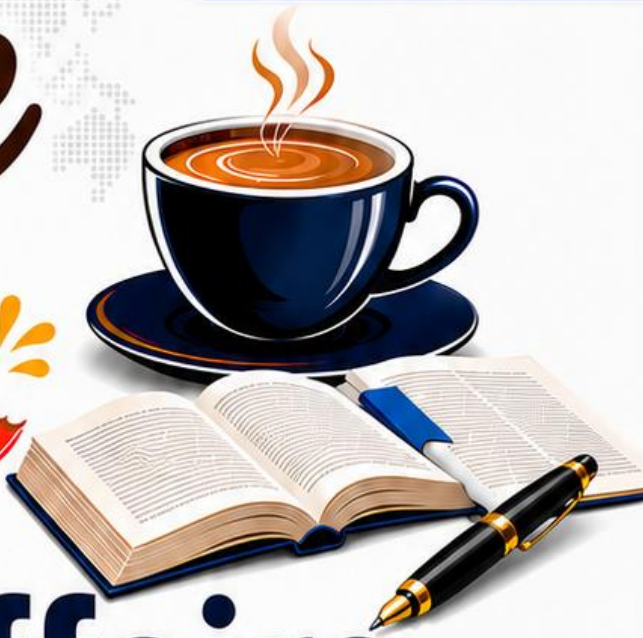
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- GOVERNMENT SCHEMES
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August 2026





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FOR WEEKLY ARTICLE, FOLLOW



HISTORY AND CULTURE

1.The nation observed the 87th martyrdom day of legendary revolutionary freedom fighter Shaheed Udham Singh.

- **Born:** 26 December 1899.
- **Birthplace:** Sunam, Sangrur district, Punjab.
- **Original Name:** Sher Singh**.**
- Orphaned early; raised in **Central Khalsa Orphanage, Amritsar**.
- Here he was **renamed Udham Singh**
- Witnessed Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.
- This incident inspired him to take revenge against British rule.
- Joined **Ghadar Party (1924**).
- **Associated with** HSRA; **influenced by** Bhagat Singh.
- Arrested in 1927 for illegal arms; jailed for 5 years.
- Assassinated **Michael O'Dwyer** in London (1940) to avenge Jallianwala Bagh
- During trail, used the name **"Ram Mohammad Singh Azad"** symbolizing religious unity (Hindu, Muslim, Sikh) and India's freedom.
- Executed on **31 July 1940** at Pentonville Prison, London
- His mortal remains were brought back to India in **1974** and preserved at the **Jallianwala Bagh Memorial**.

2.Suryapath Tiranga

Particulars	Key Details
Initiative	**Suryapath Tiranga** – special initiative under **Har Ghar Tiranga 2026**
Concept	Global relay of the **Tiranga**, following the **path of the rising sun from east to west**
Beginning	**Suva, Fiji – 1:30 AM IST**
Final Destination	**San Francisco – 8:30 PM IST**
Duration	More than **19 hours**
Participation	**54 Indian Missions & Posts** across countries and continents
Route	Pacific → Asia → Central & West Asia → Africa → Europe → Americas
Cultural Programme	Collective singing of **Vande Mataram** and **Jana Gana Mana**
Special Significance	Commemorates **150 years of Vande Mataram**
Purpose	To showcase **national pride, unity and India's global presence**
Symbolism	**"One Tiranga, one journey, a world united in the spirit of India."**
Key Message	As the **sun moves east to west, the Tiranga symbolically follows its path across continents**

3.PM's 80th Independence Day Address

No.	Theme	Concise Key Points

1	**Next-Level Reforms**	Accelerate reforms; change traditional **systems, thinking and goals**; Centre, States, industry, farmers and society to work together towards **2047 aspirations**.
2	**Sapt Dhara**	**7 streams of strength** to accelerate Viksit Bharat: Manufacturing, Agriculture & Food, Technology & Innovation, Gati Shakti, Defence, Green & Blue Economy, Soft Power.
3	**Raise Ambition**	Aim for **50 Indian companies in Fortune 500**; Indian bank among **Top 5 global banks**; Indian pharma, technology, consulting, law and accounting firms to become global leaders.
4	**Indian Quality – Global Identity**	Make **quality, reliability, cost and scale** the identity of Indian products; MSMEs to exploit FTA opportunities and expand exports.
5	**Change Work Culture**	Increase **speed, scale and ambition**; accomplish in the next **5–7 years** what remained unfinished for decades.
6	**Nasha Mukt Bharat**	Make drug-free India a **collective responsibility**; every family to participate in the **Nasha Mukt Bharat campaign**.
7	**Women's Reservation**	Appeal for early implementation of **33% reservation for women** in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies under **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam**.
8	**Youth & Census**	Youth to help families provide **accurate information** and actively participate in the ongoing Census.
9	**Nation Above Self**	Reaffirm **Panch Pran**; eliminate colonial mindset; place **national interest above self** and make **duty the identity**.
10	**Dreams → Success**	Convert **dreams → resolve → strength → success** through collective national effort to build **Viksit Bharat 2047**.

4.Sapt Dhara – 7 Streams of Strength

Stream	Focus
1. Manufacturing Power	Complete value chains, global supply chains, **zero-defect quality**
2. Agriculture & Food Production	Farm-to-export, global food brands, chemical-free farming
3. Technology & Innovation	AI, Quantum, Space, Robotics, Data Centres, **Made-in-India 6G**
4. Gati Shakti	High-speed rail, highways, waterways, airports, multimodal logistics, **port-led development**
5. Defence Shakti	Defence self-reliance, drones, counter-drones, hypersonic technology, cybersecurity
6. Green & Blue Economy	Green hydrogen, renewables, energy storage, green mobility, fisheries, coastal tourism, ocean technology
7. India's Soft Power	Yoga, Ayurveda, Heal in India, handicrafts, culture, films, VFX, animation, gaming, tourism

GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

1.101st Ramsar Site in India

Particulars	Details
101st Ramsar Site Name	**Glaw Lake**
State	**Arunachal Pradesh** – Also its First Ramsar Site
Location	Located within the Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary - in the Eastern Himalayas and a biodiversity hotspot
Fact	• India has 26 Ramsar Sites in 2014 and **now it reached to 101** • Ramsar Convention **was signed in 1971 in Ramsar**, Iran. • **India became a party** to the Ramsar Convention **in 1982.**

2.Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP)

Particulars	Details
Initiative	**Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP)**
Launched on	**4 August 2026** (International Clouded Leopard Day)
Released by	**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)**
Prepared under	**Government of India – GEF – UNDP Initiative**
Released during	**91st Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SCNBWL), Coimbatore**
Objective	Ensure long-term conservation of the clouded leopard through habitat protection, scientific monitoring, and community participation.
✓ **Clouded leopard is listed under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act (WPA), 1972** ✓ Clouded leopards persist in small, isolated populations across Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and northern parts of West Bengal and Bihar	

3.India Achieves Landmark 300 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Power Capacity

In a major milestone for the nation's clean energy transition and climate action targets, **India has crossed 300 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed electricity generation capacity as on 31st July, 2026;** over 60% of the 500 GW capacity targeted to be achieved by 2030

Breakdown of Non-Fossil Fuel Capacity (as on 31.07.2026):

Non-Fossil Fuel	Capacity
Solar Power	164.59 GW
Wind Power	58.14 GW
Hydro Power	57.24 GW

Bio-power	11.75 GW
Nuclear Power	8.78 GW

- ✓ The **share of non-fossil fuel electricity capacity** in the country's total electricity generation capacity (which is around 552 GW at present), has **reached over 54%.**

4.India's Asiatic Lion Population Reaches 891

Particulars	Details
World Lion Day	August 10
Population	As per 16th Asiatic Lion Census 2025, Lion population increased from 523 in 2015 to 891 (2025)
Project Lion:	Announced in 2020

5.Disasters in news

SINO	NAME	PLACE	INFORMATION
1.	Hurricane Lala	Hawaii's Big Island	Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale classifies hurricanes from Category 1 to Category 5 based on sustained wind speed

6.UNCCD COP17

- ✓ **Held in:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- ✓ India launched its **first-ever Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems** (ONEs) of India
- ✓ The guide **classifies 24 ecosystem types** found across India
- ✓ Guide developed by: Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) developed the guide in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)
- ✓ UNCCD stands for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, a global treaty adopted in 1994.

7.Vizhinjam International Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport

- ✓ Started EXIM operations
- ✓ Inaugurated **on 2 May 2025**
- ✓ One of India's few **natural deep-water ports**
- ✓ **India's first deep-water, all-weather, dedicated and automated container transshipment port**
- ✓ Located close to one of the **world's busiest sea trade routes**

8.Nepal Flood

- ✓ Reason – Occurrence of Avalanche

9.Gujarat Gaurav Sarovar'

- ✓ inaugurated in Amreli, Gujarat
- ✓ spanning 21 acres with a capacity of 400 million liters
- ✓ aid in the availability of water for agriculture and drinking, as well as in groundwater conservation.

10.Tamil Nadu notified three new elephant corridors

- ✓ Jawalagiri-Ulibanda-Thaggatti corridor
- ✓ Jawalagiri-Panai-Anchetty corridor
- ✓ Bilikkal-Jawalagiri corridor

Fact in Geography and Environment:

- ✓ National Waterway – 20 (Bhavani River) to be developed in **FY 2029-30**
- ✓ **V.O. Chidambaranar Port** - Became **India's first major port to achieve Scope-2 Emission-Free status** - also became the first in India to secure ISO 50001:2018 certification for its Energy Management System
- ✓ **Indore** in Madhya Pradesh has **India's first virtual zoo** at the Kamala Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya, also known as the Indore Zoological Museum.
- ✓ he National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP), headquartered in Nagpur and functioning under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), has developed **India's first soil texture map**
- ✓ **India's installed non-fossil fuel-based power capacity reached 300.50 GW as of 31 July 2026, crossing the 300 GW mark**
- ✓ USA to rename **Lake Ontario as "Lake America"**

INDIAN POLITY

1.Bi-elections in August 2026

State	Winner	Symbol	Political Party
Bihar (Bankipur)	**Prashanth Kishore** First Electoral Victory	School bag	**Jan Suraaj Party** (People's Good Governance Party) – Started in 2024
Madhya Pradesh (Datia)	**Ghanshyam Singh**	Hand	INC
Gujarat (Manjulpur)	**Satyendrabhai Patel**	Lotus	BJP

2.Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026

- ✓ Aim - To raise the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court from **34 to 38 judges**, including the **Chief Justice of India**
- ✓ The Bill replaces the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026 which had increased the number of judges from 33 to 38 including CJI
- ✓ Passed by Lok Sabha

3.Maharashtra Anti-Conversion Law Comes into Force after the assent from the President of India

Heading	Details
Law	Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Act, 2026 (Anti-Conversion Law)
State	Maharashtra

Purpose	To prohibit unlawful religious conversions through force, fraud, coercion, inducement, deceit, or undue influence.
Prohibited Means of Conversion	• Force or coercion • Fraud or misrepresentation • Allurement/Inducement • Undue influence or threats • Conversion under the pretext of marriage
Punishment – General Offence	• Imprisonment: Up to **7 years** • Fine: Up to **₹1 lakh**
Punishment – Aggravated Offence	**Applicable to cases involving:** Women, minors, SC/ST persons, repeat offences, or institutions • Imprisonment: Up to **10 years** • Fine: Up to **₹7 lakh**

4.Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971

Provisions of the Act	Details of the Act
Enacted on	23rd December 1971
Applicability	Whole of India
Statutory protection to	1. Indian National Flag 2. Constitution of India 3. Indian National Anthem - Jana Gana Mana.

5.Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026

- ✓ *Amends **Section 3 of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971***
- ✓ *extends the same legal protection to the **National Song, Vande Mataram** that is currently afforded to the **National Anthem, Jana Gana Mana***
- ✓ *The amendment makes it an **offence to intentionally prevent the singing of the National Song or to cause a disturbance** to an assembly engaged in its singing*

Facts in Polity

- ✓ Government of India decided to set up a **bench of the High Court** of Jammu and Kashmir **in Ladakh**

INDIAN ECONOMICS

1.Establishment of Foreign Universities Campuses in India

A number of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) have expressed interests to establish their branch campuses in India, under the University Grants Commission (UGC) (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations 2023

Particulars	Details
Objective	To facilitate the establishment of branch campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) in India.

Letters of Intent (LoIs)	UGC has issued **16 LoIs** to **15 FHEIs** from **Australia, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.
Proposed Campuses	Bengaluru, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Mumbai, and Chennai.
Courses Offered	Business, Economics, Accounting, Finance, Software Engineering, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cybersecurity, Game Design, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Biomedical Sciences, and other emerging fields.
Approval Mechanism	UGC has established a **single-window clearance system** and a **High-Powered Standing Committee** to evaluate applications and recommend approval.
Eligibility Criteria	Only FHEIs ranked among the **Top 500 universities globally** are eligible and must submit recognized accreditation/quality assurance reports.
Quality Assurance	Education offered in India must be **equivalent to the standards of the parent campus abroad** and comply with Indian laws.
Recognition of Degrees	Degrees awarded by approved FHEIs in India are **recognized as equivalent** to corresponding degrees awarded by Indian Higher Educational Institutions. No separate equivalence certificate is required.

2.National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC):

a statutory body under the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India, is mandated to promote economic development through cooperatives by strengthening farmer institutions, enhancing productivity, and supporting pre- and post-harvest infrastructure.

Particulars	Details
Organisation	**National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)**
Ministry	Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India
Status	Statutory Body
Mandate	Promotes economic development through cooperatives
Key Areas	Strengthening farmer institutions, improving productivity, and supporting pre- & post-harvest infrastructure
Women-focused Objective	Promotes **women's participation and leadership** in cooperative societies
The schemes are fully funded and supported by NCDC	1. **Swayam Shakti Sahakar Yojana** 2. **Nandini Sahakar** 3. **Yuva Sahakar Yojana**

Scheme	Key Objective / Feature
1. **Swayam Shakti Sahakar Yojana**	Provides **NCDC financial assistance** to Agricultural Credit Cooperatives for giving **loans/advances to Women SHGs**.
2. **Nandini Sahakar**	Improves the **socio-economic status of women** and promotes **women's entrepreneurship through cooperatives** by supporting enterprise, business planning, capacity building, credit, subsidy and/or interest subvention.

3. **Yuva Sahakar – Cooperative Enterprise Support & Innovation Scheme**	Encourages **newly formed cooperative societies** with **new and innovative ideas**.

3.“Kanda Express”

Particulars	Details
Initiative	**Kanda Express**
Purpose	Bulk transportation of onions by rail
Origin - Destinations	**Nashik, Maharashtra to Delhi, Chennai, Kochi & Guwahati**
Reason	To increase supply and contain rising onion prices
Government intervention	Release of onion **buffer stocks**
Concern	Rising retail onion prices
Key Ministry	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

GI Tags – August 2026

Sino	State	Product	Information
1.	Gujarat	Pithora Painting	**Gujarat’s** centuries-old wall art tradition
2.	Bihar	Mithila Makhana	Exported to Australia

Facts in Economics:

1. Indian Economy has achieved the Growth Rate of **7.7%**
2. India has achieved near-universal banking coverage, with **99.92% of inhabited villages** (6,00,868 out of 6,01,328) now served by a banking outlet (Bank branch / Business Correspondent / India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)) within a radius of 5 km
3. **Top States in Exports (2025-2026)**
    a. Gujarat - First
    b. Karnataka - Second
    c. Maharashtra- Third
    d. Tamil Nadu - Fourth
4. As per the **World Economic Outlook database** (April 2026) **published by the IMF**, India’s GDP at current prices is projected to be around **$5.1 trillion by 2028-29**
5. Coal India Limited (CIL), a **Maharatna** public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Coal has acquired **Gadadharpur Iron Ore Block in Keonjhar** district of Odisha. It is CIL’s first iron ore asset.
6. **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT),** New Delhi given the status of Institutions **Deemed to be University**
7. The **International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage** (ICID) designated the 140-year-old **Parichha Weir** in Jhansi as **a World Heritage Irrigation Structure** (WHIS). This is the 2nd Structure. Sukwa-Dukwan Weir was recognised in 2022 as first.
8. **India’s first large-scale biopolymer plant** is under construction in Lakhimpur Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh

9. **Banas Bio-CNG Model Plant** was inaugurated at Vinchhiwadi in Dhanera taluka of Banaskantha district, Gujarat. A joint initiative of Banas Dairy, Suzuki Motor Corporation, and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
10. India emerged as a major exporter of gasoline to Russia

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1.Greater Malé Connectivity Project (GMCP)

Particulars	Details
Project	Greater Malé Connectivity Project (GMCP) / Thilamale Bridge
Country	Maldives
India's role	Financial and infrastructure support
Total connectivity	About **6.74 km**
Islands connected	**Malé – Villingili – Gulhifalhu – Thilafushi**
Significance	Maldives' **largest infrastructure project**

2.Mecca Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA) – 2026

Particulars	Details
Name	Mecca Joint Defence Agreement (MJDA)
Signed on	**7 August 2026, Mecca, Saudi Arabia**
Members	Saudi Arabia + Pakistan + Türkiye
Core principle	**Attack on one = attack on all**
Nature	Trilateral mutual-defence/security arrangement
Strategic objective	Collective deterrence and regional security
Recent update	Bangladesh is willing to join now

Facts – International

1. The Pacific Island nation of **Nauru** has officially adopted the name **Republic of Naoero**
2. **Chinese** astronauts aboard the Tiangong space station **harvested the first rice crop grown in** space
3. **Lebanon's** Parliament voted to formally abolish the death penalty
4. **Russia began importing gasoline from India** in 2026 for **the first time in history** amid a domestic fuel shortage caused by repeated Ukrainian drone strikes on Russian refineries.
5. **Operation Economic Outcast** is a U.S. economic and diplomatic pressure campaign directed at **Iran**
6. The **United States Department of State removed Syria** from its list of State Sponsors of Terrorism

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. India's first indigenous African Swine Fever (ASF) vaccine

Particulars	Details
Vaccine	**India's first indigenous African Swine Fever (ASF) vaccine**
Announced	**4 August 2026**

Developed by	**ICAR–National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (ICAR-NIHSAD), Bhopal**
Disease Targeted	**African Swine Fever (ASF)**
Affected Animals	Domestic pigs and wild pigs (suids). Causes **high mortality** and severe economic losses in the piggery sector.
Virus	**African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV)** – a **double-stranded DNA virus** of the **Asfarviridae** family
Human Infection	**Does not infect humans**

2.IIT Guwahati developed "E-Eye"

Particulars	Details
Developed by	IIT Guwahati
Purpose	rapid detection of toxicants and cancer-causing heavy metals in water and biological samples.
Features	✓ Beer-Lambert law-based device ✓ converts chemical colour intensity into digital readings ✓ a low-cost portable optical sensing device

3.India test-fired the nuclear-capable Agni-4 ballistic missile

Field	Information
Missile	Agni – 4
Features	✓ two-stage, ✓ solid-fuel missile ✓ surface-to-surface ballistic missiles ✓ Operation Range: around 4,000 kilometres ✓ Payload Carrying Capacity: about 1,000 kilograms

4.Param Pragya

- ✓ **Supercomputing facility:** Param Pragya
- ✓ **Feature:** AI-powered high-performance supercomputing facility
- ✓ **Located in:** Sonipat Campus of the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

5.Astrobase Unveils India's First Private 800 kN Rocket Engine

- ✓ Developed: EVEREST - **India's First Private 800 kN Rocket Engine**
- ✓ Developed by: Astrobase Space Technologies, Bengaluru
- ✓ Features:
  - 80-tonne-class Full-Flow Staged Combustion rocket engine.
  - engine uses liquid oxygen and liquid methane
  - produces 800 kilonewtons of thrust
  - designed for reusable medium-lift launch vehicles.

6.Second edition of S.H.I.N.E. – Science, Health and Innovation for NextGen Explorers

- a nationwide school outreach initiative

- **organized by** Department of Health Research- Indian Council of Medical Research (DHR-ICMR)
- S.H.I.N.E. invites students of Grades 9 to 12 from government and private schools to apply scientific thinking to real-world public health challenges.
- **Aim:** To encourage scientific curiosity for public health solutions among young learners.

11.Yard 3037 (*Shruti*)

- ✓ Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV)
- ✓ launched at M/s GRSE, Kolkata
- ✓ **indigenously designed** and **built ships**
- ✓ named as '**Shruti**', **referring to four Vedas**.
- ✓ Involve in **maritime surveillance, search and rescue, protection of offshore assets, HADR and anti-piracy missions**

10.MQ-9B Sea Guardian

- ✓ Ministry of Defence signed a **contract** with **General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc** for **drone leasing**
- ✓ **Lease of 2 MQ-9B Sea Guardian HALE RPAS for the Indian Navy for 30 months**
- ✓ **Role**: Long-duration Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance (ISR) and maritime surveillance

11.INS Mangrol – Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft

- ➢ **Mangrol** is designed primarily for operations in **shallow and coastal waters**, particularly against underwater threats.
- ➢ Built by **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi**.
- ➢ Contains **more than 80% indigenous content**.
- ➢ **Mangrol** is named after **Mangrol**, a coastal town and minor port in **Junagadh district, Gujarat**

12.FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Missile

- ✓ India signed an agreement to buy it from USA
- ✓ a medium-range, anti-tank guided missile
- ✓ designed to engage armoured vehicles and fortified positions.
- ✓ Its fire-and-forget capability

13. Ebola outbreak in Congo

- ✓ Caused by Bundibugyo ebolavirus (BDBV)
- ✓ Has no approved vaccine for its treatment

14.*Samarthak,* the first Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV)

- ✓ **built by** Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T), Kattupalli
- ✓ Samarthak', meaning **'The Proponent'.**
- ✓ The ship is engineered to perform maritime surveillance and reconnaissance, Offshore patrolling and support Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations, when required.

15.Mission ShakthiSAT

- ✓ world's first global all girls Lunar CubeSat Mission
- ✓ Led by: Space Kidz India

- ✓ Launched: 16 January 2025
- ✓ Participants: 12,000 girls from 108 countries
- ✓ Main Objective: Promote girls' participation in STEM and develop skills in space technology

Facts in Science and Technology

- ✓ NASA invites ISRO to join Moon Base programme
- ✓ **Kavach 4.0** is India's indigenous Automatic Train Protection system.
- ✓ **Jinnah-1** is **Pakistan's first-ever lunar rover** and has been named by the Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), Pakistan's space agency.
- ✓ **S301** is a star in the Milky Way galaxy that has been identified as the **fastest-moving star**
- ✓ **RK-251**, a smart cancer drug, that remains inactive in healthy tissue and activates inside tumour cells
- ✓ **GJ 523b** is **an exoplanet identified as a "mega-Earth"** with a radius about 2.55 times that of Earth and a mass of 23.5 Earth masses.
- ✓ NASA launched the **Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope. Telescope is named after Nancy Grace Roman, the first Chief of Astronomy at NASA**

TAMIL NADU

1."Tamil Thai Valthu"

- 'Invocation to Tamil Mother'
- state song of Tamil Nadu
- written by **Manonmaniam Sundaram Pillai** in 1891
- later composed by M. S. Viswanathan, and sung by T. M. Soundarajan and P. Susheela
- Announced as official state song on **17 December 2021**
- **23 November 1970 –** GO Issued to sing this song in Government Functions
- Duration: 55 seconds
- Ragam: *Mullaippaani* raga

2.Chief Minister's Elderly Health Insurance Scheme

Particulars	Details
Scheme	**Chief Minister's Elderly Insurance Scheme**
Target	Senior citizens **above 70 years**
Coverage	Approx. **38 lakh** senior citizens - govt and empanelled private hospitals
Benefit	**Free medical treatment;** it will offer **advanced medical treatment** for chronic illnesses, advanced cardiac care procedures and organ transplant surgeries
Eligibility	**No income ceiling**

SCHEMES IN NEWS

1.Cabinet approves 'Samudra Manthan' (National Offshore Exploration Scheme)

Scheme Type	**Central Sector Scheme**
Ministry	Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
implementation Period	Till FY 2030–31
Aim	To unlock India's vast offshore energy potential
Key Basins	Cauvery, Mahanadi, Andaman, Kutch
Major Focus	Deepwater & ultra-deepwater exploration

Why do we need such programme?

1. India is the **3rd largest consumer of crude oil**.
2. Annual crude oil **import bill is around USD 144 billion** (₹13 lakh crore).
3. Domestic production needs to increase **to reduce import dependence**.
4. Offshore basins **hold over 5,600 MMTOE** (Million Metric Tonnes of Oil Equivalent) of estimated hydrocarbon resources.

Components of Samudra Manthan

1. Seismic Data Acquisition, Processing, and Interpretation
2. Accelerated Offshore Exploration
3. Common Offshore Infrastructure
4. Oil and Gas Manufacturing and Services Zone

2.Cabinet approves revamped Khelo India Scheme and enhanced Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSFs)

Particulars	**Details**
Scheme	Revamped **Khelo India Scheme** & Enhanced **Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSFs)**
Type	Central Sector Scheme
Ministry	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Implementation Period	**2026–27 to 2030–31**
Aim	The scheme integrates sports with education, fitness, technology and high-performance training while laying a strong foundation for India's long-term sporting ambitions, including the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the country's bid to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
Aligned with	Aligned with the vision of Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 and the National Education Policy 2020

Key Features

- **Nearly 8 times higher allocation** than the previous Khelo India Scheme.
- The scheme establishes an **integrated nationwide sports ecosystem** comprising
    1. National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs),

2. Khelo India Centres of Excellence (KICoEs),
3. SAI Training Centres (STCs),
4. Khelo India Accredited Academies (KIAAs),
5. Khelo India Centres (KICs) and
6. Youth Sports Companies (YSCs) of the Armed Forces

- The above institutions will provide world-class coaching, sports science support and modern infrastructure across the country
- **To strengthen the school sports ecosystem:** It introduces **Khelo India Feeder Schools (KIFS)** and **Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas (KIUV)** for
    1. integrating sports with mainstream education
    2. enable early identification and systematic nurturing of talented children.
- Launches **Emerging Khelo India Athletes (E-KIA)** category to significantly expand the athlete development programme.
- Establishes a structured pathway from **grassroots competitions → Khelo India → Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)**.
- Creates the **National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB)** to standardize coaching quality.
- Expands the **Fit India Movement** to promote fitness and healthy lifestyles.
- Promotes **women athletes, para-athletes, indigenous sports**, and supports hosting national and international sporting events.
- Introduces a **unified digital sports platform** for athlete data, competitions, infrastructure, coaching and funding.
- Strengthens **ANSF Scheme** by providing support for
    1. coaching,
    2. sports science,
    3. modern equipment,
    4. international exposure and
    5. foreign experts

3.Cabinet approves 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)' for Development of Floating Solar Photovoltaic Projects with Energy Storage Systems

Particulars	Details
Scheme	**Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)**
Type	Central Sector Scheme
Ministry	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
Implementation Period	**FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31** *(Financial support up to FY 2032–33)*
Aim	To develop **Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) Projects** with **Energy Storage Systems (ESS)** across reservoirs and inland water bodies.
Targets	Development of **5,000 MW** of Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) capacity
India's floating solar potential	About **102.18 GWp**, based on National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) assessment

Current India's floating solar capacity	Around 700 MW

- Projects will include Energy Storage Systems (ESS) with a minimum storage capacity of 2 hours (10,000 MWh).
- **Expected Benefits:**
  - Increase India's floating solar capacity from **about 700 MW to 5,700 MW**.
  - Utilizes **reservoirs, lakes, and industrial ponds**, reducing pressure on scarce land resources.
  - **Energy Storage Systems (ESS)** will improve **grid stability and reliability**.
  - Reduce **around 10 million tonnes of CO_2 emissions annually**.
  - Generate **16,000–17,000 full-time equivalent employment opportunities**.
  - Promote **domestic manufacturing** of floating platforms, solar PV cells, modules, and energy storage systems.
  - Supports the vision of **Aatmanirbhar Bharat**, **Viksit Bharat**, renewable energy expansion, and India's climate commitments.

4.Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)

Particular	Details
Scheme Name	Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)
Effective From	1 April 2025
Ministry	Ministry of Finance
Implementing Authority	Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) under the National Pension System (NPS)
Objective	To provide an assured pension to Central Government employees covered under the National Pension System (NPS).
Purpose	To combine the security of a guaranteed pension with the contributory framework of the National Pension System (NPS).

5.Gyan Bharatam Mission (GBM)

Particulars	Details
Mission	Gyan Bharatam Mission (GBM)
Announced In	Union Budget 2025–26
Ministry	Ministry of Culture
Implementation Period	2025–2031
Financial Outlay	₹491.66 crore (approved by the Standing Finance Committee)
Objective	To preserve, digitize, document, catalogue, conserve, and promote India's manuscript heritage using advanced technology.
Major Objectives	• Digitization and documentation of manuscripts • Survey and registration of manuscripts • Cataloguing and conservation • Publication and public access • Training and financial support for preservation • Promote research in Indian languages and manuscriptology

	• Establish a National Digital Repository (NDR)
National Manuscript Survey	Launched in **March 2026** across all States and UTs to identify and document manuscript collections.
Key Findings	• Over **1.19 crore manuscripts** identified. • More than **8 lakh manuscripts digitized**. • Over **4.40 lakh digitized manuscripts** available on the **Gyan Bharatam Portal** for public viewing.
Implementation Mechanism	Through **Cluster Centres** and **Independent Centres** such as universities, research institutions, libraries, archives, private custodians, and religious institutions. States/UTs act as **Nodal Coordinating Authorities**.
Access to Manuscripts	Digitized manuscripts are made available through the **National Digital Repository**, subject to custodians' rights and access restrictions where applicable.
Coverage	Pan-India initiative covering manuscripts of all languages, scripts, regions, and knowledge traditions.

6.Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) Scheme

Particulars	Details
Scheme Name	Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)
Launched	February 2019
Ministry	Ministry of Labour & Employment
Nature of Scheme	Voluntary and Contributory Pension Scheme
Objective	To provide old-age social security to unorganised sector workers.
Eligibility	Unorganised workers aged **18–40 years**, monthly income **₹15,000 or less**, and **not covered under EPFO, ESIC, Government-contributed NPS, or Income Tax**.
Pension Benefit	Assured monthly pension of **₹3,000** after attaining **60 years** of age.
Contribution	Monthly contribution of **₹55–₹200** (based on entry age). Beneficiary contributes **50%**, and the **Central Government contributes the remaining 50%**.
Enrollment	Through **Common Service Centres (CSCs)** (about **4 lakh centres**) or self-enrolment via the **Maandhan Portal**.
Women Beneficiaries	**53.1%** of total subscribers.
Pension Disbursement	Begins after the subscriber attains **60 years**; first payments expected **from February 2039**.

7.Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan

Heading	Details
Campaign Name	Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan
Launched By	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

Organised through	**MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat)**
Launch Date	2 August 2026
Objective	To build a **drug-free India**
Origin	Launched following the **Youth Spiritual Summit** held at **Varanasi (18–20 July 2025)**, culminating in the **Kashi Declaration**
Target Group	Youth, students, educational institutions, NSS volunteers, NYKS volunteers, youth clubs, and local communities.
Methods	100 Weeks nation wide campaigns (100 Sundays)

8.Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana (PM-VBRY)

Heading	Details
Scheme Name	Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana (PM-VBRY)
Announced	August 2025
Implementation Period	1 August 2025 – 31 July 2027
Implementing Agency	Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
Objective	To promote **first-time formal employment**, incentivise employers to create new jobs, expand social security coverage, and strengthen workforce formalisation.
Target	Generate employment for **3.5 crore people**, including **1.92 crore first-time employees**.
Beneficiaries	First-time employees and employers creating additional formal jobs.
Employee Eligibility	First-time employees earning up to **₹1,00,000 per month**.
Significance	Promotes formal employment, expands social security, reduces employer hiring costs, supports manufacturing, and contributes to the **Viksit Bharat 2047** vision.

9.Bharat Taxi

Aspect	Details
Scheme/Platform	**Bharat Taxi**
Launched	**February 5, 2026**
Nature	**India's first cooperative-led ride-hailing platform**
Operated by	**Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited (STCL)**
Legal Status	Multi-State Cooperative Society registered under the **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002**
Head Office	New Delhi
Objective	Provide **safe, reliable, affordable, and transparent** mobility services through the **cooperative model**

Key Aim	Promote **employment & self-employment**, improve **drivers' (Sarathis) economic and social welfare**, and build a **technology-driven mobility ecosystem**
Driver Model	Drivers (Sarathis) are **members and stakeholders** of the cooperative
Government Funding	**No Government financial assistance, equity support, or incentives**
Supporting Institutions	**NCDC, IFFCO, AMUL (GCMMF), KRIBHCO, NAFED, NABARD, NDDB, NCEL**
Major States Covered	Delhi-NCR (**2.61 lakh**), Gujarat (**1.04 lakh**), Maharashtra (**84,332**), Uttar Pradesh (**21,621**), Rajasthan (**20,599**), Chandigarh (**10,695**)
Passenger Safety	Driver & vehicle verification, **SOS feature**, journey sharing, coordination with **State Police Departments**

10.Seafarer-First Initiative

Aspect	Details
Initiative	**SEAFARER-FIRST**
Launched by	**Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)**
Launched	**July 14, 2026**
Objective	To safeguard Indian seafarers operating in the conflict-affected region.

11.Har Ghar Tiranga initiative

Aspect	Details
Initiative	Har Ghar Tiranga initiative
Started	2022
Under the Initiative	Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Anniversary	Fifth year
Purpose	a nationwide public participation campaign linked with the Indian national flag

12.GOBARdhan, India’s National Unified Scheme for Compressed Biogas

Aspect	Details
Scheme Name	GOBARdhan, the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme
Expansion	Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan)
Launch	Originally launched under the **Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) in 2018** as an integral component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SWM)
Implementation Period	**FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36**
Aim	✓ To increase nearly ten-fold domestic CBG production ✓ Mobilize large-scale private investment ✓ Create a vibrant circular bioeconomy across the country
Nodal Ministry	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG)
Vision	1. India's waste will fuel India's growth. 2. India's villages will become centres of clean energy production. 3. India's farmers will become partners in the nation's energy security.

6 Components	1. **Assured CBG Offtake** 2. **Stable CBG Pricing Framework** 3. **Capital Assistance** 4. **Development of Pipeline Infrastructure** 5. **Credit Guarantee Support** 6. **CBG Ecosystem Challenge Fund**

13.Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU)

Particulars	Details
Scheme	**Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU)**
Purpose	Enhance the **quality and relevance of vocational training** through upgraded labs, modern machines and industry-aligned curriculum.
Objectives	1. Improve the **quality of training delivery** in ITIs and NSTIs.
	2. Modernize **infrastructure and equipment** as per industry standards.
	3. Introduce **industry-aligned long- and short-term courses**, especially in emerging sectors.
	4. Strengthen **industry linkages** for demand-driven skilling and better employment outcomes.
	5. Enhance **NSTI capacity for training of trainers (ToT)**.

Component	Coverage	Key Features
Component I – Upgradation of Government ITIs	**1,000 Government ITIs** – 200 Hub ITIs + 800 Spoke ITIs	**Hub-and-Spoke model**; smart classrooms, modern labs, digital content and industry-aligned new courses.
Component II – Capacity Augmentation of NSTIs	**5 NSTIs** – Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur & Ludhiana	Capacity augmentation and **sector-specific National Centres of Excellence**; advanced training of trainers with global partnerships.

14.PRIME MINISTER RESEARCH CHAIR (PMRC) Scheme

Particulars	Details
Ministry	Department of Higher Education, **Ministry of Education, Government of India**
Nature	Flagship **Central Sector Scheme**
Purpose	To attract leading **Indian-origin researchers, scientists and professionals from abroad** to premier Indian institutions
Core focus	High-impact **research, innovation, teaching and mentorship**
Target	Strengthen India's research and innovation ecosystem and position India as a global hub for academic and research excellence

Priority areas	**13 strategic/emerging areas**, including AI & quantum computing, advanced materials, agriculture, biotechnology, blue economy, cybersecurity, energy & climate, healthcare, semiconductors, space & defence, etc.
Fellow categories	1. **Young Research Fellows (YRF):** <5 years post-PhD; 2. **Senior Fellows (SF):** 5–<10 years; 3. **Research Chairs (RC):** ≥10 years post-PhD
Host institutions	Eligible government HEIs ranked in **Top 100 NIRF Overall/Engineering** or **Top 50 NIRF Research**, plus selected DBT, DST, CSIR and ICMR laboratories.
Key benefits	Competitive fellowship, research grant, residential & medical allowance, relocation support, advanced research infrastructure and leadership opportunities
Implementation period	Engagement of fellows for **up to 5 years (2026–27 to 2030–31)**.

15.Vibrant Villages Programme–II (VVP-II)

Particular	Details
Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs
Type	**Central Sector Scheme – 100% Central funding**
Approved	**2 April 2025**
Implementation	Up to **FY 2028–29**
Coverage	**1,954 selected villages** in blocks adjoining International Land Borders
States/UTs	**15 States + 2 UTs**
Exclusion	Northern border areas already covered under **VVP-I**
Main objective	Comprehensive development of border villages to create **prosperous, secure and vibrant border communities**
Security objective	Prevent trans-border crime, strengthen border security and integrate border populations with the nation
Key areas	Livelihoods, roads, electrification, health, financial inclusion, skill development, cooperatives/SHGs/FPOs, tourism & culture, education, TV and telecom connectivity
Special focus	Saturation of **all-weather roads, telecom, television and electrification** through convergence
Strategic role	Border residents become the **"eyes and ears" of border guarding forces**

16.PM-RAHAT Scheme

Particular	Details
Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
Legal basis	**Under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988**
Original notification	**5 May 2025** – Cashless Treatment of Road Accident Victims Scheme
Launched	**13 February 2026**
Coverage	Victims of road accidents caused by **motor vehicles, on any category of road**

Treatment cover	Up to **₹1.5 lakh per victim**
Duration	Maximum **7 days from the date of accident**
Stabilisation	Up to **24 hours** for non-life-threatening cases; **48 hours** for life-threatening cases
Hospitals	Designated hospitals, including eligible **AB-PMJAY empanelled hospitals**
Funding	**Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVAF)**
Insured vehicle cases	Funded through contributions from **general insurance companies**
Uninsured / Hit-and-Run cases	**Government of India budgetary support**
Emergency access	**112 Emergency Response Support System** helps connect victims to designated hospitals

17.INSPIRE-SHE Scheme

Particular	Details
INSPIRE-SHE	Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research – Scholarship for Higher Education
Ministry	Ministry of Science & Technology
Implementing Department	Department of Science & Technology (DST)
Target age	**17–22 years**
Purpose	Encourage meritorious students to pursue **basic & natural sciences** and research
Scholarship	**₹60,000 per year**
Mentorship support	**₹20,000 per year** for summer research project
Total value	**₹80,000 per year**
Major eligibility	Students within the **top 1%** of Class XII examination of a State/Central Board, subject to prescribed conditions
Eligible fields	Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology, Geology, Astronomy, Geophysics, Oceanic Sciences, etc.
Selection	Based on existing educational achievements; **no separate competitive examination**

18.SEED – Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs

Ministry	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Target Groups	De-notified, Nomadic & Semi-Nomadic Communities (DNTs/NTs/SNTs)
Implementation	Development & Welfare Board for DNTs, NTs & SNTs
Objective	Socio-economic empowerment of DNTs, NTs & SNTs

19.PM CARES Fund

Details	Key Points
Full Form	Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund
Nature	Public Charitable Trust
Established	**27 March 2020**; Trust Deed registered under the Registration Act, 1908, at New Delhi
Purpose	Dedicated fund to deal with **emergencies/distress situations** and provide relief to affected people
Major Focus	Public health emergencies, calamities and other **man-made or natural emergencies**
Key Activities	Relief assistance; healthcare/pharmaceutical infrastructure; essential infrastructure; relevant research; financial assistance to affected populations
Chairman	**Prime Minister of India – ex-officio Chairman**
Ex-officio Trustees	Ministers of **Defence, Home Affairs and Finance**
Nominated Trustees	**Justice K.T. Thomas (Retd.)** and **Kariya Munda**
Source of Funds	Entirely through **voluntary contributions** from individuals and organisations
Budgetary Support	**No budgetary support**

20.Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)

Particulars	Details
Ministry	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Implementing Agency	Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (**TRIFED**)
Implemented during	**2021–22 to 2025–26**
Nature	Restructured scheme
Merged schemes	1. Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce through MSP 2. Institutional Support for Development & Marketing of Tribal Products
Core objective	Promote **tribal entrepreneurship and livelihood opportunities**
Target groups	Tribal communities, particularly those dependent on forest and agricultural produce
Key focus	Efficient, equitable and self-managed use of **Natural Resources, Minor Forest Produce (MFP), agricultural and non-farm products**
Major initiative	**Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs)**
Theme	**“Vocal for Local by Tribal”**
Market support	Value addition, packaging, branding, transportation, storage and marketing
MSP support	Assistance to States for procurement of **Minor Forest Produce at Minimum Support Price**

21. PARIVARTAN (Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions) Scheme

Particulars	Details
Full Form	Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions
Launched	14 July 2026
Objective	Replace **2 lakh+ BS-IV or older trucks & buses** with BS-VI/stricter or electric vehicles
Coverage	Delhi-NCR; districts of **Haryana, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh**
Funding	NCRPB, MoHUA
Implementation	MoRTH
Interest Benefit	**5% interest saving** on eligible loans for 5 years
Road Tax	**100% waiver for 10 years**
Registration Fee	**100% waiver**

22.DAANVEER Initiative

Particulars	Details
Ministry	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Launched/Announced	August 2026
Nature	People-led **Computer Crowdsourcing Initiative -** enables individuals and organizations to donate desktop computers directly to verified Gram Panchayats through a simple, transparent and technology-enabled mechanism
Objective	Strengthen **digital infrastructure, governance and service delivery** in Gram Panchayats
Beneficiaries	Verified Gram Panchayats requiring desktop computers
Platform	**Meri Panchayat App**

23.SEMICON 2.0 Scheme

Aspect	Details
Full Name	**India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 (Semicon 2.0)**
Approval Date	**15 July 2026**
Nodal Agency	**India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)**
Ministry	Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)
Purpose	Strengthen India's **semiconductor ecosystem, supply-chain resilience and technological self-reliance**
Builds upon	Semicon India Programme (Semicon 1.0)
Key Focus	Chip design, fabrication, advanced packaging, equipment, materials, R&D and skilled talent
No. of Pillars	**6 pillars covering 10 categories**

Pillar 1	**Design** – Semiconductor IPs, chips, SoCs and modules
Pillar 2	**Machines & Materials** – semiconductor manufacturing equipment, materials and gases
Pillar 3	**More Fabs** – expansion of semiconductor fabrication capacity
Pillar 4	**ATMP/OSAT** – strengthening assembly, testing, marking & packaging
Pillar 5	**Research & Development** – advanced semiconductor technologies
Pillar 6	**Talent Development** – skilled workforce for design and manufacturing

Facts – Scheme

1. **'Jug Jug Jiyo Abhiyaan" -** is a nationwide public awareness campaign launched by the Government of India on August 3, 2026
2. **e-Pratyaropan -** a digital platform for donor registration, waiting list management and organ allocation
3. **Anemia Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan** follows **7X7X7 Strategy**.
    - **seven beneficiaries**
    - **seven interventions**
    - **seven Institutional mechanisms**
4. Initiatives for Controlling NORCOTICs
    - Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra (**MANAS)** - 24x7 toll-free helpline (1933),
    - National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders (**NIDAAN)** portal,
    - **Mission SPANDAN**– Partnership with spiritual institutions for awareness.

SINO	Name of the Scheme	Purpose of the Scheme
1.	Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme	To improve the socio-economic and educational status of the six notified **minority communities** across India
2.	Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan	To build a **drug-free India** by campaigning for 100 weeks (100 Sundays)
3.	Project **SARATHI** (Students' Alliance for Responsible Action to Transform Healthcare Institutes)	a youth-led, volunteer-driven patient assistance initiative

INDIAN STATES - NEWS

- **Kerala launched an AI-led governance initiative** on 4 August 2026 to integrate artificial intelligence, digital public service delivery, and integrated planning systems in state administration
- **Karnataka launched the Composite Digital Crop Survey (CDCS)** as a state-level initiative for crop data collection and agricultural mapping.
- **Ladakh** approved **India's first guided high-altitude wildlife safari**
- **Telangana Police** launched the **NextGen Dial-112 Emergency Response Support System**, also called the AI-enabled Telangana Emergency Response Support System (TG-ERSS)
- **Andhra Pradesh** notified the **Pedestrian Safety and Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026**

- The Bengaluru City Police launched **Operation Mukta** to identify and track suspected illegal immigrants (Bangladeshi nationals) across the city
- **India's first** commercial large-format additive manufacturing facility to come up at Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh (UP)
- **Himachal Pradesh** introduced a **Widow and Orphan Cess** on petrol and high-speed diesel
- **Karnataka** has **prohibited** the manufacture, storage, distribution, transportation, and sale of products containing **tobacco and nicotine**
- **Gujarat has** received approval for the Desert Zoological Park and **Night Safari** at Juna Deesa in Banaskantha district - Asia's first desert-themed drive-through night safari
- The **Uttarakhand** government approved the relocation of the Uttarakhand High Court from **Nainital to Haldwani**
- **Keralam state government** will also launch **'Mission Samudra'**, a port-led industrial and logistics development initiative aimed at developing Vizhinjam as the anchor of a wider Vizhinjam Maritime Economic Region
- Meghalaya launched the CM-IMPACT Read & Rise Meghalaya programme - The programme is part of **CM-IMPACT**, an acronym for Chief Minister's Initiative for Maximising Pass Achievement and Classroom Triumph, and it focuses on foundational literacy and reading readiness
- **Delhi Lakshmi Yojana** is a monthly financial assistance scheme for eligible women in Delhi. The scheme provides ₹2,500 per month to women aged 21 to 60 years from lower-income families.
- **Gramin Bharat Taxi** - India's **first rural-level cooperative taxi model**, launched in August 2026 in the Banaskantha district of Gujarat.
- Kerala was renamed as Keralam on 25th August 2026
- Andhra Pradesh approved **India's first dedicated Quantum and AI University** campus in Amaravati
- Mahila Vishwavidyalaya – All Women University – All are women – Proposed by Bihar

MILITARY EXERCISE

NAME OF THE EXERCISE	TYPE	HELD IN/AT	PURPOSE
Exercise ROTOR CLAP-III	Indian Air Force **(IAF)**	Jaisalmer, **Rajasthan**	a Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems (Counter-UAS) exercise
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026	Indian Navy–US Navy	Southern Naval Command in Kochi, Kerala	
Exercise Talisman Sabre 2027	multinational military exercise - led by Australia and the United States		India is participating
Udara Shakti 2026	Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Malaysian Air Force	Malaysia	
MAITREE-XV	✓ bilateral military exercise ✓ India-Thailand	Surat Thani, Thailand	

Exercise Pitch Black 2026	✓ Air Force	Australia	
Eagles of Civilisation 2026	✓ joint air exercise		between Egypt and China
Freedom Edge exercise 2026	✓ Joint military exercises	Jeju Island, South Korea	United States, South Korea, and Japan
Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise 2026	✓ Annual military drills		USA and South Korea
AHYOG HOP-TAC	✓ second edition of the joint maritime exercise	Chennai	Indian Coast Guard and the Vietnam Coast Guard

✓ **'PRAHAAR'** - India's first comprehensive National Counter Terrorism Policy & Strategy

COMMITTEES IN NEWS

SINO	NAME OF THE COMMITTEE	APPOINTED BY	PURPOSE
1.	Justice R. Subhash Reddy Committee	Appointed by Supreme Court	a five-member High-Powered Enquiry Committee (HPEC) to independently examine allegations of violence during the student demonstrations at Jantar Mantar
2.	V. Thiruppugazh Committee (Advisory Committee for Mitigation and Management of Flood Risk in the Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA))	✓ Government of Tamil Nadu ✓ Appointed in Nov 2021 ✓ Submitted report in May 2022	To study, mitigate, and manage flood risks in the Chennai Metropolitan Area following severe inundation

INDEX, REPORT IN NEWS

SINO	INDEX	RELEASED BY	RANK
1.	Environmental Performance Index 2026	Yale University	✓ **India** ranked **176th OF 177** ✓ **Estonia – 1st** ✓ **Luxembourg** – 2nd ✓ United Kingdom **(UK) – 3rd** ✓ Laos – 177th (Last)
2.	School Education Quality Index 2026	NITI Aayog	✓ Punjab secured the first rank
3.	**Kroll Report 2025**	**Kroll**	✓ **Shah Rukh Khan** emerged as India's most valuable celebrity ✓ **2nd - actor Ranveer Singh** ✓ **3rd - Virat Kohli**
4.	**QS World University Rankings 2027**	Quacquarelli Symonds	**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**: Global Rank 1 In India: ✓ IIT Delhi: Global Rank 118 (India Rank 1)

			✓ IIT Bombay: Global Rank 134 (India Rank 2) ✓ IIT Madras: Global Rank 170 (India Rank 3) ✓ IIT Kharagpur: Global Rank 205 (India Rank 4) ✓ IISc Bengaluru: Global Rank 221 (India Rank 5)

1.Major Indices of NITI Aayog (Just for Exam)

Index Name	Launch Year	Key Partners	Core Parameters / Indicators	Top Performer (Latest Edition)
SDG India Index	2018	United Nations	16 SDGs, 113 indicators **(17th SDG is not covered)**	Kerala & Uttarakhand (Joint 1st) 2023–24 (4th edition)
Investment Friendliness Index	2026	CRISIL	8 pillars, 84 indicators	Gujarat (Large States), Uttarakhand (Hilly) Delhi and Chandigarh (UT)
Export Preparedness Index	2020	Institute for Competitiveness	4 pillars, 70 indicators	Maharashtra (Large States), Tamil Nadu – 2nd
National Multidimensional Poverty Index	2021	UNDP, OPHI	3 dimensions, 12 indicators	Kerala, Goa, Tamil Nadu, and Sikkim – Top performers Bihar (Highest poverty rate)
State Energy and Climate Index	2022	Ministry of Power, MNRE	6 pillars, 27 indicators	Gujarat (Large States), Goa (Small States)
State Health Index	2018	World Bank, MoHFW	3 domains, 24 indicators	Kerala (Overall), Uttar Pradesh (Incremental)
School Education Quality Index	2019	World Bank, Ministry of Education	2 categories, 30 indicators	Punjab (Large States)
India Innovation Index	2019	Institute for Competitiveness	7 pillars (Enablers & Performance)	Karnataka (Major Stat

2.ShanghaiRanking Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2026

Category	Rank in India	University	World Rank – ARWU 2026	Type
Government / Public University	**1**	Indian Institute of Science (IISc)	**501–600**	Public/Deemed-to-be University
	2	University of Delhi	**601–700**	Central University
	3	Indian Institute of Technology Madras	**701–800**	Central Government Institute
Private / Deemed UNiversity	**1**	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences	**501–600**	Private Deemed University
	2	Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)	**601–700**	Private Deemed University
	3	Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE)	**701–800**	Private Deemed University

PERSONALITY IN NEWS

SINO	PERSONALITY NAME	WHY IN NEWS	ADD. INFORMATION
1.	**Taslima Nasrin** (Exiled Bangladeshi author)	Recently visited Kolkata from exile. A feminist	Novel: **Lajja** Autobiography: **Dwikhandito' (Split: A Life)**
2.	Basavaraj Horatti	resigned as Chairperson of the Karnataka SLC	Article 169 of the Constitution of India provides for the creation or abolition of a State Legislative Council
3.	Bhawana Kanth	First woman pilot in India to clear the Fighter Combat Leader Course	She was commissioned into the Indian Air Force in June 2016 as part of India's first batch of women fighter pilots
4.	Anil Menon (Indian-origin NASA astronaut)	completed his first spacewalk outside the International Space Station	
5.	Abelardo de la Espriella	36th President of Colombia	Serves a four-year
6.	Justice D. Krishnakumar	Chairman of Tamil Nadu State Law Commission	✓ former Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court ✓ Term - three years
7.	N. Chandrasekaran	Chairman of Tata	Resigned

8.	Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud	Appointed as arbitrator by Russia	Russia appointed his as its arbitrator in an investment treaty arbitration filed by Ukraine's state-owned Oschadbank.
9.	Dhiraj Seth	received the Honorary Rank of General of the Nepali Army	Indian Army Chief General
10.	Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir	23rd president of Bangladesh	✓ He belongs to **Bangladesh Nationalist Party** ✓ Defeated Oli Ahmed
11.	Sophie Adenot	France – European Space Agency astronaut	✓ first French woman and the second European woman to perform a spacewalk
12.	Kerala's Kaziah Liz Mejo	Crowned Miss Universe India 2026	✓ Held in Jaipur ✓ 2nd - Vaishnavi Gannesh (TN)
13.	John Ternus	New CEO of Apple	✓ On 31st August Tim Cook resigned

DAYS | WEEKS | YEAR IN NEWS

SINO	DAY | WEEK	CELEBRATED AS	INFORMATION
1.	August 1–7	World Breastfeeding Week 2026 • a global campaign to raise awareness and galvanise action on themes related to breastfeeding	Theme: "Breastfeeding for a sustainable start in life: strengthen what works • started in 1992 • Organized by World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)
2.	August 1	World Fin Tech Day	
3.	August 7	12th National Handloom Day (Observed from 2015)	Observed every year on **7 August** to commemorate the **Swadeshi Movement** launched on **7 August 1905**
4.	August 3	16th Indian Organ Donation Day India recorded 20,138 organ transplants in 2025 – First Time	• India Ranks Third Worldwide in Total Organ Transplants • Tamil Nadu - Best State for recording the highest number of deceased organ donors (6th Time in Row) • Assam Best State in North Eastern Region. • Delhi - Best Union Territory
5.	August 14	Partition Horrors Remembrance Day	✓ Announced in 2021 ✓ Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas
6.	August 15	India Day	Massachusetts (One of State of USA) declared August 15, 2026, as India Day
7.	**August 8**	**Quit India Movement Day**	✓ also known as August Kranti Diwas ✓ **Aruna Asaf Ali** (1909–1996), celebrated as the "**Heroine of 1942**"

			and the "**Grand Old Lady of the Independence Movement**"
8.	**9 August**	**International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples**	✓ Also known as **'World Tribal Day'** ✓ **2026 Theme:** "Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being"
9.	**12 August**	**National Library Day**	✓ SR. Ranganathan's – Birth Anniversary
10.	**12 August**	**World Elephant Day**	✓
11.	**23 August**	**3rd National Space Day** **Theme:** Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership	✓ To mark the landing of Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander at Shiv Shakti Point in the Moon's south pole
12.	**23–27 August 2026**	**World Water Week 2026**	✓ **Venue: Stockholm, Sweden**, with international participation ✓ **Organiser:** Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) ✓ **Theme: "Water for People and Progress"** ✓ **World Lake Day** was celebrated during World Water Week on **27 August 2026**
13.	**August 15**	**"National India Hub Day**	✓ Declared by **Illinois State Senate**

AWARDS, PRIZES IN NEWS

Name of the Award	Awardee	Purpose | Information
COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026 *[a joint award of the Committee on Space Research and the Indian Space Research Organisation]*	**Annapurni Subramaniam** [*first Indian woman scientist and the fourth Indian overall to receive]*	It recognises scientists from developing countries for outstanding contributions to space research
Sant Kabir Handloom Awards and National Handloom Awards 2025	**Sant Kabir Handloom Awards** 1. **Ram Meher** of Odisha for a Bichitpar Khadi Saree, 2. **Runima Chetiya** Choudhury of Assam for a Muga Silk Saree, and 3. **Shah Muhammad Ansari** of Uttar Pradesh for a Zarbaft Shewatambari Awadh Jamdhani **National Handloom Awards**	Presented on National Handloom Day – 7th August ✓ **Sant Kabir Handloom Award** is one of the highest honours in India's handloom sector ✓ **National Handloom Awards** recognise excellence in handloom weaving across India

	1. Kanchipuram Silk of Tamil Nadu, 2. Ikat of Telangana, and 3. Kani Shawls of Jammu and Kashmir.	
2026 Dirac Medal	**Indian physicist Deepak Dhar**	
UT Ladakh State Award 2025	**Dr. Padma Gurmet**	recognition of his contribution to the preservation, promotion and development of the Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine in Ladakh
Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Pakistan's Highest Civilian Award**)**	**Dr. Jal Ratanji Patel**, a physician, and **Dr. Jal Dhaybho-Koo**, a radiologist (Indians) Given for maintain the confidentiality of medical examination of Muhammad Ali Jinnah	✓ awarded for distinguished service in fields such as public service, literature, arts, sports, and science ✓ Presented on Pakistan Day (March 23) ✓ It marks the Lahore Resolution of 1940
Sarala Puraskar	**Dr. Ashutosh Parida (Odisha)**	✓ Selected for his poetry collection Bishwas De Pruthwi
Oliy Darajali Dostlik Order (Order of Friendship)	**PM Narendra Modi**	✓ Uzbekistan's highest state honour

1. National Gopal Ratna Award (NGRA) 2026

Ministry	**Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying**
Department	Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Scheme	**Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)** – launched in **December 2014**
Award Since	**2021**
Objective	To recognize and encourage the efforts of Dairy farmers, dairy cooperative societies/MPC/FPOs and Artificial Insemination Technicians (AITs)
Categories	1. Best Dairy Farmer (indigenous cattle/buffalo) 2. Best DCS/MPC/FPO 3. Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT)
1st Rank	₹5 lakh
2nd Rank	₹3 lakh
3rd Rank	₹2 lakh
Special Award	₹2 lakh (NER & Himalayan States)
AIT Award	Certificate & memento; **No cash prize**
Award Ceremony	**National Milk Day – 26 November 2026**

2.Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the year 2024, 2025

Awardee 2024	**Field**	**Art Form / Category**
N. Vijay Siva	Music	Carnatic Vocal
A. S. Krishnan	Music	Carnatic Instrumental – Morching

Vaagai Chandrasekar	Theatre	Acting

Awardee 2025	Field	Art Form / Category
Papanasam Ashok Ramani	Music	Carnatic Vocal
Roja Kannan	Dance	Bharatanatyam
S. Kumar	Dance	Other Major Traditions – Bhagavatamela

3.Tamil Nadu Awards - 2026

SINO	AWARD	AWARDEE	PURPOSE | KNOWN FOR
1.	Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award	Dr V Mohan	✓ For scientific advancement, healthcare, diabetes research and public health ✓ first medical doctor to receive
2.	Kalpana Chawla Award	Nausheen Banu Chand	first female athlete to complete the 42-km Tenzing-Hillary Everest Marathon for three consecutive years from 2024 to 2026
3.	Thagaisal Thamizhar Award	M.Krishnasamy	
4.	Best Corporation	Coimbatore	
5.	Best Municipality	Podinayakanur	
6.	Best Town Panchayat	Thiruvidaimaruthur	

4.Thagaisal Thamizhar Awardees:

SINO	YEAR	AWARDEE	POLITICAL PARTY
1.	2021	N. Sankaraiah	CPM
2.	2022	R. Nallakannu	CPI
3.	2023	K. Veeramani	Dravidar Kazhagam
4.	2024	Kumari Ananthan	Indian National Congress
5.	2025	K. M. Kader Mohideen	Indian Union Muslim League
6.	2026	M. Krishnasamy	Indian National Congress

SUMMIT, CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION IN NEWS

SINO	SUMMIT NAME	PLACE	THEME
1.	Tenth BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting	Jaipur	adopted a Joint Declaration under the BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) for resilient, innovation-driven and sustainable industrial growth

2.	Bharat International Rice Conference (BIRC) 2026	New Delhi	2nd Edition
3.	First Vettri Tamil Nadu Investors Conclave 2026 ✓ 97 MoUs (New) ✓ Investments worth over ₹67,452 crore	Chennai	On 13th August 2026 **Theme:** Where Vision Becomes Victory
4.	31st Southern Zonal Council ✓ Chairman: Home Minister ✓ Deputy Chairman: TN Chief Minister ✓ Organized by the Inter-State Council Secretariat, Ministry of Home Affairs	Mahabalipuram	20th August 2026 States: AP, K, KL, TN and Telangana UT: Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep
5.	18th BRICS Summit	New Delhi	India will host Theme: Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
6.	26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	

APPS, PORTALS IN NEWS

SINO	APP | PORTAL NAME	IMPLEMENTATION	KEY POINTS
1.	AppCoMS 2.0	Central Information Commission (CIC)	✓ Appeal and Complaint Management System 2.0 ✓ used for Second Appeals and Complaints under the Right to Information Act, 2005
2.	**SAMAVESH** portal	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Acts as a single-window unified platform that connects citizens to various social welfare schemes, support apps, and marginalized empowerment programs	Single Access Mechanism for All Verticals of Empowerment & Social Harmony
3.	MANAS Portal	National Narcotics Helpline portal	user-friendly platform for every citizen to conveniently report drug-related matters 24x7
4.	www.bharatrajya.com	Developed by Shriman Krishna Seshadri	India's Interactive Historical Atlas

BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN NEWS

SINO	BOOK NAME	AUTHOR	KEY POINTS
1.	Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles	Shri Ram Nath Kovind (14th President of India.)	Autobiography of former President of India
2.	Belonging: A Journey of Love	Shri. Sonia Gandhi	Autobiography of former INC President

SPORTS IN NEWS

SINO	TOUR NAME	WIN	KEY POINTS
1.	**Taipei Open 2026** badminton women's singles (**Yonex Taipei Open 2026**)	✓ India's Tanvi Sharma ✓ Maiden Title	defeated Vietnam's Nguyễn Thùy Linh
2.	**World Athletics U20 Championships - Eugene, Oregon, USA**	✓ Ashish Yadav	won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw
3.	**Aerobic Gymnastics Asian Championships - Tagaytay City, Philippines**	✓ Gymnast Ariha Pangambam	won India's first senior gold medal in the individual women's category
4.	**Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz title, USA**	✓ **R Praggnanandhaa**	won his maiden Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz title
5.	**Korea Masters**	✓ Indian badminton player Ashmita Chaliha won the women's singles title	She became the first Indian to win the Korea Masters
6.	**2026 Grand Chess Tour**	✓ Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu has won ✓ Held at St. Louis, USA	✓ Won against Fabiano Caruana (2025 + 2023 Winner) ✓ **first Indian to win Grand Chess Tour title**

1.National Sports Awards 2025

Award	Purpose / Criterion
Arjuna Award	Outstanding performance over the **previous 4 years**, along with leadership, sportsmanship and discipline
Arjuna Award (Lifetime)	Honours sportspersons who contributed through performance and continue promoting sports after retirement
Dronacharya Award	Recognises coaches for **consistent outstanding and meritorious work** enabling athletes to excel internationally
Dronacharya – Lifetime	Recognises coaches for their long-term contribution to sports
Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar	Recognises **corporates and NGOs** for significant contributions to sports promotion and development

Award	Recipient / Entity	Sport / Discipline
Arjuna Award – 2025	**Tejaswin Shankar (TN)**	Athletics
	Muhammed Ajmal V	Athletics
	Priyanka Goswami	Athletics
	Treesa Jolly	Badminton
	Pullela Gayatri Gopichand	Badminton
	Narender	Boxing
	Vidit Santosh Gujarathi	Chess
	Divya Jitendra Deshmukh	Chess
	Dhanush Srikanth	Deaf Shooting
	Lalremsiami	Hockey
	Rajkumar Pal	Hockey
	Surjeet	Kabaddi
	Pooja	Kabaddi
	Rudransh Khandelwal	Para-Shooting
	Ekta Bhyan	Para-Athletics
	Arvind Singh	Rowing
	Akhil Sheoran	Shooting
Arjuna Award (Lifetime) – 2025	**I. Arumainayagam (TN)**	Football
Dronacharya Award – Regular	Parveer Singh	Athletics
	Chhote Lal Yadav	Boxing
	Neha Nandkumar Chavan	Shooting
Dronacharya Award – Lifetime	Dharmendra Singh Yadav	Boxing
	Virender Kumar	Wrestling
Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar – 2025	Army Paralympic Node, Pune	Sports Promotion

2.Chinese humanoid robot "Lightning"

- ran a 100-meter trial **race faster than human world-record holder Usain Bolt (9.58 sec)** and finished in just 9.32 seconds

Fact in Sports:

1. **Boleng** in Siang district of **Arunachal Pradesh** will host the **Asian Rafting Championships 2026** from 5 October to 9 October 2026
2. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports **suspended recognition of the Table Tennis Federation** of India (TTFI)
3. 10th edition of the **FIFA Women's World Cup** will be held from 24 June to 25 July 2027 **in Brazil**

IMPORTANT EXPANSIONS IN NEWS

SINO	SHORT FORM	EXPANSION

1.	SHE-LEAPS	**S**elf-**H**elp **E**ntrepreneur-**L**ivelihoods and **E**nterprise **A**pplication for **P**rosperity and **S**ustainability
2.	PM-PRANAM	**PM P**rogramme for **R**estoration, **A**wareness Generation, **N**ourishment and **A**melioration of **M**other Earth
3.	Bharat Vistaar	**V**irtually **I**ntegrated **S**ystem to **A**ccess **A**gricultural **R**esources
4.	FASAL	**F**orecasting **A**gricultural output using **S**pace, **A**gro-meteorology and **L**and-based observations
5.	NAMASTE	National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem
6.	MANAS	Madak Padarth Nishedh Asoochna Kendra

PLACES IN NEWS

SINO	PLACE	INFORMATION
1.	Gulf of Mexico	➢ US named it as "Gulf of America" ➢ Gulf of Mexico borders – Mexico, USA and Cuba
2.	Iceland	Iceland votes against restarting EU membership talks
3.	Venezuelan Oil Reserves	➢ Venezuela has the world's largest proven oil reserves ➢ The United States and Venezuela announced a major oil agreement