, 'Atal Loktantra Upvan' will also be developed in Jaipur.
- This initiative will become a strong medium to keep Vajpayeeji's thoughts alive as well as to reach democracy, literature and national consciousness to the new generation.
- 'Atal Loktantra Upvan' will be developed as a green public place dedicated to Indian democracy and parliamentary traditions.

Maharishi Dayanand Panorama to be Built in Ajmer

- Dayanand Panorama will be constructed in Ajmer, the nirvana site of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati.
- Maharishi Dayanand and Arya Samaj have made significant contributions in social reform and awakening.
- Through this panorama, their thoughts and contributions will be reached to the masses.

Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar Industrial Area

- The development of Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar industrial area is being done on approximately 3600 hectares of land.
- This area will be developed as the state's largest industrial township.
- The project is expected to give new momentum to the economic development of the state.

Features of Modern Township

- World-class infrastructure will be developed in this area to promote work-to-home culture.
- Residential, commercial and recreational activities will be permitted in this industrial area.
- **Objective:** To provide all necessary facilities to the working people in the same area.

Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Project

- Rajasthan Industrial Corridors Development Corporation Limited (SPV) has been formed for the development of the DMIC project.
- The share capital structure is as follows:
 - ◆ 51% share - RIICO (Rajasthan Government)
 - ◆ 49% share - National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT), Government of India
- This investment region is an important node of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC).

Apache Helicopters to be Deployed in Jodhpur

- 6 Apache helicopters will be deployed in Jodhpur.
- Currently, the Army Aviation Corps in Jodhpur also has Advanced Light Helicopter Rudra deployed.
- The Indian Army has received the complete batch of AH-64E Apache attack helicopters.
- Out of these helicopters, 3 arrived at Jodhpur Military Station on 3 July, 2025.
- All these Apache helicopters will be inducted into the squadron of the Army Aviation Corps located in Jodhpur.
- The squadron of the Army Aviation Corps in Jodhpur was established in March, 2024 last year.

Disaster Data Recovery Centre to be Built in Jodhpur

- To strengthen Rajasthan's digital platform, a state-level Disaster Data Recovery Centre is being established in Jodhpur.

- This was announced in the budget year 2024-25.
- For this centre, 25,000 square metres of land has been allotted in Gram Lordi Panditji, Jodhpur.
- This centre will ensure the security, quick restoration and continuity of the government's important digital data in case of natural disasters, cyber attacks or technical disruptions.
- It will function as a strong backup system for the state's digital infrastructure.

Discovery of Rare Snakes in Pratapgarh

- For the first time, two extremely rare snake species have been identified in the dry deciduous forests of Pratapgarh district.
- These include the Indian Smooth Snake (*Walophis brachyura*) and Slender Coral Snake (*Calliophis melanurus*).
- After this discovery, the number of known snake species found in Rajasthan has increased to 45.
- This important research has been published in India's prestigious scientific journal of Threatened Taxa.
- Note: The Indian Smooth Snake is found only in India worldwide.

Jaipur, Alwar and Bhiwadi Now in High Earthquake Risk Zone

- Recently, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has released a new earthquake risk map in the country.
- According to the new assessment, Jaipur, Alwar and Bhiwadi from Rajasthan have been placed in the high risk zone (Zone-4).
- In these areas, earthquakes up to 5 to 6 on the Richter scale may occur in the future.
- Until 2016, Jaipur was included in mild damage risk Zone-2, which has now been upgraded to Zone-4.
- After the implementation of the new map, new standards and rules will have to be adopted for infrastructure construction in cities in the high risk zone.

JNVU, Jodhpur to Become Career-Focused University

- Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region) to link higher education with employment.
- Under this agreement, Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programme will be implemented in the university.
- It has been notified by the University Grants Commission under the National Education

- Policy 2020.
- In this programme, students will get structured industrial training along with degree, one year apprenticeship, government stipend and credit-based work experience.
- The board will be responsible for coordination and monitoring with industries for training.

Composite License for Gold Mining and Other Minerals

- The Mines and Geology Department of Rajasthan has identified 2 new gold blocks in Banswara and Salumbar areas.
- The process of issuing Composite License (CL) on these blocks has been started.
- The auction process for gold mining in Kankaria area of Banswara district and Dagocha area of Salumbar district has been advanced.
- In addition, the mining department has also started the auction process for blocks of important minerals like garnet, base metal copper, lead and zinc.
- For base metals, they have been identified in Bikaner, Chittorgarh and Udaipur districts.
- Copper mining is proposed in Ladana block of Udaipur.
- Exploration of copper along with other minerals will be done in Bhabharia Ka Kheda block of Chittorgarh.
- Exploration and mining of copper, lead and zinc will be done in Khamor block of Bhilwara.
- Three blocks of garnet have been identified for composite license in Tonk district.
- Auction of two limestone mines in Jaisalmer district has also been proposed.

Status of Gold Blocks in Rajasthan

- So far, more than 18 gold blocks have been identified in Rajasthan.
- The highest gold reserves have been found in Banswara district.
- In Banswara, a total of 12 gold blocks have been identified in Jagpura, Bhukia, Delwara and Panch Mahuri areas.

Successful Speed Trial of Vande Bharat Sleeper Train on Kota-Nagda Route

- The fully indigenous technology-built Vande Bharat Sleeper Train (Version-2) was trialled at a speed of 180 km per hour between Kota and Nagda on 30 December, 2025.
- During this test, the stability, vibration, oscillation, emergency brake system and safety standards of the train were checked.

Land Allotment for Kishangarh Airport

- The Rajasthan Cabinet has approved the proposal to provide additional 15 acres of land free of cost for Kishangarh Airport.
- Through this land, facility for single-side operation of large aircraft will be developed.
- For this, 900 metre long approach lights and Instrument Landing System will be installed.
- This will enable safe and uninterrupted operation of aircraft even during fog and night time.

Inauguration of State-of-the-Art Critical Care Block at RUHS

- In the direction of providing better medical facilities in Rajasthan, a new Critical Care Block has been started at Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS).
- This block has ICU beds, special beds for emergency treatment, modern ventilator system, and modular operation theatre and dialysis facilities.
- This block will prove helpful in the treatment of critically ill patients.



Awards and Honours

3 Players from Rajasthan Nominated for Arjun Award

- Three players from Rajasthan have been nominated for the Arjun Award for the year 2026.
 1. Padmanabh Singh (Jaipur) (Polo)
 2. Nirmala Bhati (Deedwana-Kuchaman) (Kho-Kho)
 3. Rudrash Khandelwal (Bharatpur) (Para Shooting)
- Padmanabh Singh has been the former captain of the Indian Polo team.
- Nirmala Bhati was a member of the world champion Kho-Kho team and played the role of Wazir.
- Para shooter Rudrash Khandelwal has created a world record in pistol shooting.

Pravasi Rajasthani Samman □ 2025

- A total of 9 non-resident Rajasthani have been honoured for distinguished achievements:
 1. Anil Agarwal
 2. Kumar Mangalam Birla
 3. Vineet Mittal
 4. Ajay Piramal

5. Madhav Singhania
6. Poonamchand Rathi
7. Narsi Kularia
8. C.M. Moondra
9. Pradeep Rathod

Rajasthan Police Academy Becomes Country's Best Training Institution

- The Capacity Building Commission, a Government of India undertaking, has conferred the status of outstanding institution on the Rajasthan Police Academy.
- The Rajasthan Police Academy has been given the status of outstanding institution by the Capacity Building Commission.
- It has become the first academy in the country to receive this honour among police training institutions of all states.
- This academy has secured its place among the top five best training institutions in India.
- Its evaluation was done on 43 rigorous parameters under 8 major pillars.

Dr. Virendra Singh Rathore Receives National IIMM Award

- Dr. Virendra Singh Rathore was honoured at the national NETCOM programme of the Indian Institute of Materials Management (IIMM) held in Ahmedabad.
- Dr. Rathore is working as RTO and Deputy Transport Commissioner (Road Safety) in the Transport and Road Safety Department.
- He was honoured with the President Appreciation Award.
- This award was given for effective suggestions related to strengthening road safety in the logistics sector and reducing costs.

Kamlesh Sharma Receives Shilpguru Award

- Rajasthan's craftsman Kamlesh Sharma has been honoured with the Shilpguru Award.
- President Droupadi Murmu presented this honour to him at the National Handicrafts Award Ceremony held at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.
- Craftsman Kamlesh Sharma is skilled in Tarkashi art on wood.
- Under this prestigious award given by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Kamlesh Sharma was presented with a cash prize of 3.50 lakh rupees along with a 20-gram gold coin.

Gayatri Rani Receives National Handicrafts Award

- Meenakari artist Gayatri Rani from Jaipur has

been honoured with the National Handicrafts Award.

- She was given this honour for special contribution in traditional Meenakari art, outstanding creativity and continuous dedication.
- This award was presented by President Droupadi Murmu at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

Deepali Sharma Receives President's Award

- National awards were presented at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on the occasion of National Divyang Day.
- Artist Deepali Sharma from Jaipur was honoured with the President's Award.
- Deepali is affected by hearing and speech impairment.
- She turned this challenge into her strength and expressed herself through art.
- Her work has become an inspiration in the field of empowerment of specially-abled persons.

National Maru Ratna Award 2025

- Maru Environment Conservation Institute (DECO), Jodhpur has announced the National Maru Ratna Awards for the year 2025.
- These awards are given for remarkable contributions in environmental conservation, social service and cultural fields.
- Sandeep Rathore from Udaipur and Dr. Dolly Mogra will be honoured with the Lifetime Maru Ratna Award.
- In addition, 12 other personalities will be presented with the Maru Ratna Award.
- Those being honoured include Inder Raj Jat, Seema Saini, Gunishin Kaur Bohra, Dr. Mahesh Chandra Sharma, Uday Purohit, Pramendra Bohra, Chetan Prakash Sen, Rajendra Prasad Vyas, Kapil Bohra, Raju Vyas, Prof. S.K. Purohit and Dr. Ajay Pal Singh.



Various Agreements/MoUs

MoU between Rajeevika and Manjari Foundation

- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajeevika) and Manjari Foundation on 11 December.
- This partnership is an important initiative in the direction of empowering, organising and making market-oriented women-led enterprises in rural areas.
- Under this MoU, 10-12 enterprises will be selected from across the state.

- The selected enterprises will be strengthened through a phased five-year training process, expert mentorship and market-based strategies.
- Under the cooperation model of Manjari Foundation, women enterprises will be trained in the following areas:
 - Institutional development
 - Leadership capacity building
 - Improvement in production quality
 - Packaging and branding
 - Digital marketing
 - Market linkages and statutory compliance

Letters of Intent Signed with IIT Hyderabad and Dhanbad

- On 9 December, on the occasion of Pravasi Rajasthani Day, two letters of intent related to mutual cooperation in the mining sector in Rajasthan were signed.
- An MoU was signed between IIT ISM Dhanbad and Rajasthan State Mineral Exploration Trust (RSMET) for scientific evaluation of mine dumps and tailings.
- Under this, scientific study of 80 identified mine dumps and tailings in Rajasthan will be conducted.
- This project includes geo-referenced database, mapping, sampling, extraction, mineralogical analysis and resource assessment.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) techniques will be used in the exploration of critical and strategic minerals.

MoU between Rajeevika and Suvarna Path Edutech Ventures

- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajeevika) and Suvarna Path Edutech Ventures Pvt. Ltd. (Kamla Poddar Group) on 2 December, 2025.
- Under this MoU, high-quality skill training will be provided to women associated with Rajeevika groups.
- Its objective is to develop a larger number of empowered, skilled and entrepreneurship-ready rural women.
- During this training, special attention will be given to improving the products of women from Self-Help Groups (SHG).
- Focus will be on product design, quality improvement, packaging in line with current market trends and innovation.



Sports

5th Khelo India University Games 2025 (KIUG 2025)

- These games were held from 24 November to 5 December, 2025 in 7 cities of Rajasthan including Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota and Bharatpur.
- Chandigarh University (Punjab) topped the medal tally with a total of 67 medals (42 gold, 14 silver and 11 bronze).

- Lovely Professional University (LPU), Punjab finished second with a total of 78 medals (32 gold, 24 silver and 22 bronze).
- Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar (Punjab) secured third place with a total of 72 medals (32 gold, 22 silver and 18 bronze).
- Organisers: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Sports Authority of India (SAI), MYAS, Association of Indian Universities (AIU), Rajasthan State Sports Council (RSSC)
- Participants: 4,448 athletes from 222 universities
- First Edition: The inaugural edition was held in Odisha from 22 February to 1 March, 2020.

Medal Tally

Rank	University	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total Medals
1.	Chandigarh University (Punjab)	42	14	11	67
2.	Lovely Professional University (Punjab)	32	24	22	78
3.	Guru Nanak Dev University (Punjab)	32	22	18	72
4.	Jain University (Karnataka)	30	9	11	50
5.	Guru Kashi University (Punjab)	15	15	18	48

- Shrihari Nataraj: Olympian Shrihari Nataraj of Jain University was the most successful athlete in swimming with 9 gold and 2 silver medals.

Rajasthan's Medal-Winning Universities

University	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Maharaja Ganga Singh University (Overall 25th)	2	2	1	5
Manipal University Jaipur (35th)	1	2	0	3
Shri JJT University, Jhunjhunu (41st)	1	1	2	4
Mohanlal Sukhadia University (46th)	1	1	0	2
Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University, Rajasthan (62nd)	1	0	0	1
Kota University (62nd)	1	0	0	1
Rajasthan University (91st)	0	1	3	4
Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Shekhawati University (92nd)	0	1	2	3
Bhupal Nobles University (94th)	0	1	1	2
Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, Bharatpur (100th)	0	1	0	1
Nirwan University, Jaipur (100th)	0	1	0	1
Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth (127th)	0	0	1	1
Shri Kallaji Vedic Vishvavidyalaya, Chittorgarh (127th)	0	0	1	1
Raj Rishi Bhartrihari Matsya University, Rajasthan (127th)	0	0	1	1
Jai Narain Vyas University, Rajasthan (127th)	0	0	1	1

- Universities of Rajasthan have won a total of 31 medals, including 7 gold, 11 silver and 13 bronze. These medals were won by 15 universities located in Rajasthan.

Shiksha Jain Wins US Kids Golf Indian Championship Title

- Rajasthan's young golf player Shiksha Jain won the title of the US Kids Golf Indian Championship held from 17-19 December 2025 in Manesar (Haryana).
- In this competition recognised by WAGR and JGS, Shiksha was honoured as the 'Best Female Golfer'.

Rollball World Cup: India Wins Titles in Both Categories

- In the 7th Rollball World Cup held in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) from 14 to 18 December, India won titles in both men's and women's categories.
- In the men's final, India defeated Kenya 11-10, while the Indian women's team registered a 3-2 victory in the final.
- Rajasthan players Mahipal and Preetika were also part of these winning teams.

Selection of 4 Cricketers from Rajasthan in IPL 2026

- In the IPL 2026 mini auction held in Abu Dhabi, several players from Rajasthan were bought by franchises.
- Wicketkeeper-batsman Kartik Sharma from Bharatpur was bought by Chennai Super Kings for 14.20 crore rupees.
- o Kartik Sharma's base price was 30 lakh rupees and he became the most expensive uncapped player in IPL history.
- Leg spinner Ravi Bishnoi from Jodhpur was bought by Rajasthan Royals for 7.20 crore rupees.
- o Ravi Bishnoi has played 1 ODI and 42 T20 international matches for India.
- Wicketkeeper-batsman Mukul Choudhary from Jhunjhunu was bought by Lucknow Super Giants for 2.60 crore rupees.
- Fast bowler Ashok Sharma from Jaipur was bought by Gujarat Titans for 90 lakh rupees.
- Note: In IPL 2026, Australian all-rounder Cameron Green was bought by Kolkata Knight Riders for 25.20 crore rupees, making him the third most expensive player in IPL history.

Golf: Ojswini Saraswat Wins National Title

- Rajasthan's young golf player Ojswini Saraswat won the title of the All India Ladies & Junior Girls Championship (Category C).
- The competition was organised at Rambagh Golf Club, Jaipur.
- This is Ojswini's 10th national title.

Golf: Ojswini Saraswat Wins DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship Title

- Rajasthan's 12-year-old junior golfer Ojswini Saraswat has won the title of the DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship held in Delhi.
- Ojswini is the youngest player to win this prestigious competition so far.
- Ojswini won both the Overall Championship and Gold Category Championship.

Weightlifting: Tanishk Sharma Wins Silver Medal in National Weightlifting Competition

- Rajasthan's Tanishk Sharma won a silver medal in the 69th School National Weightlifting Competition organised by SGFI in Arunachal Pradesh.
- This competition was organised for boys and girls in the under-17 age group.
- Tanishk lifted 117 kg in snatch and 154 kg in clean and jerk in the 98 kg weight category.
- He won the silver medal by lifting a total of 271 kg.
- In this, the Rajasthan team won a total of 2 silver and 1 bronze medals in the boys' category.
- In the entire competition, the Rajasthan team in the boys' category was second runner-up.

Hong Kong International Junior Squash Championship: Subhash Choudhary Wins Gold

- Rajasthan's Subhash Choudhary won the gold medal in the Hong Kong International Junior Squash Championship.
- This competition was held in Hong Kong from 19 to 24 December.
- Subhash defeated Singapore's Rehan Singh 11-4, 11-4, 11-5 in the final of the Under-17 Boys category.

Selection of Gajendra Singh in Indian Fencing Team

- Gajendra Singh from Jaipur has been selected in the Indian Fencing Team.
- He will represent India in the World Cup Fencing Championship to be held in Paris from 9 to 11 January 2026.
- This competition will be organised by Fencing D'Escrime.
- Gajendra Singh is an emerging player in the foil event.

National Para Shooting: Gautam Parik Wins 2 Medals

- Rajasthan's shooter Gautam Parik won 1 gold

and 1 silver medal in the 6th National Para Shooting Competition held in New Delhi.

- He won the gold medal in the Men's Youth category 10 metre air pistol (SH event), while he won the silver medal in the Men's Junior category.
- Note:** In the year 2024, Gautam won 3 gold medals in the national shooting competition.
- In this, Rajasthan's para shooter Rahul Sharma won the gold medal in the 10 metre air pistol SH-1 category.
- Anand Charan won 1 gold and 1 bronze in the 10 metre event and 1 bronze in the 25 metre event.
- Sushil Kumar Meena from Jaipur won the gold medal in the Sixth National Parashooting Championship.
 - He scored 86 points in the PT1 (Para Trap Standing – Lower Limb SG-L) event.
- Sushil Kumar has won the gold medal for the second consecutive time.
- Rajasthan's 13-year-old para shooter Saurabhi Sharma won 1 silver medal and 1 bronze medal in the Sixth National Para Shooting Championship.

Western India Squash: Rajasthan Wins 5 Medals

- Players from Rajasthan Squash Academy won a total of 5 medals, including 2 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals, in the 80th CCI Western India Squash Championship held in Mumbai.

Medal Winners

Player	Category	Medal
Dhairya Gogia	Boys Under-13	Gold
Amay Mahajan	Boys Under-9	Gold
Farid Andrabi	Boys Under-15	Silver
Divyanshi Jain	Girls Under-15	Bronze
Yuvan Verma	Boys Under-11	Bronze

Special Olympics Unified Basketball 3x3 World Cup

- India won the bronze medal in the Special Olympics Unified Basketball 3x3 World Cup.
- This competition was held from 3 to 7 December in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- The Indian team included 18-year-old special athlete Samyak Singhal from Rajasthan.
- Samyak has Down syndrome and has been training in basketball for the last 10 years.

Badminton: Sanskar Saraswat from Rajasthan Wins Guwahati Masters Title

- 19-year-old player Sanskar Saraswat from Jodhpur won the title in the Guwahati Masters Tournament.
- Sanskar has won a BWF World Super 100 Tournament for the first time.
- He is also the first player from Rajasthan to win a senior international badminton tournament.
- He defeated Manjunath 21-11, 17-21, 21-13 in the final match.

T20 Cricket: Highest Run-Scorer for Rajasthan

- Mahipal Lomror has become the player with the most runs in T20 cricket for Rajasthan.

Rajasthan's Top-5 Batsmen

Cricketter	Runs	Matches
Mahipal Lomror	1740	71
Ankit Lamba	1730	60
Rajesh Bishnoi	967	52
Deepak Hooda	899	25
Ashok Menaria	678	39

World Powerlifting Championship: Naresh Kumar Sharma Wins 2 Gold Medals

- Rajasthan's Naresh Kumar Sharma won two gold medals in the competition held in Karnal, Haryana.
- It was organised by the World Powerlifting Union and Raw Powerlifting Federation of India.
- Earlier, Naresh had also won gold in the International Powerlifting Championship held in Bhutan.

Asian Cup Korfball: Selection of Rajat Saini

- The Asian Cup Korfball competition was held in Sarangpur, Malaysia from 8 to 14 December 2025.
- Rajasthan's Rajat Saini has been selected in the Indian team.
- Rajasthan's Rajesh Saini has been appointed as the head coach of the team.
- Rajesh Kumar Saini has already been honoured with the Maharana Pratap Award for korfball.

Lavanya Kanwar Wins 7 Medals in 68th National Shooting Championship

- Rajasthan's shooter Lavanya Kanwar won a total of 5 medals in pistol events in the 68th National Shooting Championship 2025 held in New Delhi.
- These include 1 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze medals.

Gold for Rajasthan in National Shooting Championship

- Rajasthan's skeet shooter Sarosh Khan won the gold medal in the National Shooting Championship (Shotgun).
- Sarosh Khan achieved this success in the Masters category.
- The competition was organised at Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi.

Rajasthan State Flag Football Championship

- It was organised at Purnima University, Jaipur.
- In this, Jaipur team in boys category and Nagaur team in girls category became champions.
- In the boys final, Jaipur defeated Hanumangarh 33-18.
- In the girls category final, Nagaur defeated Jaipur 12-0 in a one-sided match.
- The Most Valuable Player award went to Madhavendra Singh from Jaipur in boys and Muskan from Nagaur in girls.

Silver Medal for Rajasthan in Federation Cup National Wushu

- Rajasthan's Sachin Choudhary won the silver medal in the 9th Federation Cup National Wushu Championship held in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh from 24 to 30 December.
- Sachin achieved this in the 90 kg weight category of the senior category.

Federation Cup Wushu Competition: Rajasthan Runner-Up in Overall Team Championship

- In the 9th Federation Cup Wushu Competition organised under the auspices of the Indian Wushu Association in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh, the Rajasthan Wushu team won the runner-up trophy in the overall team championship.
- Rajasthan's Shanshu women's category team won the team championship title with 33 points.
- Rajasthan's Shanshu men's category team won the runner-up trophy with 21 points.
- Rajasthan's Taolu men's category team won the runner-up trophy with 35 points.

Bronze Medal for Rajasthan in Junior National Kabaddi

- Rajasthan's junior girls kabaddi team won the bronze medal in the 51st Junior National Kabaddi Championship held in Kolkata.
- Rajasthan lost in the semi-final match against Haryana.
- Rajasthan's left corner player Nikita was

honoured with the title of "Best Defender of the Tournament" for outstanding performance.

68th National Shooting Championship

- In the 68th National Shooting Championship held in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan's team performed brilliantly in the 50 metre rifle - 3P women event.
- Senior National Team: Manini Kaushik, Sweety Choudhary and Monika Jakhar won the gold medal with a score of 1741.
- Senior Civilian Team: Sweety Choudhary, Monika Jakhar and Tejal Nathawat also won the gold medal.
- Jamna Puri from Jaipur won the bronze medal in the individual event in the 50 metre three position senior category, besides Jamna Puri won the gold medal in the team event.
- In the championship held in New Delhi, Rajasthan's Shikha won a total of 6 medals in team events. These include 3 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals.
- She won these medals in the 25 metre junior standard pistol, 50 metre free pistol and 10 metre air pistol events.

Gold for Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Darshana Rathore

- Rajasthan's Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Darshana Rathore have won the gold medal in the National Shooting Championship.
- Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Darshana Rathore defeated Uttar Pradesh's Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Ariba Khan 45-43 in the final.
- Both players won this medal in the senior skeet mixed team event.

Shooting: Mariyam Khan Wins Title in National Level 10 Metre Air Pistol Event

- Rajasthan's Mariyam Khan won the title in the 10 metre air pistol event in the sub-junior category in the national sub-junior competition held at Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
- She scored 542 out of 600.

Archery: Silver Medal for Rohit Kumawat

- The Senior National Archery Competition was held in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Rajasthan's Rohit Kumawat scored 340 out of 360 at 30 metre distance and won the silver medal.

National Football Championship □ Santosh Trophy

- The National Football Championship Santosh

Trophy commenced from 17 December 2025.

- This prestigious football competition is being organised at Vidyadhar Nagar Stadium.

Federation Cup Handball: Rajasthan Remains Runner-Up

- The 37th Federation Cup Handball Championship was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- Rajasthan's men's team achieved the runner-up position in the competition.
- In its final match, Punjab defeated Rajasthan 32–23.
- In the semi-final, Rajasthan defeated CRPF 32–24.

Bronze Medal for Manish in Asian Youth Para Athletics

- The Asian Youth Para Athletics Championship was held in Dubai (UAE) from 7 to 14 December.
- In this competition, Rajasthan's Manish Kumar Badgotya won the bronze medal in the 1500 metre race representing India.

2 Medals for Rajasthan in SGFI Chess Competition

- Rajasthan players won 2 medals in the SGFI Chess Competition held in Bengaluru.
- In this, national chess player Anuj Chomal won the gold medal in the individual event.
- Besides, Ashish Upadhyay from the state won the silver medal.

Bronze Medals for Shruti and Aradhya in Senior National Judo Competition

- Rajasthan players won 2 bronze medals in the Senior National Judo Competition held at Kuman Lampak Indoor Stadium in Manipur.
- In the women's 78 kg weight category, Shruti Uniyal defeated Maharashtra's Danika Shetty to win the bronze medal.
- In the men's 90 kg weight category, Aradhya Chopra defeated Viram of the Sashtra Seema Bal to win the bronze medal.

Bronze Medal for Sarika Yadav in Long Jump

- Rajasthan's Sarika Yadav won the bronze medal in the long jump event in the All India Civil Services Athletics Competition held in Patna.
- Sarika became the first woman player from Rajasthan to win medals for three consecutive times in this competition.

National PACE Ranking Table Tennis Championship

- Rajasthan's Sharanya Goyal won the silver

medal in the National PACE Ranking Table Tennis Championship held in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

- Besides, Aarav Acharya and Aarav Sahni won the bronze medal in the under-15 category of the championship.

Tulip Ojha Wins Gold in Senior National Taekwondo Tournament

- Jaipur's taekwondo player Tulip Ojha won the gold medal in the Senior National Tournament held in Hyderabad.

All India Shotgun Showdown Championship: Gold Medal for Surya Dev Singh Rathore

- Jaipur's shooter Surya Dev Singh Rathore won the gold medal in the Fourth All India Shotgun Showdown Championship.
- This competition was organised at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
- Surya Dev Singh Rathore scored 109/125 points in this competition.

Bronze Medals for Rajasthan in Both Categories in Sub-Junior Kabaddi Championship

- Rajasthan's boys and girls teams participated in the 35th Sub-Junior Kabaddi Championship held in Sonipat, Haryana.
- Rajasthan's girls team won the bronze medal with a brilliant performance.
- In its semi-final, the girls team had to face defeat by just 1 point from Tamil Nadu.
- Rajasthan's boys category team also won the bronze medal in the competition.
- In the boys category semi-final, Rajasthan team lost by 1 point to Chhattisgarh.

Satyaprakash Yadav Becomes Member of Indian Basketball Selection Committee

- Former captain of Indian basketball and former coach of men's and women's teams, Satyaprakash Yadav has been included in the selection committee of the Indian Basketball men's team.
- This committee will select potential players during the 75th Senior National Basketball Championship to be held in Chennai from 4 to 11 January.

Ball Badminton: Two Players from Rajasthan Selected in National Team

- Two players from Rajasthan have been included in the Indian team announced for the South Asian Ball Badminton Championship held in Patna, Bihar from 27 to 29 December 2025.

- In this, Deepak Singh from Karauli and Nikita Kanwar from Jaipur will represent the Indian contingent.
- Besides, Shaukat Ali Mansuri, secretary of Rajasthan Ball Badminton Association, has been appointed as the coach of the Indian team.

Squash: Selection of Rajasthan's Divyanshi Jain in Scottish-British Open

- Jaipur's emerging squash player Divyanshi Jain will participate in two prestigious competitions organised in Europe.
- The Scottish Open Squash Championship will be held in Edinburgh from 28 to 30 December 2025.
- Besides, the British Open will be held in Birmingham from 2 to 6 January 2025.
- Both tournaments are Platinum level events of the European Squash Federation.
- Divyanshi, the country's number one player in the under-13 category, has been given the top seed in the Scottish Open.
- Besides, Anahat Singh, a member of the Indian team that won the title in the Squash World Cup, will also participate in the British Open.
- Note: Divyanshi Jain has recently won the title of the under-13 category in the 17th Kuala Lumpur International Junior Open held in Malaysia.

Bronze for Rajasthan in SGFI National Basketball Competition

- Rajasthan team won the bronze medal in the 69th School National Basketball Tournament of the School Games Federation of India (SGFI) held in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

West Zone Inter University Women's Basketball: Third Place for Rajasthan University

- Rajasthan University achieved the third position in the West Zone Inter University Women's Basketball Competition held at LNIPE, Gwalior.
- Rajasthan's women's team defeated DAVV, Indore 64-61 in a close match.

Aradhya Mishra Wins Pro Tennis Under-10 National Tournament Title

- In Indian junior tennis, Aradhya Mishra won the title of the AITA Pro Tennis Under-10 National Tournament for the third time in one calendar year in 2025.
- In a total of 5 AITA under-10 national competitions organised in 2025, Aradhya was the winner in 3 and runner-up in 1.

- She won the title of the competition organised under the auspices of All India Tennis Association at Professional Tennis Club, Jaipur on 27-28 December.



Miscellaneous

Shaurya Tourism Circuit

- The Rajasthan government will develop the Shaurya Tourism Circuit to connect the tales of the state's brave soldiers and religious sites with tourism.
- This circuit was announced in Rajasthan's new Tourism Policy-2025.
- Under this, the Shaurya Tourism Circuit will be developed in border-area Jaisalmer, which will include Longewala War Museum and Tanot Mata Temple.
- Under this, routes leading to Longewala will be improved and facilities for tourists will be developed.
- Tourists will be able to see heroic tales related to the 1971 India-Pakistan war, tanks, ammunition and military equipment.

Pachpadra Refinery Project

- The refinery and petrochemical complex project with an annual capacity of 9 million metric tons under construction in Pachpadra, Balotra, Rajasthan will be inaugurated in January, 2026.
- This refinery has been constructed by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and the Rajasthan government.
- The financing ratio of HPCL and Rajasthan government in it is 74:26.
- Note: An MoU was signed between the state government and HPCL for the Rajasthan Refinery Project on 18 April, 2017.
- The initial estimated cost of the project was 43,129 crore rupees and it was proposed to be completed by 31 October, 2022.
- Its revised cost has increased to 79,459 crore rupees, with an increase of 6,522 crore rupees.

First Army Day Parade in Rajasthan

- For the first time in Rajasthan, the Army Day Parade will be organised in Jaipur on 15 January, 2026.
- This parade will be approximately 3 kilometres long on Mahal Road located in Jagatpura.
- About 15 thousand soldiers will participate in this parade and advanced missiles, tanks and robotic dogs will be displayed.

- Fighter aircraft and helicopters will also perform a fly-past in it.
- Jaipur will be the fourth city outside Delhi where the Army Day Parade will be organised.
- Various army-related programmes will be held in Jaipur from 5 to 15 January, 2026.
- An exhibition of the army's modern weapons and technology will be set up for the public at Bhawani Niketan School Ground.
- The parade will be organised on the lines of the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi.
- Defence Minister, CDS, chiefs of the three forces, Governor and Chief Minister will be present in the programme.

Complete Ban on New Mining Leases in Aravalli

- The central government has issued instructions to completely ban the issuance of new mining leases in the Aravalli hill range area.
- This step has been taken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to protect the ecology of Aravalli.
- The central ministry has asked the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) to expand the protected areas.
- In addition, instructions have been given to identify such new areas of Aravalli where mining should be banned.
- This ban will be in addition to the already banned areas and will apply uniformly across the entire Aravalli region.
- Its objective is to safeguard the geographical structure of Aravalli and stop uncontrolled mining.
- Note: In the Supreme Court decision, on 20 November, 2025, only landforms of 100 metres or more height were considered as Aravalli hills.
- Under this standard, more than 90 percent of Aravalli hills may fall outside the scope of protection.

Unveiling of New Logo of Lokayukta

- The logo of the Lokayukta was unveiled in the Rajasthan Secretariat on 24 December, 2025.
- The inscribed phrase "Nyayo Nitih Cha Shasanam" in the logo clearly indicates the objective of the Lokayukta institution.
- This emblem symbolises the path of honesty and good governance.



- The current Lokayukta of Rajasthan is Pratap Krishna Lohra.

Approval to Naunera and Parwan-Akawad Mega Drinking Water Projects

- On 9 December, the Rajasthan government issued work orders for the Naunera Mega Drinking Water Project and Parwan-Akawad Drinking Water Project under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Upon completion of these schemes, lakhs of people in Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar and Baran districts will get pure drinking water facility.
- The total cost of both projects will be 5,184 crore rupees.
- Both projects have been targeted to be completed by August, 2027.

Naunera Mega Drinking Water Project

- Tap water will be provided to every household in 749 villages and 6 towns of Kota and Bundi districts.
- Under the project, a 58.45 kilometre long raw water rising main pipeline will be laid.

Parwan-Akawad Drinking Water Project

- This will benefit Jhalawar, Baran and Kota districts.
- It will include 907 villages of Baran district, 184 villages of Sangod assembly constituency of Kota and 311 villages of Jhalawar district.
- Under this, a total of 661 kilometre long main transmission pipeline will be constructed.

Firozpur Feeder Reconstruction Project

- Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma laid the foundation stone of the reconstruction work of Firozpur Feeder on 5 December 2025.
- Through this project, more water from Harike Barrage will be brought into Firozpur Feeder.
- This arrangement will directly benefit Ganga Nahar.
- Farmers of 3.14 lakh hectares in Ganga Nahar area will be benefited.
- The total cost of this project is 647.62 crore rupees.
- In this, Punjab state's share is 379.12 crore rupees and Rajasthan's share is 268.50 crore rupees.
- Note: In Rajasthan budget year 2024-25, a provision of 200 crore rupees was made for this project.

■ Harimau Shakti 2025 ■

- The joint military exercise of the armies of India and Malaysia was held from 5-18 December, 2025.

- This exercise was organised at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner.
- Soldiers of both countries practiced modern warfare techniques and tactical coordination in desert conditions.
- From the Indian Army side, Dogra Regiment and from Malaysia side, 25th Battalion of Royal Malaysian Army participated.

E-Registration Rules Implemented in Rajasthan

- After the implementation of e-registration rules in Rajasthan, registration of documents can be done through online medium.
- Under this new arrangement, citizens will be able to avail registration facility 24 hours.
- The e-registration process can be completed from anywhere in Rajasthan.
- Online time slot booking facility has been provided for this registration.
- For changes in revenue records, one copy of the registered document will be sent to the Tehsildar office.
- The Finance Department has made the Rajasthan E-Registration Rules effective from 2 December, 2025 while implementing the amendments made in the Registration Act.
- These rules provide clear explanation of various words and processes related to e-registration.
- After the implementation of the new rules, the general public will not need to go to the Registrar office.
- If any deficiency is found in these documents, the Registration Department will register online objection.
- As soon as the registry is approved, its copy will be made available on the e-mail of the concerned person.

Approval to Three Major Projects by RIICO

- Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) has approved three projects related to solar waste recycling and defence manufacturing sector.
- This will promote defence production and solar waste disposal in Rajasthan.

Defence Manufacturing Project

- Land has been allotted to Imperial Armoury Pvt. Ltd. in Udaipur Khurd area of Kishangarh for establishing a defence unit.
- The company will establish a state-of-the-art defence production plant here with an investment of 162 crore rupees.

Solar Waste Recycling Project

- Undeveloped land has been allotted to V-7 Evon InfoTech company in Devka village of Barmer district.
- The company will establish a solar waste scrapping and recycling unit here.
- An investment of 100 crore rupees is proposed in this project.

Raj Bhavan Renamed to □Lok Bhavan□

- As per the orders issued by Governor Shri Haribhau Bagde, the name of Raj Bhavan has been changed to 'Lok Bhavan'.
- An official notification has been issued on the initiative of the Governor in this regard.
- This notification has come into effect from 1 December, 2025.

High-Level Investigation Committee Formed on Corruption in MLA Fund

- The Rajasthan government has ordered an investigation into the corruption case in the MLA Local Area Development Fund (MLA-LAD).
- In addition, to ensure transparency, MLA-LAD accounts of Khinvsar, Hindaun and Bayana assembly constituencies have been frozen.
- For this, a 4-member high-level committee has been constituted.
- The chairman of this committee is Chief Vigilance Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary, Home) Bhaskar Savant.

Other Members of the Committee:

- ◆ Governance Secretary, Panchayati Raj – Jogaram
- ◆ Governance Secretary, Finance (Budget) – Rajan Vishal
- ◆ Special Governance Secretary, Home Department – Manish Goyal (Member Secretary)
- This committee will complete the investigation in 15 days and submit the report to the Chief Secretary.

State Government□s Initiative to Promote Rainwater Harvesting, Irrigation and Organic Fertilisers

- The Rajasthan government has announced the construction of 25,000 farm ponds and 10,000 diggis for rainwater conservation and irrigation expansion.
- The government has decided to establish 50,000 permanent vermicompost units under the Govardhan Organic Fertiliser Scheme.
- The objective of these schemes is to increase the irrigated area and ensure life-saving irrigation for crops.

- This will increase crop production and farmers' income.
- The Rajasthan government has announced incentive amount for small and marginal farmers for farming with bullocks.
- Facility for tours and training outside the state will also be provided to farmers.
- Fencing will be done around the fields of 75,000 farmers over approximately 30,000 kilometre perimeter to protect crops from nilgai, wild animals and stray cattle.
- Rs 250 crore has been provided to the Agriculture Department for effective implementation of all budget announcements.

Extension of Time Limit for Compassionate Appointment Applications

- The Rajasthan government has decided to increase the time limit for compassionate appointment applications for dependents of deceased government employees.
- This application period has been increased from 90 days to 180 days.
- Rajasthan Civil Services (Compassionate Appointment of Dependents of Deceased Government Servants) Rules, 1996 will be amended to implement this decision.

Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority and Jaipur Mobility Plan

- A detailed roadmap up to 2055 has been prepared to deal with growing traffic challenges in Rajasthan.
- This plan will guide the city's transport system for the next three decades.
- The draft of Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) has been presented in Jaipur Development Authority (JDA).
- This draft has been prepared keeping in mind the transport needs up to 2055.
- Proposal has been made to upgrade the existing Traffic Control Board for better coordination among various agencies in traffic management.
- Under this, provision has been kept for the formation of Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority.
- Special emphasis has been given in this draft plan on the expansion of Jaipur Metro.
- It includes proposals for Phase-2 (Prahladpura to Todi Mod) along with Phase-3 and Phase-4.
- Target has been set to develop a total 129.55 kilometre long metro network by 2055.
- Proposal for 245 kilometre new bus network has also been included to increase city connectivity.

- 25 grade separators (flyovers and underpasses) have been proposed at major traffic junctions for relief from jams.
- Under this, proposal has been made to start footpath network, cycle track and public e-bike sharing system at metro stations.

Hariyalo Rajasthan Environment Conclave

- Hariyalo Rajasthan Environment Conclave was organised by Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) in Jaipur on 18 December 2025.
- An exhibition based on Rajasthan's green economy was inaugurated in this conclave.
- On this occasion, the poster on the theme 'Meri Life – Sustainable Lifestyle for Environment' was also released.

Major Initiatives of Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB)

- Auto-renewal consent system implemented for industries to promote ease of doing business.
- Air pollution control measures in 50 urban areas; Rs 13.50 crore approved for this.
- NABL accreditation to central and 14 regional laboratories.
- Early warning system developed for air quality forecasting for Jaipur.
- Installation of IoT-based machines for plastic waste management.
- New regional offices started in Jaipur and Jodhpur.
- Number of white category industrial areas increased from 104 to 877.

Hub-and-Spoke Model Implemented for Free Testing Services

- Under the National Health Mission, hub and spoke model has been started in Rajasthan to strengthen free testing services.
- Through this, more than 100 special tests including troponin, cancer marker, biopsy, vitamin, thalassemia, haemophilia, hepatitis, thyroid will be available free of cost in government hospitals.
- Under this arrangement in the state, 42 mother labs, 137 hub labs and 1333 spokes have been identified, out of which 11 mother labs and 400 spokes were inaugurated on 15 December 2025.
- In this system, the entire process from sample collection to report issuance will be recorded online, so that patients can get the report sitting at home.

Initiative of Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation (RCDF)

- Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation has prepared a fund of 1,000 crore rupees.

- Through this fund, milk processing capacity will be increased in 24 milk unions of the state.
- This initiative will develop capacity to process 70 lakh litres of milk daily.
- Annual turnover of cattle feed in Rajasthan has increased from 8,000 crore rupees to 10,000 crore rupees per year.
- RCDF has set a target to reach processing capacity to 70 lakh litres per day in the next two years.

Launch of Ranking of PM SHRI Schools

- Rajasthan Chief Secretary V. Srinivas unveiled the ranking of 639 PM SHRI schools established under the Prime Minister School for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme on 20 December 2025.
- This ranking has been prepared on the basis of 18 prescribed standards.
- Its objective is to evaluate the quality and performance of schools.

□Sanatan Sanskriti Ki Atal Drishti□ Book

- This book is written by Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani.
- It was released on 24 December 2025 at Vice President Enclave in New Delhi.
- This book is based on the life and thoughts of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

115 GW Capacity System to be Developed in Rajasthan

- Union Power Minister Manohar Lal said that a 115 GW capacity system will be developed in Rajasthan under the central transmission network.
- Rajasthan is first in the country in both solar energy and overall renewable energy capacity.
- 6,000 MW battery energy storage system will be developed in the state.

Training on Avian Botulism and Avian Influenza

- A two-day training programme on avian botulism and avian influenza disease management was organised on 5-6 December, 2025.
- This programme was organised under the joint auspices of Animal Husbandry Department, Forest Department, Sambhar Lake Management Agency and Wildlife Trust of India.
- For the first time in Rajasthan, such a training programme on this subject was organised.

Amendment in Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Secretariat Rules

- Cabinet approval has been given to the amendment in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Secretariat (Recruitment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 1992.

- Under this, the posts of Marshal, Additional Marshal and Deputy Marshal can now be filled not only from Rajasthan Police Service but also from military and paramilitary forces officers.
- Appointment on these posts will be made through deputation, transfer or special selection.
- According to the amended provisions, officers below 45 years of age can be appointed on the posts of Marshal, Additional Marshal and Deputy Marshal.
- For the post of Assistant Marshal, minimum 3 years experience on the post of Sub-Inspector in Rajasthan Subordinate Police Service and at least 1 year continuous work experience in Legislative Assembly Secretariat is mandatory.



Conferences, Meetings, Festivals

Pravasi Rajasthani Day 2025 Celebrations

- The first Pravasi Rajasthani Day-2025 was organised in Jaipur on 10 December, 2025.
- **Objective:** To provide new opportunities for connection and participation to Rajasthanis settled globally with the state.
- In its inaugural session, the coffee table book “Commitment in Action” was released, which contains details of the progress of MoUs.
- In it, announcement of 14 new chapters was made to strengthen ties between the diaspora community and the state:
 - 9 chapters abroad,
 - 5 chapters in various states of India.
- The Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit will be organised again in 2026.
- A “National and International Pravasi Rajasthani Affairs Department” has been constituted in the state for non-resident Rajasthanis.
 - This department will promote dialogue, investment, cooperation and cultural connection.
- In addition, the “Pravasi Rajasthani Policy 2025” was released on 10 December 2025.
- Vedanta Group Chairman Anil Agarwal announced the establishment of the country’s largest fertiliser plant in Rajasthan.
- Ground breaking of investment proposals worth 1 lakh crore rupees was done in the state. After the Rising Rajasthan Summit, the total grounded investment has increased to 8 lakh crore rupees.

Digifest□TiE Global Summit 2025

- The Rajasthan Digifest-TiE Global Summit will be organised from 4 to 6 January 2026 at JECC located in Sitapura, Jaipur.
- This programme will be organised jointly by the state government and TiE Rajasthan.
- This international level event is being organised in Jaipur for the first time.
- In this summit, approximately 10 thousand global entrepreneurs, 500 investors and more than 100 speakers will participate.



Regional AI Impact Conference

- This conference will be organised under the AI Impact Summit.
- It will be held on 6 January, 2026 at JECC, Jaipur.
- The theme of this conference has been kept as “Democratizing AI for Public Good”.

Shilpgram Festival□2025

- It was organised in Udaipur.
- A 10-day fair was organised by the West Zone Cultural Centre.
- About 1700 artists and craftsmen from 22 states of the country participated in it.
- Diverse handicrafts were displayed at 400 stalls of 800 craftsmen.

Sharad Festival 2025

- Sharad Festival was organised from 29 to 31 December, 2025 in Mount Abu (Sirohi).
- This programme was organised by the Tourism Department and District Administration Sirohi.

Western Rajasthan Industry Handicraft Festival□2026

- The inauguration of Western Rajasthan Industry Handicraft Festival-2026 took place in Jodhpur on 26 December, 2025.
- This festival was organised by Laghu Udyog Bharati.

- Its objective is to make western Rajasthan a global centre for handicraft industry.
- Note: The Rajasthan government has issued identity cards to 1,197 artisans.

□SHIELD 1.0□

- The national hackathon “SHIELD 1.0” was organised at Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI), Jaipur on 29-30 December, 2025.
- The full name of SHIELD is “Smart Hackathon for Intelligence, Enforcement, Law & Defence”.
- Its main objective is to find technology-based practical and effective solutions for contemporary challenges faced by intelligence agencies and law enforcement institutions.
- Special focus was given in this hackathon on important topics like digital forensics, prevention of cyber crime, artificial intelligence and surveillance intelligence.

Kota-Hadoti Travel Mart

- Kota-Hadoti Travel Mart will be organised for three days from 2 to 4 January, 2026.
- The inauguration of this event will take place from Chambal River Front in Kota, while other programmes related to Travel Mart will be held at Art Hill City Park.
- This Travel Mart will serve as a medium to present the tourism potential of Hadoti region at national and international level.
- For the first time in Kota, such a Travel Mart is being organised under the strategy to develop various areas as new tourism centres.

Rajasthan Power Sector Digital Conclave

- This conclave was organised on 23 December, 2025 at Constitution Club, Jaipur.
- Its objective is to provide better, reliable and quality services to electricity consumers in the long term.
- A roadmap for digital transformation of Rajasthan's energy sector was prepared through the conclave.
- Under this, works worth approximately 700 crore rupees related to GIS-based mapping of discom assets, transformer health monitoring, cyber security, security operation system and network operation system have been proposed.

State-Level Farmers□ Conference

- On the occasion of completion of two years of the Rajasthan government, a state-level farmers' conference was organised in Medta (Nagaur) on 23 December, 2025.

- On this occasion, foundation stone laying and inauguration of various development works worth 351 crore rupees were done in Nagaur district.
- In the Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme, provision has been made that insurance companies will have to pay interest to farmers in case of delay in claim payment.
- Note: The amount given to farmers in Rajasthan under the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi has been increased to 9 thousand rupees.

Sambhar Festival

- Sambhar Festival will be organised in Sambhar, Jaipur from 27 to 31 December, 2025.
- This festival will be organised under the joint auspices of the Tourism Department and Jaipur District Administration.

Kumbhalgarh Festival 2025

- Under the joint auspices of the Tourism Department and District Administration Rajsamand, the 19th three-day Kumbhalgarh Festival was inaugurated at Kumbhalgarh Fort on 1 December, 2025.
- This festival was organised with the objective of promoting Rajasthan's cultural heritage, folk art and tourism.

West Zone Regional Judicial Conference in Jaisalmer

- The West Zone Regional Conference was organised in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan on 13-14 December.
- This conference was organised by the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal in collaboration with Rajasthan High Court and Rajasthan State Judicial Academy.
- The Chief Justice of India also participated in it.
- About 200 judges and judicial officers including judges of the Supreme Court and Rajasthan High Court participated in it.
- Important topics like digital media and censorship, cyber crime, growing impact of artificial intelligence in the field of justice were discussed in it.

Rajasthan Digifest 2026: Teaser and Hackathon Launch

- The teaser of Rajasthan Digifest and Digifest Hackathon was launched on 12 December, 2025.
- A provision of 15 crore rupees was made for Rajasthan Digifest in the budget 2025-26 by the state government.
- Digifest will be organised in Jaipur in January, 2026 in collaboration with TiE Global Summit.

- This event will provide opportunities to youth in technology, innovation, entrepreneurship and global networking.

iStart Rajasthan: Progress of Start-up Ecosystem

- Through iStart Rajasthan, more than 7,200 start-ups have been registered so far.
- These start-ups have received investment of more than 1,000 crore rupees.
- 3 Centres for Advanced Skilling are being established in the state to make youth skilled in new technologies.

SARAS Raj Sakhi National Fair 2025

- SARAS Raj Sakhi National Fair 2025 was inaugurated by Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma on 18 December, 2025.
- This fair was organised at Shilp Gram, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur.
- The duration of the fair has been fixed from 18 December, 2025 to 4 January, 2026.
- This fair was organised by Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajjeevika).
- The fair was sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- The theme of the fair has been kept as 'Bharat – Ek Sutradhar'.
- More than 15,000 unique products were displayed in this event, which reflect India's cultural and craft diversity.

Innovation Day□Start-ups Expo

- On the occasion of completion of two years of the Rajasthan government, 'Innovation Day- Start-ups Expo' will be organised in Jaipur on 12 December, 2025.
- Exhibition of start-ups will be the main attraction in this expo and selected start-ups under the iStart Rajasthan programme will be provided funding cheques.



Reports and Indices

In terms of number of tourists, Rajasthan remained in fifth place

- In terms of the number of tourists, Rajasthan is in fifth place in the country.
- In the year 2024, about 23 crore domestic tourists visited the state, while approximately 2 lakh foreign tourists toured.
- The contribution of the Tourism and Trade sector to Rajasthan's GDP was 12.78 percent.

Top-5 Tourism States of the Country (based on tourist arrivals)

Rank	State	Domestic Tourists	Foreign Tourists
1	Uttar Pradesh	64.6 crore	3 crore
2	Tamil Nadu	30.6 crore	3 crore
3	Karnataka	30.4 crore	2 crore
4	Andhra Pradesh	29 crore	3 crore
5	Rajasthan	23 crore	2 lakh

Position of States in India's Exports

- According to the RBI's Handbook of Statistics on Indian States, the share of the top 10 states in the country's total exports has increased to 91.2 percent.
- In the year 2021-22, this share was 84 percent.
- During the same period, the combined share of other states has decreased from 16.6 percent to 8.2 percent.
- Between financial years 2017-18 and 2024-25, India's total exports have increased from 294.8 billion dollars to 389.2 billion dollars, indicating an increase of approximately 32 percent.
- Gujarat is in first place in the country in terms of exports. During the year 2022-25, Gujarat's share increased to 31 percent, while it was 21.9 percent in 2018-21.
- Currently, Gujarat's total exports are 116.33 billion dollars, in which Jamnagar district has the highest contribution.
- Maharashtra's export share has decreased to 16.7 percent and its exports are 65.85 billion dollars.
- Tamil Nadu is in third place with exports of 52.07 billion dollars.
- Madhya Pradesh has 7.82 billion dollars and Chhattisgarh has 1.99 billion dollars.
- Rajasthan's exports are 7.16 billion dollars.

Latest Figures Related to Rajasthan's Exports

- According to the data released by the central government, continuous increase has been recorded in Rajasthan's exports.
- During April to October, 2024, the state's total exports were 52,673.94 crore rupees.
- In April to October, 2025, it increased to 58,029.33 crore rupees.
- During this period, there has been an increase of approximately 10% in exports.

- In the year 2022-23, Rajasthan's total exports were 77,771.37 crore rupees, while in the year 2024-25, it increased to 97,171.68 crore rupees.
- Thus, Rajasthan's exports in 2024-25 were approximately 25% more compared to 2022-23.

Rajasthan's State Level Cleanliness Ranking

- The Rajasthan government has released the state level ranking by giving marks to the cleanliness of cities through the toolkit of the Autonomous Governance Department.
- In this, cities have been divided into 5 categories and evaluated.
- The state government will release the cleanliness ranking of cities every month.
- The objective of this is to develop continuous improvement and competition in cleanliness and sanitation in municipal bodies.

Population Category	City	Marks
More than 10 lakh	Greater Jaipur	33.66
3 lakh to 10 lakh	Bhilwara	52.16
50 thousand to 3 lakh	Bharatpur	45.70
20 thousand to 50 thousand	Nathdwara	56.33
Less than 20 thousand	Badi Sadri	44.34

AIIMS Jodhpur Secures Second Place in the Country in Kayakalp Incentive Scheme

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jodhpur has secured the second position in the country in Group B category in the central government's Kayakalp Incentive Scheme 2024-25.
- This scheme has been launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- Under this, the institute has also been provided an incentive amount of 1 crore rupees for this achievement.
- This award has been given for impeccable cleanliness of the hospital premises, strict arrangements to protect patients from infection, scientific disposal of biomedical waste and providing an accessible environment for patients.

India Tourism Compendium-2025 Report

- The Union Ministry of Tourism has released the ranking of states based on the arrival of domestic and foreign tourists in the year 2024-25.
- In the India Tourism Compendium-2025 report, Rajasthan has been placed among the top-5 states in the country in terms of tourist arrivals.
- In this report, Abhaneri Stepwell of Dausa district has also been included among the top 5 popular monuments in the country. In the year 2024, 1.16 lakh tourists visited here.
- According to the report, 23 crore domestic tourists visited Rajasthan in the year 2024, which is 7.8 percent of the country's total domestic tourism.
- During the same period, 20 lakh foreign tourists visited Rajasthan, with the state's share in foreign tourism being 9.90 percent.

Top-5 States in Domestic Tourist Arrivals

Rank	State	Domestic Tourists (in crore)
1	Delhi	64.0
2	Tamil Nadu	30.6
3	Karnataka	30.4
4	Andhra Pradesh	29.27
5	Rajasthan	23.8

Top-5 States in Foreign Tourist Arrivals

Rank	State	Foreign Tourists (in lakh)
1	Maharashtra	37
2	West Bengal	31
3	Uttar Pradesh	22
4	Gujarat	22
5	Rajasthan	20

Rajasthan's Position in Solar and Renewable Energy

- Rajasthan's total renewable energy capacity has reached 41,189 megawatts.
- In the last two years, a remarkable increase of 17,820 megawatts has been recorded in this capacity.
- In addition, Rajasthan's installed solar energy capacity has reached 35,337 megawatts, with an increase of 17,325 megawatts in the last two years.
- Under the PM-KUSUM scheme, 1,048 solar power plants have been installed in Rajasthan

in the last two years.

- The combined production capacity of these plants is about 2,345 megawatts.

Rajasthan's 27% Share in Solar Energy and 16% in Renewable Energy

- Rajasthan's total renewable energy capacity has reached 41,189 megawatts.
- The state's solar energy capacity has reached 35,337 megawatts.
- Rajasthan's share in the country's total solar energy capacity is 27.2%.
- The state's share in total renewable energy has become 16.43 percent.
- An increase of 17,820 megawatts has been recorded in renewable energy capacity.
- Of this, the contribution of solar energy was 17,326 megawatts.
- Renewable energy projects with a capacity of 45 gigawatts are under progress in Rajasthan.

PM KUSUM Scheme: Jodhpur Discom's Solar Capacity Exceeds 2000 Megawatts

- Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), there has been a remarkable increase in solar energy capacity in the Jodhpur Discom area.
- Combining KUSUM-A and KUSUM-C components of Jodhpur Discom, the total solar capacity has exceeded 2017.33 megawatts.

KUSUM-A Component

- Under KUSUM-A, 240 solar plants have been installed so far.
- The combined capacity of these plants is 336.25 megawatts.

KUSUM-C Component

- Under KUSUM-C, 639 solar plants have been installed.
- Their total capacity is 1681.08 megawatts.

Indian Seed Cooperative Society Limited (BSSL): Rajasthan Tops the Country

- In terms of membership of cooperative societies in BSSL, Rajasthan has reached the first position in the country.
- A total of 32,727 cooperative societies across the country have become members of BSSL so far.
- In Rajasthan, 6,120 cooperative societies have received membership, which is the highest in the country.
- Gujarat is in second place with 5,524 societies.
- Maharashtra is in third place with 4,969 societies.

Voter List Special Intensive Revision□2026 (SIR□2026)

- Under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026 programme, 100% digitization of the voter list has been successfully completed in Rajasthan.
- Rajasthan has become the first state in the country where the voter list has become completely digital.
- More than 97% voter mapping work has been completed in Rajasthan.
- Only about 3% voters need to submit documents in the claims-objections phase.



Apps and Portals

Launch of 'Legal Officer Portal'

- Law and Legal Affairs Minister inaugurated the 'Legal Officer Portal' in the Government Secretariat on 23 December, 2025.
- Through the portal, secure and effective management of data related to personnel of the law service will be possible.
- This will make the transfer process and departmental correspondence simpler, more transparent and easier.
- Departmental services will be made available to personnel on a single platform.
- In the future, applications for leave, NOC and other works will also be done through this portal.

Medal Winner Grant Portal

- Rajasthan State Sports Council has launched the Medal Winner Grant Portal for players.
- On this portal, players will get all information related to their grants.
- Necessary improvements have been made to make the portal simpler and more user-friendly.
- The updated version of the portal is available on the Sports Council website and www.rssc.in.

E-Swasthya Samvad

- The Medical Education Department of Rajasthan has launched the digital dialogue platform e-Swasthya Samvad.
- Its objective is to effectively implement health schemes and programmes in Rajasthan, increase transparency and strengthen administrative efficiency.
- In this, officers of the Medical Education Department and RajMES, doctors, nursing and other staff, students and the general public will be able to communicate together.
- E-Swasthya Samvad will promote quick, transparent and solution-oriented dialogue.
- This programme will be organised every Tuesday and Thursday in two phases.

2. National Affairs

Viksit Bharat □ Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) (VB G RAM G)

- The central government introduced the 'Viksit Bharat — Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Gramin)' bill to replace the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA).
- The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on December 18, 2025.
- It was approved by President Droupadi Murmu on 21st December 2025.
- The new Bill aims to strengthen employment, livelihoods and infrastructure in rural areas more effectively.
- Under this bill, a provision has been made to guarantee 125 days of employment per year to rural households. (MGNREGA had a legal guarantee of 100 days)

Highlights of the VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025

- The State Governments will notify the scheme within 6 months of the enactment of the Bill.
- In this, a clear provision has been made to give unemployment allowance in case of non-payment within the stipulated time limit.
- The tasks will be categorised into four distinct categories, namely Water Security, Rural Infrastructure, Livelihood Infrastructure and Disaster Resilient.
- Use of biometric systems and geotagging technology has been proposed to enhance transparency.
- The new bill also includes a provision to set up a grievance redressal mechanism at various levels.
- In order to ensure the availability of workers during agricultural operations, the state governments can suspend the scheme for a maximum of 60 days.
- The developed Gram Panchayat Schemes (VGPPs) prepared by the Gram Panchayats will be linked to PM Gati Shakti.
- Additional 50 days of employment in calamity or drought affected areas and up to 150 days for Scheduled Tribe families in some forest areas have been mentioned.

Centre-State Funding

- The Bill proposes changes in Centre-State cost sharing.
- The ratio of 60:40 is proposed for States and Union Territories with legislature.
- The ratio of 90:10 (Centre: State) has been fixed for the northeastern states, Himalayan states and some union territories with legislature.
- There is a provision for 100% central funding for Union Territories without a legislature.

□The Viksit Bharat Shiksha Pratishthan Bill, 2025 □

- The central government introduced the 'Viksit Bharat Shiksha Pratishthan (VBSA) Bill, 2025' in Parliament on 15 December 2025 with the aim of comprehensive reforms in the higher education system.
- The bill has been referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for detailed deliberations.
- The Bill aims to empower Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) through better coordination and standardization.
- The Bill was introduced under Entry 66 of the Union List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.
- The Bill seeks to repeal the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act 1956, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act, 1987 and the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) Act, 1993.

Structure of Viksit Bharat Education Foundation (VBSA)

- The VBSA will be a 12-member apex umbrella commission, which will become the highest authority for higher education regulation.
- This institution will replace institutions like the University Grants Commission (UGC), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE).
- **Chairman:** Appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of the Central Government.
- In addition, the Chairpersons of the 3 Councils will be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Search-Selection Committee.

- Members: Maximum 12 members, including Chairpersons of the three Councils, Secretaries of Higher Education, two professors from State Higher Education Institutions and 5 subject experts.

3 Special Conferences under VBSA

1. **Developed India Education Regulatory Council:** Will monitor coordination and compliance with regulatory standards.
2. **Developed India Education Quality Council:** Will act as an independent accreditation authority.
3. **Developed India Education Standards Council:** Shall determine minimum academic standards and ensure uniformity.

Right to Disconnect Bill 2025

- Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MP Supriya Sule introduced the Right to Disconnect Bill 2025 in the Lok Sabha on 6 December 2025.
- It aims to protect employees from digital fatigue and establish a balance between work and personal life.
- The bill gives employees the legal right to refuse to respond to work-related calls, messages or emails after office hours or during holidays.
- Under this clause, if any organization violates these rules, a penalty of up to 1% of the total salary amount of the employees may be imposed on it.
- The Bill provides that this rule will apply to all types of digital communication, such as calls, emails, video meetings and messages, and in case of an emergency, the employee and the employer can decide the rules by mutual consent.
- If an employee works after office hours, it is also suggested to pay him overtime at the normal pay rate.

SHANTI Bill

- The central government has approved the 'Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI)' bill on 12 December 2025.
- The Bill aims to open up India's civil nuclear energy sector to regulate private participation.
- This initiative is crucial towards achieving India's target of 100 GW of nuclear power capacity by 2047.
- At present, India's installed nuclear power capacity is about 8 GW.
- Under this, private and foreign partnership will be enabled by amending the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

- Nuclear material production and the management of radioactive waste will remain under the control of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- Private companies will be allowed minority equity investment up to 49% in nuclear power projects.
- It is proposed to set up an independent Nuclear Safety Authority and a Specialized Tribunal.
- These institutions will ensure security, accountability and transparency in line with IAEA standards.

Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Mission

- The government has announced the SMR R&D Mission to increase nuclear capacity.
- An outlay of ₹20,000 crore has been earmarked for this mission.
- The government aims to commission at least 5 indigenous SMRs by 2033.

The Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- The Lok Sabha has approved the Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- The Bill allows for a significant increase in excise duty and cess on tobacco and its products.
- It aims to maintain the tax burden even after the GST compensation cess period ends.
- This is not a new tax, but a restoration of former excise rights.
- Currently, the total tax burden on cigarettes is around 53%.
- Under this amendment, the excise duty limit on cigarettes has been increased from ₹200–₹735 per thousand to ₹2,700–₹11,000 per thousand cigarettes.
- The duty on chewing tobacco and hookah tobacco has been increased from 25% to 100% and 40% respectively.
- The duty on smoking mixtures has been increased from 60% to 325%.
- The main goal of this law is tobacco consumption reduction and public health protection.

□The Insurance for All, Protection of All (Insurance Laws Amendment) Bill, 2025□

- The Parliament passed the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Insurance Laws Amendment) Bill, 2025 on 17 December 2025.
- The Bill seeks to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation of India Act, 1956 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India Act, 1999.
- The Bill aims to expand insurance coverage, promote ease of doing business and improve regulatory oversight and governance.

Reform/ Provision	Explanation
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)	Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of up to 100% has been allowed in insurance companies.
License of Insurance Intermediaries	Provision for one-time licensing for insurance intermediaries has been made and a system of suspension of license has been introduced instead of cancellation of license.
Share Capital Transfer	The limit for prior regulatory approval on share capital transfer for insurers has been increased from 1% to 5%.
Foreign Reinsurance Branch	The net owned fund requirement for foreign reinsurance branches has been reduced from Rs 5,000 crore to Rs 1,000 crore.
Autonomy of LIC	LIC has been given the autonomy to open regional offices in the country and operate its overseas offices in accordance with the laws of the respective countries.
Policyholder Protection	A Policyholder Education and Protection Fund will be set up to protect the interests of policyholders and increase awareness about insurance.
Data Protection	The collection and protection of policyholders' data has been mandated in line with the DPPD Act, 2023.
Regulatory Governance	Standard Operating Procedure and mandatory consultation mechanism are being put in place to strengthen regulatory governance.
Powers of IRDAI	IRDAI has been empowered to recover undue profits availed by insurers and intermediaries.
Penalties & Fine	Provisions relating to penalties and fines have been rationalized and their standards have been clarified.

PESA Rules approved in Jharkhand

- The Government of Jharkhand has approved the draft rules for implementation of the PESA Act, 1996 in the State.
- With this, Jharkhand has become the ninth state in India to take steps towards notifying PESA Rules.

PESA Act, 1996

- PESA stands for Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- This law was brought to implement the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment in the tribal areas of the Fifth Schedule.
- It aims to give tribal communities the right to self-governance through Gram Sabhas.
- The Act is currently applicable to the Scheduled Areas of 10 States.
- About 45% of the area of Jharkhand comes under the Fifth Schedule.
- In the absence of rules at the State level, the Gram Sabhas had not been able to get adequate administrative and financial powers so far.

Release of the Indian Constitution in Santhali language

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, released the Indian Constitution translated into Santhali language at Rashtrapati Bhavan on December 25, 2025.
- The release was made on the occasion of Good Governance Day and completion of 100 years of development of the Ol Chiki script in 1925 by Pandit Raghunath Murmu.

- The Constitution of India, translated into Santhali language, has been published for the first time by the Legislative Department of the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- **Note:** The Santhali language was included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution through the 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act in the year 2003.
- This language is spoken by a large number of tribal communities in Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Bihar.

Supreme Court's verdict on Aravalli Hills

- The Supreme Court, in its November 20, 2025 judgment, laid down a uniform legal definition for the Aravalli Hills and the Aravalli mountain range.
- It aims to ensure uniformity in environmental protection and administration across different states.

Definition of Aravalli Hill

- Under this, any landform in the notified districts which is 100 meters or more above the surrounding level will be considered as Aravalli Hills.
- This will include the slope and all the geographical features associated with it, regardless of the slope.

Definition of Aravalli Series

- A group of two or more such hills, located within 500 meters of each other, will be called the Aravalli Range.

- It will also include interconnected areas identified by scientific mapping and buffer analysis.
- Due to the inconsistency of regulations in different states in the country, illegal mining and environmental degradation were taking place in the Aravalli region, which necessitated a uniform definition.

Supreme Court stays earlier order related to Aravalli hills

- The Supreme Court has stayed its earlier order related to the Aravalli hills.
- The court has said that there is a need for clarity and scientific re-evaluation of the definition of the Aravalli ranges.
- The bench headed by Justice Surya Kant delivered the verdict on December 29, 2025.
- The main reason for the ban was the ambiguity about the identity and extent of the Aravalli Hills.
- The Supreme Court ordered the formation of a new committee of independent and non-bureaucratic experts.
- The committee will reassess the environmental impacts of mining in the Aravalli region.
- The committee will clarify the scientific definition of 'hills' and 'mountain ranges'.
- The previous recommendations and the old order will be pending till the report of this committee comes.

□Shakti Scholars: National Commission for Women□ Young Research Fellowship

- The National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched the 'Shakti Scholars: National Commission for Women' Youth Research Fellowship.
- The fellowship aims to encourage policy-oriented research on women-centric issues in India.
- It invites applications from students and young researchers for structured and multidisciplinary research on women's rights and empowerment.
- Under this, selected researchers will be given a research grant of ₹1 lakh for a period of six months.

Eligibility & Selection Process

- Indian citizens between the ages of 21 and 30, who have a minimum bachelor's degree, are eligible to apply.
- Preference will be given to candidates pursuing postgraduate or higher coursework.

VijAIpatha: Pilot Artificial Intelligence (AI) Education Initiative Launched

- The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs launched a pilot artificial intelligence (AI) education initiative named 'VijAIpath' at Hosapete Taluk in Vijayanagara district of Karnataka on 20th December 2025.
- **VijAI:** In this, Vij belongs to the Vijayanagar district (where the pilot project was launched) and includes "AI".
- **Patha:** This is a Sanskrit/Kannada word meaning path.
- It is a pilot AI education project launched in collaboration with the Government of India and the private sector.
- The project is being run by the Cyient Foundation.
- This includes the support of the Education Department of the Government of Karnataka.
- In the pilot phase, AI and STEM labs have been set up in five government schools in Hospet taluk.
- It aims to equip students of government schools with artificial intelligence and advanced technological skills.
- It will prepare students for AI, robotics, coding and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education and students for the digital and tech-based economy of the future.
- More than 2,000 students from classes 6 to 10 will benefit from this initiative.

India becomes largest global market for AI models

- According to a report by Bank of America Securities, India is the world's largest hub of active users of AI applications.
- According to this report, India ranks top in daily and monthly active users for leading AI platforms such as ChatGPT, Gemini, and Perplexity.
- India has become the world's largest market in terms of active user base of AI apps.
- Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel are likely to enhance the support and integration of AI-based services.

□Project Mahadev□

- The Maharashtra government launched a state-level sports initiative named 'Project Mahadev' at the Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai.
- The project focuses on the identification and development of football talented players under the age of 13.

- **Implementing Partners:** Maharashtra Institution for Transformation (MITRA), Village Social Transformation Foundation (VSTF), Western India Football Association (WIFA), CIDCO and the Department of Sports, Government of Maharashtra.

Diwali declared as an Intangible World Heritage Site by UNESCO

- UNESCO released its updated list of intangible cultural heritage on 10 December 2025, which includes the **Diwali celebration**.
- The 20th meeting of UNESCO's Inter-Governmental Committee for Intangible Heritage was hosted in New Delhi from 8-13 December 2025.
- This UNESCO list records cultural traditions and practices that cannot be physically touched, but can be experienced.
- This list aims to preserve such traditions and pass them on to future generations.
- In this Intangible Heritage List, 16 cultural traditions of India have been recorded.

16 Intangible World Heritage of India

Year	Heritage
2025	Diwali
2023	Garba of Gujarat
2021	Kolkata's Durga Puja
2017	Kumbh Mela
2016	Yoga
2016	Nowruz
2014	Traditional Brass and Copper Craft of Utensil Making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab, India
2013	Sankirtana of Manipur
2012	Buddhist Chanting of Ladakh
2010	Chhau Dance
2010	Kalbelia Folk Songs and Dances (Rajasthan)
2010	Mudiyettu
2009	Raman
2008	Ramlila
2008	Kutiyattam
2008	Tradition of Vedic Chanting

Patanjali University: India's First Yoga-Ayurveda Cluster Centre

- Patanjali University, located in Haridwar (Uttarakhand), has become India's first Yoga

and Ayurveda-focused cluster centre under the Gyan Bharatam Mission (GBM) of the Ministry of Culture.

- This initiative aims to promote conservation, research, and digitization of ancient Indian knowledge systems.
- Patanjali University has received this recognition as the first university based on Yoga and Ayurveda.
- This recognition was formally granted through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- Patanjali University has so far preserved more than 50,000 ancient texts.

Bharat Taxi: Starts from January 2026

- Bharat Taxi is going to start full operations from January 2026.
- It is an indigenous and driver-owned ride-hailing platform.
- It aims to challenge existing apps like Ola, Uber, and Rapido as alternative models.
- Bharat Taxi is operated by Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited.
- The platform prioritizes the well-being of drivers and a fair income.

Bharat Taxi

- Bharat Taxi is an app-based ride-hailing service.
- It began pilot operations in December 2025 in New Delhi and parts of Gujarat.
- Its full launch is planned in the national capital Delhi in January 2026.
- It will be the largest driver-owned mobility network in the world.

Indian Railways' first Hydrogen Train

- Indian Railways has embarked on a significant project to run the first hydrogen-powered train.
- This train has been developed as a pilot model.
- The project is based on the standards set by the Research, Design and Standards Organization (RDSO).
- A special hydrogen plant has been planned at Jind in Haryana for its operation.
- The plant will produce green hydrogen through an electrolysis process.
- This hydrogen train has been completely designed and developed in India.
- The train is currently the world's longest hydrogen train with a total of 10 coaches.
- It is the most powerful broad-gauge hydrogen train, generating a capacity of 2400 kW.

Subansiri Lower Hydro Power Project: Launch of Unit-2

- The commercial operation of Unit-2 (250 MW) of the Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project in Arunachal Pradesh was started virtually on 23rd December 2025.
- It is India's largest hydropower project with a capacity of 2000 MW (8×250 MW).

Key Features

- It is based on the run-of-the-river scheme and will produce about 7,422 million units of renewable electricity annually.
- The project will provide power to 16 states of the country.
- Free power will be provided to Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.
- The North-Eastern Region will receive a total of 1,000 MW power from this project.
- It includes the highest concrete gravity dam in northeast India at 116 meters, which will also help in flood control and water management.

Subansiri Lower Project

- The project is located at Gerukamukh on the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border.
- The project is being developed by the state-run National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC).
- It is financed through 70% equity and 30% debt.
- The Subansiri River is also known as the 'Golden River' and is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra River.

Microsoft to invest \$17.5 billion in India

- Microsoft announced an investment of \$17.5 billion for AI infrastructure, skill development, and sovereign tech capabilities in India.
- This is the company's largest investment in Asia to date.
- This is in addition to the \$3 billion that the company announced earlier this year.

Focus Areas

- The India South Central Cloud Region is being built in Hyderabad, which will be Microsoft's largest hyperscale data center in India.
- Apart from this, the existing data center regions of Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune will also be made more efficient.
- Microsoft will integrate AI across the two platforms in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Employment.
- Microsoft will train 20 million people in AI and digital skills by 2030.

- The ADVANTA(I)GE India program has so far trained 56 lakh people and provided employment or startup opportunities to 1.25 lakh.
- Apart from this, Amazon is investing \$12.7 billion and Google is investing \$ 15 billion in data centers.

Three new airlines approved by the Central Government

- The central government has approved three new airlines to increase competition in the aviation sector.
- The names of these airlines are Shankha Air, Al Hind Air and FlyExpress.
- Recently, the central government has issued a No Objection Certificate (NOC) to the three companies.
- These airlines will start flight operations in the first quarter of 2026.
- The target is to add 20 to 25 aircraft to their fleet in the next 2 to 3 years.
- Shankha Air belongs to Uttar Pradesh and Al Hind Air belongs to Kerala.
- The aim is to provide more choice and better services to the passengers.

Bureau of Port Security (BoPS)

- The central government will set up the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS) to ensure risk-based security of all ports and ships.
- BoPS will be constituted as a statutory body under Section 13 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025.
- The bureau will function under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).
- The BoPS will play a regulatory and supervisory role for the security of ships and port facilities.
- The BoPS will be headed by Pay Level-15 Indian Police Service (IPS) officers.
- This institution is based on the model of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
- Under the BoPS, a dedicated cybersecurity department will be set up to protect the IT and digital infrastructure of the ports.

Truck Mounted Attenuator (TMA): The Country's First Highway Safety Shield

- India's first Truck Mounted Attenuator (TMA) system has been launched in Pune.
- This system is designed for the safety of laborers during road construction and repair work on the highway.

- A TMA is a safety device, which is mounted on the back of the truck and parked behind the work zone.
- This system absorbs the energy of the collision when a high-speed vehicle collides.
- The crash cushion behind it gradually reduces the speed of the vehicle.
- This keeps both the driver and the workers working on the road safe.
- This system is considered the standard of highway safety in more than 30 countries.
- Its implementation in India is expected to reduce deaths and serious injuries in highway work zones.

Laying of foundation stone of Fertilizer Plant in Assam

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Ammonia-Urea Fertilizer Plant at a cost of ₹10,601 crore at Namrup in Dibrugarh district of Assam on 21 December 2025.
- The project is being set up under the Assam Valley Fertilizer and Chemical Company Limited (AVFCL).
- The plant will produce 12.7 Lakh Metric Tonnes of urea per annum.
- The project will boost self-sufficiency in the fertilizer sector, farmers' welfare, and industrial development of North-East India.

Supreme Court's verdict on involuntary narco tests

- Recently the Supreme Court of India has clarified that forced or involuntary narco tests are unconstitutional.
- The court set aside the Patna High Court's order in the year 2025, which allowed narco tests in the case of Amlesh Kumar vs. State of Bihar (2025).
- The Supreme Court reaffirmed the constitutional protection of the right and personal liberty against self-imposition.
- These rights are protected under Article 20(3) and Article 21.
- Narco test is an investigative technique in which the accused is given sedative drugs such as sodium pentothal.

Child Marriage Free India Campaign

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a 100-day special awareness campaign.
- The campaign will run from 27th November 2025 to 8th March 2026.

- The aim is to strengthen the Child Marriage Free India Movement with wider public participation.
- Schools, colleges, religious leaders and local bodies will be involved in the campaign.

The new name of the PMO □ □Seva Tirtha□

- The central government has renamed the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) as "Seva Tirtha".
- Further, the names of "Raj Bhavan" and "Raj Niwas" in the States have been changed to "Lok Bhavan" and "Lok Niwas" respectively.
- These changes were made with an aim to reflect the spirit of service and democratic values in governance.
- The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) will now shift from South Block to the modern complex Seva Tirtha-1.
- Seva Tirtha-2 and Seva Tirtha-3 will house the Cabinet Secretariat and the office of the National Security Advisor.
- **Note:** Earlier "Rajpath" was renamed as Kartavya Path, and PM Aawas Marg was renamed Lok Kalyan Marg.
- The Prime Minister's Office was earlier called the Prime Minister's Secretariat and is currently headed by Principal Secretary Pramod Kumar Mishra.

Dulhasti Stage-II Hydroelectric Project

- The Environment Clearance System of the Central Government has approved the proposed Dulhasti Stage-II Hydroelectric Project on Chenab River in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- India, after the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, has been accelerating the development of infrastructure in strategic river basins.

Technical Characteristics of the Project

- The total installed capacity of the project will be 260 MW. (Two units of 130 MW each)
- From its first phase, the water will be diverted through a 3,685-metre-long tunnel.
- An agreement for this project was signed between NHPC and Government of Jammu and Kashmir in January 2021.

Digital Tracking System of Weapons for the First Time in the Country

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the country's first centralized digital weapons database.
- It is an analytics-based system, allowing the previous record of a weapon to be revealed instantly.

- The system will provide a technological edge to combat terrorism and organized crime.
- This database was launched at the NIA's Anti-Terror Conference.
- This system will enable real-time monitoring of the movement of weapons.
- The official name of the database is “**Lost, Looted and Recovered Firearms**”.
- It will have a common record of stolen, looted, missing and recovered weapons across the country.

□**Organised Crime Network Database (OCND)**□

- India has launched the first-ever national-level ‘Organised Crime Network Database (OCND)’.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched an AI-powered national database to curb organised crime and terrorism.
- It aims to control criminal gangs that repeatedly threaten internal security.
- The NIA has developed in collaboration with the state police forces and the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID).

India's first standard for bomb disposal systems

- For the first time in India, an official standard for bomb disposal systems has been issued.
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has notified a standard called IS 19445:2025 in this regard.
- This standard lays down the rules for testing the ability of devices to provide protection against bomb explosions and shells.
- IS 19445:2025 is India's first bomb disposal system standard.
- This standard has been developed at the request of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and the Terminal Ballistic Research Laboratory (TBRL).
- The purpose is to determine how effectively bomb disposal devices can prevent the impact of explosions and splinters.
- This standard will apply to 3 major bomb disposal systems: Bomb Blanket, Bomb Basket and Bomb Inhibitor.
- This standard clarifies the test equipment, test set-up, preparation for conditions and evaluation criteria.
- It lays down a scientific and repeatable procedure for measuring the impact of explosions and bars.
- This standard is voluntarily adoptable. Its implementation will bring uniformity in the assessment.

□**Quality Passport**□ **initiative for indigenous products**

- The Central Government has decided to issue ‘Quality Passports’ to promote quality indigenous products.
- This passport will be for products manufactured in the country and will serve as a certificate at the time of sale abroad.
- An in-principle consensus has been reached on this proposal and now its framework is being worked out.

The concept of a quality passport already exists in many countries of the world.

- Many countries of the world demand quality passports from imported products.
- In countries such as the US, UK, Canada, Japan, and Australia, there is a special emphasis on quality standards.
- In countries such as France and Germany, confirmation of the quality, safety and environmental standards of the products is mandatory for sale.

Gujarat gets □Tiger State□ status again

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has officially declared Gujarat a tiger state after 33 years.
- The decision was taken after finding evidence of continued presence of tigers in the Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary.
- NTCA has confirmed the inclusion of Gujarat in the All India Tiger Estimation (AITE) 2026.
- Gujarat has now become the only state in India where all three big cat species—lion, tiger and leopard—are found naturally together.
- **Note:** Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tigers in India.
- The tiger reserve with the highest tiger population in India is the Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand).
- Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve is the largest tiger reserve in India.

IGI Airport Delhi — India's first 'Water Positive'□ airport

- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI Airport) has become the first high-capacity airport in India to get the status of “Water-Positive Airport”.
- This status was conferred at the Water Innovation Summit 2025 under the NITI Aayog-CII framework.
- Being water-positive means that the airport returns more water to the environment through water recharge or conservation than it uses in its operations.
- The airport is managed by the GMR Group.

3. Economy

RBI's Fifth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Review

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting of the Reserve Bank of India was held in Mumbai from 3rd to 5th December 2025 and was chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- In this, the MPC decided to cut the key policy rate repo rate by 0.25% (25 basis points).
- After this cut, the repo rate has become 5.25%, SDF 5.00%, and MSF and Bank Rate 5.50%.
- The reduction in the repo rate will increase the pressure on banks to reduce the interest rate and this may reduce the EMI of home loans, vehicle loans, and other loans.
- This decision will help in increasing liquidity in the financial system and stimulate economic activity by reducing borrowing costs for consumers and businesses.

India becomes the fourth largest economy in the world

- India has overtaken Japan to become the fourth largest economy in the world.
- The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reached \$ 4.18 trillion (Rs 347 lakh crore).
- According to the central government, at the current pace, India can overtake Germany to come in third place in 3 years.
- India's GDP is projected to be \$7.3 trillion by 2030.
- India's GDP has registered a growth of 8.2% in the second quarter of the year 2025-26.

Gross Performing Assets (NPAs) declined to 2.31% as of March 2025

- India's banking sector has reached the most stable position in the last two decades.
- As of March 2025, Gross Performing Assets (NPAs) declined to 2.31% and Net Gross Performing Assets (NPAs) have declined to 0.52%.
- This is the lowest level in 20 years.
- The gross NPAs of public sector banks decreased from 9.11% in 2021 to 2.58% in 2025.
- Domestic deposits nearly tripled between 2015 and 2025, from ₹88.35 lakh crore to ₹231.90 lakh crore.
- Debt also nearly tripled from ₹66.91 lakh crore to ₹181.34 lakh crore in the same period.
- The ratio of risk-weighted assets (CRAR) to

capital increased from 12.94% in 2015 to 17.36% in 2025.

National Frequency Allocation Plan 2025 (NFAP-2025)

- The scheme came into force at the national level from 30th December 2025.
- This scheme defines the use of radio spectrum from 8.3 kHz to 3000 GHz.
- NFAP-2025 is the guiding document for all stakeholders associated with spectrum management.
- It has arrangements for 5G, additional mid-band spectrum for future 6G networks.
- The plan also supports satellite services, in-flight and maritime connectivity.

Key Provisions

Field/ Technique	Description
International Mobile Tele-communications (IMT)	Identification of 6425-7125 MHz band enhances availability of mid-band spectrum for 5G, 5G advanced and future 6G networks
Satellite-Based Services	Allocation of Ka, Q and V bands for high-throughput Geostationary Orbit (GSO) satellites and large non-GSO satellite constellations
In-Flight and Maritime Connectivity (IFMC)	Provision of additional spectrum to ensure seamless broadband access in air and sea transport
Emerging Technologies	Support for Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communications, LEO/ MEO satellite services, and extended broadband connectivity solutions

India's first incubator-based deep-tech venture capital fund

- IIT Bombay's SINE launched India's first incubator-based deep-tech venture capital fund.

- The name of this fund is Y-Point Venture Capital Fund.
- This fund will have a total capital of ₹250 crore.
- Objective: To provide risk capital to early-stage (preseed and seed) deep-tech startups.
- These startups will be selected from IIT Bombay and other top research institutes.
- This will support around 25-30 startups, each with an investment of up to ₹15 crore.
- Focus Areas: AI, Advanced Computing, Manufacturing, Space & Defense Technology, Nuclear Technology, Climate Technology and Healthcare.
- The fund aims to promote high-impact deep-tech solutions.

₹1 trillion Open Market Operation (OMO) Procurement Announced

- The Reserve Bank of India has recently announced ₹1 trillion worth of Open Market Operations (OMO) purchases and \$5 billion dollar-rupee swaps.
- The announcement came after the rupee crossed the 90 per dollar level.

Open Market Operation (OMO)

- Open market operation is the RBI's principal monetary instrument used to control liquidity in the banking system.
- In OMO purchases, the RBI buys government bonds from banks and this brings cash into the system.
- It aims to keep interest rates stable, provide sufficient liquidity, and maintain smooth credit flows in the economy.
- In the sale of OMO, the RBI absorbs excess cash by selling bonds.
- This step has been taken to address the situation as investment outflows by foreign investors and sharp depreciation of rupee have reduced the availability of rupee in the banking system.
- The weakening of the rupee increases the demand for the dollar, foreign investors withdraw money, and short-term interest rates rise, creating a cash crunch in the banking system.

□CoalSETU Window Policy

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the 'CoalSETU' policy.
- Under this policy, a new "CoalSETU Window" has been added to the NRS Linkage Auction Policy of 2016.
- It aims to make coal available for industrial use and export through long-term auction.

- Domestic industrial consumers will be able to participate in the auction for long term linkage under this window.
- Coking coal is not covered under this window.
- The old restrictions related to end-use have been removed.
- Under this, industries will now be able to use coal for various industrial activities or exports.

Tata Group and Intel sign semiconductor cooperation agreement

- Tata Electronics and Intel Corporation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for semiconductor manufacturing and packaging cooperation in India.
- The agreement focuses on the use of the chip fabrication unit being built in Dholera (Gujarat) and the OSAT facility being developed in Guwahati (Assam).
- This MoU aims to promote joint collaboration on Intel chip manufacturing, packaging and testing, multi-chip packaging technology, and AI-based personal computing solutions.
- This initiative will strengthen the semiconductor and AI ecosystem in India and advance India's role in the global supply chain.

Gyan Bharatam Initiative - Preservation and Digitization of Manuscript Heritage

- India has launched a national programme called 'Gyan Bharatam'.
- Gyan Bharatam aims to survey, document, preserve and digitize ancient manuscripts.
- This initiative was announced in the Union Budget 2025-26.
- It will be implemented by the Ministry of Culture.
- The central government has earmarked a budget of ₹491.66 crore for this project for the time period 2025-31.
- Under this programme, more than 1 crore manuscripts of the country will be preserved and a national digital repository will be created.
- For this initiative, the government has signed agreements with 31 institutions, including 19 cluster centres and 12 independent centres.

NBFC license from RBI to subsidiary of Aryaman Financial

- The subsidiary of Aryaman Financial Services Limited (AFSL) has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an NBFC.
- The company will then be able to formally function as a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).
- RBI has registered the company as a Type-II NBFC – Non-Deposit Taking Investment and Loan Company (NBFC-ICC).

- Under this category, the company cannot accept public deposits.
- Apart from this, the company can carry out activities related to investment, loans and credit.

Aryaman Financial Services Limited (AFSL)

- AFSL is a Category-I merchant banker registered with SEBI.
- The company's headquarters are located in Mumbai.

The world's largest retail fast-payment system.

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has considered the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) as the world's largest retail fast-payment system.
- This is mentioned in the report 'Growing Retail Digital Payments (The Value of Interoperability)'.
- According to ACI Worldwide's 2024 report, UPI accounts for approximately 49% of global real-time payment transactions and tops the global list with 129.3 billion transactions.
- Brazil ranks second with 14% market share and 37.4 billion transactions, while Thailand ranks third with an 8% share and 20.4 billion transactions.
- China ranks fourth with a 6% share and 17.2 billion transactions.

Unified Payment Interface (UPI)

- It is a real-time digital payment system that NPCI has developed under the direction of RBI.
- Through this, users can pay instantly from any bank account by UPI ID or QR code.

Goldilocks phase

- The Goldilocks economy is a situation where rapid and sustainable growth, low and stable inflation, and a clear policy direction coexist.
- Generally, inflation increases during rapid growth or growth slows down due to efforts to control inflation, so it is considered very rare to find a balance of both.
- India's economy has entered this phase.
- In this situation, the economy grows rapidly, inflation remains low and policies are stable and reliable, creating a balanced and favorable economic environment.
- The global economy is currently facing challenges such as trade wars, geopolitical tensions and weak currencies, while India has demonstrated economic stability and resilience.
- This phase boosts business confidence, makes credit cheaper, attracts foreign investment and strengthens India's economic image by improving real incomes.

Sahakar Sarathi Initiative

- Sahakar Sarathi is a joint initiative of NABARD and the Ministry of Cooperation.
- The objective is to provide an integrated digital infrastructure for cooperative banks and rural finance institutions to work on modern banking technology.
- Under this program, cooperative banks will get access to internet banking, UPI, AEPS, core banking system, e-KYC, loan tracking and other digital services.

Cooperative Insurance Program

- The Cooperative Insurance Program was launched by the Central Government on 5th December 2025.
- It will cover health, life, agriculture, accidents and other areas.
- Under this, three youths will be appointed as insurance ambassadors in each village.

SEBI PaRRVA System

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched the PaRRVA (Past Risk and Return Verification Agency) system for transparent scrutiny of claims related to investment advice.
- The system will provide independent verification of past returns and risk-linked claims of SEBI-registered intermediaries.
- PaRRVA was developed in collaboration with Care Ratings and NSE and launched as a pilot project on 8th December 2025.
- It will provide authenticated data of claims from registered investment advisors, research analysts and algorithmic trading service providers.
- Through this system, investors will get more reliable information and the impact of exaggerated claims will be reduced.

Approval to Highway Infra Investment Trust

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Highway Infra Investment Trust as an InvIT.
- The approval will provide an opportunity to domestic and retail investors to invest in National Highway projects.
- This scheme facilitates investment in roads like mutual funds.
- This will give investors a share in the income from toll tax.
- This includes SBI, PNB, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and other major financial institutions.

4. International Affairs

India and New Zealand announce a Free Trade Agreement

- India and New Zealand announced the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on 22nd December 2025.
- The negotiations commenced on 16th March 2025.

Key Provisions

Category	Key Provisions	Description/ Effect
Market Access (Exports)	Zero Fee Market Access	Under the agreement, 100% of India's exports will get entry into New Zealand with zero duty.
Tariff Liberalization	Liberalization in 70% of the sectors	India has offered tariff liberalization, covering about 95% of bilateral trade.
Labor-intensive sector	Enhancing Competitiveness	Textiles, apparel, pharmaceuticals, leather, footwear, engineering goods, automobiles and agricultural products will benefit.
Services	Generous service offers	New Zealand has offered its most generous services to India so far.
Service Area Coverage	118 Sectors, 139 Sub-Sectors	Includes IT, professional services, education, telecommunications, construction, tourism, travel and audio-visual services.
Service Providers	New Global Opportunities	There will be increased international opportunities for Indian service providers and skilled professionals.
Student Mobility	Tasks after study	Provisions have been made for post-study work for the students.
STEM Students	Working Duration	Undergraduate/Post Graduate in STEM is allowed to work for 3 years and PhD researchers are allowed for 4 years.
Visa Provisions	Professional and Working Holiday Visas	Provision of 5,000 temporary employment entry visas and 1,000 working holiday visas.
Beneficiary professions	Multi-Region Coverage	IT, Engineering, Health, Education, Construction, AYUSH, Yoga, Culinary and Cultural Sectors.
Investment	Long-term commitment	New Zealand committed to boost US\$ 20 billion investment in India over 15 years.
Use of Investments	Make in India Support	Support manufacturing, infrastructure, services, innovation and job creation.
Agricultural Cooperation	Productivity Partnership	Collaboration through Centres of Excellence for Apple, Kiwi and Honey.
Farm Security	Limited Market Access	Ensures safety of domestic farmers with quotas and minimum import prices.
Sensitive Products	Out of the market	Excludes dairy, coffee, sugar, edible oils, spices and other sensitive products.
Manufacturing Inputs	Fee-free access	Zero duty on inputs such as wood logs, coking coal and metal scrap.
Trade Facilitation	Regulatory Reforms	Improved regulatory cooperation, simplified customs procedures and reduction in non-tariff barriers.

- Bilateral trade between India and New Zealand reached around \$1.3 billion in 2024-25, while the total trade in goods and services stood at around \$2.4 billion in 2024.

- This is Oman's first bilateral trade agreement with the US since the 2006 FTA.
- India-Oman bilateral trade is over USD 10 billion and has huge potential for expansion.

5 साल में भारत की 7वीं फ्री इंड डील



Visit of Prime Minister Modi to Oman

- Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Oman from 17-18 December 2025.
- The year 2025 was the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.
- The following Agreements and Memorandum of Understanding were signed:
 - Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)
 - MoU in the field of Maritime Heritage and Museum
 - MoU in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors
 - MoU in the field of Higher Education
 - MoU between Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Confederation of Indian Industry
 - Adoption of the Joint Vision Document on Maritime Cooperation
 - Executive Programme for Cooperation in Millets Cultivation and Agri-Food Innovation

India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed

- India and Oman have signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) on 18th December 2025.
- The agreement strengthens India's economic and strategic partnership in the Gulf region.

Key Features of CEPA

- Oman has offered zero duty on 98.08 per cent of its tariff lines, covering 99.38 per cent of India's export value.
- Tatkal charges have been eliminated on 97.96% of tariff lines.
- This will benefit the textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, engineering, agriculture, pharma, automobile and MSME sectors.
- India has given a discount on 77.79% of the tariff lines, covering 94.81% of the value of imports from Oman.
- Sensitive areas such as dairy, tea, coffee, tobacco, precious metals, footwear and sports goods are excluded.
- The intra-corporate transfer quota for Indian professionals has been increased from 20 per cent to 50 per cent.
- The tenure of Contract Service Providers has been increased from 90 days to two years.
- 100 per cent FDI has been allowed for Indian companies in key services sectors.
- Traditional Medicine (AYUSH) and Medical Value Travel have been promoted.
- Provision has been made for mutual recognition in pharma approval, GMP inspection, halal certification and organic standards.
- Institutional mechanisms have been put in place to address non-tariff barriers.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi conferred with Oman's highest civilian award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the Order of Oman, Oman's highest civilian honor.
- With this honor, Prime Minister Modi has so far received the highest foreign citizen honor of 29 countries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Jordan

- Prime Minister Modi arrived in Jordan on the first leg of his three-nation tour.
- This was the first full bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Jordan in 37 years.

5 MoUs signed between India and Jordan

- The two countries signed an agreement on technical cooperation in the field of new and renewable energy.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed for cooperation in the field of Water Resources Management and Development.

- 3. The twin city agreement was signed between Petra and Ellora.
- 4. The Cultural Exchange Programme was renewed from 2025 to 2029.
- 5. Letter of Intent agreed on sharing successful digital solutions for digital transformation.

- 7. Special short-term courses for Ethiopian students and professionals in the field of Artificial Intelligence under ITEC program
- 8. India will support the capacity building of Mahatma Gandhi Hospital in Addis Ababa in the areas of maternal health care, neonatal care.

Petra-Ellora Heritage Agreement

- India and Jordan have entered into a twin heritage agreement between their UNESCO World Heritage Sites Petra and Ellora caves.
- The agreement was signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Jordan.
- Petra is called the "Rose City" because of the pink sandstone cliffs.
- Petra has been the capital of the Nabataean Empire since the fourth century BC.
- The site is partly formed and partly carved into rocks and is surrounded by mountains and valleys.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Ethiopia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Ethiopia as part of a bilateral visit on 16-17 December 2025.
- This was Prime Minister Modi's first visit to Ethiopia.
- He addressed a joint session of the Ethiopian Parliament.
- Prime Minister Modi visited the Science Museum, Maitri Park and Maitri Square in Addis Ababa.
- India and Ethiopia elevated their relations to the level of Strategic Partnership.
- A total of 8 MoUs and Agreements were signed between India and Ethiopia.
 - 1. Elevating Bilateral Relations to 'Strategic Partnership'
 - 2. Agreement on Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters
 - 3. MoU to set up a data centre at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia
 - 4. Implementing Arrangement (MoU) for Cooperation in Training of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
 - 5. MoU signed on debt restructuring with respect to Ethiopia under G20 Common Framework
 - 6. Doubling of scholarships for Ethiopian research students under ICCR Scholarship Programme

PM Modi conferred Ethiopia's highest civilian honour

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with Ethiopia's highest civilian honour, 'The Great Honour Mark of Ethiopia', on 16 December 2025.
- The award was presented by the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali, at a special ceremony held in Addis Ababa.
- Prime Minister Modi has become the first global leader to receive this honor.

23rd India-Russia Annual Summit 2025

- Russian President Vladimir Putin visited India on 4-5 December 2025.
- He attended the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit in New Delhi along with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- In this meeting, 16 agreements were signed in various sectors including defence, trade, education, media, health and culture.
- India will facilitate a 30-day free e-tourist visa and group visa to Russian nationals, while Russia has agreed to join the International Big Cat Alliance.
- In this, both countries adopted the "Program 2030" and set a target of \$ 100 billion bilateral trade by 2030.

Transport and Connectivity

- The Indian Pentagon agreed to enhance cooperation on the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), the Chennai-Vladivostok Sea Route and the Northern Sea Route.
- In addition, training of specialists for polar waterways operations is planned.
- Emphasis was laid on taking forward the ongoing cooperation between the two countries to improve railway technology and connectivity.

Cooperation in the Russian Far East and the Arctic region

- Under the 2024-2029 framework, it was agreed to increase investment and trade in sectors such as energy, mining, agriculture, and maritime transport.

- India expressed its desire to play the role of observer more actively in the Arctic Council.

Civil nuclear and space cooperation

- Agreed to enhance cooperation in nuclear energy, including fuel cycle, Kudankulam project and high-tech applications.
- This is in line with India's target of achieving 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.

Military cooperation

- It was agreed to further strengthen military cooperation, joint research, co-development and co-production of advanced systems.
- Both countries condemned the Pahalgam (2025) and Crocus City Hall (2024) incidents.

RELOS: India-Russia Logistics Agreement

- It is a bilateral military logistics agreement between India and Russia.
- The full name of RELOS is Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support.
- The agreement allows the armies of both countries to use each other's military facilities for refuelling, repair, supply, berthing and maintenance.
- Russia officially approved the deal ahead of President Vladimir Putin's visit to India.
- Under this, India will get access to more than 40 naval and air bases of Russia, including important bases in Eurasia, Arctic and Pacific region.
- The agreement extends the geographical reach of India's military operations beyond the Indo-Pacific to the Arctic and Northern Sea Routes.
- India has so far signed military logistics agreements with 7 major countries:

Pax Silica Initiative

- Pax Silica is a strategic initiative led by the US.
- The name Pax Silica is inspired by the Latin words 'Pax' (peace, stability, and long-term prosperity) and 'Silica' (the base element of silicon).
- It aims to build secure, prosperous, and innovation-driven silicon and AI supply chains.

Participating countries

- A total of 9 countries are involved in this initiative:
 1. United States
 2. Japan
 3. Republic of Korea
 4. Singapore
 5. Netherlands
 6. United Kingdom
 7. Israel
 8. United Arab Emirates
 9. Australia

- These participating countries represent key companies and investors involved in the global AI supply chain.
- Pax Silica focuses on the entire technological supply chain spanning from critical minerals and energy inputs to semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, AI infrastructure, and logistics.
- The main goal of this initiative is to reduce coercive dependencies and ensure the protection of the foundational materials and capabilities required for AI by enhancing collaboration with trusted partners.
- Under this, countries will collaborate in strategic areas such as software, advanced AI models, network infrastructure, computing, semiconductors, manufacturing, logistics, mineral refining, and energy.
- **Note:** India is not a part of this initiative.

□Core Five (C5)□ International Group

- US President Donald Trump is considering the formation of a new international group "Core Five (C5)".
- It will include the US, India, China, Russia and Japan.
- This new group can replace the existing Group of Seven (G7).
- Currently, the G7 consists of economically prosperous and democratic countries such as the US, UK, Germany, France, Canada, Italy and Japan.
- According to the report, Trump's priority is to bring together countries with global power and influence onto a single platform, rather than focusing on democracy.
- The purpose of the formation of this group is to create a forum that includes only the countries of the big power, whether their governance system is democratic or not.
- This new forum will hold regular meetings like the G7 and conferences will be held on specific global issues.

Logo of the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (CBD COP17) launched

- Armenia has unveiled the official logo and slogan for the 17th Conference of Parties (COP17) of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity .
- The conference will be held in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, in October 2026.
- The official logo of COP17 is the **Yerevan Blue Butterfly (Polyommatus eriwanensis)**.
- This logo symbolizes the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).
- The slogan of the conference is "Taking Action for Nature".

Italy is the first country in the world to receive UNESCO recognition for National Culinary Arts

- Italy has become the first country in the world to receive UNESCO recognition for its entire national culinary arts.
- The entire national culinary tradition has been recognized, rather than a single dish from Italy, including pasta, cheese, wine, desserts and various regional food cultures.
- In December 2025, UNESCO added Italian cooking to the list of intangible cultural heritage.
- UNESCO recognized Italian cooking as a living tradition, reflecting culture, identity, and community life.
- UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List recognizes traditions and practices that are passed down from generation to generation.

India re-elected to UNESCO Executive Board

- India was re-elected for the 2025–29 term.
- This election reflects India's global faith in education, culture, science and human-centric development.
- The Executive Board of UNESCO is one of its three constitutional organs, the other two being the General Conference and the Secretariat.
- It consists of a rotating group of 58 member nations, who are elected for a four-year term.
- **Functions of the Board:** To approve UNESCO's program and budget, to monitor and guide the implementation of programs, and to prepare the agenda of the General Assembly.

India's re-election to the ICAO Council

- India has been re-elected to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with the highest vote support.
- The International Civil Aviation Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- It was established in 1944 under the Chicago Convention.
- Its headquarters are located in Montreal, Canada.
- The ICAO aims to ensure the safe, orderly, and sustainable development of global civil aviation.
- It has 193 member countries and India is a founding signatory to the Convention.

India becomes Chair of Kimberley Process

- India will be handed over the Presidency of the Kimberley Process from 1 January 2026.
- This is the third time that India will assume the Presidency of the Kimberley Process.

The Kimberly Process

- The process is a tripartite initiative of governments, the international diamond industry, and civil society.
- It aims to stop the trade in raw diamonds, which rebel groups use to finance conflicts.

MoU signed between India and Netherlands for Lothal□Maritime Heritage

- India and the Netherlands have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal in Gujarat.
- The partnership aims to promote maritime heritage, museum design, conservation, research, tourism, and global cultural exchange.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal

- NMHC is one of India's most ambitious cultural infrastructure projects.
- Lothal has been a part of the Indus Valley Civilization and is counted among the oldest ports in the world due to being about 4,500 years old.
- The complex is being developed under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

The first country to recognize Somaliland

- Israel has become the first country to recognize Somaliland as an independent and sovereign country.
- Somaliland is a self-governing region located in the northern part of Somalia.
- After the fall of Siad Barre's regime in 1991, southern Somalia was in a state of civil war and chaos.
- At the same time, the Somali National Movement established control in the northwest region and declared independence in the form of Somaliland.
- Somaliland has been functioning like a country for a long time and has its own government, currency and army.
- Somalia's government has described the recognition as a direct attack on its sovereignty.
- The United States and the African Union have also opposed it.

Significance of Somaliland

- The region is located along the Gulf of Aden, an important sea route connecting the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.
- About 10–12 per cent of global maritime trade passes through this route.
- Israel wants to strengthen its strategic position in the Red Sea region.

Oman's first polymer is a rial note.

- Oman has issued the first polymer one-rial note as part of the modernization of its currency system.
- This new note will be put into circulation by the Central Bank of Oman from January 11, 2026.
- The size of this note is 145 mm × 76 mm.
- The design depicts a balanced blend of Oman's heritage and modern development.
- The purpose of a polymer note is to ensure greater durability and reduce replacement costs.

Operation Sagar Bandhu □ India's Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka

- India has sent assistance for relief operations under 'Operation Sagar Bandhu' in Sri Lanka amid the devastation caused by Cyclone 'Ditwah'.
- Cyclone Ditwah caused severe flooding, landslides, damage to infrastructure, and lack of essential facilities such as food, water, and medical care in Sri Lanka in November 2025.
- The cyclone affected about 14 lakh people in 25 districts of Sri Lanka.
- In this situation, India has launched the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Mission.
- Essential materials such as food, water, medicines, tents and rescue equipment were distributed.
- In addition, India announced a humanitarian assistance and reconstruction package of \$450 million in the aftermath of the devastation caused by Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka.
- The package includes a \$100 million grant and \$350 million in concessional lines of credit.

Operation Hawkeye Strike

- Recently, the United States attacked more than 70 ISIS targets in Syria under Operation Hawkeye Strike.
- The action followed the attack in Palmyra, which killed two US soldiers and a civilian.
- Fighter jets and helicopters were used in this military operation.
- It targeted ISIS training camps, weapons depots and logistics centers.

□Operation Thunder□

- Interpol launched 'Operation Thunder', a global campaign against wildlife trafficking.
- Around 30,000 live animals were rescued under this operation.
- The campaign ran from 15th September to 15th October 2025.
- It involved law enforcement agencies and wildlife authorities from 134 countries.

- The animals rescued included thousands of birds, turtles, reptiles, primates, and big cats.

WHO's 2nd Global Traditional Medicine Summit 2025

- The World Health Organization's (WHO) 2nd Global Traditional Medicine Summit was held in New Delhi on 17-19 December 2025.
- The conference was co-hosted by WHO and the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.
- It was attended by policy-makers, scientists, practitioners, indigenous knowledge holders and civil society representatives from across the world.

Its main objective is to promote balanced, inclusive, and sustainable health systems.

- The theme of this conference was "Restoring Balance: Science and Practice of Health and Well-being".
- A commemorative postage stamp on the Ayurvedic herb Ashwagandha was released.
- Global certification standard for Ayush products and services launched.
- The Advisory Group for Traditional and Integrative Medicine called STAG-TM was established.
- **Note:** The first Global Traditional Medicine Summit was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat in 2023.

Inauguration of the redeveloped headquarters of WHO's South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO)

- The redeveloped headquarters of the World Health Organization's (WHO) South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) was inaugurated on 19th December 2025 in New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- This project of international importance was executed by NBCC (India) Limited.

11th United Nations Alliance for Civilizations (UNAOC) Forum

- The 11th United Nations Alliance for Civilization (UNAOC) Forum was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- The main theme of the forum was "Promoting Dialogue, Mutual Respect and Understanding in a Multipolar World".
- The Indian delegation was led by P. Kumaran, former Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- The forum was attended by political leaders, international and regional organizations, religious representatives, civil society, academics, youth, arts, sports and media.

ASEAN-India Tourism Professionals Exchange Programme 2025

- The ASEAN-India Tourism Professionals Exchange Programme 2025 kicked off in Guwahati, Assam.
- It was held from 12th to 17th December 2025 in Guwahati, Kaziranga and New Delhi.
- The event was organized by the Assam Tourism Development Corporation Limited (ATDC) under the aegis of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.
- This initiative builds on India's participation in the MATTA Fair 2025 held in Kuala Lumpur, where Assam and Northeast India were presented as emerging tourism destinations.
- The objective of this program is to connect North East India with the ASEAN Travel Circuit.

ASEAN

- ASEAN was established in 1967 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.

आसियान देश



- Its founding member countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- In the 1990s, changes in regional conditions led to the expansion of the organization.
- Brunei was granted membership in 1984, Vietnam in 1995 and Laos and Myanmar in 1997.
- Cambodia became a member of ASEAN in 1999.
- ASEAN's motto is "One Vision, One Identity, One Community".
- The Secretariat of ASEAN is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.

20th Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee

- The 20th session of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) was held in India hosted by India.

- The session was held from 8th to 13th December at the Red Fort in New Delhi.
- The meeting was chaired by Vishal V. Sharma, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO.
- The session was attended by delegates from more than 185 countries.

Conference of the States of the 11th United Nations Convention (UNCAC) (COSP-11)

- The 11th edition of the Conference of the States Parties (COSP-11) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was held in Doha, Qatar from December 15 to 19, 2025.
- It is the world's largest global anti-corruption conference.
- The conference was hosted by the State of Qatar in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
- The next 12th edition of the conference will be held in Uzbekistan.
- The conference concluded with the adoption of the "Doha Declaration 2025".
- The declaration urged member states to enhance global law enforcement cooperation in combating cross-border corruption through the use of AI and other digital technologies.
- In addition to the Doha Declaration, the Conference also adopted 11 resolutions on various issues related to corruption.

Third Council Meeting of the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA)

- The Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) hosted the third Council Meeting of the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The meeting underscored the growing role of DGLL in shaping international maritime standards and navigational safety.
- In this, India launched a digital ticketing portal for 75 lighthouse tourist destinations across the country.
- This portal will be helpful in increasing digital accessibility, transparency and convenience of visitors in lighthouse tourism.

World's longest highway tunnel in China

- China has built the world's longest highway tunnel in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The total length of the Tianshan Shengli Tunnel is 22.13 kilometers, making it the longest highway tunnel in the world.
- This tunnel is built across the inaccessible Tianshan mountain range.
- This tunnel goes up to a maximum depth of 1,112 meters.

5. Space and Defence Technology

Space Technology

LVM3-M6 / □Blue Bird Block-2□ mission

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the US-based AST SpaceMobile Company's satellite Bluebird Block-2 by an LVM3-M6 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, on 24th December, 2025.
- The Blue Bird Block-2 weighed 6,100 kg and is the heaviest satellite ever launched from India.
- This was the sixth operational flight of LVM3.

Blue Bird Block-2 Satellite

- Bluebird Block-2 is a next-generation communication satellite.
- It was installed in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- Its purpose is to provide high-speed cellular broadband connectivity directly to ordinary smartphones.
- Through this, 4G and 5G voice calls, video calls, messaging, streaming and data services will be possible without a tower.
- The mission was conducted under a commercial agreement between NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) and the American company AST SpaceMobile.
- **Note:** NewSpace India Limited functions as the commercial arm of ISRO.

Features of the LVM3-M6 rocket

- LVM3 is known as GSLV Mk-III.
- It is ISRO's most powerful three-stage launch vehicle.
- It is capable of sending payloads of up to 4,000 kg to GTO.
- The 43.5-metre-long rocket has an indigenous cryogenic engine.
- It uses two S200 solid boosters for lift-off.
- LVM3 has launched several satellite missions of Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3 and OneWeb.
- It is India's heaviest launch vehicle, with a total weight of around 640 tonnes.
- It is also popularly called the "Bahubali Rocket" due to its huge capacity.

Scientists discover 12 billion-year-old □Alaknanda□ galaxy

- Indian scientist Rashi Jain along with his guide Prof. Yogesh Waddekar has discovered a new galaxy.
- It is a spiral galaxy, named Alaknanda.
- It is named after the river Alaknanda that flows in the foothills of the Himalayas.
- It has been discovered with the help of NASA's James Webb Space Telescope.
- It has been discovered with the help of the James Webb Telescope.
- This galaxy existed at a time when the age of the universe was only 1.5 billion years.
- This galaxy is located in the Abell 2744 cluster and has two apparent spiral arms and a constellation formation rate of about 63 solar masses per year, which is 20-30 times higher than that of the Milky Way.

Superkilonova: A Possible New Cosmic Explosion

- An international research team of scientists from IIT Bombay and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bangalore, has made the possible discovery of an extremely rare cosmic phenomenon called 'Superkilonova'.
- Superkilonovae are far more powerful and energetic than normal kilonovae.
- During the merger of two neutron stars, heavy radioactive elements like gold, platinum, and neodymium are formed and the optical and infrared radiation produced by the decay of these elements is called kilonovae.

Features of Superkilonova

- It starts with a supernova that forms two neutron stars.
- Later, these neutron stars merge to form kilonova.
- It shows the properties of both supernova and kilonova.
- It generates intense gravitational waves and powerful electromagnetic radiation.
- This phenomenon is brighter and longer visible.

Space Labs Initiative

- The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (**IN-SPACe**) in India has invited proposals for setting up space laboratories in educational institutions.
- It aims to create the next generation of space scientists and engineers in India.
- A total of 7 educational institutions will be selected for this.
- One institute will be selected from each geographical area for regional balance.

Eligibility Conditions:

- The institute should be at least 5 years old.
- The NIRF ranking should be within 200.
- Conducts courses related to space technology.

Successful test firing of Gaganyaan drogue parachute

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully completed a series of drogue parachute qualification tests for the Gaganyaan crew module.
- These tests were conducted on 18 and 19 December 2025 at the Rail Track Rocket Sled (RTRS) facility in Chandigarh.
- The purpose of the tests was to evaluate the functionality and reliability of the drogue parachute in difficult conditions during return from space.

The Role of Drogue Parachutes

- When entering the Earth's atmosphere at high speed, it is necessary to stabilize the crew module and reduce its speed.
- The deceleration system of the Gaganyaan crew module includes a total of 10 parachutes of 4 types.
- Drogue parachutes stabilize the module and reduce its speed.
- Three pilot parachutes and three main parachutes are deployed to ensure safe landing.

Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test (IMAT)

- ISRO has earlier tested the main parachute system of Gaganyaan.
- The test was conducted at the Babina Field Firing Range (BFFR), Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.
- The IMAT tests are part of certifying the entire parachute system for the Gaganyaan mission.

Harbig-Harrows Object HH 49/50

- The James Webb Space Telescope has revealed a rare picture of a new star forming in space.
- This star began to form long before the development of human civilization.

- According to scientists, it can take 1 lakh to 10 million years to fully develop.
- This is the first time the process of star formation has been seen so clearly.
- This structure is called the Harbig-Haro object HH 49/50.
- Due to its tornado-like shape, scientists have named it 'Cosmic Tornado'.
- This star could be even larger than the Sun when fully developed.

Michaela (Michaela) Benthäus becomes the world's first woman disabled to travel to space

- German aerospace engineer Michaela Benthäus has become the world's first woman to travel to space after suffering from paralysis.
- He flew on the NS-37 suborbital mission from the New Shepard rocket of the company Blue Origin, owned by American entrepreneur Jeff Bezos.
- The mission was completed on 20 December, 2025 and was Blue Origin's 16th manned flight.
- The spacecraft reached an altitude of about 100 kilometers, which is considered to be around the Kármán Line.
- The NS-37 crew, in addition to Benthäus, consisted of Joey Hyde, Hans Koenigsmann, Neil Milch, Adonis Poroulis, and Jason Stansell.
- **New Shepard** is a reusable suborbital rocket system, designed to be carried to altitudes of more than 100 kilometers.
 - It is named after the first American astronaut Alan Shepard.



Defence Technology

Indian Navy's First Indigenous Diving Support Craft

- The Indian Navy commissioned the first indigenous diving support craft DSC A20 at the Kochi Naval Base.
- The vessel is specifically designed for underwater diving operations in coastal and harbour areas.
- DSC A20 will be useful for underwater repairs, inspections, harbour clean-up, and other important diving missions.
- The vessel has been designed and built to the classification standards of the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS).

- It is a catamaran-based vessel with a displacement of approximately 390 tons.

INSV Kaundinya

- Indian Navy's INSV Kaundinya sailed on its historic sea voyage from Porbandar, Gujarat to Muscat, Oman on 29 December, 2025.
- The INSV Kaundinya has been constructed without any metal nails or screws.
- It is named after the great Indian navigator Kaundinya, who travelled to Southeast Asia in ancient times.
- Its design is inspired by the 5th century murals found in the Ajanta Caves (Cave No. 17).

Key Features

- The ship has been constructed with about 2,000-year-old stitched-plank technology.
- Ropes made of coconut matted hair have been used in this.
- It has two steering oars and square sails in place of modern rudders.
- For this, a tripartite agreement was signed between the Union Ministry of Culture, the Indian Navy and Hodi Innovations.

Anti-Submarine Shallow Water Craft □Anjadeep□ inducted into Navy

- The Indian Navy was inducted on 22 December, 2025, the third indigenously built Anti-Submarine Shallow Water Craft 'Anjadeep'.
- The warship is built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- It uses more than 80% indigenous components.
- The 'Anjadeep' will strengthen coastal surveillance, anti-submarine operations and landmine laying capabilities.

Key technical characteristics

- It is a warship about 77 meters long.
- It is one of India's largest naval warships powered by a subjet propulsion system.
- It has state-of-the-art light torpedoes.
- It is equipped with an indigenous anti-submarine rocket.
- The ship has advanced shallow water sonar systems installed.

ICG Patrol Vessel □Amulya□Inducted into Service

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) commissioned the patrol vessel 'Amulya' (ICGS Amulya) into service in Goa on 19 December, 2025.
- It is the third ship in the series of eight new generation Fast Patrol Vessels.
- Other active vessels of this class are 'Adamya' and 'Akshar'.

- 'Amulya' has been completely designed and built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).
- The ship will strengthen the maritime surveillance and security capabilities of the Indian Coast Guard.

Indian Navy□s 2nd MH-60R Helicopter Squadron

- The Indian Navy inducted its second MH-60R helicopter squadron on 17 December, 2025.
- The squadron has been christened INAS 335 and is called 'Osprey'.
- The commissioning ceremony was held at INS Hansa, Goa.
- The MH-60R helicopters are equipped with advanced sensors, avionics and weapon systems.
- These helicopters are capable of dealing with both conventional and asymmetric threats.

DRDO successfully completes high-speed rocket-sledge test

- DRDO successfully completed the high-speed rocket-sledge test of the fighter aircraft escape system at controlled velocity on 2 December, 2025.
- India has now joined the select countries having indigenous capability to test High Performance Escape Systems.
- The test was conducted at the Rail Track Rocket Sled Facility of the Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL) in Chandigarh in collaboration with ADA and HAL.
- The test used a dual-sled setup, with the LCA aircraft's forearm being launched in controlled stages.
- The test used an instrumented dummy that gives human-like responses to verify the canopy breakage pattern, ejection order and safety parameters.

Successful test firing of Akash Next Generation (Akash-NG) Missile Defence System

- On 23 December, 2025, the Indian Army successfully conducted a trial of the advanced version of the Akash missile defence system Akash Next Generation (Akash-NG) at the Chandipur Integrated Test Range in Odisha.
- During this trial, Akash-NG accurately destroyed aerial targets at different distances and altitudes.
- It also included low altitude flying targets near the border and high altitude targets at long ranges.
- It has been developed by DRDO and manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).

- The system is capable of hitting multiple aerial targets simultaneously.

Features of Akash NG Defence Missile System

- Indigenous, high-end air defense missile systems.
- **Range:** 80 KM, 3 times more than the old sky (25-30KM).
- **Target Height:** From 30 m to 20 km.
- **Targets:** Fighter jets, cruise missiles, drones/ drones. UAV.
- **Target Capacity:** Saturation Attack i.e. 10 targets (multiple attacks simultaneously), multi-track, multi-engaged.
- **Speed:** Mach 2.5 (2.5 times faster than the speed of sound).
- **Radar system:** multi-function radar (MFR), 120 KM - surveillance, 80 KM - fire control.

MRO centre for Super Hercules C-130J aircraft to come up in Bengaluru

- The Advanced Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facility for the C-130J Super Hercules will be set up in Bengaluru, Karnataka by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Lockheed Martin.
- The centre will strengthen the operational preparedness and aircraft maintenance capability of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The C-130J is a four-engine multi-purpose military transport aircraft, used in the transport of troops/equipment, disaster relief, medical evacuation, and operations in high altitude terrain.
- India has 12 C-130J aircraft, which are highly useful in difficult areas like Ladakh and the North-East.
- The partnership between Tata and Lockheed is already active in the manufacture of the C-130J's Empennage.

Dark Eagle Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW)

- The US Army and Navy have successfully completed integrated testing of the Dark Eagle Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW) system jointly.
- It is a non-nuclear, land-launched **hypersonic missile system**.
- Its development has been primarily carried out by Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman.
- It aims to develop quick and accurate strike capability for strategic offensive operations and penetrate the enemy's anti-access/area-denial (A2/AD) defense systems.

DRDO hands over seven indigenous technologies to Armed Forces

- The Defence Research and Development

Organisation (DRDO) handed over seven indigenous technologies to the Indian Armed Forces on 2 December, 2025.

- These technologies have been developed under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.
- The solutions handed over by DRDO to the Armed Forces include high-voltage supply for airborne jammers, tide-efficient gangways, VLF/HF switching systems, VLF loop aerials for secure submarine communication, indigenous waterjet propulsion system, lithium recovery technology from used batteries and long-life seawater battery systems.

K-4 ballistic missile

- India successfully test-fired the K-4 medium-range ballistic missile from the submarine INS Arihant in the Bay of Bengal.
- The K-4 missile has a range of approximately 3,500 kilometers, strengthening India's maritime nuclear capability.
- It is a submarine-launched nuclear-capable ballistic missile, also known as Kalam-4.
- The indigenous development of the K-4 missile has been carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- It features a two-stage solid fuel system, a payload capacity of up to 2 tons, and an advanced navigation system with high accuracy.

India launches indigenous HANSA-3 NG training aircraft

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched the production version of HANSA-3 NG at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) in Bengaluru on 29 November, 2025.
- It is India's first fully composite two-seater trainer aircraft.
- It will meet the growing national demand for pilot training in India.
- Under this, the country will need about 30,000 new pilots in the next 20 years.
- A factory will be set up at Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh at a cost of ₹150 crore for its production, with an annual capacity of 100 aircraft.

First Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Pratap inducted

- The Indian Coast Guard inducted its first Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) 'Samudra Pratap'.
- The vessel was formally handed over to Goa Shipyard Limited.

Key Features of Samudra Pratap

- 30 mm CRN-91 cannon for maritime protection

- Two 12.7 mm remote-controlled guns equipped with an integrated fire control system
- Dynamic Positioning System (DPS) and Retractable Stern Thruster
- Flush Type Side Sweeping Arms for Pollution Control
- High-capacity outdoor fire suppression system
- DeWitt-containing pollution response and marine boats
- More than 60% of the components of this ship are indigenous.

First successful test of Pinaka long-range guided rocket (LRGR-120)

- The first successful test of Pinaka long-range guided rocket LRGR-120 was conducted by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on 29 December, 2025.
- The test was conducted at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.

Key Features of Pinaka LRGR-120

- The Pinaka LRGR-120 is an upgraded version of the Pinaka rocket system.
- It has a maximum range of 120 kilometers.
- It provides precise guidance with high maneuverability during flight.

India Optel Limited □ Safran Defence Cooperation

- India Optel Limited has signed an agreement with Safran Electronics and Defence of France for indigenous defence production.
- Under this cooperation, the SIGMA 30N Inertial Navigation System and the CM3-MR Direct Firing Site will be built.
- These systems will be used in artillery, air defence, missile and anti-drone operations.
- This partnership is an extension of the initial MoU signed in January, 2024.
- Under this, complete manufacturing, testing and maintenance will be done in India.

India-Brazil sign trilateral MoU on Scorpene submarines

- India and Brazil signed a tripartite MoU on maintenance of Scorpene-class submarines.
- The agreement was signed between the Indian Navy, the Brazilian Navy and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).
- **Objectives of the MoU:** To exchange information related to the maintenance of Scorpene submarines, strengthen life-cycle support, and share technical expertise and operational experience.

Scorpene submarines

- The Scorpene class are advanced diesel-electric attack submarines.

- They are designed for anti-surface, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence and surveillance missions.
- India operates them under Project-75 and has been built indigenously by MDL.
- Brazil also operates these submarines under its Naval Modernization Program.

Signing of Contracts for Close Quarter Battle Carbine and Heavy Weight Torpedoes

- The Union Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth Rs 4,666 crore on December 30, 2025.

Close Quarter Battle Carbine

- More than 4.25 lakh CQB carbines will be procured for the Indian Army and Navy at a cost of Rs 2,770 crore.

Heavy-weight torpedoes

- 48 heavy-weight torpedoes will be procured for the Kalvari class submarines of the Indian Navy.
- The supply of these torpedoes will be completed starting from 2028 and ending by 2030, enhancing the combat capability of the Navy.

Rs 79,000 crore Defence acquisitions approved

- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved defence capital acquisition proposals worth around Rs 79,000 crore.
- The approvals are aimed at strengthening the firepower, surveillance, communication and training infrastructure of the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force.



Technology

DHRUV64 - India's first indigenous 1.0 GHz microprocessor

- DHRUV64 is the country's first fully indigenous 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.
- It has been developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the Microprocessor Development Program (MDP).
- **Objective:** To strengthen India's indigenous processor pipeline and provide reliable domestic technology for strategic and commercial use.

Features of DHRUV64 Microprocessor

- DHRUV64 is a high-performance microprocessor designed and developed entirely in India.
- It operates at a clock speed of 1.0 GHz and is based on a 64-bit dual-core architecture.

- It offers better processing capacity, effective multitasking, and greater reliability.
- Its 64-bit architecture is capable of handling large data sets and complex computing tasks.
- **Application Areas:** 5G Infrastructure, Automotive Systems, Consumer Electronics, Industrial Automation, Internet of Things (IoT).

Chinese train sets world record for 700kmph in 2 seconds

- China set a new world record in superconducting maglev technology by achieving a speed of 700 km/h.
- This feat was achieved by driving a one tonne vehicle in just 2 seconds on a 400m test track.
- The experiment was carried out by researchers from the National University of Defence Technology, China.
- This is crucial for future transportation modes such as hyperloops and aerospace launch systems.

Magnetic levitation (Maglev) technology

- The original idea of maglev technology is credited to the German engineer Hermann Kemper.
- The maglev system operates on the principle of magnetic attraction and repulsion.
- In this, vehicles float in the air with magnetic forces instead of wheels, which almost eliminates friction.

Supercomputer PARAM Rudra at IIT Patna

- The PARAM Rudra supercomputer was unveiled at IIT Patna in Bihar, which is the first supercomputer in the state of Bihar.
- PARAM Rudra is a state-of-the-art high-performance computing (HPC) system.
- In May, 2023, an MoU was signed between IIT Patna and C-DAC for the establishment of PARAM Rudra.
- This supercomputer operates at a capacity of 838 teraflops.
- It uses indigenous servers, components, and software, developed under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).



Exercises

Exercise □AviaIndra-2025□

- The joint air exercise 'AviaIndra-2025' between India and Russia was conducted from 15 December to 22 December, 2025.

- The exercise was hosted by the Indian Air Force in New Delhi and its surrounding areas.
- The aim of the exercise is to strengthen mutual coordination and operational capability between the Air Forces of both the countries.

Military Exercise □Desert Cyclone-II□

- The second edition of the joint military exercise 'Desert Cyclone' between India and the United Arab Emirates was conducted from 18 to 30 December, 2025.
- The exercise was conducted in Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- The aim of this joint military exercise is to enhance interoperability between the two armies through joint training in an urban warfare environment.

Exercise □Ektha□ 2025

- The joint maritime exercise 'EKTHA' 2025 between India and Maldives was conducted in Maldives.
- Exercise Ekatha is an annual bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).
- The exercise was aimed at strengthening interoperability and operational synergy.
- The exercise included combat diving, boarding operations, firing drills, explosive handling and specialised heli-borne operations.

Harimau Shakti 2025: India-Malaysia Exercise

- The fifth edition of the joint military exercise Exercise Harimau Shakti-2025 between India and Malaysia was conducted from 5th to 18th December, 2025 at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.
- The fourth edition took place last year at Bentong Camp in Pahang District, Malaysia.

Garuda Shakti 2025: India-Indonesia Joint Exercise

- The 10th edition of the Indo-Indonesia joint Special Forces exercise Garuda Shakti was conducted from 03 to 12 December, 2025 at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- The Indian representation was carried out by the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and the Indonesian representation was by the Indonesian Special Forces.
- The aim of the exercise is to strengthen mutual understanding, cooperation and operational capability between the Special Forces of the two countries.

Ekuverin 2025: India-Maldives Joint Military Exercise

- The 14th India-Maldives bilateral military exercise Ekuverin was held from 2 December to 15 December, 2025 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- The exercise is being conducted between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).
- It aims to strengthen joint interoperability in counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations.

Quad's first IPLN field training exercise

- The Quad countries conducted the first field training exercise under the Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN) at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam.
- The exercise culminated between 08 to 12 December, 2025 during Operation Christmas Drop.

- Australia, India, Japan and the United States participated in the exercise.
- The training was conducted under the Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN).
- The objective of IPLN is to make relief operations effective through shared logistics capabilities in times of natural calamities.
- The Quad is a strategic grouping of the US, India, Japan and Australia.

RPREX-2025: Indian Coast Guard's Regional Pollution Response Exercise

- With the aim of strengthening marine environment protection and disaster management, the Indian Coast Guard conducted RPREX-2025 in Mumbai.
- It was a regional level pollution response exercise.
- The main objective was to test India's readiness for a quick and effective response to oil pollution incidents at sea.

6. Sports

India-South Africa T20 Series

- India won the 5-match series 3-1 against South Africa.
- India defeated South Africa by 30 runs in the 5 and final T20 match.
- Hardik Pandya was given the 'Player of the Match' and Varun Chakravarthy was given the 'Player of the Series' award.
- This is India's eighth consecutive bilateral T20 series win.
- India has set a new record by winning the ninth consecutive T20 series on home ground.
- With this achievement, India surpassed Australia's record of eight consecutive home T20 series wins.
- Batting first, India scored 231/5 in 20 overs.
- Tilak Varma (73) and Hardik Pandya (63) shared a 105-run partnership in 44 balls.
- Chasing the target, South Africa's team could only score 201/8.
- In this match, Hardik Pandya scored a half-century in 16 balls against South Africa in 2025 (the second fastest after Yuvraj Singh).

Morocco champions Arab Cup for the second time

- Morocco won the FIFA Arab Cup title for the second time.
- In the final match, Morocco defeated Jordan 3-2 in extra time.
- The match was played at the Lusail Stadium in Qatar.
- Abderrazak Hamdallah scored twice and Oussama Tannane scored one goal for Morocco.
- Earlier, Morocco also won the Arab Cup in the year 2012.

Jharkhand won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy

- Jharkhand won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title for the first time in the 2025-26 season.
- Jharkhand defeated Haryana in the final by 69 runs at the MCA Stadium in Pune.
- Jharkhand scored 262 runs, which is the highest score ever in the final of a T20 tournament.
- Ishan Kishan scored 101 runs in 49 balls in the final and scored the most runs in the tournament.

- Jharkhand became champions for the first time under the captaincy of Ishan Kishan.
- Ishan was adjudged Player of the Match for scoring a century in the final while Jharkhand all-rounder Anukul Rai was adjudged Player of the Series.
- Jharkhand has become the 12th team in the country to win the domestic T20 title.

Indian squash team becomes world champions

- The Indian squash team has won the Squash World Cup title for the first time.
- The Indian team consisted of Joshna Chinappa, Anahat Singh, Abhay Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar.
- India defeated the top seeded Hong Kong 3-0 in the final match held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- India has also become the first Asian team to become the world champion of squash.
- India has become the fourth country to win the Squash World Cup. Before India, Australia, England and Egypt won the title.
- Earlier, in the 2023 World Cup, the Indian team won the bronze medal.

World Rapid Chess: India's Arjun Erigaisi Koneru Humpy wins bronze medal

- Indian Grandmasters Arjun Erigaisi and Koneru Humpy won bronze medals at the World Rapid Chess Championship held in Doha.

Men's Category

- He has become the second Indian male player to win a medal in this prestigious competition.
- Earlier, only Viswanathan Anand had achieved this feat.
- Arjun finished third after 13 rounds with 9.5 points.
- World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen won the World Rapid title for the sixth time with 10.5 points.

Women's section

- In the women's category, Russia's Alexandra Goryachkina defeated China's Zhu Jin'er to win the title.
- India's Koneru Humpy won the bronze medal.
- This is Hampi's 5th medal at the World Rapid Championships, which includes 2 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze.

Asian Youth Para Games 2025

- Its 5th edition was held from 7th to 14th December 2025 in Dubai (United Arab Emirates).
- For the first time, AI-based robots were included in the conduct of games.
- India won a total of 56 medals, including 19 gold, 15 silver and 22 bronze.
- India secured the 7th position in the medal tally.
- India was represented by a 99-member contingent comprising 61 male and 38 female athletes.
- It consisted of a total of 11 sports disciplines, out of which Indian players participated in 8.
- The highest participation in the Indian contingent was in Para Athletics where more than 50 athletes competed.
- This was followed by 15 Indian athletes in Para Badminton and 7 athletes each in Table Tennis and Para Archery.

India's Medal Winners Sports

Sport	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total medals
Para Athletics	10	7	11	28
Para swimming	8	5	6	19
Para Table Tennis	1	2	2	5
Para Powerlifting	0	1	2	3
Para Taekwondo	0	0	2	2

- Uzbekistan topped the medal tally with 197 medals, including 99 gold.

Germany won the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup for the eighth time

- Germany won the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup on 10 December 2025, defeating Spain 3-2 in a shoot-out.
- India finished third in this World Cup.
- The Junior Men's Hockey World Cup was held from 28 November to 10 December 2025 at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium (Chennai) and Madurai International Hockey Stadium in India.
- Germany has previously won the title (a total of 8 times so far) in 1982, 1985, 1989, 1993, 2009, 2013 and 2023.
- India won the gold medal in the Junior Hockey World Cup in 2001 and 2016.

Indian hockey team wins bronze medal at Junior Men's Hockey World Cup

- The Indian hockey team won the bronze medal at the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup 2025 .

- The tournament was held at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai.
- India defeated Argentina 4-2 in the third-place match.
- Ankit Pal, Manmeet Singh, Shardanand Tiwari and Anmol Ekka scored goals in this match.
- Earlier, India had won two gold medals (2001, 2016) and one silver (1997) in the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup.

Junior Men's Hockey World Cup 2025

- It was the 14th edition of the FIH Junior Men's Hockey World Cup.
- The tournament was held from 28th November to 10th December 2025 at the International Hockey Stadiums of Chennai and Madurai.
- The tournament is a biennial competition organized by the International Hockey Federation (FIH).
- For the first time, 24 teams participated in this competition.

ISSF World Cup Final 2025

- The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Finals 2025 took place from December 4-9, 2025, at the Lusail Shooting Complex, Doha, Qatar.
- In this, India secured the second position with 6 medals (2 gold, 3 silver, 1 bronze).
- Indian medalists: Gold - Simranpreet Kaur and Suruchi Singh; Silver - Saiyam, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Anish Bhanwala; Bronze - Samrat Rana
- The ISSF World Cup Finals are organized and conducted by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF).

ISSF World Cup Final 2025 Top 3 Countries

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total medals
1.	China	4	2	3	9
2.	India	2	3	1	6
3.	USA	2	2	2	6

India's Medal Winners

Player	Competition	Medal
Simranpreet Kaur	Women's 25m Pistol	Gold
Suruchi Singh	Women's 10m Air Pistol	Gold
Sainyam	Women's 10m Air Pistol	Silver
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar	Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions	Silver
Anish Bhanwala	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Silver
Samrat Rana	Men's 10m Air Pistol	Bronze

- The ISSF World Cup Finals include rifle, pistol, and shotgun events.

India to host Squash World Cup for third consecutive time

- India will host the Squash World Cup from 9th to 14th December 2025 at the SDAT Stadium in Chennai for the third consecutive time.
- A total of 12 countries are participating in the competition.
- Each team consists of 2 male and 2 female players.
- Abhay Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar will represent India in the men's section, while Joshna Chinappa and Anahat Singh will represent them in the women's section.

Sanskars Saraswat wins Guwahati Masters 2025 Badminton Title

- Sanskar Saraswat defeated Mithun Manjunath 21-11, 17-21, 21-13 in the men's singles to win the Guwahati Masters 2025 title.
- This is Sanskar's first Super-100 title.
- The tournament was held from 2nd to 7th December 2025 at the Sarju Sarai Indoor Complex.
- This was the third edition of the competition.

The world's youngest FIDE-rated Player

- Recently, Sarvagya Singh Kushwaha of Madhya Pradesh has become the youngest officially rated chess player in the world.
- He has obtained a 1572 FIDE Rapid Rating at 3 years, 7 months, and 20 days of age.
- The FIDE rating is an international measure measuring the potential of players.
- This rating leads to prestigious titles such as FIDE Master (FM), International Master (IM) and Grandmaster (GM).
- The ability of players in chess is measured based on the Elo Rating System.
- This rating is determined by the International Chess Federation (FIDE).
- **FIDE Master (FM):** This is the first major title. Usually gets 2300+ FIDE ratings.
- **International Master (IM):** This title is typically awarded upon 2400+ ratings and meeting three IM Norms.
- **Grandmaster (GM):** This is the highest title in chess.

First Commonwealth Kho-Kho Championship in India

- Commonwealth Sports has officially given India the go-ahead to host the 2026 Kho-Kho Championship.
- India will host the Commonwealth Kho-Kho Championship for the first time.

- The championship will be held from 9th March to 14th March 2026.
- The championship is the next major global event after the first Kho-Kho World Cup held in New Delhi.

Jasprit Bumrah became the first Indian to take 100 wickets in all three international formats.

- Indian fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah has become the first Indian bowler to take 100 wickets in all three international formats of Test, ODI and T20.
- He achieved this feat in the first T20 International match played against South Africa at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack.
- With this record, Bumrah joined the elite list of the top five bowlers in world cricket.
- The list includes legendary bowlers like Tim Southee, Lasith Malinga, Shakib Al Hasan and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

Virat Kohli became the first batsman to score the most centuries in ODIs

- Virat Kohli broke Sachin Tendulkar's record for scoring the most centuries in a single format by scoring his 52nd ODI century in the match against South Africa.
- He scored 135 runs in the first ODI of the series against South Africa.
- This was his sixth ODI century against South Africa.

Rohit Sharma became the first batsman to hit the most sixes in ODIs

- Rohit Sharma broke the record for most sixes in ODIs in the match against South Africa.
- He surpassed Shahid Afridi's record of 351 sixes by hitting 3 sixes.
- Rohit achieved this record in his 277th ODI match.

Sonam Yesi: First bowler in the world to take 8 wickets in men's T20 Internationals

- Bhutanese cricketer Sonam Yesi has become the first bowler in the world to take 8 wickets in a men's T20 International match.
- This performance was recorded in the third T20I match played against Myanmar in Gelephu on 29 December 2025.
- Bhutanese spinner Sonam Yesi took 8 wickets for just 7 runs in 4 overs.

33rd Southeast Asian Games in Thailand (SEA Games 2025)

- The 33rd Southeast Asian Games officially kicked off on 9 December 2025 in Thailand.

- The Games are being held in Bangkok and Chon Buri province.
- A total of 11 countries are participating in the Games, including Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines, Singapore, Myanmar, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Brunei Darussalam and Timor-Leste.

Arjun Erigaisi wins Jerusalem Masters 2025

- Arjun Erigaisi defeated Viswanathan Anand in the final to win the Jerusalem Masters 2025 title.
- Erigaisi was awarded US\$55,000 in prize money for the win.
- In the playoffs, Svidler took third place, defeating Nepomniachtchi in the second blitz game.
- The tournament was played in the Blitz chess format, with players getting 10 minutes or less per game.

Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2025

- The Indian men's hockey team finished runners-up after losing 0-1 to Belgium in the final in Ipoh, Malaysia.
- Belgium won their first Sultan Azlan Shah Cup title with this win.
- India has finished runners-up for the second time in a row.
- In this tournament, New Zealand defeated Malaysia 6-1 in the bronze medal match and finished third.
- India is the second most successful team in this tournament after Australia (10 titles) with 5 titles.

SAFF Women's Club Championship 2025

- East Bengal FC won the first SAFF Women's Club Championship title of the year 2025.
- East Bengal defeated Nepal's APF FC 3-0 in the final.
- The final was played at the Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- With this win, East Bengal became the first Indian women's club to win the International Trophy.
- In this, Ugandan forward Fazila Ikwaput scored two goals, while the third goal was scored by Indian player Shilki Devi Hemmam.
- Fazila Ikwaput was the tournament's top scorer.

68th National Shooting Championships 2025: Manu Bhaker and Simranpreet Kaur Brar win gold medals

- The 68th National Shooting Championship was held at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.

- Manu Bhaker won the gold medal in the senior women's 25m sports pistol event.
- Karnataka's Divya T.S. Anjali Chaudhary won the silver medal and Anjali Chaudhary won the bronze medal.
- Simranpreet Kaur Brar won the gold medal in the junior women's 25m sports pistol event.

87th Senior National Badminton Championships

- It was held in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

Competition/Category	Winner
Women's Singles	Suriya Karishma Tamiri
Men's Singles	Ritwik Sanjeev S
Men's Doubles	A. Hariharan and Ruban Kumar
Women's Doubles	Shikha Gautam and Ashwini Bhatt
Mixed Doubles	Satwik Reddy K and Radhika Sharma

Indian Premier League (IPL): Prashant Veer becomes the most expensive uncapped player

- Chennai Super Kings (CSK) bought Prashant Veer for ₹14.20 crore.
- He became the most expensive uncapped player in IPL history.

Prashant Veer

- He hails from Uttar Pradesh and is a left-arm spin bowling all-rounder.
- Known for his wicket-taking ability and aggressive batting in the lower order.

ICC Player of the Month (November 2025): Simon Harmer and Shafali Verma

- South Africa's off-spinner Simon Harmer was named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for November 2025.
- This honor came to him for his brilliant performance in the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) against India. Harmer was also named Player of the Series in this series.
- Indian opener Shafali Verma won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award for November 2025.
- The award was given for her decisive performance in the Women's Cricket World Cup. Shafali scored 87 runs off 78 balls in the World Cup final against South Africa.

Lando Norris wins first Formula 1 World Championship

- At the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Lando Norris overtook Max Verstappen to win his first World One title.
- Max Verstappen fell just 2 points short of winning his fifth consecutive title.
- Norris has become the 35th different world champion in F1's 75-year history and the 11th British driver to win the title.
- Lando Norris has won his first Formula One World Championship by finishing third in Abu Dhabi.
- Max Verstappen won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, but he fell behind Norris' overall points lead.

South Asian Ball Badminton Championship 2025

- India clinched both men's and women's titles at the South Asian Ball Badminton Championships.
- The competition was held in Patna from December 27 to 29.
- In the men's section, India beat Sri Lanka 35-13, 35-16.
- In the women's section, India defeated Sri Lanka 35-13, 35-13.
- The Indian team also won the men's, women's and mixed doubles titles.
- Deepak and Nikita from Rajasthan were part of the Indian team.

Gujarat to host World Police and Fire Games 2029

- Gujarat's Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) has been entrusted with hosting eight disciplines of the World Police and Fire Games (WPFG) 2029.
- This event will be held for the first time in India.
- The World Police and Fire Games is a biennial, Olympic-style international sporting event.
- It is attended by police, fire service and law enforcement personnel from all over the world.
- India will be the second Asian country after China to host the WPFG.
- **Note:** The 21st WPFG 2025 took place in Birmingham (USA).
- **Note:** The 22nd WPFG 2027 will be held in Perth (Australia).

MRF Tyres Wins 2025 FIA European Rally Championship

- MRF Tyres won the Teams title of the 2025 FIA European Rally Championship (ERC).
- The honour was presented at the FIA Awards Gala.
- This is the third ERC Teams Championship win for MRF Tyres.
 - MRF Tyres first won the title in 2022 and became the winner for the second time in a row in 2023.

7. Awards & Honors

Hardik Singh nominated for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

- Indian men's hockey team vice-captain Hardik Singh has been nominated for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award at the National Sports Awards 2025.
- The nominations were finalized by the Award Selection Panel on 24th December 2025.
- The Khel Ratna is India's highest sporting honour, which consists of a medal, citation and a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh.
- So far, six hockey players in the country have received this honor, including Dhanraj Pillai, Sardar Singh, Rani Rampal, PR Sreejesh, Manpreet Singh and Harmanpreet Singh.

Achievements of Hardik Singh

- Since 2018, he has been a key midfield player for the Indian hockey team at the senior international level.
- Part of the Indian team that won bronze medals at the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Olympics.
- Contributed to the Asian Cup 2025, Asian Champions Trophy 2023, Asian Games gold medals.
- Awarded Arjuna Award in the year 2021.
- Hockey India Player of the Year in the year 2022 and 2023.
- Awarded the FIH Player of the Year in the year 2023.

Other National Sports Awards

- A total of 24 sportspersons have been recommended for the Arjuna Award in 2025.
- For the first time, **Yogasana athlete Aarti Pal** has been nominated for the Arjuna Award.
- Aarti Pal is the reigning national and Asian Yogasana champion.

Sportspersons nominated for Arjuna Award

S. No.	Name of the Player	game
1.	Tejaswin Shankar	Athletics
2.	Priyanka	Athletics
3.	Narendra	Boxing
4.	Vudit Gujarati	Chess
5.	Divya Deshmukh	Chess
6.	Dhanush Srikanth	Deaf Shooting
7.	Pranati Nayak	Gymnastics
8.	Rajkumar Pal	Hockey
9.	Surjit	Kabaddi
10.	Nirmala Bhati	Kho-kho
11.	Rudransh Khandelwal	Para-Shooting
12.	Ekta Bhayan	Para-Athletics
13.	Padmanabh Singh	Polo
14.	Arvind Singh	Rowing
15.	Akhil Sheoran	Shooting
16.	Mehuli Ghosh	Shooting
17.	Sutirtha Mukherjee	Table Tennis
18.	Sonam Malik	Wrestling
19.	Aarti Pal	Yogasana
20.	Treesa Jolly	Badminton
21.	Gayatri Gopichand	Badminton
22.	Lalremsiami	Hockey
23.	Mohamed Afsal	Athletics
24.	Pooja	Kabaddi

Major National Sports Awards

S. No.	Name of the Award	Start year	Awarded for
1.	Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award	1991–92	India's highest sports honour (formerly named: Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award)
2.	Arjuna Award	1961	Sportspersons for outstanding sports performance
3.	Dronacharya Award	1985	For outstanding training and contribution to sports coaches
4.	Dhyan Chand Award	2002	For lifetime achievement and contribution to sports
5.	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy	1956–57	University that excels in inter-university tournaments

World Athletics Awards 2025

- Armand Duplantis (Sweden) and Sydney McLaughlin-Levron (USA) were awarded the 2025 World Athlete of the Year award.
- Duplantis received the honor for breaking the world record 4 times in the men's pole vault and remaining unbeaten in 16 events throughout the year.
- Sydney McLaughlin-Lavron was honored for setting a world record (47.78 seconds) in the women's 400m race and becoming the world champion in both the 400m and 400m hurdles.
- She was also adjudged the Best Male Field Athlete and Best Female Track Athlete respectively.

FIFA Best Football Awards 2025

- The FIFA Best Football Awards 2025 was held in Doha, Qatar.
- The ceremony honoured players, coaches, goalkeepers and examples of sportsmanship who have excelled in world football in the previous year.
- Ousmane Dembele** was named the FIFA Best Player 2025 in the men's category .
- Aitana Bonmati** was named the FIFA Best Player 2025 in the women's category .

Main Winners List

Men's Category

- FIFA Men's Player of the Year 2025:** Ousmane Dembele (France/PSG).
- Best Men's Goalkeeper:** Gianluigi Donnarumma (PSG).
- Puskas Award (Best Goal):** Santiago Montiel (Argentina).

Women's section

- FIFA Women's Player of the Year 2025:** Aitana Bonmati (Spain/Barcelona).
- Best Women's Goalkeeper:** Hannah Hampton (England/England) Chelsea.
- MARTA Award (Best Goal in Women's Football):** Lizbeth Ovalle (Mexico).

Special Rewards

- FIFA Fair Play Award:** Dr. Andreas Harlass-Neuking (Germany).

India Sports Awards 2025

- The Archery Premier League (APL) received the 'Emerging Professional Sports Event of the Year' honour at the India Sports Awards 2025.
- The award was presented at FICCI's 15th Global Sports Conference held in New Delhi.
- The Archery Premier League (APL) is considered the world's first professional archery league.
- The inaugural session was held from 2nd – 12th October 2025 at the Yamuna Sports Complex, New Delhi.

- The competition saw the participation of prominent Indian and international players in both the recurve and compound categories in the men's and women's categories.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2025

- The Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2025 was conferred by the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 26th December 2025 on the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas.
- Under this, children were honored for their outstanding performance and indomitable courage in various fields.
- In this, 20 children from 18 states and union territories were honored.
- Out of the total 20 awards, 2 awards were conferred posthumously.

IEEE Standards Association Corporate Award 2025 to C-DOT

- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has won the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE SA) Corporate Award 2025.
- C-DOT has become the first organization in India and the fifth globally to receive this award.
- The award has been given for C-DOT's contribution to wireless broadband, rural 5G, telecommunication education, and the creation of a globally recognized standards-based innovation framework.
- The award has been presented by the global organization IEEE.

India's **Homebound** shortlisted in top 15 for Oscars 2026

- Neeraj Ghaywan's film 'Homebound' has been shortlisted in the top 15 films for the Best International Feature Film category at the Oscars 2026 (98th Academy Awards).
- After being shortlisted, the film has now reached the final nomination stage and only 5 of these films will get the final Oscar nomination.

The film 'Homebound'

- Director: Neeraj Ghaywan
- Main cast: Ishaan Khatter, Vishal Jethwa
- The story follows two childhood friends who make life decisions amidst dreams of joining the police force, social pressure and friendship.

IAS Supriya Sahu gets UN's highest environmental honour

- In Tamil Nadu, Additional Chief Secretary Supriya Sahu was awarded the "Champions of the Earth Award 2025".
- The award was announced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) during UNEA-7 in Nairobi.

- He was given this honor for his contribution in the field of sustainable cooling, ecosystem restoration and climate adaptation.
- Supriya Sahu received this award in the 'Inspiration and Action' category.
- His climate initiatives created nearly 25 lakh green jobs, increased Tamil Nadu's forest cover, and implemented heat-adaptation measures in public spaces and infrastructure.

Other 2025 Champions of the Earth Award Winners

- Youth Group of the Pacific Islands – for the ICJ's historic advisory opinion on climate justice.
- Miriam Issoufou (Sahel) – for climate-tolerant architectural design.
- Imazon (Brazil) – for AI-based deforestation monitoring.
- Manfredi Caltagirone (posthumous) – for research on methane emission reduction.

Anant Ambani wins Global Humanitarian Award

- Anant Ambani has been honored with the Global Humanitarian Award for Animal Welfare.
- Anant Ambani has become the youngest and first Asian person to receive this global honor.
- He has been given this award for his scientific approach, efforts to rescue and rehabilitate animals, conservation of endangered species and global biodiversity conservation.
- His initiative Vantara is one of the most influential and comprehensive conservation projects in the world.
- In the past, the award has been presented to celebrities like Shirley MacLaine, John Wayne, Betty White, John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton.

Global Humane Society

- The Global Humane Society was founded in 1877.
- It has its origins in the American Humane Society, which is considered the oldest national animal-welfare organization in the world.

Shilp Guru and National Handicrafts Awards (2023□2024)

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the awards on 9th December 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- A total of 48 awards were presented, which included 12 Shilpguru Awards, 36 National Handicrafts Awards and 2 Special Design and Innovation Awards. (Winners include 20 women)

Shilp Guru Award

Year	Winner (State)	Craft/ Art
2024	Kamlesh Sharma (Rajasthan)	Wood Craft

2024	Subhash Arora (Haryana)	Dhokra Metal Craft
2024	Shaheen Anjum (Delhi)	Wood Craft (Jewelry Box)
2024	Mohd. Dilshad (Uttar Pradesh)	Sheesham Wood Carving
2024	Tarith Paul (West Bengal)	Clay Modeling
2024	Shobharani Poddar (West Bengal)	Jute Craft
2023	Ajit Kumar Das (West Bengal)	Hand-painted textiles
2023	Sudhir Kumar Maharana (Odisha)	Portrait painting
2023	D. Sivamma (Andhra Pradesh)	Leather puppetry
2023	Dolon Kundu Mandal (West Bengal)	Terracotta Art
2023	Khatri Ghulam Hussain Umar (Gujarat)	Bandana Clothing
2023	Madhuri Mishra (Uttar Pradesh)	Batik Printing

- The Shilp Guru Awards are being given since 2002 and are the highest national honour in the handicrafts sector.

National Handicrafts Awards

Year	Name	State	Field/ Art
2024	T. Baskaran	Tamil Nadu	Stone Crafts
2024	Roopban Chitrakar	West Bengal	Painting
2024	Baldev Baghmare	Madhya Pradesh	Tribal Artisans
2023	Hirabai Jhareka Baghel	Chhattisgarh	Metal Crafts
2023	Imtiaz Ahmed	Uttar Pradesh	Handmade carpet
2023	Roshan Chhipa	Rajasthan	Artistic Textiles

Bank of Baroda awarded □Best Bank in India□

- Bank of Baroda has been awarded the 'Best Bank in India' award at The Banker – Bank of the Year Awards 2025 (Asia-Pacific).
- The Banker is the prestigious publication of the Financial Times Group.
- This recognition reflects the bank's contribution to transformation, innovation, and financial inclusion.
- Bank of Baroda received this honor due to its successful phygital (Physical + Digital) banking model. Under this model, customers can get services like instant statements, income tax payment certificates, and nominee updates.

TIME 2025 Best Athlete: A'ja Wilson

- A'ja Wilson was named TIME's Best Athlete of the Year 2025 for her historic achievements in women's basketball.
- She became the first player in the USA Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) or the National Basketball Association (NBA) to win a championship, Finals MVP, League MVP, and Defensive Player of the Year in the same season.
- She has become the fastest player in the history of the North American Women's Elite League to reach 5,000 career points.
- A'ja Wilson joined four players who won four MVP titles before the age of 30.
- The list includes Bill Russell, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and LeBron James.
- She was also voted the best player of the women's basketball tournament at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

TIME 2025's Best Entertainers: Leonardo DiCaprio

- Leonardo DiCaprio was declared the best entertainer of the year 2025 by TIME magazine.
- This honor is a recognition of his long and impressive career in the film industry.
- The honor was given for his new film "One Battle After Another".
- The film is directed by Paul Thomas Anderson.
- The film was released in September 2025 and is based on the novel "Vineland" by Thomas Pynchon.
- He has received seven Oscar nominations so far and is a one-time Oscar winner.

Neil Mohan: TIME's 2025 CEO of the Year

- TIME Magazine has named Indian-origin YouTube CEO Neil Mohan as the 'CEO of the Year' for the year 2025.
- The award has been given for his innovation-oriented, empathetic and visionary leadership.
- Neil Mohan started his career at Accenture, where he gained experience in consulting and enterprise systems.
- He then joined DoubleClick and did important work in the field of online advertising technology.

Donald Trump wins first FIFA Peace Prize

- US President Donald Trump has been awarded the first FIFA Peace Prize in Washington in the draw program of the World Cup 2026.
- The award has been given by FIFA President Gianni Infantino.
- It aims to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to global peace.

- This award has played a role in calming many international conflicts.
- The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Ravi DC awarded French Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres

- Malayalam publisher and Managing Director of DC Books, Ravi DC was honoured with the prestigious French cultural honour 'Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres'.
- The award recognizes his contribution to the literature, translation and cultural exchange between India and France.
- The award was presented at a ceremony held at the French Embassy in India.
- Ravi DC of DC Books has been instrumental in promoting French literature in Indian languages, including Malayalam.

Advocate Shubham Awasthi gets 40 Under 40 Lawyer Award 2025

- Supreme Court advocate Shubham Awasthi was honoured with the 40 Under 40 Lawyer Award 2025 for his contribution to public interest litigations and the judicial system.
- He was given this award for his effective contribution in public interest and citizen centric litigation and matters related to social justice and governance.
- Shubham Awasthi is an advocate working in the Supreme Court of India.
- He is active in matters related to public interest litigation, constitutional law and social justice.

Photonics Odyssey wins top honours at Space Apps Challenge 2025

- The Chennai-based Indian team 'Photonics Odyssey' won the 'Most Inspirational Award', becoming the global winner at NASA's 2025 International Space Apps Challenge on 19th December 2025.
- This team's sovereign phased-array satellite internet concept took the top spot in the competition.
- The system focuses on enhancing broadband connectivity in remote areas by reducing dependence on ground infrastructure.
- The project aims to provide broadband access to more than 700 million people in India who are currently underserved.
- The winning team includes Manish D., M.K., Prasanth G., Rajalingam N., Rajesh M., and Sakthi R.
- The NASA International Space Apps Challenge began in 2012 and is the world's largest global hackathon based on NASA's open data.

Raveena Tandon named PETA India

□Person of the Year 2025□

- Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon has been selected as PETA India's Person of the Year 2025.
- The award is for his long-standing work towards animal rights, support for humanitarian education, and promotion of wildlife conservation.
- Raveena Tandon has emerged as an influential voice of animal welfare in India through various campaigns, individual efforts, and public awareness initiatives.

The Fifth Amendment to the Fifth Edition

- The full name of PETA is People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.
- **Main Verticals:** Promote animal rights and welfare and make efforts to reduce or eliminate the use of animals in the entertainment, textile and food industries and encourage vegan and plant-based lifestyles.

Meera Syal honoured with UK□s Damehood

- British-Indian artist Meera Syal has been awarded a Damehood.
- This honor was given to him in King Charles III's New Year Honors List 2025.
- He was honored for his contribution to literature, drama and social service.
- Meera Syal is a comedian, writer, actor and filmmaker.
- She is known for popular shows like 'Goodness Gracious Me' and 'The Kumars at No. 42'.

Air India awarded Best Domestic Airline

- Air India has won the title of 'Best Domestic Airline' at the Travel + Leisure India & South Asia Best Awards 2025.
- This is the second consecutive year that Air India has received this honor.
- These awards are organized by Travel + Leisure India and South Asia.
- These are prizes given solely on the basis of voting by passengers.
- Passengers evaluate airlines based on their actual experience.

National Science Awards 2025

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu presented the National Science Awards 2025 in New Delhi.
- The award is the country's highest honour for exceptional contribution in the field of science, technology and innovation.
- The second edition was held in the year 2025.

Categories of the Award

- The National Science Awards were presented in four categories:

1. Science Gem
2. Vigyan Shri
3. Vigyan Yuva -Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar
4. Vigyan Team

Vigyan Ratna Award

- The Vigyan Ratna Award was posthumously awarded to Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar.
- He was a distinguished Indian astrophysicist and cosmologist.
- He developed the Hoyle-Narlikar theory linking gravity and material formation.
- This theory presented a scientific framework of the steady-state universe in the 1960s.
- Apart from this, eight scientists were honored with the Vigyan Shri award.
- Fourteen young scientists were awarded the Vigyan Yuva - Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award.
- The Science Team Award was given to CSIR's Aroma Mission team.

Singapore Changi Airport: The World□s Best Airport 2025

- Singapore's Changi Airport has won the title of 'World's Best International Airport' for the year 2025.
- The award has been given under the 14th edition of the Travel + Leisure India Awards.

National Energy Conservation Awards 2025

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Energy Conservation Awards 2025 at a ceremony held in New Delhi on 14th December 2025.
- The event was held on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day (December 14).
- It was organized by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) under the Union Ministry of Power.
- These awards aim to raise awareness about energy efficiency and energy conservation.

Best Performing States in Energy Efficiency

Group	First Prized State/State Union Territories
Group 1	Karnataka
Group 2	Andhra Pradesh
Group 3	Kerala
Group 4	Assam
Group 5	Chandigarh



8. Person in News

Raj Kumar Goel sworn in as 13th Chief Information Commissioner of India

- Former IAS officer Raj Kumar Goel was sworn in as the 13th Chief Information Commissioner of the Central Information Commission (CIC) on 15th December 2025 before President Droupadi Murmu.
- He replaced former Chief Information Commissioner Hiralal Samariya.
- Raj Kumar Goel was a 1990 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer.
- Initially belonging to the Jammu and Kashmir cadre and after 2019 joined the AGMUT cadre (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories).
- Current Information Commissioners:** Anandi Ramalingam and Vinod Kumar Tiwari.
- Apart from this, 8 new Information Commissioners were also appointed:

S.	Name	Background/ Previous Post
1	Jaya Varma Sinha	Former Railway Board chief
2	Swagat Das	Former IPS officer
3	Sanjeev Kumar Jindal	Former officers of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS)
4	Surendra Singh Meena	Former IAS officer
5	Khushwant Singh Sethi	Former Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers
6	P.R. Ramesh	Senior Journalist
7	Ashutosh Chaturvedi	Senior Journalist
8	Sudha Rani Rilangi	Former Indian Legal Service Officer

Republic Day 2026: Ursula von der Leyen and Antonio Costa to be the Chief Guests

- The 2026 Republic Day Parade will be graced by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President António Costa as the chief guests.



- In addition, the India-EU Summit will be held in Delhi on 27th January 2026.
- In the year 2025, the President of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto, was the Chief Guest of the Republic Day.

Time magazine's Person of the Year 2025

- Time magazine named "Architects of AI" Person of the Year on December 11, 2025.
- According to Time, in the year 2025, the potential of artificial intelligence increased exponentially, and its impact became irreversible.
- The 'Architects of AI' ushered in the era of thinking machines.

'Architects of AI'

- Time's iconic cover image is inspired by the famous photo "Lunch Atop a Skyscraper."
- It features eight prominent AI leaders.

Key AI Leaders

- Mark Zuckerberg — CEO, Meta
- Lisa Su — CEO, AMD
- Elon Musk — CEO, Tesla; Founder, xAI
- Jensen Huang — CEO, NVIDIA
- Sam Altman — CEO, OpenAI
- Demis Hassabis — CEO, Google DeepMind
- Dario Amodei — CEO, Anthropic
- Fei-Fei Li — AI Scientist and Founder of World Labs

Droupadi Murmu became the second President of India to sail a submarine

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu visited the INS Kadamba Naval Base at Karwar in North Karnataka on December 28, 2025.
- The President undertook a sortie from the port of Karwar in the Indian Navy's state-of-the-art submarine INS Vaghshir.

- With this, she became the second President of India to undertake a submarine voyage.
- Earlier, only APJ Abdul Kalam had undertaken a submarine voyage to Visakhapatnam in 2006.
- Droupadi Murmu is the first President of India to fly in the fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force.
- He flew in a Rafale fighter jet on 29 October 2025.
- Note:** INS Kadamba is a major Indian naval base located near Karwar, Karnataka.
 - It is currently the third largest naval base in India.

Nitin Naveen appointed as BJP's national working president

- The BJP has appointed Bihar Youth Road Construction Minister Nitin Naveen as its national working president.
- He replaced outgoing national president JP Nadda.
- He has been elected MLA in Bihar five times in a row and has been a minister twice.
- He has been serving as a minister in Bihar since 2021.

Appointment of 3 new Additional Solicitors General

- The Central Government appointed 3 senior advocates in the Supreme Court as Additional Solicitor General (ASG).
 1. Davinder Pal Singh
 2. Ravindra Kumar at Kanakamedu
 3. Anil Kaushik (Rajasthan)
- All appointments shall remain in effect for three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

PV Sindhu becomes BWF Athletes Commission Chairperson

- India's top badminton player Pusarla Venkat (PV) Sindhu has been elected as the chairperson of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Athletes' Commission.
- His tenure will be from 2026 to 2029 (3 years).
- He succeeds Greysia Polli (Indonesia), who was president from 2021-2025.
- Apart from this, PV Sindhu will also be a member of the BWF Council.

First Scientist to receive Prime Minister's Professorship

- The Prime Minister's Professorship will be conferred on Dr. Kishore Paknikar, an eminent scientist for the first time.

- The objective of this professorship is to strengthen the research ecosystem in universities.
- Dr. Kishore Paknikar is a former director of Agarkar Research Institute, Pune.
- He is also a visiting professor at IIT Bombay.
- He will be awarded this professorship by the National Research Foundation of the Government of India.
- Under this, they will get a fellowship of Rs 2.5 lakh per month.
- Apart from this, a research grant of Rs 24 lakh per year for five years will also be provided.

Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty: First woman president of Press Club of India

- Senior journalist Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty was elected as the president of the Press Club of India on December 14.
- She has become the first Woman President in the history of the Press Club of India (PCI).
- Sangeeta Barooah got a total of 1,019 votes.
- His rival Atul Mishra got 129 votes and Arun Sharma got 89 votes.
- The Press Club of India was established on 20 December 1957.

Kamya Karthikeyan becomes youngest Indian woman to reach South Pole

- 18-year-old Kamya Karthikeyan became the first woman from India to reach the South Pole while skiing.
- She is also the second youngest woman in the world to achieve this feat.
- She is an alumna of Navy Children's School.

Suresh Goel appointed as DG, NCAER

- Suresh Goyal has been appointed as the new Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).
- His term will be effective from January 5, 2026.

Suresh Goyal

- He has over 30 years of experience in the public and private sectors.
- He is the former Managing Director and CEO of the National Highway Infra Trust (NHIT).

Shashwat Sharma takes over as Airtel India MD and CEO

- The board of Bharti Airtel Company approved the appointment of Shashwat Sharma on 18 December 2025.
- Shashwat Sharma will take over as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Airtel India from January 1, 2026.

- He will have a tenure of five years and will also be nominated as a managerial person.
- He will be responsible for Airtel's operations, strategy and operational performance in India.

Pakistan appoints first Chief of Defence Forces

- In Pakistan, Field Marshal Asim Munir has been appointed as the country's first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF).
- The appointment was approved by President Asif Ali Zardari on December 5, 2025.
- The post has been given official status under the 27th Constitutional Amendment of November 2025.
- He will continue to hold this position alongside being the Chief of Army Staff, and this appointment follows the reorganization.
- This new CDF designation brings the three services – Army, Navy and Air Force – under unified command.
- The CDF will receive the authority of top leadership in strategic structure, inter-service coordination, nuclear command, and national security crises.

José Antonio Kast becomes Chile's new president

- Republican Party right-wing candidate José Antonio Kast has won Chile's presidential election.
- Kast defeated left-wing candidate Janet Jara.
- Kast received 58 percent of the vote, while Zara received 42 percent of the vote.
- José Antonio Kast, 59, will be sworn in as president on March 11, 2026.

Andrej Babis □ Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

- Andrej Babis was sworn in as the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic again on 9 December 2025.
- His party, ANO (YES Movement), emerged victorious in the parliamentary elections held in October 2025.
- He has formed a 16-member cabinet in alliance with two other parties.
- The coalition has 108 of the 200 seats in the lower house.

Czech Republic

- The landlocked countries of Central Europe; Historical name: Bohemia.
- Capital: Prague.
- Governance System: Unitary Parliamentary Republic.

Jared Isaacman appointed NASA chief

- The US Senate has approved the appointment of Jared Isaacman as the new head of NASA.
- The appointment passed the Senate by a margin of 67–30.
- The 42-year-old Isaac Man has become the 15th administrator of NASA.
- Jared is the founder of Shift4 Payments, a skilled pilot, and commander of SpaceX's Inspiration4 and Polaris Dawn missions.
- Inspiration4 (2021) was the world's first all-civilian orbital mission and Jared was its commander.
- Apart from this, under the Polaris Dawn (2024) mission, Jared did the first private spacewalk.
- **Note:** Jared Isaacman was the first non-professional astronaut to do a spacewalk.

Barham Salih becomes United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- The United Nations General Assembly has unanimously appointed former Iraqi President Barham Salih as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

His term will be 5 years, starting from January 1, 2026.

- He will replace the current High Commissioner Filippo Grandi.
- Barham Salih will be the first head of the UN human rights mechanism from the Middle East region since the 1970s.

Demises

Khaleda Zia passes away

- Bangladesh's first female Prime Minister Khaleda Zia passed away on 30 December 2025.
- Khaleda Zia twice served as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh from 1991–1996 and 2001–2006.
- She was the head of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).
- She was the wife of former President of Bangladesh, Ziaur Rahman.

Noted sculptor Ram Sutar passes away

- Renowned sculptor Ram Sutar passed away on 17th December 2025.
- Ram Sutar is best known for designing the 'Statue of Unity', the world's tallest statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- He was born on 19 February 1925 in Gondur village of Dhule district of Maharashtra.

- The statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Chhatrapati Shivaji installed in the Parliament complex are among his major works.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2016.

Former Home Minister Shivraj Patil passes away

- Senior Congress leader and former Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil passed away on 12 December 2025.

Political journey

- Born: October 12 1935.
- He was the head of the Latur Municipal Council.
- He was elected 7 times from the Latur Lok Sabha seat.
- He was the Union Home Minister (2004–2008).
- Speaker of Lok Sabha (1991–1996): He was the 10th Lok Sabha Speaker.
- Governor: Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh (2010–2015).
- He was also the acting Governor of Rajasthan.

Poet Vinod Kumar Shukla passes away

- Renowned poet and storyteller Vinod Kumar Shukla passed away on 23rd December 2025.
- He was awarded the 59th Jnanpith Award in November 2025.

- He received this honor for the work 'A Window Lived in the Wall'.
- He also received the Sahitya Akademi Award in the year 1999 for this work.
- His first collection of poems 'Lagbhag Jai Hind' was published in 1971.
- His famous novel 'Naukar Ki Kameez' is considered to be an important work of Hindi literature.
- He became the first Indian author to receive the PEN/Nabokov Prize in 2023.

India's oldest MLA Shivashankarappa passes away

- Shamanur Shivashankarappa, the country's oldest MLA (94 years) and president of the All India Veerashaiva Lingayat Mahasabha, passed away.
- He was elected MLA from Davanagere South Assembly seat in the year 2023.
- Shivashankarappa entered politics in 1969 from the municipal council.
- He became an MLA for the first time in 1994.
- He was a six-time MLA and one-time MP.

Swaraj Kaushal passes away

- Senior Supreme Court advocate Swaraj Kaushal passed away on 4th December 2025.
- He served as the Governor of Mizoram during 1990–1993.
- He was a respected constitutional law expert.

9. Places in News

Kopra Reservoir and Siliserh Lake get Ramsar Site Status

- The Kopra reservoir located in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh has been declared as the state's first Ramsar site.
- Along with this, the Siliserh Lake in Rajasthan has also been designated as a Ramsar site.
- With these new nominations, the total number of Ramsar sites in India has gone up to 96.
- The Kopra Reservoir is a freshwater wetland, which includes both natural and man-made features.
- Siliserh Lake is a man-made wetland located in the buffer zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar, Rajasthan.

Ramsar Sites

- In 2025, Tamil Nadu (20 Ramsar Sites) became the state with the highest number of Ramsar Sites in India.
- **India's first Ramsar site (1981):** Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)
- **India's largest Ramsar site:** Sundarbans Delta (West Bengal)
- **India's smallest Ramsar site:** Rudrasagar Lake (Tripura)

Ramsar Convention

- The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty signed by 173 countries for wetland conservation.
- It is named after the city of Ramsar in Iran, where it was adopted in 1971.
- India ratified the Convention on February 1, 1982.

Nashik: National Onion Centre to be set up in Sinnar

- The National Onion Centre will be set up in Nashik district of Maharashtra.
- The centre will be built on two acres of land at Jaigaon in Sinnar taluka.
- The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 5 crore.
- The objective of this center is to provide fair price to the farmers for onions.
- This center will also be helpful in making onions available to consumers at a stable price.
- The Lasalgaon Agricultural Produce Market Committee in Nashik is Asia's largest onion market.

Asia's longest ski drag lift inaugurated

- Recently, Asia's longest ski drag lift was inaugurated in Gulmarg, North Kashmir.
- This ski drag lift is located in the Kongduri area and has a total length of 726 meters.
- The cost of this project is ₹3.65 crore.
- The new lift will provide a significant boost to professional skiing and winter sports training.
- A rotating conference hall at an altitude of 4,390 meters was also inaugurated in the Apharwat area of Gulmarg.

India's First Forest University

- India will set up its first forest university in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- The University will encourage education and research in forestry, wildlife conservation and environmental sciences.
- The proposed university will be developed in an area of about 125 acres in Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh).
- An initial provision of Rs 50 crore has been made in the state budget for the project.
- The campus will have academic buildings, research laboratories, hostels for about 500 students, separate student accommodation, auditorium, sports facilities and faculty quarters.
- Courses related to forestry, agro-forestry, social forestry, horticulture and wildlife conservation will be conducted in the university.

Inauguration of 'Rashtra Prerna Sthal' in Lucknow

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Rashtra Prerna Sthal' in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh on 25 December 2025.
- The inauguration was done on the occasion of the 101st birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- It aims to promote leadership values, national service, cultural consciousness and public motivation.
- It has been developed as a historic national monument and a complex of permanent national importance.

Features

- Built at a cost of about Rs 230 crore, the complex is spread over an area of 65 acres.
- The complex houses 65 feet tall bronze statues of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- A state-of-the-art lotus-shaped museum spread over 98,000 square feet has also been built here.
- The museum depicts India's national journey and contributions of prominent leaders through digital and immersive technology.

India's first 'Table-Top Red Road Markings' Wildlife-Protected Road

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched India's first wildlife-protected road with 'table-top red road markings' on NH-45 in Madhya Pradesh.
- This initiative aims to reduce animal-vehicle collisions and ensure safe road connectivity to forest areas.
- This road is located on the 11.96 km long Hiran-Sindoor section of NH-45. This route connects Bhopal and Jabalpur.
- The road passes between the Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary and the Veerangana Durgawati Tiger Reserve.
- This area is the natural habitat of many wildlife like tiger, deer, sambar, jackal.
- It uses 'table-top red road markings' for the first time in India.
- These are light embossed, checkered red surfaces, which are different from traditional speed breakers.
- With them, drivers naturally reduce speed without suddenly applying the brakes.

Country's first medical college with PPP mode

- The foundation stone of India's first PPP medical colleges was laid on 22 December 2025 in the tribal districts of Dhar and Betul in Madhya Pradesh.
- In a landmark initiative in the field of medical education in India, the first medical colleges are being set up on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model in Madhya Pradesh.
- This initiative aims to reduce regional disparities in medical education and healthcare services.
- The Medical College of Dhar is the first of its kind in the country, which will be built with private public participation.
- After this, the second medical college will be built in Betul, Madhya Pradesh.

- From January 2026, the foundation stone of medical colleges will also be laid in Panna and Katni of Madhya Pradesh.
- These four PPP model colleges (Dhar, Betul, Katni, Panna) will be connected to district hospitals.

JP Morgan to set up Asia's largest GCC in India

- US banking giant JP Morgan has announced plans to set up Asia's largest Global Capability Centre (GCC) in India.
- This center will be set up in Mumbai.
- This initiative will further strengthen India's role in the global finance and technology sector and create large-scale high-skill employment opportunities.

India's first power museum in Patna

- India's first power museum will be set up in Karbigahiya, Patna, the capital of Bihar.
- The museum will be developed in the 3 acre campus of Karbigahiya Thermal Power Station.
- The proposed Power Museum will be built at a cost of around Rs 200 crore.
- It will be India's first and the world's fourth power museum.
- The museum will showcase the history and development of energy in the country.

First Indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Passenger Vessel Commissioned at Varanasi

- The first fully indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell passenger ferry in the field of green shipping was launched from Namo Ghat, Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.
- Its first commercial journey was conducted from Namo Ghat to Lalita Ghat (about 5 km).
- The vessel has been designed and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL).
- The vessel is owned and operated by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).
- It is India's first inland vessel to be powered by a hydrogen fuel cell.
- The vessel is fitted with a low-temperature Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) based hydrogen fuel cell system.
- This system converts hydrogen into electricity.

India's First Zero-Emission Electric Tug Project

- India has launched its first fully electric green tug project towards clean and modern port operations.
- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal virtually inaugurated the steel-cutting ceremony of the project.

- This electric tug is being developed for the Kandla-based Deendayal Port Authority (DPA).
- The project will be implemented under the Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP).
- The central government aims to induct 50 green tugs by the year 2030.
- In its first phase (2024–2027), 16 green tugs will be put into service.

Haryana: Hansi declared as 23rd district

- The Haryana government has officially declared Hansi as the 23rd district of the state.
- This decision came into effect with the issuance of the government notification.
- It aims to enhance administrative efficiency and accelerate regional development.
- The newly formed district consists of two subdivisions—Hansi and Narnaund.
- The new district will ensure better administrative control, improved law and order and balanced regional development.

Veerangana Durgawati Tiger Reserve will also become a new sanctuary for cheetahs

- The Madhya Pradesh government has announced plans to develop the Veerangana Durgawati Tiger Reserve as a new sanctuary for cheetahs.
- Located in the Nauradehi area of Sagar district, this reserve will become the third cheetah habitat in Madhya Pradesh after Kuno National Park and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary.
- Cheetah reintroduction was carried out in Kuno National Park in September 2022 and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary, Mandsaur was made the second cheetah habitat in April 2025.
- Eight more cheetahs will be brought to India from Botswana in January 2026.

First trial of Supernova stent for stroke treatment in India

- The first clinical trial of a supernova stent for the treatment of stroke in India has been conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.
- The Supernova Stent is a new and advanced stroke treatment device, developed specifically for mechanical thrombectomy.
- According to AIIMS, the Supernova stent has been designed keeping in mind the needs of India's diverse patient population.
- This is India's first stroke treatment device approved on the basis of domestic clinical trials.

- The stents have so far been used in the treatment of more than 300 patients in South-East Asia.

Guwahati becomes India's first nature-theme airport

- The country's first nature-themed terminal was inaugurated at the Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport in Guwahati.
- The terminal was developed by GIAL (Guwahati International Airport Limited) and is operated by Adani Airports.
- The terminal is spread over an area of about 1.4 lakh square meters.
- It features 57 distinctive columns inspired by foxtail orchids (Kopou phool) in the arrival and departure areas.
- It is capable of handling about 1.31 crore passengers per annum.
- The terminal is eco-friendly and manufactured to GRIHA rating standards.

Victoria University to set up campus in Gurugram

- Australia's Victoria University (VU) laid the foundation stone of its Delhi-NCR campus in Gurugram, Haryana.
- This campus will be the first international institution in India to provide education entirely through VU's block model.
- This model has been developed keeping in mind the better learning outcomes of students and future readiness.
- The Government of India has given permission to set up a large overseas campus in India under the new National Education Policy (NEP).
- This initiative will contribute to India's human resource development and produce skilled graduates through partnerships with industries and world-class curriculum.

Capuchin monkeys brought to Bannerghatta Biological Park from South Africa

- Bannerghatta Biological Park, located near Bengaluru in Karnataka, brought eight Black-capped Capuchin monkeys from South Africa.
- The initiative aims to promote scientific zoo management, maintaining genetic diversity, and adhering to global conservation standards.
- These monkeys belong to the black-capped capuchin species, whose scientific name is *Sapajus apella*.
- This species is known for its high intelligence, social behavior and ability to use tools.

Parvati-Arga Bird Sanctuary declared Eco-Sensitive Area

- Recently, the Parvati-Arga Bird Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh has been declared an eco-sensitive zone.
- It aims to preserve the biodiversity of the sanctuary and develop it as a responsible eco-tourism site.
- It is located in Uttar Pradesh, about 40 kilometers from Gonda district.
- It consists of two wetland areas named Parvati and Arga.
- It is an important winter migration site for thousands of migratory waterfowls coming from Central Asia and Tibet.

Miscellaneous

India - World's largest producer of makhana

- India is the world's largest producer of makhana and accounts for about 80 per cent of global production.
- Bihar contributes about 85 per cent of the total national production in the country in terms of makhana.
- Darbhanga district of Bihar is a major center of cultivation and processing of makhana.
- This (information) was provided by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.
- Note:** Darbhanga is home to the ICAR-National Makhana Research Centre.
- Apart from this, Darbhanga district has been identified for makhana production under the 'One District One Product' initiative.

Inauguration of Param Veer Gallery at Rashtrapati Bhavan

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 'Param Veer Gallery' at Rashtrapati Bhavan on December 16, 2025.
- The gallery is an initiative to honour India's legacy of supreme military valour and sacrifice.
- Param Veer Gallery is a special gallery set up in Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- It displays portraits of all the 21 awardees of Param Veer Chakra.
- The gallery aims to introduce visitors to the courage, valour and sacrifice of India's national heroes.
- Note:** The Param Vir Chakra is India's highest military gallantry honour.

GI Tag to Ponduru Khadi

- The Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry has granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Ponduru Khadi.
- This tag gives legal protection to the unique identity and traditional heritage of Ponduru Khadi.

Ponduru Khadi

- Ponduru is located about 20 km from Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh.
- It is a traditional, hand-woven cotton fabric.

GI Tag

- The GI tag is an Intellectual Property Right.
- It gives special recognition and protection to products whose quality and reputation are associated with a specific geographical region.

India's first indigenous MRI scanner

- Indian startup Voxelgrids, developed in collaboration with Zoho, has developed India's first indigenous MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scanner.
- Voxelgrids has successfully designed and manufactured the 1.5 Tesla MRI scanner.
- This scanner has been installed at Chandrapur Cancer Care Foundation near Nagpur.
- India has so far relied mainly on foreign companies like Siemens and GE Healthcare for MRI machines.
- Its magnetic field capacity is 1.5 Tesla, which is considered the standard for clinical diagnostics.

India's performance at WorldSkills Asia Competition 2025

- The 3rd WorldSkills Asia Competition was hosted in Taipei, Taiwan on November 27-29, 2025 at the Nangang Exhibition Centre.
- The event was attended by more than 500 participants from 29 Asian member and guest countries to promote education, economic growth, tourism, and international exchanges.
- The Indian contingent consisted of 23 contestants across 21 skill categories with the support of 21 experts led by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- India participated in it for the first time and secured the 8th position.
- In this, India received 1 silver, 2 bronze and 3 excellence awards.

PM Vishwakarma Yojana: Agreement between Ministry of MSME and Amazon

- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Ministry of MSME and Amazon to support PM Vishwakarma artisans.
- This agreement has been signed between the Ministry of MSME and Amazon Seller Services Private Limited.
- The agreement aims to strengthen market access for artisans registered under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme.
- This partnership will help artisans access online marketplaces, better visibility of products and expand customer base.
- Amazon will facilitate the process of adding qualified Vishwakarma artisans on its platform.
- The Ministry of MSME will provide assistance in necessary approvals and registration as per extant rules.

□MahaCrimeOS□: Using AI in Combating Cybercrime

- The Maharashtra Police has developed an AI platform called 'MahaCrimeOS' in collaboration with Microsoft.
- This platform is based on the Microsoft Azure Open AI service.
- After successful trials in police stations in Nagpur, it will be implemented across Maharashtra.
- It will be launched in about 1100 police stations of Maharashtra.
- According to the National Crime Records Bureau, 65,983 cybercrimes were registered in the country in 2022.
- In 2023, the number of cybercrime cases increased by 31 percent to 86,420.

Sujlam Bharat App

- The Central Government launched the Sujlam Bharat App for monitoring and managing rural drinking water systems.
- The app provides real-time information related to water supply schemes to citizens and officials.
- This initiative has been taken with the objective of increasing transparency, strengthening community participation and ensuring better planning under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- The app has been developed in collaboration with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).

- It uses advanced geo-referencing technology and can digitally map every water source, pipeline, tank and plan.

Academic agreement between GatiShakti Vishwavidyalaya and Amazon

- Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the e-commerce company Amazon.
- This collaboration aims to empower teaching, research, and academic innovation in the logistics and warehousing sector.
- Under this MoU, both the institutes will develop new academic programs and modernize the existing courses.
- A key feature of the agreement is the establishment of an 'Amazon Chair Professorship', under which research on data-driven modern warehousing will be conducted.
- This partnership will lead to better planning, design, and innovation in the transportation and logistics sector.
- Its focus is on all transport sectors such as railways, highways, ports, aviation, maritime, shipping, inland waterways, urban transport, logistics and supply chain.

NMDC and IIT Kanpur sign cyber security agreement

- The National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), India's largest iron ore producer, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with IIT Kanpur.
- It aims to strengthen cybersecurity and enhance the use of digital technologies.
- With the increase in digitalization, large industrial networks are becoming more vulnerable to cyber attacks.
- The agreement includes initiatives such as cybersecurity risk assessment, compliance with security policies, incident response systems, AI and ML-based technological integration, joint research projects, and training programs.

□Green to Gold□ Initiative: Industrial Hemp Cultivation in Himachal Pradesh

- The Himachal Pradesh government has decided to encourage industrial cannabis cultivation to empower the rural economy and promote sustainable development.
- The 'Green to Gold' initiative, launched by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu, aims to make the state a self-reliant Himachal by 2027.
- The initiative sees cannabis as an important pillar of the state's bio-economy.

- Under the new policy, cannabis will be developed as a controlled, high-value and multi-use industrial resource.
- Under this, it will be mandatory to keep the amount of THC in industrial hemp grown in Himachal Pradesh less than 0.3%.

Recommendation for Census 2027 for Census of Denotified Tribes (DNTs)

- The Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has recommended the inclusion of Denotified Tribes (DNTs) in the Census 2027.
- This will lead to an official census of these communities for the first time in independent India.
- Earlier, their last census was done in the 1911 census of the colonial period.
- Denotified tribes are communities that were declared “criminal tribes” under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871 during British rule.
- **Note:** This Act was repealed in the year 1949.
- **Note:** Many of the denotified tribes are not included in the Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Castes (SC) or Other Backward Classes (OBCs). As a result, they are deprived of reservation, social security and targeted welfare schemes.

Asian Waterbird Census

- The 40th Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) and the 60th International Waterbird Census (IWC) will be conducted on 10–11 January 2026.
- The census will take place in the Godavari estuary, which also includes the biodiversity-rich Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Godavari estuary is one of the rare Indian sites where the endangered migratory birds Indian Skimmer and Great Knot are found together.
- This census will be conducted in collaboration with the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department, Bombay Natural History Society, Wildlife Institute of India, and WWF.

10. Conferences, Festivals

National Conference of Chairpersons of Public Service Commissions

- The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the National Conference of Chairmen of Public Service Commissions on December 19, 2025 at Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The conference was organized by the Telangana Public Service Commission and was attended by representatives of Public Service Commissions from across the country.
- It emphasized on the highest priority to honesty and integrity in the recruitment processes.
- It urged the Public Service Commissions to contribute in preparing the governance system of the future in tune with Viksit Bharat 2047.

5th National Conference of Chief Secretaries

- The conference was held in Delhi from 26th to 28th December 2025.
- The conference was chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- It aims to strengthen Centre-State partnership and build consensus on national development priorities through sustained dialogue.
- The main theme of the conference was “Human Capital for Developed India”.
- Under this, special discussions will be held on five major areas namely Early Childhood Education, School Education, Skill Development, Higher Education, Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities.

Dhanu Jatra Festival 2025

- The 78th Dhanu Jatra Festival was held in Bargarh, Odisha from 24th December 2025 to 3rd January 2026.
- Dhanu Jatra is considered to be the largest open-air theatre in the world.
- This 11-day drama festival is based on the legend of Lord Krishna and Kansa.
- The festival marks the victory of good over evil and is held annually.
- In 2014, the Ministry of Culture, Government of India gave it the status of a national festival.
- In this, the events of Krishna Leela, Mathura victory, Devaki-Vasudeva marriage and Kansa slaying are dramatized.

FirsteverInvestorConclaveinLakshadweep

- The Union Department of Fisheries organized the first Investors Summit in Lakshadweep on 13th December 2025.
- The conference was held at Bangaram Island.
- The objective was to unleash the untapped investment potential of Lakshadweep's fisheries sector.
- Lakshadweep has about 20% of India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and is rich in tuna and other high-value fish species.

Charaichung Festival

- The Charaichung Festival was held in Majuli district of Assam on 7-10 December 2025 to revive the Royal Bird Sanctuary.
- The festival was held for the second time on the world's largest river island.
- Objective: To revitalize bird habitats, promote tourism, and establish Charaichung as a global heritage site.
- Charaichung is Asia's first protected royal bird sanctuary (founded: 1633, Ahom king Swargadeo Pratap Singha).

11th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025

- The festival was held from 6th to 9th December 2025 in Panchkula, Haryana.
- The event is a major national event celebrating India's progress in science, innovation, and technology.
- The theme of IISF 2025 is “Vigyan Se Samriddhi: For Atmanirbhar Bharat”.
- The objective of the festival is to make science and innovation the basis of self-reliance, connect traditional knowledge with modern research and promote scientific temper in public.

60th All India Conference of Director Generals and Inspectors General of Police

- The 60th All India Conference of Director Generals and Inspectors General of Police was held in Raipur from 28th to 30th November 2025.
- It was presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- The theme of the conference was “Viksit Bharat: Security Dimension”.
- Issues such as terrorism, cyber crime, Left Wing Extremism and women’s safety were discussed in detail.

Inauguration of EARTH Summit 2025

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the EARTH Summit 2025 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 5th December 2025.
- The EARTH Summit is a national series and aims to formulate policy-level dialogues and solutions on issues related to agriculture, animal husbandry, cooperatives and rural development.
- The third and final edition will be held in Delhi next year.
- In addition, more than 13 new digital services and products were launched under the Sahakar Sarathi initiative.
- More than 13 digital tools including Digi KCC, Cooperative Governance Index, ePACS, World’s Largest Grain Storage Application, Campaign Sarathi, Website Sarathi, Shiksha Sarathi and Sarathi Tech Forum have been launched in this summit.
- These services aim to make loan disbursement, documentation, evaluation, compliance and banking services more digitally efficient and transparent.

18th Meeting of the Global Forum on Transparency in Tax Objectives and Exchange of Information

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the 18th Plenary Session of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes in New Delhi.
- The meeting was hosted by India from 2–5 December 2025.
- Its theme is ‘Tax Transparency: Delivering a Shared Vision Through International Cooperation’.
- The forum is the premier global body implementing tax transparency standards, EOIR and AEOI, with 172 member territories and all G20 countries.

Kochi: 7th India International Seaweed Expo & Summit 2026

- Kochi has been selected to host the 7th India International Seaweed Expo and Summit of the year 2026.
- The event will be held on 29–30 January 2026.
- It will be organized in collaboration with ICAR-CMFRI, Indian Chamber of Commerce and CSIR-CSMCRI.
- It will include representatives from several countries including Brazil, Sri Lanka, Netherlands, Sweden.
- The highlight will be the “Seaweed 2030” roadmap, which aims to make India the world’s leading seaweed producer.
- The conference will discuss policy, technology, bio-innovation, supply chain and financial models.

PESA Mahotsav 2025

- The two-day PESA Mahotsav 2025 was launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj on 23rd December 2025 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The event was held on the occasion of the anniversary of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- It aims to raise awareness of the PESA Act and empower the Gram Sabha-led governance system in scheduled areas.
- During this, the mascot of the PESA Festival “Krishna Jinka” was unveiled.

SARAS Aajeevika Food Utsav 2025

- Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated the festival on December 1 at Sunder Nursery, New Delhi.
- The festival was held from 1–9 December 2025.
- The event was attended by SHG women from 25 states and around 300 ‘Lakhpatti Didis’.
- Objective: To promote rural women entrepreneurship and celebrate Indian culinary culture.



11. Reports & Index

Global AI Advantage Index 2025

- The index is based on the Work Reimagined Survey report of EY (Ernst & Young).
- In this, India secured the first position in the world in the Global AI Advantage Index 2025.
- This achievement shows the effective use of Artificial Intelligence in workplaces.
- India's AI Advantage score stood at 53, higher than the global average of 34.
- About 62% of employees in India are regularly using GenAI tools.
- In the Talent Health category, India scored 82 points, which is much higher than the global average of 65.
- The Global AI Advantage Index measures the real impact of AI in the workplace.

Asia Power Index 2025

- The index was released by the Australia-based Lowy Institute.
- India secured the third position in the Asia Power Index (API) 2025.
- India achieved a comprehensive strength score of 40.0 out of 100.
- The United States ranked first and is included in the category of Superpowers.
- China remained in second place and remained in the category of Superpower.
- This is a significant achievement for India as it has crossed the 40-point mark for the first time.
- India has officially joined the ranks of Asia's "Major Power".
- The index assesses the overall power and influence of countries in the Indo-Pacific region.
- This index measures factors such as economic power, military capability, diplomacy, cultural influence, resilience, and future resources.
- It ranks 27 countries and territories based on 131 indicators under eight thematic areas.

Top 10 countries

Rank	Country	Category	Score
1.	USA	Super Power	80.4

2.	China	Super Power	73.7
3.	India	Major Strength	40.0
4.	Japan	Middle power	38.8
5.	Russia	Middle power	32.1
6.	Australia	Middle power	31.8
7.	South Korea	Middle power	31.5
8.	Singapore	Middle power	26.8
9.	Indonesia	Middle power	22.4
10.	Malaysia	Middle power	20.5

Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2025

- This index was released by Yale University, USA.
- European countries such as Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, the UK and Malta continue to top the ranking.
- India is ranked 176th out of 180 countries in this index.
- The index assesses countries on more than 50 indicators, including air quality, clean water, biodiversity, carbon emissions, and human health.

IDFC First Private and Hurun India's Top 200 Self-Made Entrepreneurs □ Millennium 2025

- The list was prepared by IDFC FIRST Private Banking and Hurun India.
- Under this list, Deepinder Goel, the founder and CEO of Eternal, a company that owns popular brands like Zomato and Blinkit, became India's top self-made entrepreneur in 2025.
- He has secured the first position leaving behind D-Mart founder Radhakishan Damani.
- The valuation of Eternal has increased by 27 percent from the previous year to ₹3.2 lakh crore.
- Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal, founders of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of IndiGo Airlines, are among the top-3.

IDFC First Private and Hurun India's Top 200 Self-Made Entrepreneurs □ Top 10 of Millennium 2025

Rank	Founder	Company	Price (₹ Cr)
1.	Deepinder Goyal	Eternal	3,20,700
2.	Radhakishan Damani	Avenue Supermarts	2,97,800
3.	Rahul Bhatia, Rakesh Gangwal	InterGlobe Aviation	2,19,300
4.	Abhay Soi	Max Healthcare Institute	1,10,700
5.	Sriharsha Majetti, Nandan Reddy	Swiggy	1,06,100
6.	Deep Kalra, Rajesh Mago	MakeMyTrip	94,500
7.	Yashish Dahiya, Alok Bansal	Policybazaar	80,300
8.	Vijay Shekhar Sharma	Paytm	72,900
9.	Falguni Nair, Advaita Nair	Nykaa	67,500
10.	Piyush Bansal, Amit Chaudhary, Neha Bansal, Sumit Kapahi	Lenskart	67,000

Arton Capital Passport Index 2025

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) became the world's most powerful passport for the 7th consecutive year in the 2025 Passport Index released by Canada's Arton Capital.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has a total mobility score of 179.
 - This includes visa-free in 126 countries, visa-on-arrival in 45 countries, and ETA facility in 8 countries.
- Singapore and Spain were jointly ranked second, with a mobility score of 175.
- India was ranked 67th globally with a mobility score of 74.
 - Indian passport holders can travel visa-free to 74 countries, covering about 37% of the world.
- Afghanistan, Iran, Syria and Iraq were at the bottom of the index.
- This includes passports of 193 UN member states and 6 other territories.
- The index has three ranking systems — Global Passport Power, Individual Passport Power and Welcoming Countries.

Arton Capital Passport Index 2025

- The Global Passport Rankings 2025 have been released by Arton Capital.
- This ranking reflects the international travel freedom of a country's passport.
- In this, the strength of the passport is determined on the basis of the Mobility Score.

- Its Mobility Score indicates how many countries the passport holder can enter through visa-free, visa-on-arrival, or ETA.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made the world's most powerful passport in 2025.
- India is ranked 67th in this ranking.

Top 10 Strongest Passports of 2025

Rank	Country
1.	United Arab Emirates
2.	Singapore, Spain
3.	Belgium, France, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Finland, Luxembourg, Italy, Denmark, Portugal, Switzerland, Greece, Austria, Malaysia, Norway, Ireland, South Korea, Japan
4.	Poland, Slovenia, Croatia, Slovakia, Hungary, Estonia
5.	Malta, Romania, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Latvia, New Zealand
6.	Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Australia
7.	Cyprus, Iceland
8.	United Kingdom, Canada
9.	United States
10.	Monaco

Stanford Global AI Vibrancy Report

- According to Stanford University's Global AI Vibrancy Report, India has become the third most competitive AI country in the world.
- India has secured the third position with a score of 21.59.
- The United States ranks first in this report with a score of 78.6.
- China ranked second with a score of 36.95.
- The AI Vibrancy Score has been assessed on the basis of research and development, skilled talent, investment, economic impact, technological infrastructure, public perception, and government policies.

Top Countries in AI Vibrancy Report

Rank	Country	Score
1.	United States	78.60
2.	China	36.95
3.	India	21.59
4.	South Korea	17.24
5.	UK	16.64
7.	Spain	16.37
8.	UAE	16.06
9.	Japan	16.04
10.	Canada	15.56

Women, Peace and Security Index 2025-26

- The index is released by the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security and PRIO, Norway.
- The index is based on three dimensions: inclusivity, justice and security.
- Denmark ranks first in this index, followed by Iceland and Norway.
- Afghanistan was ranked last (181st).
- India was ranked 131 out of 181 countries with a score of 0.607.
- In 2025, approximately 676 million women worldwide experienced conflict and insecurity, a 74% increase from 2010 .

Top 5 Best Countries	Bottom 5 countries
1. Denmark	1. Afghanistan
2. Iceland	2. Yemen
3. Norway	3. Central African Republic
4. Sweden	4. Syria
5. Finland	5. Sudan

Global Food City Rankings 2025-26

- This ranking was released by TasteAtlas.
- It encompassed cities where food is a hub of culture, identity, and experience.

10 Best Food Cities in the World (2025-26)

S. No.	city	speciality
1.	Naples	Pizza Margherita
2.	Milan	Risotto alla Milanese
3.	Bologna	Tagliatelle Al Ragu
4.	Florence	Bistecca alla Fiorentina
5.	Mumbai	Vibrant street food culture
6.	Genoa	Pesto-based dishes
7.	Paris	Classic French cuisine
8.	Vienna	Wiener Schnitzel
9.	Rome	Carbonara - pasta dish
10.	Lima	Seviche

- European cities dominated the list, with six cities in Italy alone making the top 10.
- From India, Mumbai, Maharashtra, was ranked 5th in the world.
- In this ranking, among the top 100 food cities in the world, India's Delhi was ranked 48th, Amritsar 53rd, Hyderabad 54th, Kolkata 73rd and Chennai 93rd.

India's Global Position in Rare Earth Reserves

- India is among the leading countries in the world in reserves of Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
- According to the report, India ranks third in the world in terms of rare earth oxides (REO).
 - China: 44 million tons
 - Brazil: 21 million tons
 - India: 6.9 million tonnes
- India has about 6-7% of the global rare earth reserves.
- India ranks 7th globally (about 2,900 tonnes) in the production of rare earth elements.
- China is the top country globally with a production of about 2,70,000 tonnes.

Rare Earth Elements (REEs)

- Rare earth elements are a group of 17 important minerals.
- They are used in electric vehicles and wind turbines, mobile phones and electronic equipment, defense systems and missiles, and permanent magnets and batteries.

12. Important Days

Day	Date	Importance
63rd Statehood Day of Nagaland	December 1	On 1 December 2025, the 63rd Statehood Day of Nagaland was celebrated. Nagaland became the 16th state of India in 1963. The main event was held in Kohima.
World AIDS Day	December 1	It was celebrated to promote awareness and prevention of AIDS. The theme for the year 2025 was “Conquering Disruptions, Enhancing AIDS Response”.
International Day of Persons with Disabilities	December 3	It was celebrated to promote the rights, respect and empowerment of Divyangjan. The theme for the year 2025 focused on Divyangjan-Inclusive Societies.
International Cheetah Day	December 4	Celebrated to raise awareness about the conservation of Cheetahs. It was started by Dr. Laurie Marker. Project Cheetah in India started in 2022.
Indian Navy Day	December 4	Celebrated in memory of Operation Trident of 1971. The main function of the year 2025 took place at Shangumugham Beach in Thiruvananthapuram.
World Soil Day	December 5	The event was celebrated to highlight the importance of soil conservation and sustainable farming. The theme for the year 2025 was “Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities”.
International Volunteer Day	December 5	The event was celebrated to promote a global volunteer culture. The theme for 2025 was “Every Contribution Matters”.
Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Mahaparinirvan Diwas	December 6	In 2025, the 70th death anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was celebrated. This day is dedicated to social justice and equality.
Armed Forces Flag Day	December 7	It was celebrated in honour of the soldiers who sacrificed their lives in defence of the country.
International Day of Commemoration and dignity of Victims of Crime of Genocide	December 9	It was celebrated for honouring the victims of the genocide and for the global resolve to prevent such crimes.
International Anti-Corruption Day	December 9	It was celebrated to encourage transparency and accountability. The theme of the year 2025 focused on anti-corruption through youth.
World Human Rights Day	December 10	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948. The theme for the year 2025 was “Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials”.
International Mountain Day	December 11	It was celebrated to raise awareness about mountain conservation and their importance.

International Day of Neutrality	December 12	Celebrated to promote the policy of remaining impartial in war or conflict. The day was declared by the UNGA on 2 February 2017.
International Universal Health Coverage Day	December 12	Underscores the need for accessible and robust health systems for all. The theme of the year 2025 is “Unaffordable health costs? We’re sick of it!” It was.
National Energy Conservation Day	December 14	It was celebrated to raise awareness about energy efficiency and conservation. It is organized under the guidance of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency.
Vijay Diwas	December 16	The 54th anniversary of India's victory in the 1971 Indo-Pak war was celebrated in 2025. On the same day, 93,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendered.
International Migrants Day	December 18	It was celebrated to raise awareness about the situation and problems of migrants across the world. The theme for the year 2025 was “My Great Story: Culture and Development”.
Minority Rights Day	December 18	Reflects India's constitutional commitment to equality, justice and inclusion.
Goa Liberation Day	December 19	It commemorates the liberation of Goa from Portuguese rule through Operation Vijay in 1961.
International Day of Human Solidarity	December 20	Underscores the importance of unity and cooperation in addressing global challenges.
World Meditation Day	December 21	The event was celebrated to raise awareness of the mental, physical and emotional benefits of meditation.
National Mathematics Day	December 22	It commemorates the birth anniversary of the great mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.
Kisan diwas	December 23	It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. In 2001, it was declared as Kisan Diwas.
National Consumer Day	December 24	The Consumer Protection Act is celebrated to commemorate 1986. The theme for the year 2025 focused on digital justice.
National Good Governance Day	December 25	It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It started in 2014.
Veer Bal Diwas	December 26	Sahibzaade is celebrated to commemorate the courage and sacrifice of Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh.
International Day of Epidemic Preparedness	December 27	It is observed to highlight the importance of prevention, preparedness, and effective response to epidemics.



