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Famous Personalities

Chief Secretary V. Shrinivas (Government of Rajasthan)

- ❑ **Conference:** 51st European Group for Public Administration (EGPA) Annual Conference
 - ◆ **Venue:** Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
 - ◆ **Duration:** 24-27 August 2026
 - ◆ **Chaired by:** V. Shrinivas, who is the President of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS)
 - ◆ **Theme:** "Public Governance for the Common Good: Human Intelligence Serving the Global Community"
 - ◆ **Visit to Vatican City:** Met Pope Leo XIV in Vatican City and showcased IIAS's participation in the global initiative for service to humanity, 'Magnifica Humanitas' (Magnificent Humanity)
 - ◆ **Bilateral meeting with Dr. Alvaro Lario, President of IFAD, in Rome (29 August):** V. Shrinivas held the meeting at the headquarters of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome. Key discussion topics: drought management, cropping patterns, dairy development, command area development, and watershed development.
- ❑ **Note:** The tenure of V. Shrinivas, Rajasthan's 46th Chief Secretary, was ending on 31 August 2026, but the central government granted a 6-month service extension.

- ❑ **Representing India:** V. Shrinivas -
 - ◆ For the second consecutive time (2025-26), delivered the presidential address at the prestigious international EGPA conference.
 - ◆ In 2025, at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, at EGPA's 50th conference, delivered the presidential address on the

topic "EGPA@50: Role of EGPA in a Global Context."

- ◆ In June 2025, V. Shrinivas became the first Indian to be elected President of IIAS.

Dr. Ravi Bapna appointed 'Dean' of a US University

- ❑ **Dean appointment:** Dr. Ravi Bapna, a Jaipur resident and global expert in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and digital transformation, has been appointed at Santa Clara University in California, USA, effective 1 September 2026.
- ❑ **Role:** Academic leadership of the Leavey School (of Business).

Former MLA Of Mundawar Mahendra Shastri Passed Away

- ❑ **Political background:** Mahendra Shastri was elected MLA from Mundawar (Alwar) on a Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) ticket in 1985.
- ❑ **Parliamentary identity:** Declared 'Best Orator' in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly for his forceful speeches.

Places in News

Ramsar (Ajmer): India's Largest Goat Semen Lab Established - Under National Livestock Mission (NLM)

- ❑ **Establishment:** At the Government Animal Breeding Farm located at Ramsar.
- ❑ **Capacity:** 2 lakh semen doses to be prepared annually.
- ❑ **Target:** To make it fully operational by December 2026.
- ❑ **Financial provision:** Rs. 8.75 crore will be spent, with financial partnership -
 - ◆ 60% central share (Government of India)
 - ◆ 40% state share (Government of Rajasthan)
- ❑ **MoU: Between the following two institutions -**
 1. Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Rajasthan
 2. U.P. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Veterinary Sciences University and Cow Research Institute, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

- ❑ **Note:** Rajasthan has approximately **2 crore** goats, which is 16% of the country's total goat population. In terms of number of goats, Rajasthan is the second-largest state in the country.

Sanderao (Pali): India's First 'Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Breeds' Established

- ❑ **Location:** Sanderao village, Sumerpur area, Pali

- ❑ **Major animal breeds of Rajasthan and their conservation.**

S.No.	Animal	Major Breeds/Species (Total 30)
1.	Cow	Gir, Kankrej, Rath, Tharparkar, Sahiwal, Nagauri, Malvi, Hariyana, Punganur (a world-famous small breed of Andhra Pradesh)
2.	Buffalo	Murrah, Surti, Jaffarabadi, Mehsana
3.	Sheep	Magra, Marwari, Nali, Chokla, Pugal, Jaisalmeri, Malpura, Sonadi
4.	Goat	Barbari, Sirohi, Jamnapari, Jakhrana, Sojat, Marwari
5.	Camel	Jaisalmeri, Bikaneri
6.	Horse	Marwari (Rajasthan's only breed of horse)

Schemes/ Programme/ Campaign

Successful Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in Rajasthan - 5 August, Jaipur

- ❑ **Highest enrollment in the country:** 62 lakh 58 thousand farmers enrolled in Rajasthan, the highest in the country.
- ❑ **Insured area and national comparison -**
 - ◆ In 2025-26, out of a total gross cropped area of 2.82 lakh hectares, more than 1 crore hectares were insured, the highest in the country.
 - ◆ The state's insured area is 36%, which is higher than the national average (32%). This percentage is the third-highest in the country after Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

'Panch Gaurav Programme' and ODOP Policy-2024

- ❑ **Amendment date:** 10 August 2026
- ❑ **Decision:** The state government expanded the scope of the '**Rajasthan One District One Product (ODOP) Policy-2024**' to strengthen the 'Panch Gaurav' programme.

- ❑ **Inauguration:** By Cabinet Minister (Animal Husbandry, Cow Husbandry, Dairy, and Devasthan Departments) Joraram Kumawat on August 9.

- ❑ **Achievement:** This is **India's first** and only '**Centre of Excellence - Indigenous Farm**' where breed improvement and propagation will be carried out for a total of **30 species**— including cows, buffaloes, goats, sheep, camels, and horses— using sex-sorted semen and artificial insemination.

- ❑ **New provision:** Now, the benefits and incentives available under the ODOP policy will no longer be limited to traditional products only, but will also be provided to processing units under 'One District One Produce' and 'One District One Plant'.

- ❑ **Amendment and grants -**

- ◆ Margin money grant of up to Rs. 20 lakh for enterprise expansion.
- ◆ Grant of up to Rs. 5 lakh for technology upgradation through private institutions.
- ◆ Application and approval process made fully online.
- ◆ **Example: Jaipur**
 - ✓ **Traditional:** Gems and Jewellery (Ratnabhushan)
 - ✓ **New:** Produce - Amla (Indian gooseberry), Species - Lisoda (Gunda fruit)

Rajasthan Police Unpaid Internship Scheme

- ❑ **Date:** 12 August 2026
- ❑ **Objective:** To provide practical experience in Rajasthan Police to law graduate (LLB), postgraduate (LLM), and PhD-level students from universities in India and abroad, and to take their assistance in police work.

- ❑ **Main training branches:** SOG, SCRB, Crime Branch, Traffic, Cyber Crime, Legal Branch.
- ❑ **Eligibility criteria -**
 - ◆ Minimum 60% marks in Class 12 mandatory.
 - ◆ For students of 3-year LLB or 5-year integrated law courses, a minimum of 60% marks overall across all previous semesters.

- ◆ LLM (who have appeared for the second semester exam of the first year) and PhD scholars in law.

❑ **Internship duration and conditions -**

- ◆ **Minimum duration:** 45 days
- ◆ **Maximum duration:** 3 months
- ◆ Minimum 75% attendance mandatory throughout the entire period for a work experience certificate.

'Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme'

Parameter / Description	Key Points and Provisions – Date: 21 August 2026
Name of scheme	Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)
Applicable period	From Kharif 2026 to Rabi 2026–27 (for two crop seasons)
Objective	To provide financial security to farmers against crop losses caused by adverse weather and unwanted weather events.
Scope	Notified for commercial and horticultural crops in all 41 districts of the state.
Implementing agency	Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AIC)
Eligibility and conditions	• Loanee, non-loanee, and eligible sharecropper farmers can voluntarily avail the benefit • AgriStack ID mandatory for insurance.
Farmer premium	Maximum 5% of the insured amount; the remaining premium is borne by the central and state governments.
Notified crops (Kharif 2026)	Green chilli, okra, onion, tomato, castor, pomegranate, round gourd (tinda), henna, orange, and kinnow
Notified crops (Rabi 2026–27)	Amla, brinjal, fennel, cauliflower, garlic, onion, pea, tomato, potato, guava, lemon, mango, muskmelon, watermelon, ber (jujube), cabbage, mosambi (sweet lime), and papaya.

Rajasthan Silicosis Policy-2019 and State Level Implementation Committee Meeting - 30 July

- ❑ **Meeting:** State Secretariat, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Secretary V. Shrinivas.
- ❑ **Nodal:** Directorate of Special Ability Persons Department.
- ❑ **Major financial provisions of Policy-2019 -**
 - ◆ **One-time rehabilitation to certified patient:** Rs. 3 lakh
 - ◆ **On death, to nominee/dependent:** Rs. 2 lakh
 - ◆ **Funeral assistance:** Rs. 10,000
- ❑ **Major administrative decisions/directions -**
 - ◆ Special 'Silicosis Corners' established in 25 hospitals of the state.
 - ◆ **Project Monitoring Unit (PMU)** established for the welfare of affected persons.
 - ◆ **X-ray screening** and mapping of patients

at CHCs in the most affected districts.

- ◆ **Pending claim** amounts to be transferred to the nodal department **within 1 week** by the Mines and Labour Department.

Rajasthan Tribal Region: Sickle Cell Anaemia Control Campaign

- ❑ **Date:** 5 August 2026
- ❑ **National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission-2047:** Campaign conducted in tribal areas by the state government with the resolve of 'Healthy Tribal Society - Healthy Rajasthan'.
- ❑ **Screening target and achievement -**
 - ◆ Against a set target of 37.50 lakh, screening of 37.02 lakh people (98.72%) completed.
 - ◆ **Top districts (screening numbers) -**
 - Udaipur (11.12 lakh+)
 - Banswara (10.39 lakh+)
 - Dungarpur (8.02 lakh+)

- ❑ **Udaipur: 'Centre of Competence/Excellence'**
 - ◆ Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, has designated Udaipur as 'Centre of Competence for Sickle Cell'.
 - ◆ India's first Sickle Cell Wellness Hub: Udaipur
 - ◆ First fully dedicated Sickle Cell Medical CoE under ICMR, Government of India: Chandrapur, Maharashtra

CEREMONIES/PROGRAMMES

Water Conservation Resolution Programme

- ❑ **Date:** 9 August 2026
- ❑ **Occasion:** On World Indigenous/Tribal Day (Council for Rural Development and Research) and the 9th death anniversary of former Union Minister and Rajasthan University professor, late Professor Sanwarlal Jat.
- ❑ **Chief speaker:** Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagade.
- ❑ **Key points -**
 - ◆ **Dharti Aaba:** Remembrance of Birsa Munda.
 - ◆ Mention of the 4th-century book Krishi Parashar and Vishvavallabha (Horticultural Science) by Pandit Chakradhar Mishra, court writer of Maharana Pratap.

Free Leather Goods Training Programme for Artists of the Scheduled Caste Category - 13 August 2026

- ❑ **Event:** Village Charwadia, Tehsil Bassi (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Conducted by:** District Industry and Commerce Centre, Jaipur (Rural)
- ❑ **Objective:** To promote the leather industry and improve the quality of artisans' products.
- ❑ **Training and financial assistance -**
 - ◆ 2-month free leather goods training programme.
 - ◆ Toolkit worth Rs. 1,000 for self-employment.
 - ◆ Provision of Rs. 500 per month stipend (scholarship).

12th National Handloom Day - State Level Ceremony: 2026

- ❑ **Event:** 7 August. Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur
- ❑ **Inaugurated by:** Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **Participating institutions -**

- ◆ Department of Industry and Commerce, Weavers' Service Centre
- ◆ RUDA, Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board, Indian Institute of Craft and Design.
- ◆ Rajasthan Weavers' Association, Rajasthan State Handloom Development Corporation, RAJSICO, NIFT/NIHT-Jodhpur

State Level Weaver Awards 2026

Category	Winning Weaver	Residence	Excellent Product/Craft
1 st	Kanaram	Doongaon (Jalore)	Cotton and Silk Saree
2 nd	Sohanram	Tankla (Nagaur)	Artistic Dari (rug)
3 rd	Dhapubai	Asnawar (Jhalawar)	Tota Gagrani Double Bedsheet
Consolation	Dinesh Bhoyariya	Salawas (Jodhpur)	Panja Dari
Consolation	Kaku	Indara (Barmer)	Table Cover

- ❑ **National Handloom Awards: 2025** All 22 winners of the National Handloom Awards issued by the Ministry of Textiles, GoI (3 Sant Kabir and 19 National Handloom Awards) were honoured by the Hon'ble President on 7 August at a grand ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre (RBCC) in New Delhi.

- ❑ **Young weaver Baringa Ram of Barmer - National Handloom Award: 2025**

- ◆ Category: Weaving
- ◆ Sub-category: Young Weaver
- ◆ Address: Alisar Basti, Sedwa
- ◆ Craft/Product: Pattu Saree

- ❑ **Historical context -**

- ◆ In commemoration of the Swadeshi Movement that began at the Calcutta Town Hall on 7 August 1905, the Government of India has been observing 7 August as National Handloom Day every year since 2015.



Bikaner: State Level 80th Independence Day Celebration

- ❑ **Event:** Main ceremony at Dr. Karni Singh Stadium.

- ❑ **Honoured personnel:** A total of 22 from Rajasthan Police and the Prisons Department, for dedication to duty and excellent service.
- ❑ **Classification of medals - (Total: 22)**
 - ◆ Police Medals: 16
 - ◆ **President's Police Medal: 2**
 - Bhanwar Singh (Retired RAC, Bikaner)
 - Narendra Singh (Sub-Inspector, CID, Jaipur)
 - ◆ **President's Correctional Service Medal (Prisons): 4**
 - **Distinguished:** Deputy Superintendent Ramakant Sharma
 - **Meritorious:** Deputy Superintendent Yogesh Teji, Jailer Lokojuwal Singh, Sugar Singh Gurjar
- ❑ **16 officers and personnel of Rajasthan Police received Police Medals**
 - ◆ **Announcement:** By the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
 - ◆ **President's Police Medal (Distinguished): Total = 2**
 - Surendra Singh Ranawat
 - Mahendra Kumar Bhagat
 - **Police Medal (Meritorious): Total = 14**

Housing/Flat Allotment Ceremony for De-notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Families - 13 August 2026

- ❑ **Held:** Constitution Club, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma
- ❑ **Special points (key figures) -**
 - ◆ **Jaipur:** Under the **Jaisinghpura Khor housing scheme**, 473 families given 1-BHK (bedroom-hall-kitchen) units.
 - ◆ 50 flats in **Kota** and 80 plots in **Jodhpur** ready for allotment.
 - ◆ So far, in urban areas, a total of 838 plots and 106 flats have been allotted to families of **nomadic, semi-nomadic, Gadia Lohar, and Kalbelia communities.**
 - ◆ A total of 32 castes of de-notified, **nomadic**, and semi-nomadic communities are notified in Rajasthan.
 - ◆ The '**Dadudayal Nomadic Empowerment Scheme**' has been implemented.
 - ◆ Through special camps, **more than 71** thousand nomadic identity certificates have been issued so far.

PM SHRI (School for Rising India) Schools - State Level Webinar for Heads of Institutions -II

Parameter	Key Points and Provisions
Venue	Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur (21 August 2026)
Chair	Shri V. Shrinivas (Chief Secretary, Rajasthan)
Main theme	'National Education Policy-2020 Paradigm: PM Shri Vidyalaya'
Key directions and focus	Increase in student enrolment, qualitative improvement in exam results, and effective integration of technology through digital dashboards and smart classrooms. Regular dialogue with 10 heads of institutions every month, and regular field visits by district education officers. Developing schools as 'Centres of Excellence' in their area.
National Clean and Green School Rating (Rajasthan's achievement)	In this rating by the Union Ministry of Education, 11 schools of the state secured a place — including 3 PM Shri schools: PM Shri Darbar Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Sambhar Lake (Jaipur) - Ranked 14th nationally with 93.70 marks; 122 years old, developed with Bhamashah (philanthropic) support. PM Shri Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Babra (Beawar) - Ranked 23rd with 93.50 marks; - an Eat-Right School with a green, solar-powered campus. PM Shri Govt. Primary School, Parliya ki Dhani (Kota) - Secured 51st rank nationally on the strength of 100% retention of children in an area dominated by the Kalbelia and nomadic community, 100% enrolment in Balvatika (pre-primary), and e-content-based innovations.
Key innovation	National participation in the Pico Satellite and Space Technology workshop . PM Shri Mahatma Gandhi School, Town (Dungarpur)

Bikaner House: 'Teej Utsav-2026' in New Delhi

- ❑ **Date:** 15-24 August 2026
- ❑ **Attraction:** Rajeevika-RUDA Craft Fair and Food Festival
- ❑ **Objective:** To give a vivid representation of Rajasthan's rich folk culture, traditions, handicrafts, and cuisine.
- ❑ **Achievement:** A record sale of more than ₹1 crore 30 lakh was recorded.
- ❑ **Exhibition of Rajasthani paintings -**
 - ◆ Display of traditional paintings in the **Bani-Thani and Pichwai styles**.
 - ◆ Special musical performance by renowned folk artist **Kutle Khan** on 23 August.
 - ◆ Kishangarh painter **Pushpendra Sahu** (2nd generation) and Udaipur's **Onkar Lal Meghwal** (3rd generation, associated with '**Maa Chamunda Self Help Group**') preserving traditional painting and Pichwai art.
 - ◆ Lac-bangle craftsman **Iftekhhar Ahmed** associated with this ancestral art for the past five generations.

'Rajeevika Rakhi Fair-2026'

- ❑ **Event:** State Secretariat premises, Jaipur
- ❑ **Organiser:** Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council
- ❑ **Date:** 18-21 August 2026
- ❑ **Presence:** Rajeevika Brand Ambassador Ruma Devi (Barmer)
- ❑ **Participation:** Women from SHGs of 12 districts of the state (Ajmer, Barmer, Bundi, Churu, Jaipur, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Jhalawar, Karauli, Pali, Bhilwara, and Rajsamand) participated.

Major Awards, Publications, and Distinguished Authors

Balendu Sharma Dadhich: 'Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman'

- ❑ Originally hails from Rajasthan; a renowned IT expert.
- ❑ **Award:** Union Home Ministry's 'Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman' (First Prize)
- ❑ **To be conferred by:** Home Minister Amit Shah (to be presented during the National Rajbhasha Conference in Mumbai on 14 September).

- ❑ **Basis:** Being given for the much-discussed book '**Yantrabuddhi: Artificial Intelligence**'.

Yogacharya Dhakaram: 'Yogashree Award'

- ❑ An eminent teacher of India's yoga tradition, whose main area of work is Jaipur; he founded the **Yogapeace Institute** in 1998.
- ❑ **'Yogashree Award' -**
 - ◆ **Conferred by:** National Institute of Holistic Health and SkM Yoga and Yoga Song, Hanoi.
- ❑ **'Ho Chi Minh Award' -**
 - ◆ Given at the unveiling ceremony of the book by **Vu Trong Loi**, President of the **Vietnam Yoga Federation**.
 - ◆ This award was given to **four** distinguished individuals, among whom Yogacharya Dhakaram was also included.

Gajanand Mishra: Jaipur

- ❑ **Degree:** Honorary Doctorate in Philosophy under the Cinema Directors art category, along with a gold medal.
- ❑ **Conferred by:** Seedbrook University, USA
- ❑ **Occasion:** The Constitution Club in New Delhi, where the convocation ceremony was held.

Name Entered in India Book of Records: Ditya Jain

- ❑ **Resident:** Jai Jawan Colony, Jaipur
- ❑ **Achievement:** Blindfolded, Ditya identified flash cards of 24 Jain Tirthankaras merely by touch in just 2 minutes 14 seconds. She presented an accurate and error-free recall of the names of all the Tirthankaras and their symbolic emblems.

S.K. Bairwa: 'Rajiv Gandhi Gaurav Award'

- ❑ S.K. Bairwa, a social worker from Jaipur and President of the Bairwa Education Promotion and Welfare Committee, was honoured at the national level.
- ❑ **Awarding institution:** International Samrasta Manch (Harmony Forum).
- ❑ **Occasion:** On **Sadbhavna Diwas** festival held at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.

- ❑ **Special selection:** Selected among 85 distinguished personalities chosen from across the country.

Ayushma Dixit: 'Padma Shri Gaurav Samman-2026'

- ❑ Ayushma Dixit, Jaipur's famous tarot reader and global spiritual guru, honoured at the international level.
- ❑ **Given by:** 'The Zenith International Impact Award Council'.

Rawat Public School, Jaipur: 'RIDS Award-2026'

- ❑ **Institution:** Rawat Public School, Pratap Nagar (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Award:** 'Recognition for International Dimension in Schools' (RIDS)
- ❑ **Duration:** For the years 2026-29 (three years).
- ❑ **Awarding institution:** British Council.
- ❑ **Basis:** Global outlook, international collaboration.
- ❑ **Recipients:** Narendra Singh Rawat, Director of Rawat Educational Group, and Dr. Akshita Rawat received this honour.

'Viksit Rajasthan@2047' Book

- ❑ **Date:** 5 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Lok Bhawan, Jaipur
- ❑ **Book presentation:** Dr. Gordhan Lal Sharma, Additional Director of the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) and author, presented the first copy of the book to the Governor.

Ramniwas Mehta: 'Fear, Courage and Much More'

- ❑ **Author:** Ramniwas Mehta (former Secretary of RPSC and retired IAS officer)
- ❑ **Subject:** Experiences based on the functioning of the administrative machinery, politics, and the justice system.

National Literary Seminar 'Shabd Sadhana'

- ❑ **Date:** 8-9 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Adult Education Institute, Jhalana (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Session:** On the first day, K. Shrinivas Rao, Yashwant Vyas, and Amar Nath 'Amar' shared their views on the topic 'Interrelation between Journalism and Literature'.

Book Releases

1. Hindi translation of 'The Resistance': 'Pratirodh - Rajput, Maratha aur Sikhon ka Sangharsh'
2. Usha Rajshree Rathore's poetry collection: 'Sonchidi'

Book in Discussion: 'The Career Encyclopedia - Volume I'

- ❑ **Author:** Dr. Sunny Kapoor
- ❑ **Released by:** Dr. K.L. Jain (President, Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce and Industries)
- ❑ **Content:** Compiles detailed information on various contemporary career options including commerce, management, science, law, design, agriculture, aviation, space, media, sports, music, and performing arts.

Story Collection: 'Mitti ki Keemat'

- ❑ **Author:** Dr. Leeladhar Dochaniya (former Deputy Director, Department of Information and Public Relations, Rajasthan).
- ❑ **Released by:** Dr. Govind Pareek (Special Officer to the CM)
- ❑ **Dr. Leeladhar Dochaniya** (former Deputy Director, Department of Information and Public Relations) presented books to the Leader of Opposition and the Chief Electoral Officer -
 1. **Poetry work:** "Zindagi Muskurati Rahe"
 2. **Story collection:** "Mitti ki Keemat"

Prof. Vinod Bihari Sharma: Nominated to the 'Bhatt Mathuranath Shastri Sahitya Peeth'

- ❑ **Nominated:** Senior Sanskrit scholar Prof. Vinod Bihari Sharma.
- ❑ **Appointing institution:** Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Purpose of the chair:** To promote the study and teaching of Sanskrit literature, research, propagation, implementation of new schemes, and innovation.

Science & Technology

Execution of India's First REE Exploration Licence

- ❑ **Achievement:** Rajasthan has become the first

state in the country to execute India's first Exploration Licence (EL) contract for Rare Earth Elements (REE) and associated minerals.

- ❑ **Execution date:** 29 July 2026, by the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Rajasthan.
- ❑ **Geographical area:** 207.63 sq. km
 - ◆ Navatala-Devigarh (Balotra)
 - ◆ Shergarh (Jodhpur)
- ❑ **Successful bidder company:** M/s Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited.
- ❑ **REE:** Lanthanum, Cerium, Praseodymium, and Neodymium.

'Organ Donation Awareness' Programme at RUHS

- ❑ **Date:** 3 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Governor Haribhau Kishanrao Bagade
- ❑ **Organiser/officials -**
 - ◆ Prof. Pramod Yewale (Vice-Chancellor, RUHS)
 - ◆ Dr. Mohnish Grover (Principal, RUHS)

- ❑ India's first successful kidney transplant took place in Tamil Nadu on 1 December 1971.
- ❑ **Organ Donation Awareness:** Rajasthan 'National Excellence' Award
 - ◆ **Award:** 'State Award for Excellence in Organ Donation Awareness'
 - ◆ **Achievement:** Rajasthan ranked first in the country for outstanding performance in the organ donation pledge campaign.
 - ◆ **Occasion:** Conferred during the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day ceremony held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, on 3 August 2026.
 - ◆ **Organiser:** By NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation) of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
 - ◆ **Presented by:** Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Anupriya Patel.
 - ◆ **Recipients:** Dr. Rashmi Gupta, Director, Department of Medical Education; Dr. Chitra Singh, Joint Director, SOTTO Rajasthan; Dr. Dharmesh, IEC Consultant; and Dr. Mamta, Additional Director.

■ **SOTTO:** State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization functions as the state-level nodal body, under the nationally established **NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization)**, for coordination, regulation, and public awareness of organ donation and transplantation activities.

World Breastfeeding Week (1-7 August) 2026: State Level Review and Resolution - 7 August 2026

- ❑ **Held:** State Secretariat, Jaipur
- ❑ **Organised by:** Department of Medical, Health and Family Welfare (Government of Rajasthan) in collaboration with UNICEF and leading medical institutions of the state.
- ❑ **2026 Theme:** "Breastfeeding for a Strong and Healthy Start to Life: Strengthening Effective Measures"
- ❑ **3 key principles of successful breastfeeding -**
 1. Initiate breastfeeding within the **first 1 hour** of birth.
 2. Exclusive breastfeeding for the **first 6 months**.
 3. Continue breastfeeding along with appropriate complementary feeding for up to **2 years or beyond after 6 months**.

Alwar: 'Vikram Sarabhai Space Exhibition'

- ❑ **Date:** 10-12 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** MITRC College, Alwar
- ❑ **Inaugurated by:** Minister of State for Forest and Environment Sanjay Sharma
- ❑ **Exhibition:** Various models and panels based on ISRO's achievements, current missions, and future plans were displayed (**Chandrayaan-3, Mangalyaan, Remote Sensing Satellite, Aditya L-1, LUPEX, NISAR, Gaganyaan**).
- ❑ **Present:** Retired ISRO scientist Sawan N. Lakhia.

Mission Madhuhari: Rajasthan's Innovation for Type-1 Diabetes Management

- ❑ **Long-term goal:** By 2030, ensure no child dies due to Type-1 Diabetes.

- ❑ **Pilot project:** Launched in June 2024 in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, and Nagaur in collaboration with the 'William J. Clinton Foundation'.
- ❑ **Administrative and physical expansion -**
 - ◆ **120 special Type-1** Diabetes clinics operational in **41 districts** (80 additional proposed).
 - ◆ **Free supplies:** Insulin, glucometers, test strips, lancets, logbooks, and Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) systems for around 4,000 patients.
- ❑ **AI-based innovation (first in the country) -**
 - ◆ **MadhuRoop AI Digital Twin:** An AI system that predicts hypo/hyperglycaemia from the patient's health data.
 - ◆ **Madhu Netra AI:** An AI technology for early detection of diabetic retinopathy (eye problem) with over 90% accuracy (implemented in 7 districts; honoured with the Chief Minister's Excellence Award 2026).

- ❑ **Life Management and Support Components**
 - ◆ **Madhuhari Bank:** Continuous supply of insulin.
 - ◆ **Madhuhari Campus:** Making 205 government schools and 41 colleges diabetes-friendly.
 - ◆ **Madhuvani:** 24×7 counselling on the 104 helpline.
 - ◆ **MadhuSmile Wellbeing Index:** The country's first index for scientific assessment of patients' emotional, social, and educational aspects (average score: 78.9%), with most participants scoring in the 'Good' or 'High' category.
 - ◆ **Three-tier classification of clinics:** Platinum, Gold, and Silver categories.

16th National Organ Donation Day and Rajasthan

- ❑ **Date:** 3 August 2026
- ❑ **Occasion:** Organ donation awareness campaign.
- ❑ **Venue:** SMS Medical College Auditorium, Jaipur
- ❑ **National Digital Organ Donation Pledge -**
 - ◆ Of the more than 5 lakh Aadhaar-verified organ donation pledges nationwide, more than 1.41 lakh pledges are from Rajasthan alone.

- ◆ On 3 August 2026, Rajasthan was honoured with first place in New Delhi for the highest contribution to national digital organ donation pledge campaigns.
- ◆ **Jug-Jug Jiyo Campaign:** A year-long campaign launched by the central government on the occasion of the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day (3 August 2026).

State Level Organ Donation Day 2026: Awards

Category / Award Name	Honoured Institution or Individual
Organ Donation Pledge – 1st	Jasmeet Singh (Collector, Bhilwara)
Organ Donation Pledge – 2nd	Arun Garg (Collector, Jhunjhunu)
Organ Donation Pledge – 3rd	Jaipur
Best BSD Committee	SMS Hospital, Jaipur
Best Cadaveric Transplant	AIIMS, Jodhpur
Best NTORC	JLN Medical College, Ajmer
Certificate of Appreciation	Dr. Manisha Malik
Best Transplant Coordinator	Ramratan Khangwal
Best NGO	MFJCF: Mohan Foundation Jaipur Citizen Forum
Best Emerging NGO	The Earth
Poster Competition (1st)	Kajal Sharma
Slogan Competition (1st)	Tanmay

- ❑ **Organ Donation Statistics and Infrastructure (Rajasthan)**
 - ◆ Currently, 17 organ transplant centres and 4 Non-Transplant Organ Retrieval Centres (NTORC) are operational in the state.
 - ◆ A separate organ donation unit has been set up in every medical college, and an online pledge facility is available through the 181 helpline, NOTTO, and the departmental portal.
 - ◆ In terms of total number of organ transplants, India ranks third in the world after the USA and China.

Establishment of Rajasthan State Innovation Hub

- ❑ **Establishment:** Proposal to establish the 'Rajasthan State Innovation Hub' at the Coaching Hub Institutional Complex in Pratap Nagar (announced by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma on 11 May 2026).
- ❑ **Key sectors:** Agricultural engineering, textiles, hand printing, and membrane technology.
- ❑ **Study:** Study of IIT Madras Research Park.
- ❑ **Consultation:** Experts from BITS Pilani, MNIT, and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

TB-Free Rajasthan: Screening, Testing, and Treatment

- ❑ **Date:** 20 August 2026
- ❑ **Meeting:** State Secretariat, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Secretary Shri V. Shrinivas
- ❑ **Increase in TB-free Gram Panchayats:** Principal Secretary (Medical and Health) Smt. Gayatri Rathore stated that the number of TB-free Gram Panchayats in the state is continuously increasing.
 - ◆ **Year 2022:** 29 Gram Panchayats
 - ◆ **Year 2023:** 586 Gram Panchayats
 - ◆ **Year 2024:** 3,350 Gram Panchayats
 - ◆ **Year 2025:** 6,547 Gram Panchayats
 - ◆ Under the campaign, screening of more than 2.38 lakh people has been completed so far in the state.
 - ◆ More than 2.4 thousand nutrition kits have been distributed to TB patients.
 - ◆ In 2026, the target for X-ray usage has reached 83%. There are 643 NAAT labs, 132 handheld X-ray units, and 652 fixed X-ray machines available in the state for TB testing.

'Samagra Shishu Bal swasthay Karykram' on a Pilot Basis in Alwar and Bharatpur - 30 August 2026

- ❑ **Official:** Smt. Gayatri Rathore (Principal Secretary, Medical and Health Department)
- ❑ **Objective:** Special attention will be given to the health, nutrition, and development of children from **birth to three years** of age.

- ❑ **Goal:** To help reduce the mortality rate of children under five years of age.
- ❑ **'Shaishav App':** Will provide a facility to ASHA workers for checking and monitoring the condition of children.
- ❑ **National workshop:** At the national workshop organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, in Maharashtra, Dr. Pradeep Choudhary, Project Director for Child Health, presented the pilot implementation plan on behalf of Rajasthan.

IIT Jodhpur and Jharkhand to Jointly Explore New Talent in the Semiconductor Sector: 'TWISH-Jharkhand' Programme

- ❑ **Main objective:** To connect tribal and rural youth and women in STEM fields with semiconductor education and employment through the TWISH-Jharkhand (Tribal Women in Semiconductor and Hardware) programme proposed under the 'Silicon Minds Framework'.
- ❑ **Associated institutions -**
 1. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur
 2. All India Institute of Local Self Government
 3. Government of Jharkhand
- ❑ **Training areas:** VLSI Design and Simulation, Embedded Systems, PCB and IoT, Semiconductor Fundamentals, Cleanroom Exposure, and Fabrication.
- ❑ **State-of-the-art laboratories:** The Jharkhand delegation was shown IIT Jodhpur's AIoT Fab Lab and Central Research Facility (CRF).

Advanced 'CAR-T Cell Therapy' Approved under RGHS - 20 August 2026

- ❑ **Announcement by:** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma
- ❑ **Eligibility:** Government employees, their dependent family members, pensioners (under the Rajasthan State Pensioners Medical Concession Scheme, 2021), and beneficiaries of RCL (MA) Rules, 2013.
- 1) **Advanced Cancer Treatment Package -**
 - ◆ The state government has included

CAR-T Cell Therapy in the RGHS-approved package for patients suffering from serious blood cancers (such as leukaemia, lymphoma, and multiple myeloma).

- ◆ This is an advanced immunotherapy in which T-lymphocytes are extracted from the patient's body and modified in a laboratory so that they can effectively attack cancer cells.

2) Financial Package and Limit -

- ◆ A package of up to a maximum of Rs. 30 lakh has been approved for this therapy.
- ◆ Of this, Rs. 26 lakh is for the cost of cell manufacturing, and a limit of up to Rs. 4 lakh has been set for supportive care and management of possible complications (such as tocilizumab, IVIG, and 30 days of medication).
- ◆ Internationally recognised standards of NICE, UK, will be given priority.

Jaipur - 'Global Tech Dialogue 2026'

- ❑ **Organiser:** Modern Digital Innovation Foundation (MDIF)
- ❑ **Chaired by:** MDIF Founder Dr. Naveen

Hingonia Goshala: Eye Care Speciality Centre

Innovation	Description
Eye Care Speciality Centre, Hingonia, Jaipur	• This is the state's second such centre: Hingonia Goshala Rehabilitation Centre, Jaipur. • The state's first Eye Care Speciality Centre is being built at RAJUVAS (Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences), Bikaner.
Mobile Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory Vehicle	• Inaugurated: A mobile animal disease diagnostic laboratory vehicle for the prompt treatment of animals in remote areas. This vehicle has been provided by the State Bank of India (SBI) under CSR.

IIT Jodhpur Celebrates 19th Foundation Day

- ❑ **Date:** 2 August 2026
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** General N.S. Raja Subramani (CDS)
- ❑ **Chaired by:** A.S. Kiran Kumar (Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Jodhpur)
- ❑ **Hosted by:** Prof. Avinash Kumar (Director, IIT Jodhpur)
- ❑ **Launched:** "IITJ at a Glance" and "TechScape"

Kumar Sharma

- ❑ **Main focus of discussion:** Making AI technology ethical, connecting disadvantaged sections with it, and ensuring protection from cyber fraud.
- ❑ **Global diplomats who participated -**
 1. **Marat Melikyan (Counsellor, Armenia)**
 2. **Abdirisak Said Nur (Commercial Attaché, Somalia)**
 3. **Nebiha (Diplomat, Ethiopia)**

Jaipur Youths' Safety Startup: 'RakshaPlus'

- ❑ Two tech entrepreneurs from Jaipur have developed an (AI) system called '**RakshaPlus**' aimed at providing immediate help during crises or emergencies.
- ❑ **Developed by:** Dr. Sanjay Khandelwal, Dushyant Yadav (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Startup company:** Developed under a startup named 'Jurkal Solutions'.
- ❑ **Working:** Pressing a single button provided in the system instantly sends the exact GPS location, photo, video, and voice of the incident site directly to the police, fire brigade, or authorised control room.
- ❑ **Utility:** To reduce the response time between sending information and receiving help during fires, road accidents, earthquakes, or medical emergencies.

1. **Establishment of 'NIT Island':** Representatives of 19 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) planted trees on campus to establish 'NITs Island', a symbol of environmental conservation and academic collaboration.

2. **Engineering Woven Technology Excellence Corridor (NEWTEC) Initiative:** 16 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) signed MoUs with IIT Jodhpur for academic collaboration in 25 M.Tech programmes.

3. Jodhpur Hydrogen Valley Innovation Foundation (JHVIF): The official identity of this Section-8 company, established under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, was unveiled; it will promote clean hydrogen technologies by leveraging Jodhpur's solar energy potential

4. Major Awards and Honours -

Award Name	Honoured Person(s)
IIT Jodhpur (IANB)	1. Prof. Rajat Moona (Digital Governance)
IIT Jodhpur (IANB)	2. Vikas Kumar, IPS (Excellent Policing – Anti-Narcotics Campaign)
Recognition of Excellence in Young Alumni (REYA) 2026	1. Dr. Arun Kumar Upadhyay (Alzheimer's Disease and Neurodegeneration) 2. Dr. Akanksha Saran (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning) 3. Dr. Utkarsh Trivedi (AI-based Commercial Solutions) 4. Shri Rajat (Public Administration and Good Governance) 5. Dr. Kanika Singroha (AI-supported Bioprinting Solutions)
Dr. Vandana Sharma Memorial Teaching Innovation Award-2026	Dr. Vignesh Muralidharan of the School of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, for experiential and project-based teaching.

IIT Jodhpur's Software Innovation Lab: Smart Technology for Health, Education, and Infrastructure

- ❑ **Led by:** Dr. Sumit Kalra
- ❑ **Objective:** To develop practical and accessible technological solutions by combining artificial intelligence, software architecture, edge computing, and the Internet of Things (IoT).
- ❑ **Three key research areas -**
 - 1) **Smart Healthcare:** Developing portable diagnostic platforms for rural and remote areas.

2) Software Architecture and Intelligent Systems: Reliable AI systems for areas with low internet connectivity and devices with limited computing capacity. The "**Teacher-in-the-Loop AI**" system developed under this has already been implemented in five Commonwealth countries including **India, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Nigeria.**

3) Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT): Identification of nature based on sound, gait analysis using wearable sensors, and monitoring the safety of bridges and critical structures under Structural Health Monitoring (SHM).

IIT Jodhpur: Welding Science and Technology

- ❑ **Research led by:** Professor **Rahul Chhibber**
- ❑ **Objective:** To make critical industrial structures such as nuclear reactors, thermal power plants, energy pipelines, and bridges safer, stronger, and more durable.
- ❑ **Science strengthening the nation's infrastructure:** Through a combination of advanced materials science, computational modelling, sustainable manufacturing, and experimental metallurgy, the Welding and Joining Research Group at IIT Jodhpur is not only solving fundamental scientific questions but also developing practical engineering solutions essential for India's economic progress and technological self-reliance.

1. Development of next-generation welding materials -

- ◆ The research group is developing advanced welding fluxes and electrode coatings for **Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)** and **Submerged Arc Welding (SAW)** processes.
- ◆ Durable welding electrodes are being prepared using eco-friendly natural minerals such as **red ochre.**

2. Welding of dissimilar metals -

- ◆ Complex challenges related to welding duplex stainless steel, nickel-based superalloys such as Inconel, and high-performance pipeline steel are being addressed.

3. High-performance composite materials -

- ◆ Research is being conducted on fibre-reinforced polymer nano-composites for marine and offshore environments, to develop lightweight and strong materials that can withstand the effects of moisture and temperature.

Key MoUs relevant to Rajasthan

Between FRT Service Provider Company and State Bank of India (SBI) - 13 August 2026

- **Present:** Energy Minister Heeralal Nagar, Energy Secretary Aarti Dogra (Energy Secretary, Government of Rajasthan)
- **Related department:** Energy Department, Government of Rajasthan

Point	Description
Goal	To provide financial security to 5,000 FRT (Fault Repair Team) personnel serving power distribution corporations, in case of electrical accidents.
Insurance cover amount	Maximum accident insurance cover of ₹30 lakh for untimely death in an electrical accident.
Disability provision	Accident insurance claim of up to ₹15 lakh in case of physical disability.
Renewable energy tool	Launch of the state's official ' Distributed Renewable Energy Project Monitoring Tool ', which will monitor the 150-unit-per-month free electricity scheme, PM Kusum, PM Suryaghar, and rooftop solar schemes.
Earlier benefit	Earlier, financial security of ₹15 crore 30 lakh was provided under the SBI insurance scheme to the dependents/personnel of 91 regular Discom electricity workers.

Establishment of Government Polytechnic College at Janiyana (Balotra) - Between Government of Rajasthan and HPCL

- **Financial support:** Rs. 22 crore will be provided by HPCL from its CSR fund for the construction of the college building and provision of necessary equipment, furniture, and other resources.
- **Courses offered:** In line with refinery requirements, first-year engineering courses in petroleum, mechanical, civil branches, and computer science stream will be started.

ENVIRONMENT AND GEOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENTS

National Natural Farming Mission and Rajasthan's Achievements

- Rajasthan's ranking at the national level -
 - ◆ **Cluster formation (2,380 clusters):**
 - Second position in the country after Andhra Pradesh.
 - ◆ **Farmer registration (2,12,346 farmers):**
 - Third position in the country after Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

- **Key State-Level Schemes and Provisions:**
 - ◆ **Govardhan Organic Fertilizer Scheme:** Financial assistance of Rs. 10,000 to 50,000 farmers for organic manure production.
 - ◆ **Incentive for Bull-driven Farming:** An incentive of Rs. 30,000 for farmers using bullocks for traditional farming.
 - ◆ **Organic Food Markets:** Jodhpur, Kota, Udaipur.
 - ◆ **Centre of Excellence for Natural Farming:** Provision for establishment at the Agricultural University, Jobner (Jaipur).
 - ◆ Grant of Rs. 2,856 crore approved for cow conservation and promotion.

□ Natural Farming:

- ◆ The National Natural Farming Mission was launched on November 25, 2024, with the objective of reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers, improving soil health, and increasing farmers' income. Under this initiative, 527 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Farm Science Centres), 76 agricultural universities, and 194 local natural farming institutes across the country.

Additionally, training is being provided to farmers under the 'Centres of Excellence' mission. To encourage natural farming, the Central Government is providing an incentive of Rs. 4,000 per acre annually to farmers for a period of two years.

- ◆ According to a NITI Aayog evaluation report, approximately 91% of farmers who adopted natural farming saw an increase in production, while about 90% experienced a reduction in production costs.

India's First National Conference on Cow-based Natural Farming and Cow-Dung Economy: 2026

- ❑ **Innovation:** 'Roadmap for the Cow-Dung Economy'
- ❑ **Venue:** Vedic Medicinal Plant Centre, Sangner (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Adopted Document:** 'Jaipur Declaration-2026'
- ❑ **Key Vision (Mission-2030):** All-India Organic
- ❑ Dr. Atul Gupta, National President of the Farmers' Producer Association, announced 'Mission-2030'. Under this initiative, approximately 4,000 gaushalas in the state will be transformed into cottage industries by directly linking them to the production of organic manure (based on cow dung and urine), natural farming practices, and value-added products.
- ❑ **Four key pledges of the manifesto:**
 1. Global branding.
 2. Significant cost reduction.
 3. Self-reliance model.
 4. **Goshala Recognition:** 11 goshalas performing outstanding work in natural farming were honored with a cash award of Rs. 11,000 each and a certificate of appreciation.

Review meeting of the State-Level Task Force on El Nino-2026 impact and fodder security

- ❑ **Date:** July 28, 2026
- ❑ **Subject:** Potential adverse effects of El Niño-2026 and ensuring adequate fodder availability in the state.

- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Secretary V. Srinivas.
- ❑ **Body constituted:** State-Level Fodder Security Task Force.

Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University - Bikaner

- ❑ **Event:** The 40th Foundation Day ceremony of Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner, and the Dr. K.N. Nag Memorial Lecture Series were held on 1 August 2026.
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Governor and Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal.
- ❑ **Agriculture-based AI Centre of Excellence -**
 - ◆ Approval granted to the university by the Government of India's 'India AI Mission' under industry.
 - ◆ Approved financial amount: Rs. 20 crore.
- ❑ **Drone Training Centre:** Inauguration of the centre authorised by DGCA, New Delhi, and operated by 'Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University Remote Pilot Training Organisation'.
- ❑ **Honorary Degree:** The Governor conferred the university's highest academic degree, 'Doctor of Science' (D.Sc.), on Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal.
- ❑ **Books released -**
 - ◆ 'Parivartan, Pragati aur Pratibaddhata'
 - ◆ 'An Introduction to Agricultural Production, Functions and Linear Program'

State Level Forest Festival and Sandalwood Forest Project

- ❑ **Inaugurated at:** Doodhtalai Forest Range, Udaipur
- ❑ **Date:** 1 August 2026
- ❑ **Sandalwood Forest Project -**
 - ◆ **Total cost:** Rs.33 crore
 - ◆ Development in four districts in the first phase - [Banswara, Udaipur, Sirohi, and Pratapgarh] (Mnemonic: BUS-P)
- ❑ **'Mission Hariyalo' Rajasthan's target -**
 - ◆ Long-term target of planting 50 crore saplings in 5 years.
 - ◆ **Current monsoon season target:** 10 crore plantations.
 - ◆ **Geo-tagging of plants.**
 - ◆ Regular monitoring by Van Mitras and Vriksha Mitras.

- ◆ **Namo Nursery** at every district headquarters.
- ◆ Development of **Namo Van** at the Panchayat Samiti level.
- ❑ **Cultural reference - Skanda Purana verse:** "One stepwell equals ten wells, one pond equals ten stepwells, one son equals ten ponds, and one tree equals ten sons."

Mineral Exploration and Mining in the Deri-Basantgarh Polymetallic Belt (RSMML)

- ❑ **Main area:** Deri, Basantgarh area (Aburoad, Sirohi)
- ❑ **Related belt:** Southern Delhi Fold Polymetallic Ambaji-Deri-Basantgarh Belt
- ❑ **Nodal agency:** Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML)

Point	Description
Mineral reserves	Preliminary indications of copper, lead, zinc, and associated minerals.
Exploration work plan	A work plan has been prepared to start underground mining technique work in this area, at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Mines and Petroleum) Smt. Aparna Arora.
Expert assistance	Dr. D.K. Singha, CEO of Gujarat Mineral Research and Industrial Consultancy (GMRIC), has suggested starting mining and exploration work in the Deri mines together, using modern techniques such as electromagnetic surveys.
Rajasthan	Rajasthan currently leads the country in the auction of Major Mineral Blocks , and has also become the first state in the country to issue an exploration licence for the rare mineral ' Rare Earth Elements '.

MAJOR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

International and Inter-State Recognition for 'Rajasthan Ri Maati' - Coordination Meeting of Shri Yade Matikala Board

- ❑ **Date:** 4 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Udyog Bhawan, Jaipur
- ❑ **Event:** Overall development of pottery (Matikala) artisans under the aegis of Shri Yade Matikala Board.
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Shri Yade Matikala Board Chairman Prahlad Rai Tak.
- ❑ **Coordinated by:** CEO Dr. Rahulraj
- ❑ **Participation:** 24 departments and officials from Rajasthan, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ **Key participating institutions -**
 - ◆ KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission)
 - ◆ NABARD, Rajeevika, IIT Jodhpur
 - ◆ NIFT Jodhpur, MSMEs-DFO Jaipur
 - ◆ CSIR-CGCRI (Khurja, U.P.)
- ❑ **Key innovation -**
 - ◆ Issuing '**Artisan Card**' for craftsmen and discussion on the book '**Maati Rajasthan Ri**'.

- ◆ Cluster development, establishment of CFC (Common Facility Centre).
- ◆ Transfer of modern technology - electric kiln.

State Level Workshop on 'Circularity in Textile Sector' - 18 August 2026

- ❑ **Event:** Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur
- ❑ **Organiser:** Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board
- ❑ **Theme:** "Circularity in Textile Sector - Best Practices for Sustainability and New Technologies for Circular Economy"
- ❑ **Background:** Organised as a pre-event to the upcoming 10th World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF-2026), to be held in Gandhinagar (Gujarat) from 15-18 September 2026.
- ❑ **Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai:** Dr. Virendra Kumar gave a presentation on "**Sustainable Textile Wastewater Management: A Tool Towards Affordable ZLD**". Future industrial development will be based on the 4R principle - Reduce, Reprocess, Reuse, and Resource Recovery.

Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project (RUIDP) - Phase-V and 'RUIDP Samvad'

- ❑ **Organized:** 'RUIDP Samvad'-5 held in 84 cities from 5 to 11 August 2026.
- ❑ **Project Director:** Harimohan Meena
- ❑ **Total Budget:** Under Phase-V, 84 cities will be made sustainable at a cost of Rs. 9,500 crore.

S.No.	Work Area	No. of Cities	Cost (₹ Crore)	Funding Agency
1.	Wastewater management and reuse of treated water	67 cities	₹4,047	Asian Development Bank
2.	Solid waste management (4 major – Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Bharatpur)	32 cities (28 satellite)	₹650	World Bank
3.	Urban traffic improvement	7 district headquarters (Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Udaipur, Ajmer)	₹2,022	World Bank
4.	Flood management and drainage	56 cities	₹500	—
5.	Command & Control Centre, and heritage conservation & tourism	56 cities	₹701	—

Industrial Development: Formation of 4 New Task Forces

- ❑ **Department:** Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **Export figures (Year 2025-26):**
 - ◆ **Total exports from Rajasthan:** Rs. 1 lakh crore+
 - ◆ **Contribution of textiles and allied sectors:** Rs. 13,700 crore+
- ❑ **Task forces formed (4 major sectors):**
 1. Textiles
 2. Handicrafts
 3. Logistics
 4. Agro, Food and Milk Processing

One District-One Product 'Panch Gaurav' Programme

- ❑ **Approval:** Rs. 14 crore approved for setting up Common Incubation Centres in seven districts of the state under the One District-One Product (ODOP) 'Panch Gaurav' programme.

1. RULIP (Rajasthan Urban Liveability Improvement Project)

- Funded by ADB - Rs. 6,009 crore

2. SUTRA (Sustainable Urban Transformation of Rajasthan Accelerated)

- Funded by World Bank - Rs. 3,492 crore

- ❑ **Role:** Live demonstration and training in food technology, packaging and marketing, alongside processing units.
- ❑ **Crops and Products Identified for 7 Districts**
 1. **Baran:** Garlic
 2. **Chittorgarh:** Custard Apple
 3. **Jalore:** Pomegranate
 4. **Jhalawar:** Orange
 5. **Jaipur:** Amla (Indian Gooseberry)
 6. **Ajmer:** Rose
 7. **Jaisalmer:** Date Palm

Commonwealth Peace Mediation and Rule of Law - International Conference: 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Hotel The Lalit, Jaipur
- ❑ **Date:** 31 July to 2 August
- ❑ **Theme:** Commonwealth Peace Mediation and Rule of Law
- ❑ **Joint organizers:**
 - ◆ Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RSLSA)
 - ◆ Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA)
 - ◆ Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)

- ◆ Nivaran (Mediators of the Supreme Court of India)
- ❑ **Inaugurated by:** Justice Surya Kant (Chief Justice, Supreme Court)
- ❑ **Valedictory session chaired by:** Justice Vikram Nath (Executive Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee/NALSA)
 - ◆ RLSA organized a special 40-hour mediation training programme for former High Court judges in June 2026, in which 38 former judges took part.
 - ◆ Supreme Court judge Justice Vikram Bishnoi called for mediation to become the first natural choice rather than the last resort.
 - ◆ The Commonwealth Peace Mediation Conference-2027 will be held in the Bahamas.
- ❑ **Key global participating judges:**
 - ◆ Justice Vashisht Kokaram (Bahamas)
 - ◆ Justice A.H.M.D. Nawaz (Sri Lanka)
 - ◆ Justice Aabha Nayar Patel (first woman judge of Indian origin in the Supreme Court of Zambia)
- ❑ **Digital software launch:** Justice Vikram Nath, judge of the Supreme Court, launched the 'Nyayan-e Digital Way of Justice' software.
- ❑ A memorial tribute volume for Dwarka Prasad Gupta, former Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, was released.
- ❑ **Rajasthan Judiciary Paperless:** 36 Notifiable Instruments Courts and 12 commercial courts - a total of 1,495 courts and 1,517 judicial officers - will function under a paperless system.
- ❑ **Declaration: 'Jaipur Declaration on Peace Mediation-2026'**

Rajasthan Highway Modernization Project (RHMP)

- ❑ **Review meeting:** August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Secretariat, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Secretary V. Shrinivas, held the first Implementation Support and Review Mission of the Rajasthan Highway Modernization Project (RHMP) together with the World Bank.
- ❑ **Financial/technical partner:** Dr. Renu Aneja, from the World Bank delegation.

Project Name	Rajasthan Highway Modernization Project
Partner global institution	World Bank (World Bank)
Upgradation of state highways	Approx. 800 km
Roads under review	14
Implementing agency	Rajasthan State Highway Authority (RSHA) and PWD

2nd Conference of AgriVision North West Zone

- ❑ **Organized:** 8-9 August 2026, Rajasthan College of Agriculture auditorium (affiliated with Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology - MPUAT), Udaipur
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde
- ❑ **Theme:** 'Role of Youth in Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development in Agriculture and Allied Sectors'
- ❑ **Key releases:**
 - ◆ Special AgriVision souvenir
 - ◆ Booklet based on the achievements of Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology

State-level Review of District Central Cooperative Banks

- ❑ **Meeting:** 10 August 2026
- ❑ **Organized:** Under the chairmanship of Dr. Samit Sharma, Secretary and Registrar (Cooperatives), at Nehru Sahakar Bhawan (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Evaluation:** Performance of Central Cooperative Banks (CCBs) assessed on the basis of Key Performance Indicators (KPI).
- ❑ **CCB Ranking (Performance):**
 - 1st: Kota
 - 2nd: Jhalawar
 - 3rd: Bhilwara

NABARD Rajasthan's 12th National Handloom Day

- ❑ **Theme:** "Empowering Rural Artisans for a Developed India"
- ❑ **Organizer:** NABARD Rajasthan Regional Office

- ❑ **Inaugurated by:**
 - ◆ Dr. R. Ravi Babu (Chief General Manager, NABARD, Rajasthan)
 - ◆ Ram Kishore Chhipa (Padma Shri - Bagru artisan)
- ❑ **Handloom figures (Rajasthan):** According to the Handloom Census 2019-20, about 35 lakh families across the country are engaged in handloom activities, of which 10,090 weavers in Rajasthan work in this sector.

- ❑ **NABARD's Initiatives:** NABARD is facilitating GI registration and authorized user registration for **23 products** from Rajasthan, as well as operating '**Gramin Marts**' and '**Gramin Haats**'.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah's Alwar Visit - 16 August 2026

- ❑ Gift of development works worth Rs. 6,453 crore for 17 districts, from Alwar.

Point	Details
Initiatives related to dairy and cooperatives	• Foundation stone laid for a new Saras Dairy Plant in Alwar at a cost of Rs. 200 crore (capacity – 3 lakh litres/day, to be increased to 5 lakh litres). • Four new Central Cooperative Banks launched in Phalodi, Balotra, Didwana and Pratapgarh.
Fund transfer through DBT	• Under the 6th installment of the Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, about Rs. 667 crore transferred to the accounts of more than 66.74 lakh farmers. • Rs. 152 crore transferred under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.
Announcements	• Appointment letters given to more than 10,500 youth under the 10th Chief Minister Employment Festival. • Announcement to rename Alwar's Bhugor Tiraha as 'Captain Chhutanlal Meena Chowk'.

Ranking of District Sale-Purchase Cooperative Societies Released

- ❑ **Date:** 17 August 2026
- ❑ **Issued by:** Cooperation Department, Government of Rajasthan (Secretary and Registrar: Dr. Samit Sharma)
- ❑ **Main objective:** Assessment and grading of societies based on work performance.

Category	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
KVSS : District	Kota	Kotputli-Behror	Chittorgarh
KVSS: Individual category	Parbatsar	Khinvsar	Sangod

Aware Voter - Guardian of Democracy: State-level Essay Competition

- ❑ **Organizer:** State Election Commission, Rajasthan (under the Voter Awareness Campaign)
- ❑ **Essay topic:** Aware Voter - Guardian of Democracy

- ❑ **State Election Commissioner:** Rajeshwar Singh
 - ◆ Selection of 30 participants in total across 5 categories, from 104 entries received statewide.
 - ◆ **First-prize winners by category:**
 - 1) **School category:** Jaydeep Raj Damor (Banswara)
 - 2) **College category:** Pushpendra Singh (Dausa)
 - 3) **Professionals category:** Sanwat Ram Bairwa (Ajmer)
 - 4) **Homemaker category:** Dr. Priyanka Babel (Udaipur)
 - 5) **Other category:** Gajendrapal Loda (Ajmer)

BRICS Seminar in Jaipur - 'Role of the New Development Bank in Mobilizing Private Capital in Member Countries'

- ❑ **Date:** 12 August 2026
- ❑ **Organized:** Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG).
- ❑ **Chief speaker:** Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman

- ❑ **Main topic:** "The Role of the New Development Bank in Mobilizing Private Capital in Member Countries"

Formation of Permanent Lok Adalats in 8 New Districts of Rajasthan - Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma

- ❑ **Legal basis:** A permanent structure under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, for settling disputes relating to public-utility services.
- ❑ **Features:** Final settlement of disputes at the pre-litigation stage, by mutual consent - binding, quick, and without any court fee.
- ❑ **8 districts approved for setting up courts:**
 1. Phalodi
 2. Didwana-Kuchaman
 3. Khairthal-Tijara
 4. Beawar
 5. Barmer
 6. Deeg
 7. Kotputli-Behror
 8. Salumbar

BRICS Meeting: Jaipur

10th Meeting of BRICS Industry Ministers

- ❑ **Organized:** 6 August 2026
- ❑ **Chairmanship:** Under India's BRICS Chairship 2026
- ❑ **Theme:** Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability
- ❑ **Outcome:** Joint declaration adopted.
- ❑ **India's key proposals:**
 - ◆ BRICS Incubator Network
 - ◆ BRICS Startup Innovation Fund
 - ◆ SME Working Group (Framework for Cooperation)
 - ◆ Photovoltaic Industry
 - ◆ GIS-based Infrastructure Planning

16th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers

- ◆ **Date:** 7 August 2026
- ◆ **Chairmanship:** Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal (Minister of State Jitin Prasada and Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal)

- ◆ **Preparatory meeting:** Held in line with the 3rd meeting of the 'BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues' (CGETI), organized on 3-4 August 2026 in New Delhi.

2nd Meeting of the Tourism Working Group

- ❑ **Date:** 19 August 2026
- ❑ **Organizer:** Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
- ❑ **Chairmanship:** Bhuvnesh Kumar (Secretary, Union Ministry of Tourism)
- ❑ **Theme:** "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"
- ❑ **Four key thematic priorities:**
 1. Use of artificial intelligence and tourism.
 2. Sustainability and responsible tourism.
 3. Tourism skill development and capacity building.
 4. Tourism exchange and seamless travel facility.

'Jaipur Declaration' at the BRICS Tourism Ministers' Meeting

- ❑ **Date:** 21 August 2026
- ❑ **Chairmanship:** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India)
- ❑ **Theme:** 'Building Adaptability, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'
- ❑ Ministers and representatives of 09 BRICS member countries (Brazil, Iran, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, China, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Russia and India) took part in the meeting.
- ❑ Participants included **Gustavo Costa Felicíssimo** (Minister of Tourism, Brazil), **Reza Salehi Amiri** (Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, Iran), **Patricia de Lille** (Minister of Tourism, South Africa) and His Excellency **Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri** (Minister of Economy and Tourism, UAE). Secretary of Tourism **Bhuvnesh Kumar**, Joint Secretary **Harikishore S.** and other officials were present in the Indian delegation.

Miscellaneous

First-Ever 'Foreign Contact-State Outreach Conference' in Rajasthan: 2026

Venue	16 July, Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur
Organizing bodies	Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, and Government of Rajasthan. MEA Secretary (CPV-OIA) – Priya Ranganathan. <i>Note:</i> In Jaipur, on 16 July, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma held a courtesy meeting with Secretary Ranganathan and the delegation.
Nodal department	DORA: Department of National and International NRI Rajasthani Affairs; Rajasthan Foundation
Main objective	Safe migration and protection from fraudulent agents; welfare of overseas Indians.
Theme	'Rajasthani videsh surakshit jaayein, prashikshit jaayein'
Sessions organized – Total (4)	Two special sessions besides the inaugural and valedictory: 1. On the welfare, protection and passport services of overseas Indians. 2. On safe migration, skill development, investment and tourism cooperation.
Global connect	All 40 chapter presidents of the Rajasthan Foundation joined via virtual mode. 20 authorized recruitment agents, and ADM, NSDC and industry representatives from 15 districts.
Programme (by MEA)	Started in 2017: First organized in Rajasthan. Earlier organized with the cooperation of the state governments of Telangana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab, Tripura, Bihar, Uttarakhand and Andhra Pradesh.

Rajasthan Government's initiatives for the Education Sector on Guru Purnima - (29 July)

- ❑ **Organized:** State-level Guru Purnima ceremony at Bharatpur
- ❑ **Total financial amount:** Projects worth more than Rs. 947 crore inaugurated/launched.
 - ◆ Foundation stone laid for a **Girls' Cadet School** at Khedli Gurjar in Vair tehsil, Bharatpur district.
 - ◆ **Free DBT:** Rs. 250 crore for more than 40 lakh eligible students from Class 1 to 8.
 - ◆ Launch of '**Mission Padho Rajasthan**' - a reading-promotion campaign - and release of a proficiency calendar.

Drug-Free Youth for a Developed India' Resolution Campaign

- ❑ **Date:** 2 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Municipal Corporation Auditorium, Udaipur
- ❑ **Launched by:** PM Narendra Modi (CM Bhajanlal Sharma joined virtually from Udaipur)

- ❑ **Duration:** 100 weeks (nationwide mass movement)
- ❑ **Recognition system:** Volunteers and organizations making outstanding contributions in the campaign will be honoured on completing 50th, 75th and 100th week.

Key State Government Initiatives -

- ◆ **New Kiran De-addiction Centres:** To be set up in higher-education institutions (350+ colleges, engineering and polytechnic colleges) to curb drug abuse.
- ◆ **Raj-Savera Programme:** 'Raj-Savera', announced in the Rajasthan Budget 2026-27, aims to establish special de-addiction wards in all district hospitals of the state.
 - **Raj-SAVERA:** State-wide Anti-Drugs Vigilance, Enforcement, Rehabilitation and Awareness

De-Regulation Phase-I: Simplifying Processes to Speed Up Investment and Governance

- ❑ **Date:** 19 August 2026

- ❑ **Issued by:** Monitoring cell constituted under the office of the Chief Secretary.

- ❑ **Main objective:** To simplify processes related to business and investment, reduce regulatory compliance burden, and speed up approvals.

Category/Sector	Details/Figures
Total Investment Intent (April-July 2026)	₹2,36,771.68 crore
Investment Intent Received in July	₹93,315.46 crore
Top Investment Sectors (July)	Artificial Intelligence, IT & ITES (₹40,442 crore), Education (₹16,873 crore), Energy (₹13,280 crore)
Raj Investment Portal Applications	Total 40,692 applications received; 21,899 approved.
Top Approvals	Jaipur (4,026), Jodhpur (1,560), Ajmer (1,071)
Land-Use Change Decision Period	Reduction from 810 days to 65 days in Udaipur, Bikaner, and Kota Development Authorities (approx. 92% reduction)
Improvement in Service Disposal Time	e-Tulaman services: Reduced from 12 to 7 days JVNNL permanent electricity connection: Reduced from 10 to 5 days AVVNL: Reduced from 9 to 4 days Tourism unit approval: Reduced from 16 to 10 days

Maharaja Ganga Singh University (MGSU), Bikaner – Convocation Ceremony

- ❑ **Date:** July 31, 2026
- ❑ Special Convocation Ceremony of MGSU, Bikaner, held at Lok Bhavan.
- ◆ Honorary Degree of ‘**Vidya Vachaspati**’ (Doctor of Letters):
 - ◆ **Vijaya Rahatkar:** Chairperson, National Commission for Women (contribution spanning over three decades towards women's rights and safety).
 - ◆ **Achyuta Samanta:** Renowned educationist and former Member of Parliament (distinguished contribution to the education of over 90,000 tribal children and to social service).
 - ◆ Vice-Chancellor of the University: Professor Manoj Dixit.

CEO of District Councils State Level Capacity Building Workshop-5-6 August. Jaipur

- ❑ Organizers: Swachh Bharat Mission (G) and UNICEF.
- ❑ **SBM-G Mobile App-**
- ◆ Launching: Education and Panchayati Raj Minister Madan Dilwar.
 - ◆ Objective: To ensure real-time monitoring, transparency and accountability of works up to Gram Panchayat level.
- ❑ Exhibition: RRR centre, utensil bank, PPE kits and waste management techniques at the Sanitation Innovation Exhibition.
- ❑ **Prize money-**
- ◆ The first is Rs. 1,01,0
 - ◆ The second is Rs. 51,000
 - ◆ The third is Rs. 21,000

Category/Component	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Year 2025-26: Greatest Overall Progress	Sriganganagar	Hanumangarh	Pratapgarh
Plastic Waste-Free Campaign 2026	Bhilwara		Hanumangarh
Plastic-Free Campaign: Social Media Posts/Tags	Bhilwara	Sawai Madhopur Gaurav Budania	Baran
'Waste-to-Art' Utilization of Plastic Waste	Rajsamand	-	-

Second Meeting - State-Level Insurance Governing Council

- ❑ **Date:** August 6, 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Government Secretariat, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Secretary V. Srinivas
- ❑ **National Vision: 'Insurance for All @ 2047': Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** Following a

review of the vision and appreciation for the model initiative to achieve 100% insurance coverage in Deshla Gram Panchayat of Alwar district, a decision was made to implement this model in a phased manner across other Gram Panchayats in the state.

- ❑ **Role of Rajeevika (SHGs) and Bank Sakhis:** Directives were issued to expand social security schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).

Migrant Rajasthani Convention in Bengaluru

- ❑ **Date:** 09 August 2026
- ❑ **Organized:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ❑ **Announcement:** 'Migrant Rajasthani Day' will be celebrated in Jaipur on 10 December 2026.
- ❑ **Economic Targets and Economy -**
 - ◆ Rajasthan is the country's 7th-largest economy.
 - GSDP growth rate 12%+
 - PCI (Per Capita Income) = Rs. 2 lakh+

◆ Ease of Doing Business Reforms-

- MSMEs: The timeframe for 'Consent to Operate' was reduced from 120 days to 30 days, and to 60 days for large enterprises.
- The list of non-polluting 'White Category' industries was expanded from 104 to 877.

Rajasthan Scheduled Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) Meeting - August 2, 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** College of Agriculture, Udaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma
- ◆ **Basis of Development:** 'GYAN Model' (G-Garib/Poor, Y-Yuva/Youth, A-Annadata/Farmers, N-Nari/Women)
- ◆ **Meeting Frequency:** The Chief Minister directed that TAC meetings be held every two months at the Chief Secretary level.
- ◆ **Progressive Farmers:**

Details	Premchand Kapaya	Moti Lal
Resident	Jalampur-Falasiya, Udaipur	Moujmabad, Jaipur
Recognition	Agriculture Department declared him 'Kisan Brand Ambassador'.	Declared 'Kisan Brand Ambassador'.
Training and area of work	Trainer appointed: Organic Agriculture Research and Training Centre, Kota. Organic and natural farming, vermicompost, horticulture and animal husbandry.	Training centre: Shri Ramshantay Organic Agriculture Research and Training Centre, Kota. Honorarium: Rs. 11,000 per month to create awareness among farmers.
Contribution	Achieved success adopting modern techniques and organic farming with limited resources. Informed the Chief Minister about his success at the village-development <i>chaupal</i> in Beeda village, Jhadol.	Strengthening the concept of 'knowledge from farmer to farmer' across the state. Motivating other farmers towards organic farming and securing special departmental support for travel/food.

Decisions of the Rajasthan Cabinet Meeting (07.08.26)

S.No.	Scheme/Subject	Key Decisions and Provisions
1.	Elections and Reservation (One State - One Election)	● One State-One Election: Decision to hold Panchayati Raj and urban-body elections together, under the 'One State-One Election' concept. ● OBC Commission recommendations: Accepted the recommendations of the State Commission for Backward Classes (Political Representation). A lottery process for OBC reservation, alongside SC/ST, will begin in Panchayati Raj and urban bodies.

2.	Agriculture and Food Processing (Agro & Food Processing Policies 2026)	• Approval of the Rajasthan Agriculture and Food Processing Policy, 2026 – • promoting agriculture, horticulture, dairy, spices and agro-processing units. • Capital Subsidy: ✓ 60% on loans up to Rs. 50 lakh; ✓ 50% on Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore; ✓ 40% above Rs. 1 crore (maximum limit: Rs. 1.5 crore); ✓ an additional 5% subsidy for SC, ST, FPO, TSP areas and women entrepreneurs. • Shri Anna Promotion Agency: A dedicated agency will be set up to promote millets and other coarse grains. • Rajasthan Food Park Development Policy, 2026: ▪ World-class food parks will be developed in 4 categories, in a phased manner, on a cluster basis, in every district of the state. ▪ Priority to Rising Rajasthan MoU holders and anchor units investing a minimum of Rs. 10 crore.
3.	Labour Welfare – the Wage Code (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026 will ensure	• Wage Code (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026 – ▪ Dearness Allowance (DA) revision: to be revised twice a year (1 April and 1 October), linked to CPI. ▪ Working hours: fixed at 48 hours a week; maximum 10.5 hours per day (including rest) in a 6-day week. ▪ Rest interval: a mandatory 30-minute break after every 5 continuous hours of work. • Rajasthan Industrial Relations Rules, 2026 – ▪ All labour compliance filings and complaints to be online. ▪ A secret-ballot system is mandatory for elections of recognized unions.
4.	Environment and Renewable Energy (Green & Clean Energy) – Social Security	• Tree Outside Forest Policy (TOFP) approved – ▪ Under ‘Mission Hariyalo Rajasthan’ (a target of planting 50 crore saplings in 5 years), green cover (Tree Cover) will be increased on non-forest land (wasteland, road/railway sides). • Amendment to the Rajasthan Land Revenue Rules, 2007 (energy-plant land): ▪ Mandatory to keep 10% of land allotted to solar/wind developers reserved for afforestation. ▪ Land-allotment norm: 2 hectares per megawatt (solar/wind), and 2.5 hectares for hybrid projects. • Amendment to the Rajasthan Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2024: ▪ Clean energy target: target of taking clean-energy production to 125 gigawatts by the year 2030. ▪ Battery storage: registration-fee exemption for battery-storage projects with 50% or greater capacity. ▪ Power evacuation timeline: the timeline for the transmission system reduced from 3 years to 2 years.
5.	Amendment to the Rajasthan Government Employees Insurance Rules, 1998	Effective from 1 April 2026: employees will receive continuous State Insurance (SI) coverage up to their actual date of retirement (previously, this used to mature on 1 April of the year of retirement).

6.	Industrial Investment, Mining and Land Allotment	• Cement-industry land allotment: ▪ Star Cement (M/s Star Cement North East Ltd.): 254 hectares of land in Joga and Sonu (Ramgarh, Jaisalmer) (investment of Rs. 6,200 crore). ▪ UltraTech Cement: 107 hectares of land in Leela Parwar (Jaisalmer). • Solar-energy land allotment (total 922 MW): ▪ (Bikaner): 22 MW (44 hectares); ▪ Fatehgarh (Jaisalmer): 200 MW (324 hectares); ▪ Nachna (Jaisalmer): 700 MW (1,678 hectares). • Pachpadra Salt Mine relocation: ▪ Displacement charges for the relocation of 198 salt mines affected by the refinery increased by 25%, from Rs. 7.85 crore to Rs. 9.81 crore – approved.
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Decisions of the Rajasthan Cabinet Meeting (13.08.26)

S.No.	Scheme/Subject	Key Decisions and Provisions
1.	The Rajasthan Trees (Protection) Bill-2026	• It will be introduced in the upcoming Assembly session, for environmental protection. • Special protection given to a total of 29 important tree species, including the state tree Khejri, the state flower Rohira, Banyan, Peepal, Lasoda, Tendu, Mahua, Ker and Chironji. • Provision of 1 year's imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 1 lakh (or both) for illegal felling of these trees on non-forest land. (A cognizable and bailable offence.)
2.	Rajasthan: Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill-2026	• Based on Article 44 of the Constitution (on the recommendation of a committee headed by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai). • Making laws relating to marriage, divorce, inheritance, maintenance and live-in relationships transparent (not applicable to Scheduled Tribes). • Registration of marriage mandatory within 60 days; provision for written intimation/registration of the start and end of a live-in relationship. Equal rights for son and daughter in inheritance.
3.	Relief for the martyrs of the 1971 war	• During the 1971 India-Pakistan war (Operation Cactus Lily), 326 soldiers of Rajasthan were martyred on the spot, while 35 seriously wounded soldiers attained martyrdom during treatment between 1 January 1972 and 31 October 1972. • These 35 soldiers have also been declared battle casualties under Operation Cactus Lily. • To provide government jobs to one member of their families as well, the cabinet approved an amendment to the Rajasthan (Dependents of Deceased) Armed Forces Personnel Appointment Rules-2022. • Accordingly, the prescribed timeframe for extending the benefit of the scheme has been extended from 31 December 1971 to 31 October 1972. With this cabinet decision, the families of these 35 brave soldiers who laid down their lives for the country in the 1971 war will also be able to get the right to compassionate appointment as dependents.

4.	2-year relaxation in the experience required for promotion	Decision taken to grant employees a 2-year relaxation in the experience required for promotion, in the year 2026-27. This relaxation will be available only to those employees who did not receive this benefit in 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26. Various service rules will be amended for this purpose, providing for a conditional relaxation of 2 years.
5.	Rajasthan Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules, 2026	To grant national benefit of reservation in promotion, effective <u>from 30 June 2016, to disabled employees working in government service, the Rajasthan Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules-2026 has been approved.</u> In compliance with the 2026-27 budget announcement, this decision fulfils the disabled employees' years-old demand. Under the 4 percent promotion reservation given to persons with disabilities in the state, national benefit will now be given from 30 June 2016.
6.	Daughter-in-law of a deceased government employee also eligible for compassionate appointment	- Decision taken to include 'daughter-in-law' in the list of eligible dependents for compassionate appointment of deceased government employees. NOTE – No recovery from employees who resign during training: ✓ Now, if an employee resigns during training after appointment to a gazetted post, or within two years from completion of training, only the training expenses will be recovered from them; salary and allowances will not be recovered. ✓ Single women state employees can now avail Child Care Leave in 6 spells in a calendar year instead of 3. <u>In cases of motherhood via surrogacy, the surrogate mother will be granted 180 days, and the commissioning mother 90 days, of maternity leave.</u> ✓ The cabinet has approved amendments to the Rajasthan Service Rules-1951 to give effect to these provisions.
7.	Land allotment and rehabilitation of cultivators	Land allotment to cultivators affected by construction of the Escape Reservoir – ✓ Approval given to the proposal to allot land in the same village to 21 non-khatedar cultivators affected by the construction of the <u>Escape Reservoir (RD 1121) in Chinnu village of Nachna-1 tehsil in Jaisalmer's colonization area.</u>

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma Gifts 16 PM E-Buses to Jaipur - 11 August 2026

- ❑ **Event:** Formal prayer ceremony at the Secretariat, 16 PM E-Buses were dedicated to Jaipur (under PM Narendra Modi's 'Clean Mobility' vision).
- ❑ **Shape of the e-bus scheme:**
 - ◆ In the first phase of the PM-E Bus Service, 675 electric buses were approved for 8

major cities of the state (Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Kota, Bikaner, Bhilwara, Alwar and Ajmer).

- ◆ After the state government's special efforts secured the approval of an additional 475 e-buses, a total of **1,150 PM E-Buses** have now been sanctioned for Rajasthan.
- ◆ Currently, a total of **110 PM E-Buses** have reached 8 cities of the state.

Rajasthan Youth Conclave, 13 August 2026

- ❑ **Event:** Rajasthan International Centre - Jaipur
- ❑ **Guests:** Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, and Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma.

S.No.	Category/Area	Key Points and Details
1.	Startups and investment status	• Growth in investment: from Rs. 250 crore in 2023 to Rs. 1,054 crore. • Job creation: from 22,000 to more than 49,000. • Registrations: 4,828 new startups registered in the last two and a half years. • Funding: 33 startups of the state received total funding of Rs. 50 crore during the conclave.
2.	Incubation centres	• Tribal Incubation Centre: inaugurated in Banswara for tribal youth. (Total number of incubation centres in the state: 10.) • I-Start programme: extended to 33 districts; 65 I-Start Launchpad Nests set up, registering 1.29 lakh students.
3.	Policy innovation	• Brahmagupta Centre: operating in Jaipur, for data analytics, cyber security and blockchain. • Launched: Rajasthan Startup Quest 2026, the Single Holistic Procurement Portal, a 7D Theatre (Science Garden) and a Nuclear Power Gallery in Jaipur. • Foundation stones laid: for a Digital Planetarium in Jodhpur and Udaipur; MoU signed with STPI for an 'I-Start Facility Desk' in Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru.

Half Yearly meeting of nager Rajbhasha karyanvayan samiti (Narakas) - 25 August 2026

- ❑ **Chairmanship:** Pankaj Sharma (General Manager, North Western Railway, and Chairman, Narakas Jaipur)
- ❑ **Main honour:** the Press Information Bureau (PIB), Jaipur, was presented the prestigious '**Vaijayanti Rajbhasha Shield**' for outstanding implementation of Hindi in official work, received by Amit Kanaujia.
- ❑ **Other award:** In the Rajbhasha quiz competition, Abhishek Sahay, exhibition assistant at the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Jaipur, was honoured for winning second place.

- ❑ **NOTE:** Seminar on 'The Importance of Rajbhasha Hindi and Its Possibilities in the Digital Age' in Kota - 19 August 2026 -
 ♦ **Organizer:** Joint auspices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office, Kota, and the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Regional Office, Kota, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Vrishabhardhan Sharma Builds an Internet-Free 'Gita Yantra'

- ❑ **Resident:** Mahesh Nagar, Jaipur
- ❑ **Age:** 9 years, Class 4
- ❑ **Innovation:** Portable '**Gita Yantra**'
 - ♦ Cost: Only about Rs. 1,000
 - ♦ Technology: The device is based on an ESP32 microcontroller, microphone, amplifier and an e-ink screen.
 - ♦ How it works: It listens to a spoken question and locates and recites the relevant shloka from the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita.

Udaipur's Santoor Resonates on the World Stage: Young Artist Dheeraj Vaishnav

- ❑ A young santoor player, originally from Dongar, Badgaon panchayat samiti, Udaipur.
- ❑ Gave an impressive santoor performance at a state banquet/reception held at Hyderabad House, New Delhi, in honour of the Prime Minister of Japan (Sanae Takaichi).
- ❑ **Musical background:**
 - ♦ Dheeraj Vaishnav began training in tabla

under Ramkrishna in Udaipur in 2014, but was so drawn to the sweet resonance of the santoor that he made it his life's goal.

- ◆ He is currently receiving formal training in santoor in New Delhi under Abhay Rustam Sopori, in the Sopori Sufiyana gharana (Kashmiri tradition).

Abheda Park-Kota: Country's Oldest Living Tigress, 'Mehak'

- A new record has been set at the biological park in Rajasthan's Kota district, on the occasion of the birthday (28 August) of the country's oldest living tigress.
- **Achievement:** Mehak has completed 23 years of age, making her the country's oldest sole

surviving living tigress. The average lifespan of tigers in zoos is 16 to 18 years, so this record beats it by 5 years.

- **Birth and history:** Born in Jaipur on 28 August 2004. Brought from Jaipur to Kota's Abheda Park on 1 March 2023 and released alongside the tiger 'Nahar'.

Jaipur: 'AICA Cashew Convention'

- **Date:** 07 to 09 August 2026
- **Venue:** Novotel Jaipur Convention Centre
- **Organizer:** All India Cashew Association (AICA)
- **Main objective:** To directly connect cashew and dry-fruit traders of Rajasthan, including Jaipur, with the country's leading manufacturers.

Important One Liners

- 'Youth and Internal Security' Memorial Lecture Series: On 31 July 2026, in memory of former Chief Minister the late Mohan Lal Sukhadia, remembered as 'the Architect of Rajasthan' on his birth anniversary, the online launch of the 'Youth and Internal Security' memorial lecture series was held by Mohan Lal Sukhadia University (Udaipur), hosted by Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, in the presence of the university's Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kailash Daga.
- RPSC Member Dr. Ashok Kumar Kalwar Completes His Tenure: On 31 July 2026, a farewell ceremony was organized at the RPSC office marking the completion of member Dr. Ashok Kumar Kalwar's tenure and the retirement of Secretary Ramniwas Mehta.
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Year 2024): A special award ceremony was organized by the President on 13 August 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
 - ◆ **Samandar Khan Manganiyar -**
 - Field: Music (other major traditions - Maand)
 - Born: 1971, in Jhaphli Kala village, into a family of traditional professional musicians from Barmer.
 - Musical initiation: Trained in singing, composition and khartal-playing by his father (Akademi award-winning late Ustad Sadiq Khan Manganiyar - a wizard of khartal-playing).
 - Guru: Learnt the 'Jangda' singing style from the late Ustad Bhungar Khan.
 - 'Sampravahi: The Confluent Streams': Working together with Kathak dancer Anuraag Verma to bring about a confluence of Manganiyar folk music and the Jaipur gharana's Kathak tradition, with the aim of preserving Rajasthani musical compositions that are on the verge of disappearing.
 - ◆ **Gulabo Saperia -**
 - Field: Folk and tribal / puppetry / mask-making / instrument-making
 - Folk dance: Rajasthan-Kalbelia
 - The Government of India honoured her with the country's fourth-highest civilian award, the 'Padma Shri', in 2016, for her extraordinary services in the field of art.
 - Rajasthan's Kalbelia folk dance and music were included in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2010.

- ❑ **Apna Sankul Hariyalo Sankul Campaign:** On 4 August 2026, Education Minister Madan Dilawar launched the campaign at Dr. Radhakrishnan Shiksha Sankul, Jaipur, by planting a Belpatra (Bael) sapling, with the aim of making the education-complex premises greener and eco-friendly, and of raising awareness about environmental protection in society.
- ❑ **All-Party Meeting for the 6th Session of the 16th Rajasthan Assembly:** On 18 August 2026, an all-party meeting was held at the Assembly Secretariat, Jaipur, chaired by Vasudev Devnani - Rajasthan's first Speaker to begin the tradition of convening an all-party meeting before the start of an Assembly session - for the smooth conduct of the 6th Session of the 16th Assembly.
- ❑ **45th Foundation Day of the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA):** On 5 August 2026, the 45th Foundation Day of the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) - the statutory body and autonomous organization established under the JDA Act in 1982 - was celebrated in Jaipur.
- ❑ **'Drug-Free Youth' Oath at Deval Khas (Dungarpur):** On 6 August 2026, Governor Haribhau Bagde, prioritizing PM Narendra Modi's 'Nasha Mukht Bharat' initiative, travelled to the remote tribal village of Deval Khas in Dungarpur district and administered the 'Nasha Mukht Yuva' (Drug-Free Youth) pledge under the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan'.
- ❑ **Jodhpur: 'Beti Janm Gaurav Samman Samaroh':** On 10 August 2026, at Gram Panchayat Chawandiya (Kheru), the 'Beti Janm Gaurav Samman Samaroh' (Daughter's-Birth Honour Ceremony) was organized in the presence of Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Legal Affairs Minister Jogaram Patel, inspired by the vision of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao'. 201 girls born in the panchayat were honoured with an incentive amount of Rs. 5,100 each, and the region was gifted a girls' college and a trauma centre on the Jaisalmer highway in Kheru, for the higher education of girls.
- ❑ **Govind Guru Tribal University, Banswara:** On 7 August 2026, at Govind Guru Tribal University (GGTU), Banswara, a national seminar was organized on the theme 'Nasha Mukht Wagad, Swasth Yuva, Sashakt Janjati aur Vikasit Bharat' (Drug-Free Wagad, Healthy Youth, Empowered Tribal Community and a Developed India).
- ❑ **State-level Programme - 'Capable Women, Healthy Childhood, Prosperous Rajasthan':** On 15 August 2026 (80th Independence Day), during the state-level programme organized at the Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur, in the presence of Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, an amount of Rs. 14.65 crore was transferred as a Rakshabandhan gift, at the rate of Rs. 1,100 per account, to the state's Anganwadi workers, helpers and Saathin sisters through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT); a 10% increase in the honorarium of Asha Sahyoginis was also announced.
- ❑ **27th Rajasthan State Annual Conference - RajasiCon-2026:** On 1 August 2026, an annual conference was organized at Jolly Woods Resort, Pushkar (Ajmer), under the joint aegis of the Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists (ISA), Rajasthan State Branch, and the Department of Anaesthesiology, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Ajmer, in the presence of Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, in which discussions were held on the role of anaesthesiology in modern surgery, ICU care, trauma management and organ transplantation, along with 6 advanced hands-on workshops.
- ❑ **6th National Conference and Exhibition of the Federation of All India Caterers:** On 1 August 2026, the inauguration of the 6th National Conference and Exhibition of the Federation of All India Caterers (FAIC) was held at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre, Sitapura (Jaipur), in the presence of Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, with the main objective of expanding wedding tourism and MICE tourism in Rajasthan by empowering the hospitality and catering sector.
- ❑ **Meeting Between the Government of Rajasthan and a Japanese Delegation - 23 August 2026:** In a meeting held in Jaipur between Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Yuichi Higuchi, Mayor of Japan's Kofu City, it was disclosed that 180 Japanese companies currently operate in Rajasthan, and jewellers of Jaipur and Kofu City are jointly working at the global level, with about 60 companies from Jaipur engaged in jewellery work in Kofu City.

- ❑ **Multidisciplinary Research and Innovation - International Seminar:** Under the joint aegis of the Inspira Research Association and Kanoria PG Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Jaipur, a hybrid-mode seminar on 'Transforming India through Multidisciplinary Research and Innovations' hosted an in-depth discussion of contemporary issues such as artificial intelligence (AI), management, sustainable development and environmental sustainability; at the close, the 'Inspira Academic Excellence' and 'Best Paper' awards were presented.
- ❑ **International Conference (ICAST-2026) at MUJ:** From 19-21 August 2026, the Department of Biotechnology and Chemical Engineering at Manipal University Jaipur (MUJ) campus, in partnership with the Indian Chemical Council industry body, organized the 'International Conference on Advanced Sustainable Technologies' (ICAST-2026).
- ❑ **Meeting Between the UAE Tourism Minister and CII-Rajasthan:** In a high-level meeting organized under the aegis of CII Rajasthan (Chairman: Rajneesh Bhandari) to promote state-level investment, bilateral trade, economic coordination and the circular economy, His Excellency Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, UAE's Minister of Economy and Tourism, and His Excellency Abdulla Saif Al Nuaimi, UAE's Ambassador to India, took part as the principal global guests.
- ❑ **Study of Rajasthan's 'Best Practices' by a Maharashtra Health Department Delegation, 19-23 August 2026:** A delegation from the Maharashtra Health Department (Commissioner Health Services and Mission Director, NHM Maharashtra, Sanjay Shripatrao Katkar, and CEO of the Maharashtra Medical Goods Procurement Authority, Babu Pawar) toured Rajasthan to study 'Best Practices in Public Health in Rajasthan'.
- ❑ **Udaipur: Bappa Rawal Panorama:** On 23 August 2026, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde inaugurated the Bappa Rawal Panorama built in Mathastha village, Kailashpuri, Udaipur.
- ❑ **Rajasthan Gramin Bank: 'Vigilance Awareness Week-2026':** Under the theme 'Probity for Prosperity', during the week, under the direction of General Manager Dharendra Jeenger, all 1,609 branches and 27 regional offices of the Rajasthan Gramin Bank raised awareness among customers, students and bank clients about protection from cyber crime, precautions in digital transactions, and the harms of manipulated accounts.
- ❑ **International Seminar on 'Ancient Indian Knowledge Tradition':** On 23-24 August 2026, at Pacific Academy of Higher Education and Research University, Udaipur, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde was the keynote speaker at an international seminar on 'Ancient Indian Knowledge Tradition: Modern Dimensions of Knowledge and Science'.
- ❑ **Meeting Between the WHO India Country Head and the Health Department - 24 August 2026:** In a meeting at the Secretariat, Jaipur, chaired by Principal Secretary Smt. Gayatri Rathore, WHO India Country Head Dr. Yvan Hutin was the principal participant.
- ❑ **UPPSC Member Dr. A.K. Verma Visits RPSC - 27 August 2026:** Dr. A.K. Verma, member of the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC), visited the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) to study its working procedures, modern technologies and administrative innovations.
- ❑ **Conclave of Senior Income Tax Department Officials - 17-18 August 2026:** A conclave in Jaipur was chaired by Ravi Agrawal, Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), and led by Rajasthan's Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Sumit Kumar.
- ❑ **'Mahila Suraksha Sankalp' Programme at Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer - 8 [August]:** In a programme organized in the presence of Rajasthan Police Director General (Traffic) Malini Agrawal, a special all-women 'Kalika Patrolling Unit' of the police took part, briefing students on digital safety, safety apps and emergency helpline numbers, and delivered a message of women's empowerment through cultural presentations on the theme "From Shadows to Strength: She Rises."

- ❑ PIB Jaipur Visit by Students of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi: On 19 August 2026, students of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi (led by Dr. Nagendra Kumar Singh and Professor Vaishnavi Shukla) visited PIB Jaipur.
- ❑ Neha Solanki Selected for 'Grassroots Innovator Recognition 2026': On 31 July 2026, a psychologist from Pali district was honoured by President Droupadi Murmu, under NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission's 'Grassroots Innovator Recognition 2026', for developing a specially customized chair for children suffering from cerebral palsy.
- ❑ **Country's First 64-km 'High-Speed Test Track' in North Western Railway's Jodhpur Division:** At Gudha-Thathna-Meethdi, where high-speed trains including Vande Bharat, and rolling stock, will run official trials at speeds of up to 250 km/h - with this test capacity, and equipped with AI and advanced sensors, it will function as a state-of-the-art 'Open Lab' for Indian Railways.
- ❑ **Development of an 'Astro-Tourism Hub' and Astronomical Observatory in Bikaner, Modelled on Ladakh's Hanle:** Preparations are underway to develop Bikaner district - on the lines of Ladakh's Hanle, the country's first Dark Sky Reserve - as the country's [second] Astro-Tourism Hub and astronomical observatory, under which a team of scientists is conducting a detailed 'Dark Sky' survey (pollution-free, clean and dark skies) in the Pugal, Dantore and Sanchore areas.
- ❑ **Agreement Between CISF and the Drone Federation of India:** An Anti-Drone Centre of Excellence - a counter-drone system - will be developed at Behror as a centre of excellence, working on protection, training, research and technologies to counter drone threats, with sensitive installations such as nuclear plants, space centres and oil refineries kept in mind.
- ❑ **Rajasthan-UAE 'Tourism and Investment Round Table Meeting' - 20 August 2026:** At the Rambagh Palace Hotel, Jaipur, during a 'Tourism and Investment Round Table Meeting' held between Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, the UAE's Minister of Economy and Tourism, discussions were held on accelerating trade and investment under the comprehensive economic partnership agreement between India and the UAE.
- ❑ **Multinational Military Exercise 'Tarang Shakti' (2nd Edition):** Organized by the Indian Air Force (IAF), the second edition of the multinational exercise 'Tarang Shakti' will be held from 26 September to 10 October 2026 at Jodhpur Air Force Station, Rajasthan, with the participation of several major countries including the USA, France, Australia, the UAE, Greece, Singapore, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. (The 1st edition was held in Tamil Nadu and Jodhpur during August-September 2024.)
- ❑ **'Yuddhabhyas Rotor Clamp-III':** The Indian Air Force organized a 7-day military exercise in August 2026 at the Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer, based on the theme 'Countering Unmanned Aerial Systems', with participation from the USA.
- ❑ **Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal to Become the New Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court:** On 31 August 2026, on the recommendation of the Supreme Court Collegium, Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal, currently a judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court, has been recommended for appointment as the 44th Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court (the current acting Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court is Sanjeev Prakash Sharma). In addition, Rajasthan High Court judge Justice Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhati has been recommended to become Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, and Justice Alpesh Yashwant Kogje has been recommended to become Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

- ❑ **Automation of the Ajmer Ayurved Rasayanshala (3 August 2026):** Under the state government's 'Rising Rajasthan' policy, arrangements have been made to operate this pharmacy in PPP mode together with the Deendayal Ayurved Department and modern machinery, making it one of the five state pharmacies being upgraded with cutting-edge technology.
- ❑ **Jhalawar Police's 'Naya Savera' Initiative:** An initiative run by Jhalawar Police to pull members of the Kanjar community out of the cycle of crime and connect them with the mainstream of society.
- ❑ **Meeting to Expand Cooperation with UNICEF - 19 August 2026:** A meeting was held between Chief Secretary V. Shrinivas and Dr. Nadi Albino, CEO of UNICEF's Generation Unlimited, to broaden and strengthen cooperation with UNICEF (under the MoU signed in 2025).
- ❑ **Chief Minister's Dialogue with Rajasthan Foundation Chapters:** On 25 August 2026, the Chief Minister interacted via video conference with representatives of the first phase's 8 chapters (Ahmedabad, Delhi, Doha, Pune, Surat, Munich, Kuwait, Muscat) out of a total of 40 Rajasthan Foundation chapters located across the country and abroad; a progress report is taken from all chapters every month.
- ❑ **National Teacher Award 2026:** On Teachers' Day, 5 September, to be conferred by President Droupadi Murmu in Delhi, the following educators from Rajasthan have been selected for the National Teacher honour -
 - 1) **Dr. Divyendu Sen**
 - ◆ Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Panchpahad-Jhalawar
 - ◆ For training rural-area students in the use of computers and software.
 - 2) **Dr. Vartika Gulati**
 - ◆ Girls' Upper Primary School, Toomli Ka Baas, Chaksu-Jaipur
 - ◆ For innovation, technology and activity-based teaching.

नई दिल्ली में आयोजित 16वें इंडियन ऑर्गन डोनेशन डे समारोह में राजस्थान को किस विशिष्ट पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (A) बेस्ट स्टेट इन हेल्थ इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर
 (B) स्टेट अवॉर्ड फॉर एक्सीलेंस इन ऑर्गन डोनेशन अवेयरनेस
 (C) नेशनल ऑर्गन ट्रांसप्लांटेशन लीडरशिप अवार्ड
 (D) आउटस्टैंडिंग स्टेट इन मेडिकल एजुकेशन

राजस्थान के किस जिले में 'देश की प्रथम लैक्रोज अकादमी' है?

- (A) जयपुर (B) जोधपुर
 (C) उदयपुर (D) बीकानेर

80th Independence Day (15 August 2026)

- ❑ **Theme:** Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047 and '150 Years of Vande Mataram'.
- ❑ For the first time, a mass singing of 'Vande Mataram' (the National Song) was held at the Red Fort.
- ❑ **Major announcements:** Free online coaching for students from poor/middle-class families.
 - ◆ A nationwide sports talent search campaign for children aged 5-15 years.
 - ◆ AI skill training for 1 crore youth.
 - ◆ Creating 100 GW of nuclear energy capacity by 2047; installing 5 Small Modular Reactors (SMR) in this decade.
- ❑ **Resolve of 'Shakti ki Saptdhara' (Seven Streams of Strength) - 7 pillars**

S.No.	Pillar
1.	Manufacturing Power
2.	Agriculture and Food Processing
3.	Technology and Innovation
4.	Gati Shakti
5.	Defence Power
6.	Green Economy and Blue Economy
7.	Soft Power

- ❑ The Government of India celebrated 'Har Ghar Tiranga 2026' from 9-17 August 2026, dedicated to the completion of '150 Years of Vande Mataram'.
- ❑ India Post delivered the Tiranga (national flag) by drone from Mandi Head Post Office to Reharadhar Branch Post Office in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❑ **Suryapath Tiranga Global Relay:**

Organiser	Ministry of Culture + Ministry of External Affairs
Campaign	A global initiative under 'Har Ghar Tiranga'
Launch	Suva (Fiji)
Conclusion	San Francisco (USA)
Special feature	Following the rising sun, 54+ Indian embassies digitally broadcast images of the Tiranga.

- ❑ **India Day declared:** New York, New Jersey, Metuchen and Boston (USA) officially declared 15 August 2026 as 'India Independence Day' on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day.

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2026

- ❑ **Amendment:** In Section 2 of the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.
- ❑ **Total sanctioned strength (including the Chief Justice):** increased from 34 to 38.
- ❑ **May 2026:** Ordinance issued by President Droupadi Murmu.
- ❑ The original Act had fixed the number of judges (excluding the Chief Justice of India) at 10. (This is the seventh time the number has been increased.)

Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Act, 2026

- ❑ **Amendment:** In Section 3 of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
- ❑ **Objective:** To provide legal protection to the National Song 'Vande Mataram'.
- ❑ The original 1971 Act provides for punishment for insulting the National Flag, the Constitution, and the National Anthem.
 - ◆ First-time offence: Imprisonment up to 3 years, fine, or both.
 - ◆ On repeat offence: Mandatory minimum sentence of 1 year imprisonment.

Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Act, 2026

- ❑ **Objective:** To strengthen the original 2024 Act, make punishments more stringent, speed up investigations, and ensure time-bound justice for affected candidates.
- ❑ **31 July 2026:** Received Presidential assent.

❑ Provision of Stricter Punishment for Offenders

Provision	Earlier Position (2024 Act)	What Changed (2026 Bill)
Individual offender (Section 10)	Imprisonment of 3 to 5 years, fine up to Rs. 10 lakh.	Imprisonment of 5 to 10 years, fine up to Rs. 50 lakh.
Service provider (Section 10)	Fine up to Rs. 1 crore, and a 4-year ban from conducting any public examination.	Fine up to Rs. 5 crore, and an 8-year ban from conducting any public examination.
Directors and senior management held responsible (Section 10)	Imprisonment of 3 to 10 years, fine of Rs. 1 crore.	Imprisonment of 5 to 10 years, fine of Rs. 5 crore.
Organised crime and examination-fraud syndicate (Section 11)	Imprisonment of 5 to 10 years, fine of at least Rs. 1 crore.	Imprisonment of 7 to 10 years, fine of at least Rs. 10 crore.

Subject/ Provision	2024 Law	2026 Proposed Amendment
Time-limit for investigation	No fixed time-limit for completing investigation.	Investigation must be completed within 2 months.
Trial hearing	No specific time-limit was fixed.	Target of completing the trial within 3 months of filing of the chargesheet.
Fast-track court	No clear provision for special courts.	States and Union Territories will be able to designate special fast-track courts.
Manner of hearing	Normal judicial procedure.	Daily hearings mandatory.
Special Task Force (STF)	No clear provision.	The Central Government will be able to set up a special STF for cases spread across large areas or multiple states.

❑ Appeal Process

- ◆ Appeals can only be filed in the High Court.
- ◆ The hearing will be conducted by a bench of two judges.
- ◆ Disposal of the appeal within 3 months is mandatory.
- ◆ Time limit for filing an appeal:
 - Normally: 30 days
 - Maximum limit: 90 days

Kerala (Change of Name) Act, 2026

- ❑ **Gazette notification:** By the Ministry of Home Affairs on 25 August 2026.
 - ◆ The name of the state 'Kerala' legally became effective as 'Keralam'.
 - ◆ Union Cabinet approval: 24 February 2026
 - ◆ Presidential assent: 14 August 2026
- ❑ 'Keralam' is the state's actual name in the Malayalam language.
- ❑ **Amendment:** In the First Schedule of the Constitution, as per the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitution.

Money Restoration Module

- ❑ **Launch:** Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❑ **Objective:** To simplify the process of returning funds frozen in cyber fraud cases to eligible victims.

Mission Samriddha Gaon (Prosperous Village)

- ❑ **Launched by:** Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, in New Delhi.
- ❑ **Objective:** To develop a holistic and integrated model of poverty-free, employment-rich villages equipped with basic amenities.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare + Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- ❑ Pilot model implemented at two locations in Madhya Pradesh:
 - ◆ Sehore district - Budni block
 - ◆ Dewas district - Khategaon block
- ❑ **Strategy:** Convergence of various government schemes the successful model will be replicated in other areas.

- ◆ An integrated development framework will be prepared from family Gram Panchayat block level.

Official Naming of 27 Locations in Arunachal Pradesh

- ❑ **Issued by:** Government of India (in consultation with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh).
- ❑ **Concerned department:** Survey of India.
- ❑ **Classification of geographical features:**
 - ◆ Areas: 20 (the highest number) - such as Jaswant Garh, Longju, Maja, Bisa, Jairampur, Sagar, Shivaji Nagar, etc.
 - ◆ Passes: 4 - Dong La, Riza La, Pukur La and Thang La
 - ◆ Lake: 1 - Sancho Sarovar
 - ◆ Monument: 1 - Sher-e-Thapa Memorial

Persons in News

Satish Gujral: Commemorative Postage Stamp

- ❑ The Department of Posts released a special commemorative postage stamp in New Delhi (Bikaner House) marking the centenary year of renowned artist Satish Gujral.
- ❑ He was an outstanding painter, sculptor, architect, muralist and writer.
- ❑ **Honour:** Awarded the 'Padma Vibhushan' (India's second-highest civilian award) for his contribution to art and culture.

D. Y. Patil

- ❑ **Passed away:** 4 August 2026, in Kolhapur (Maharashtra).
- ❑ **Former Governor:** Tripura (2009-2013), Bihar (2013-2014).
- ❑ **Honour:** Padma Shri (1991) - for social service.

Portal

SAMAVESH Portal

- ❑ **Full form:** Single Access Mechanism for All Verticals of Empowerment & Social Harmony.

- ❑ **The Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA)** portal was migrated from the old platform to the SAMAVESH Portal.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ❑ **Developed by:** National e-Governance Division (NeGD).
- ❑ It brings together the services of the ministry's various verticals (SC/OBC welfare, NMBA, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, transgender persons, scholarships) in one place.

RSVC AMRIT Platform

- ❑ **RSVC** = RuTAGe Smart Village Centre; **AMRIT** = Accelerated Medium for Rural Innovations and Technologies.
- ❑ **Launch:** On 15 August 2026, by the Principal Scientific Adviser, Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood.
- ❑ **Developed by:** NABARD, in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (OPSA).
- ❑ **Function:** A digital ecosystem supporting the entire lifecycle of RSVC (discovery, validation, deployment, monitoring and knowledge management).
- ❑ **RSVC:** Village-level technology hubs that bring affordable technologies related to agriculture, water, energy, education and sanitation to villages.

Reorganised 'India Code Portal'

- ❑ **Launch:** By Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal.
- ❑ **Developed by:** Legislative Department + National Informatics Centre (NIC).
- ❑ **Content:** India Code is an official digital repository maintained by the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India - it includes all central Acts, state Acts, laws of Union Territories, and subordinate legislation of India.
- ❑ It is a platform providing easy access to laws for citizens, lawyers, researchers, the judiciary and government departments.

Upgraded 'Appeal and Complaint Management System' (AppCoMS) 2.0

- ❑ **Full form:** Appeal and Complaint Management System.

- ❑ **Launch:** On 17 August 2026, by the Chief Information Commissioner of the Central Information Commission (CIC), Raj Kumar Goel.
- ❑ **Objective:** To digitise and streamline the process of disposal of second appeals and complaints under the RTI Act, 2005.
- ❑ The first version of the portal was launched in September 2016.

Sujal Gaon ID

- ❑ This is a unique identification number given to rural habitations (water supply service areas) under the digital framework of Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0.
- ❑ **Objective:** To make systematic identification, monitoring, reporting, tracking and verification of rural drinking water distribution easier.
- ❑ IDs issued (as of 10 August 2026): To 12,67,808 habitations (75%) out of the country's total 16,96,213 rural habitations.

India Post Launches Upgraded 'Dak Mitra' and 'Dak Sewa' Apps

- ❑ **Launch:** By Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, on 24 August 2026.
- ❑ **Dak Mitra (Dak MITRA)**
 - ◆ MITRA: Mobile Interface for Transactions and Rural Assistance.
 - ◆ Empowers postal employees/branch postmasters (for staff use).
- ❑ **Dak Sewa: For Citizens**
 - ◆ Single-window postal services - Speed Post, parcel booking, money order, tracking, e-money order, complaint registration.

Environment

Glav Lake: Arunachal Pradesh

- ❑ Declared India's 101st Ramsar site.
- ❑ It is Arunachal Pradesh's first Ramsar site.
- ❑ It is located within the Kamlang Tiger Reserve in Lohit district.

- ❑ This wetland ecosystem is home to more than 150 tree species and 49 orchid species.

Three Elephant Corridors Notified in Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary

- ❑ The Tamil Nadu government notified three elephant corridors in the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary of Hosur Forest Division, as follows:
 1. Javalagiri-Ulibanda-Thaggutti
 2. Javalagiri-Panai-Anchetty
 3. Bilikal-Javalagiri

Prakriti Gyan Dham

- ❑ Dedicated to the nation by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences.
- ❑ **Location:** Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre (MPBC), Banthra, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).
- ❑ India's first-of-its-kind 'Eco-Education Hub'.
- ❑ Developed by: CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI), Lucknow.
- ❑ This hub is a unique example combining scientific research, environmental education, biodiversity conservation, botanical heritage and cultural interpretation.
- ❑ **Key components:** Pavan Path, Indian Heritage Garden, Vibhav Enclave, Bhairav Enclave, Bambusetum.

Black-necked Crane

- ❑ The first-ever Black-Necked Crane Festival was organised in Ladakh to raise awareness about the conservation of the Black-necked Crane.
- ❑ **Conservation status:**
 - ◆ IUCN: Near Threatened
 - ◆ CITES: Appendix I
 - ◆ Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I

Important Agreements (MoUs)

DPIIT's 5 Key Agreements (MoU)

S.No.	Partner Organisation	Main Objective
1.	Cashfree Payments	To strengthen digital payment infrastructure and fintech capabilities for startups.
2.	Darwin Dynamics LLP	To boost the reach of the 'Startup India' initiative by promoting entrepreneurship in Tier II, Tier III and rural areas. To provide assistance for better access to mentorship, institutional networks, market opportunities and capacity-building for startups.
3.	Walter Private Limited	To improve startups' access to cloud computing resources, technical capacity-building and digital infrastructure.
4.	CARS24 Services Private Limited	To advance startups in the field of AI-driven mobility (transport technology/innovation).
5.	Council for Startup India	To enhance the growth and global competitiveness of Indian startups.

Between the Ministry of MSME and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

- ❑ **Objective:** To boost the commercialisation, quality standardisation and market access of Indian Geographical Indication (GI) products, so as to increase the income of indigenous artisans and weavers.
- ❑ **Launch of the 'Bharat GI' banner:** The Ministry of MSME and DPIIT will bring regional GI products onto ONDC and GeM.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Signs MoU with PhonePe

- ❑ To support the PM Gati Shakti Mission using data from PhonePe's Pulse Pro (enterprise data intelligence platform).
- ❑ **Objective:** National infrastructure planning, economic analysis, and holistic development in urban-rural areas.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) with Shell India

- ❑ **Objective:** To provide mentorship, investor connections, and an opportunity to participate in the Shell E4 Smart Energy Track for energy and climate-tech startups.

Between the 'Centre for Development of Advanced Computing' (C-DAC) and the 'Geological Survey of India' (GSI)

- ❑ **Objective:** To increase the use of next-generation technologies in geology, mineral

exploration, and disaster management.

- ◆ Bringing together GSI's expertise with C-DAC's high-performance computing (HPC) and AI capability.

❑ Main areas of work:

Field	Application
Mineral Exploration	High-resolution 3D underground mapping from large geophysical data; precise mineral targeting through prediction-based modelling.
Disaster Management	Landslide monitoring using Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology; early warning system; conducting Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) studies.

National Conference

5th Meeting of the National Council of Senior Citizens

- ❑ **Held:** 14 August 2026 (New Delhi).
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar.
- ❑ **Launch of the SNEHA e-book:** 'Stories of Nurturing, Engagement, Happiness and Active Ageing' was released. It highlights the 21-month (October 2024-June 2026) achievements of the Senior Citizens Division in promoting active and dignified ageing.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign and Concert

- ❑ **Held:** At Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, to mark the completion of 150 years of Vande Mataram.

- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Culture.
- ❑ **Key performances:** Renowned singer B Praak gave the main performance and presented patriotic songs such as "Teri Mitti". Before this, young singer Manya Tripathi gave the inaugural performance.
- ❑ **Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign:** 9-17 August 2026.

16th Indian Organ Donation Day (2026)

- ❑ **Date and background:** 3 August 2026; this is the day India's first heart transplant (AIIMS, 1994) was performed.
- ❑ **Global standing:** India ranks third in the world in total annual organ transplants, and holds "first place" in living-donor organ transplants.
- ❑ **Key launches:**
 - ◆ **'Jug Jug Jiyo' campaign:** Awareness at the village level.
 - ◆ **e-Pratyaropan platform:** Integrated digital registry and organ allocation network.
 - ◆ **NOTTO mobile app:** Quick access to organ donation services.
- ❑ **National Organ Donation Awards:**
 - ◆ **Best State:** Tamil Nadu
 - ◆ **Best North-Eastern State:** Assam
 - ◆ **Best Union Territory:** Delhi
 - ◆ **Best Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (ROTTO):** PGIMER, Chandigarh (North)

Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) Cohort 3

- ❑ **Launched by:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), through the MeitY Startup Hub (MSH), at the Genesis NextGen Startup Summit held in Coimbatore on 4 August 2026.

- ❑ This is a national-level programme aimed at helping early-stage innovators/entrepreneurs convert their ideas into technology-based, ready enterprises.
- ❑ It provides early-stage innovators with a grant of up to Rs. 10 lakh, along with mentorship and incubation support.
- ❑ **Key details:**
 - ◆ **Funding:** Up to Rs. 10 lakh for each selected EIR.
 - ◆ **Target locations:** Tier-II and Tier-III cities of India.
 - ◆ **Key sectors:** AI/ML, IoT, Deep-tech, VLSI/Semiconductors, Cybersecurity, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, AR/VR and ICT.
 - ◆ **Eligibility:** Indian citizens, students, researchers, innovators, and founders of startups incorporated within the last 2 years.

Nasha Mukta Yuva for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan

- ❑ **Launch:** By Prime Minister Narendra Modi via video conferencing on 2 August 2026.
- ❑ **Nodal Agency:** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (through the MY Bharat platform).
- ❑ **Duration:** A 100-week people's participation (jan bhagidari) campaign (weekly programme every Sunday).
- ❑ **Main objective:** To eliminate substance addiction among youth in order to build a Viksit Bharat (developed India) by 2047.

Conference	Event Details	Description
9th India Medical Devices 2026 Conference	7-8 August 2026, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi	Organiser: Department of Pharmaceuticals and FICCI. Theme: "Towards Viksit Bharat: Advancing India as a Global Hub for Quality Medical Devices".
GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit	5 August 2026, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi	Organiser: Development Commissioner (Handlooms) and Handloom Export Promotion Council. Key launches: • Digital Handloom Atlas ("One platform. Infinite markets.") – to map handloom clusters and connect weavers globally; • HEPC's Diamond Jubilee logo – to mark the completion of 60 years.

3rd India International FinTech Festival	6-7 August 2026, New Delhi	• Organiser: Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). Theme: "FinTech: Building profitable, scalable and trustworthy digital finance for India's next phase of economic growth".
IIHT Sutra 2026 - First National Conclave for Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs)	12 August 2026, New Delhi	• Organiser: Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles. Theme: "IIHTs: Building the Future of India's Handloom Sector - Educate. Innovate. Transform."
India Bio Energy & Tech Expo 2026	11-13 August 2026, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh	• Organiser: Indian Federation of Green Energy, jointly with MM Active Science Tech Communications. Theme: "Advancing bio-energy solutions for a low-carbon world." Main focus: Supporting India's efforts to achieve the net-zero emissions target by 2070.
BRICS Waves Bazaar 2026 - International Exhibition	6-7 August, Mumbai	• Organiser: National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. • NFDC signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with Brazil's Rio Film Commission and announced a partnership with Russia's Gosfilmofond. • Key launch: The BRICS Independent Producers Alliance (BIPA) was launched, aimed at permanently connecting filmmakers of BRICS countries.
National Conference on Tribal Languages and Museums	24 August 2026	• The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL). • MoTA's AI bot "Jaago" was launched.
36th Annual Conference of Vice-Chancellors of Agricultural Universities	25-26 August 2026, New Delhi	• Organiser: Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Indian Council of Agricultural Research. • Theme: Reimagining Higher Agricultural Education for Viksit Bharat@2047.
National Quantum Biotechnology Conference	Date: 24 August 2026; Venue: IIT	• Organiser: By the QMET Tech Foundation, at IIT Bombay.

Awards/Honours

Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026

- ❑ **Recipient:** Ajit Doval (National Security Adviser of India).
- ❑ **Presented by:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- ❑ **Occasion:** Held in Pune, Maharashtra, on the 106th death anniversary of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- ❑ **Awarding institution:** Established by the Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust.

Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Medal 2026

- ❑ Union Minister Nitin Gadkari presented the Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Medal to 12 rat-hole miners (manual tunnel diggers) in New Delhi.
- ❑ **Reason:** Honoured for their extraordinary courage in rescuing 41 trapped workers during the Silkyara tunnel rescue operation (November 2023) in Uttarakhand.

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) Recognised as a Regional Centre of Excellence by WHO-SEARN

- ❑ Announced: During the 10th anniversary meeting of the South-East Asia Regulatory Network (SEARN), held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 4-5 August 2026.
- ❑ The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has been recognised by WHO-SEARN as follows:
 - ◆ Regional Centre of Excellence in Pharmacovigilance (drug safety monitoring).
 - ◆ Technical Centre in Drug Quality.
- ❑ **Head of delegation:** Dr. V. Kalaiselvan, Secretary-cum-Scientific Director, IPC.

Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026

- ❑ **Recipient:** Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam (Director, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru).
- ❑ **Achievement:** The first Indian woman and fourth Indian to win this award.
- ❑ She played an important role as Calibration

Scientist for the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope aboard AstroSat, India's first dedicated space observatory.

- ❑ **Occasion:** Presented at the 46th COSPAR Scientific Assembly, held in Florence, Italy, on 3 August 2026.
- ❑ **Organiser:** Jointly awarded every two years by ISRO and the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR).

Gallantry Awards 2026 (On the Eve of the 80th Independence Day)

- ❑ Total awards sanctioned: President Droupadi Murmu sanctioned a total of 78 gallantry awards for defence and Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) personnel, including "13 posthumous awards".
- ❑ Key details of the gallantry awards:
 - ◆ Kirti Chakra: Total 9 (7 posthumous)
 - ◆ Bar to Shaurya Chakra: 1
 - ◆ Shaurya Chakra: Total 19 (1 posthumous)
 - ◆ Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry): 5
 - ◆ Sena Medal (Gallantry): Total 36 (5 posthumous)
 - ◆ Nau Sena Medal (Gallantry): 3
 - ◆ Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry): 5

Gaj Gaurav Award 2026

- ❑ Recipients: Seven frontline staff and mahouts of Jaldapara National Park (West Bengal).
- ❑ Bikash Khadia and Rajiv Oraon: Rescued captive elephants trapped during severe floods.
- ❑ Ajibul Haque, Ajit Gabur, Mumtaz Alam, Amasur Khadia and Dilip Munda: Guided 13 displaced wild rhinos to a safe location.

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan Environment Protection Award 2026

- ❑ **Founder:** M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF).
- ❑ **Partners:** CavinKare Private Limited and Rotary Club of Madras East.
 1. P. Pechiyammal - For marine conservation in Ramanathapuram and for removing abandoned fishing gear (Ghost Gear) stuck in the sea.

2. Govindhammal - For sustainable and climate-resilient farming practices in Villupuram.

Lifetime Libertarian Award

- ❑ **First Indian recipient:** Gurcharan Das.
- ❑ **Reason:** For shaping public discourse on economic development through major books such as India Unbound, The Difficulty of Being Good, and India Grows at Night.
- ❑ **Presented by:** Liberty International.
- ❑ **Occasion:** At the 40th Liberty International World Conference, held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 8 August 2026.

Prof. Deepak Dhar Awarded the Dirac Medal 2026

- ❑ **Recipient:** Indian theoretical physicist Prof. Deepak Dhar.
- ❑ **Joint honour:** Deepak Dhar shared the 2026 medal with Bernard Derrida, Marc Mézard and Haim Sompolinsky.
- ❑ **Reason:** For their fundamental contributions to equilibrium statistical mechanics and the (evolution) sandpile model.
- ❑ Deepak Dhar is among about 10 scientists worldwide to have received both the Dirac Medal and the Boltzmann Medal. He was awarded the Boltzmann Medal in 2022.
- ❑ He is the second India-based scientist to receive this honour. (First - Ashoke Sen)

46th Federation of Indian Publishers Award

- ❑ The Publications Division of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting won a total of seven awards:
- ❑ **Second Prize Winners:**
 - ◆ Bharat 2026 (Hindi) - Reference books (Hindi)
 - ◆ Wings to Our Hopes, Volume 2 (English)
 - ◆ Yojana - July 2026 (Hindi) - Theme: Viksit Bharat@2047 - Magazines and house journals (Hindi)

- ◆ Kurukshetra - Magazines and house journals (English - Rural Development Monthly)

Third Prize Winners:

- ◆ Dharti ki Sehat - Children's book (0-10 years - Hindi)
- ◆ Rangoli Roop Sur Lay Ki - Art and coffee-table book (Hindi)
- ◆ Aajkal Urdu - July 2026 - Magazine (Urdu)

Indian Doctors to be Honoured with Pakistan's Highest Civilian Award (Nishan-e-Imtiaz)

- ❑ Two Parsi doctors from Mumbai, Dr. Jal Ratanji Patel (physician) and Dr. Jal Dhayabhoy-Coyaji (radiologist), will be posthumously honoured with Pakistan's highest civilian award, "Nishan-e-Imtiaz".
- ❑ **Reason:** In 1946, they kept the diagnosis of Muhammad Ali Jinnah's final-stage tuberculosis (TB) completely secret.
- ❑ **Impact:** This secrecy enabled Jinnah to successfully negotiate the 1947 Partition. British leaders later acknowledged that had they known Jinnah was near death, they would have delayed independence to prevent the formation of Pakistan.
- ❑ **Ceremony:** The announcement was made on Pakistan's Independence Day (14 August 2026). These honours will be formally conferred on 23 March 2027.

Important One Liners

- ❑ **Varsha Ashok Aglawe**
 - ◆ 54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India.
 - ◆ First woman Director General of the Geological Survey of India.
- ❑ India has donated five peacocks to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), including one rare white-feathered peacock. This has revived a decades-old tradition, begun in

- 1981 during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's tenure, to boost the declining number of peacocks in Ariana Park.
- ❑ **'Damini' App:** Developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), this app provides real-time lightning-strike warnings and safety advisories in 17 regional languages.
 - ❑ **Swami Vivekananda Cultural Youth Centre-Vivek Memorial:** Inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Mysuru, Karnataka, on 1 August 2026. This centre is located in the historic Nirjana Math (former orphanage) premises, where Swami Vivekananda had stayed during his travels in November 1892.
 - ❑ **Recovery of Cultural Heritage:** Through its diplomatic efforts, India has successfully repatriated a total of 662 stolen precious antiquities from countries such as the USA, UK and Australia, by June 2026.
 - ❑ President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated Jagadguru Kripalu University in Cuttack, Odisha.
 - ❑ **Thotlakonda Buddhist Site:** Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya visited the ancient site near Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, along with BRICS delegates.
 - ❑ After the Supreme Court recognised the right to walk on footpaths as a fundamental right, Andhra Pradesh became the first state in the country in 2026 to prepare a dedicated pedestrian safety and universal accessibility policy.
 - ❑ The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) has launched an accreditation scheme (for the first time) for mobile food-testing laboratories in India. Developed by NABL, a constituent board of the Quality Council of India, this scheme will provide a standardised framework for mobile food-testing laboratories.
 - ❑ In the United States, the California State Assembly has passed a resolution recognising 8 November this year as Diwali Day, and has called upon people across the state to participate in the celebrations held on this occasion.
 - ❑ Three Indians residing in the UAE contributed to setting a Guinness World Record by skydiving with the Indian tricolour from an altitude of 13,000 feet over Benghazi, Libya.
 - ❑ **2nd Suru Summer Festival 2026:** Held on August 26–27 Organized in Damsna, Kargil, Ladakh. Its objective was to promote sustainable tourism, adventure sports, and the region's rich cultural heritage.
 - ❑ Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya led the 88th 'Fit India Sundays on Cycle' event under the BRICS Run-Ride 2026 initiative at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. This event was held in honour of the upcoming 18th BRICS Summit to be hosted by India.
 - ❑ **31st Meeting of the Southern Zonal Council**
Chaired by: Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
Venue: Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu.
 - ❑ **Inquiry into NEET Protests: High-Powered Committee**
 - ◆ The Supreme Court constituted a committee to investigate the police action taken during the NEET protests.
 - ◆ Chairperson: Justice R. Subhash Reddy (Retired Judge of the Supreme Court).
 - ❑ **Asia's First Desert-Themed Night Safari and Zoological Park**
 - ◆ Location: Gujarat
 - ◆ Spanning approximately 103 hectares, the park will house 2,700 animals across 83 species.
 - ❑ The 13th Western Zonal Police Coordination Committee meeting was held in Indore (Madhya Pradesh) in August 2026, where joint strategies against cybercrime and drug cartels were discussed. Rajasthan DGP Rajiv Kumar Sharma participated in the meeting.
 - ❑ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation honored Arup Bose, a retired professor from the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata, with the 'Sukhatme National Award 2026' on Statistics Day for his outstanding lifetime contribution.
 - ❑ The inaugural 'Navbharat Times (NBT) Bhushan Samman 2026' was conferred upon

- renowned lyricist, writer, and Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) Chairperson Prasoon Joshi on July 4, 2026.
- ❑ The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified significant deposits of thorium-bearing monazite in the Gundlupet taluk of Karnataka's Chamarajanagar district.
 - ❑ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah performed the Bhoomi Pujan (ground-breaking ceremony) for the world's largest curd production plant under the Amul Bengal Dairy Project at the New Town Convention Centre in Kolkata.
 - ◆ The plant will be established at the Sankrail Food Park in Howrah, West Bengal.
 - ❑ **Vishwas 2026 Scheme**
 - ◆ Launched by: Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
 - ◆ Nature: A one-time dispute settlement scheme for the amicable resolution of penalty-related disputes between employers and the organization.
 - ◆ Implementation: Effective from June 29, 2026, for a period of six months.
 - ❑ PM e-DRIVE Scheme: The government has extended the PM e-DRIVE scheme by two years, until March 31, 2028, to promote electric vehicles. The total outlay for the scheme is Rs. 11,900 crore.
 - ❑ Launch of the e-VSP Portal by Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan (VSP): To make important Supreme Court and High Court judgments, legal journals, reference books and other legal literature available online in Hindi.
 - ❑ Uttarakhand becomes the country's sixth fully literate state, under the National Education Policy 2020 and the 'ULLAS' New India Literacy Programme. Literacy rate: 98.7%.
 - ❑ Other fully literate states: Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
 - ❑ According to data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Sikkim is India's richest state in terms of per-capita income, while Bihar is the poorest state.
 - ❑ The Union Cabinet, on 20 August 2026, approved the setting up of a bench of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court in Ladakh.
 - ❑ India ranked first in the world in ship recycling in 2025. According to an official factsheet, India's share in global ship recycling increased from 30.1% in 2024 to 35.4% in 2025.
 - ❑ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Sri Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport' at Bhogapuram, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh, on 1 August 2026 (notable dance: Thimsa dance).



Economy Current Affairs

CBDC-Based Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

- ❑ **14 August 2026:** The Central Government launched a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)-based DBT programme under PMGKAY (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana) in Chandigarh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
 - ◆ **Earlier pilot projects:** launched in Gujarat (15 February 2026) and Puducherry (26 February 2026).
- ❑ **Digital Subsidy:** Under this initiative, instead of sending food subsidies to the traditional bank accounts of all eligible (PMGKAY) beneficiaries, they will be sent directly into their 'CBDC Wallet' in the form of 'Programmable CBDC' (Digital Rupee) tokens.
- ❑ **Inaugurators:**
 - ◆ **Pralhad Joshi:** Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and New and Renewable Energy
 - ◆ **Gulab Chand Kataria:** Governor of Punjab and Administrator of the Union Territory of Chandigarh
 - ◆ **Shivraj Singh Chouhan:** Union Minister of Rural Development, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- ❑ **Key points**
 - ◆ **First fully digital model:** Chandigarh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli become the country's first State/Union Territory where the PMGKAY subsidy is credited directly to a CBDC wallet.
 - ◆ **Nature of the subsidy:** purpose-based/programmable - usable only for purchase of specified food items.
 - ◆ **Mode of payment:** QR code for smartphone users; OTP-based method for feature-phone users.

National Cyclic Bio-Energy Scheme 'GOBARDhan'

- ❑ **Approval:** The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, approved it on 6 August 2026.
- ❑ **GOBARDhan** - Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan.-

- ❑ Originally launched in 2018 as an integral part of the Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SWM) component of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen).
- ❑ **Total outlay:** Rs 23,731 crore.
- ❑ **Implementation period:** FY 2026-27 to 2035-36.
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).
- ❑ **Objective:** To increase domestic production of Compressed Biogas (CBG) tenfold.
- ❑ **Key components:**
 1. Assured CBG offtake: CBG blending target in CNG/PNG - 3% in FY 2026-27, 4% in 2027-28, and 5% from 2028-29.
 2. Stable pricing framework
 3. Capital support
 4. Development of pipeline infrastructure
 5. Credit guarantee support
 6. Ecosystem Challenge Fund

Samudra Manthan Yojana

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet on 31 July 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** To expand deep and ultra-deep offshore oil and gas exploration.
 - ◆ Increase domestic hydrocarbon production.
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs 84,084 crore.
- ❑ **Implementation period:** FY 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- ❑ **Nature:** Central Sector Scheme.
- ❑ **Four key components:**
 1. Offshore data collection
 2. Offshore exploration and infrastructure-based production
 3. Development of common offshore infrastructure hubs
 4. Establishment of oil and gas manufacturing and service sectors

Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 31 July 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** Development of floating solar photovoltaic projects, including Energy Storage Systems (ESS).
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs 5,070 crore.
- ❑ **Approved project period:** FY 2026-27 to 2030-31.
 - ◆ Financial support will continue until FY 2032-33.
- ❑ **Target:** development of energy storage systems with a minimum capacity of **10,000 MWh (at least 2 hours of storage) + 5,000 MW of floating solar PV** projects.
- ❑ **Central Financial Assistance (CFA):** Rs 1 crore/MW for eligible floating solar photovoltaic projects after successful commissioning.
- ❑ **Viability studies** (such as bathymetry, hydrography, environmental studies, etc.): up to Rs 50 lakh per project.
- ❑ **Note:** According to the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), the country's floating solar potential is estimated at about **102.18 GW** (in reservoirs and other suitable inland water bodies).

Expansion of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister on 31 July 2026.
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs 3.15 lakh crore.
- ❑ **Implementation period:** FY 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- ❑ **Launch:** February 2019.
- ❑ **Nature:** Central Sector Scheme.
- ❑ **Financial assistance:** Rs 6,000/year
 - ◆ In 3 equal instalments of Rs 2,000 each.
 - ◆ Payment: through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system.
- ❑ **Initial eligibility:** limited to small and marginal farmers holding up to 2 hectares of cultivable land.

◆ **Expansion:** from 1 June 2019, all landholding farmer families in the country included.

◆ **Ineligibility:** institutional landholders, holders of constitutional posts, serving or retired government employees (except multi-tasking staff/Group D), and income-tax payers.

- ❑ In Rajasthan, additional assistance of Rs 3,000 is provided under the Mukhyamantri Kisan Samman Yojana.

Reports/Indices

Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❑ **Index value:** 70.0 (for the year ended March 2026).
- ❑ An increase over 67.0 in March 2025 (a rise of about 4.48%).
- ❑ Improvement across all sub-indices (Access, Usage and Quality).
- ❑ This year's rise is mainly attributable to increased Usage.

Miscellaneous

Popcorn Maize Hybrid Seed

- ❑ On 24 August 2026, Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan released India's first Non-GMO, high expansion-capacity popcorn maize hybrid seed.
- ❑ **Location:** Musunuru (Eluru district), Andhra Pradesh.
- ❑ **Seed varieties:** Krishna 459 and Godavari 234.
- ❑ **Developing institution:** developed by Germa Popcornica (led by S.B.P. Pattabhi Ram Rao) in collaboration with ICAR - Indian Institute of Maize Research (ICAR-IIMR).

Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007

- ❑ The President approved an amendment to the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

- ❑ **Legal basis:** the Government is empowered to levy a Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on the UPI and RuPay networks.
- ❑ The Government will decide by notification which electronic payment modes will not attract MDR.
- ❑ UPI payments will remain completely free of charge for ordinary users.

Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PM BJP)

- ❑ Up to 30 June 2026, a total of **20,149** Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAK) had opened across the country (Rajasthan - 794).
- ❑ Under PM BJP, the product basket comprises 2,110 medicines and 315 surgical items, medical consumables and equipment.

Vishnugad-Pipalkoti Hydro-Electric Project

- ❑ **Location:** Chamoli district, Uttarakhand.
- ❑ **Capacity:** 444 Megawatt (MW).
- ❑ **River:** Alaknanda River.
- ❑ **Construction:** by THDC India Limited.

India's 300 GW Non-Fossil Energy Capacity (as of 31 July 2026)

- ❑ **Total power capacity:** 552 GW (clean energy's share above 54%).
- ❑ **Breakdown of capacity:**

Source	Capacity
Solar	164.59 GW
Wind	58.14 GW
Hydro	57.24 GW
Bio-power	11.75 GW
Nuclear	8.78 GW
Total Non-Fossil Energy	300.50 GW

- ❑ A record **55.29 GW** of new capacity was added in FY 2025-26 (of which 44.6 GW was solar energy alone).
- ❑ Renewable energy generation in the country has also risen - from 190.96 billion units in 2014-15 to 477.79 billion units in 2025-26.

Centre of Excellence for Handloom Technology (CoE-HT)

- ❑ **Inaugurated:** by Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh at IIT Delhi on 3 August 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** to strengthen the competitiveness, sustainability and global reach of the handloom sector by integrating India's rich handloom heritage with cutting-edge research, innovation and digital technologies.
- ❑ This centre will develop a national digital repository of handloom knowledge.
- ❑ **Launch of five key initiatives:** Handloom 4.0 mobile app, Handloom e-Vidya, HandloomX, Kalagriha Handloom Studio (GenZ Design Studio), and Threads of Valour.

'Handloom Haat: The Handloom Experience Centre'

- ❑ **Inaugurated:** by Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh in New Delhi.
- ❑ **Feature:** brings India's handloom heritage, knowledge, contemporary design, entrepreneurship and retail sales under one roof.



Person in News

Personality	Description
Nathan Thomas	A resident of Florida, USA, set a Guinness World Record by becoming the world's youngest male professor at just 18 years and 346 days of age. (Previous record: Scottish mathematician Colin Maclaurin, who became a professor in 1717 at the age of 19.)
Dr. Rohan P. Naidu	Under the leadership of Indian-origin astronomer Dr. Rohan P. Naidu, scientists used the James Webb Space Telescope to identify a suspected 'black hole star' named MoM-BH-1 in the early universe, which existed about 660 crore years after the Big Bang. This giant black hole may provide important clues to understanding the early development of black holes and the mystery of 'Little Red Dots'.
Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir	Took the oath as the 23rd President of Bangladesh.
Abha Nayar Patel	Delhi-born, Indian-origin Abha Nayar Patel has become the first woman judge of the Supreme Court of Zambia.
Anil Menon	Indian-origin NASA astronaut Anil Menon carried out his first historic spacewalk after stepping outside the International Space Station (ISS). In this challenging 6.5-hour mission, Anil Menon was accompanied by veteran NASA astronaut Jessica Meir, who was performing the sixth spacewalk of her career.
Sophie Adenot	European Space Agency astronaut Sophie Adenot became the first French, and second European, woman astronaut to complete a spacewalk outside the International Space Station, on 18 August 2026. Co-spacewalker: astronaut Anil Menon.

Places in News

Place	Description
USA	Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu officially declared 15 August as ' India Day '. The California State Assembly passed a historic resolution recognising 8 November 2026 as ' Diwali Day '. Under an approximately \$18 billion settlement with US states, Meta has issued stricter new default rules for the safety of teenagers (users under 18 years of age) on Facebook and Instagram.
Nauru	This Pacific island nation has officially changed its name to the Republic of Naoero. President David Adeang announced that the new name reflects the traditional spelling and pronunciation of the country's name in its national language.
Taiwan	President Lai Ching-te has proposed giving every citizen NT\$10,000 (about Rs 30,000) next year, as a share of the economic gains from the AI and semiconductor industries.
Colombia	A devastating earthquake of magnitude 7.4 struck cities such as Jerico, Pereira, Quibdó and Manizales, near San Jose del Palmar in the Choco province of western Colombia.
Australia	The University of Western Australia will establish campuses in Chennai and Mumbai by December 2026.
Maldives	Cross-border payment integration has begun between the Maldives' instant payment system 'Favara' and India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

Prime Minister's State Visit to Uzbekistan

- ❑ **Date:** 29-30 August 2026.
- ❑ Held formal talks with Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev on the 35th anniversary of Uzbekistan's independence.
- ❑ The Prime Minister was conferred the 'Oliy Darajali Do' stlik' (highest friendship honour) - Uzbekistan's highest honour for foreign leaders - for his contribution to strengthening friendship between the two countries.
- ❑ **Key agreements:**
 1. A cultural exchange programme for 2026-30.
 2. Between the Ministry of External Affairs and Uzbekistan's cultural heritage agency, for preservation of the ancient Buddhist sites of Fayaz Tepa and Kara Tepa located in Termez, Uzbekistan.
 3. Between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (under the Ministry of External Affairs) and the Diplomatic Academy of the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (under Uzbekistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs).
 4. Between the Ministry of Mines and the Ministry of Earth Sciences on one side, and Uzbekistan's mining industry, on geology and mining.
 5. Between the Ministry of Tourism and Uzbekistan's Tourism Committee, on a 2026-28 partnership programme for cooperation in tourism.
 6. Between the National Archives (under the Ministry of Culture) and 'Uzarchive', an agency under Uzbekistan's Ministry of Justice, on archival work.
 7. Cooperation in Ayurveda and other traditional medicine systems, and in education and scientific research.
 8. To establish a partnership relationship between Gujarat and the Samarkand region.
- ❑ **Key announcements:**
 1. A grant of US\$1 million for afforestation in the Aral Sea region.
 2. Hindi language: 100 scholarships named after Lal Bahadur Shastri.
 3. An ICCR Sanskrit Chair at Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies.

4. A commercial agreement between NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and Uzbekistan's National Interbank Processing Centre JSC (NIPC).

Index/ Reports

State of Food Security and Nutrition (SOFI) 2026

- ❑ **Theme:** 'Understanding and addressing the high cost of healthy diets'.
- ❑ **Released by:**
 - ◆ Jointly released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),
 - ◆ International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),
 - ◆ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),
 - ◆ World Food Programme (WFP), and
 - ◆ World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❑ In 2025, 7.8% of the world's population (about 64.5 crore people) were affected by hunger.
- ❑ The average cost of a healthy diet has risen to US\$4.28 PPP per person per day.
- ❑ Globally, about 2.1 billion people (25.8%) face moderate or severe food insecurity.
- ❑ **Food-insecurity rate:** 30% rural and 22% urban.
- ❑ For the first time, the number of people affected by hunger in Africa has exceeded that in Asia.
- ❑ By 2030, an estimated 51-52 crore people globally are projected to remain affected by hunger, of whom about 56% will be in Africa.

2026 Fourth Annual 'Work From Anywhere Index'

- ❑ **Released by:** the International Workplace Group.
- ❑ **Top cities:** 1. Bangkok, Thailand 2. Tokyo, Japan 3. Barcelona.
- ❑ **Mumbai:** ranked 50th (score 77).
- ❑ Mumbai is the only Indian city to feature on this global list.

- ❑ **Positive factors:** Mumbai performed excellently on transport cost, availability of co-working and flexible workspaces, and climate and housing.

Agreements

- ❑ **Pawan Hans Limited (PHL)**, a Government of India enterprise under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Norway's Nordic Aerospace (Elfly AS)** to explore cooperation on next-generation sustainable aviation technologies, including electric-aircraft solutions.
- ❑ India is leasing two state-of-the-art MQ-1B **SeaGuardian drones** from America's General Atomics Aeronautical Systems for 30 months, at a cost of Rs 1,943 crore.
- ❑ **India and Armenia** signed an important memorandum of understanding for joint production in defence research, development, innovation and equipment.
- ❑ **Mecca Joint Defence Agreement:** signed by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, aimed at strengthening collective security against any kind of attack.
- ❑ **Chennai Climate-Resilient Water Security and Sewerage Project:** the Central Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a loan agreement worth US\$230 million (about Rs 1,900 crore) under Amrut 2.0, for modernising Chennai's water supply and sanitation systems.
- ❑ **India and Mauritius** signed a historic agreement on oil and gas cooperation.
- ❑ **Visakhapatnam and Moscow** entered into a partnership agreement to modernise smart urban transport and mobility. The agreement was signed in Moscow during the 5th International Transport Forum held there.

Miscellaneous

Maritime Security Alliance

- ❑ Saudi Arabia and 13 other West Asian

countries have formed an alliance to ensure navigational security in key waterways.

- ❑ **Announcement:** made at a meeting of military officials of the concerned countries in Riyadh.
- ❑ **Objective:** to tackle ever-growing maritime challenges, coordinate maritime cooperation, and secure free navigation, international trade routes and energy supply sources.
- ❑ **Founding members:** Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Comoros, Sudan, Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Djibouti and Somalia.
- ❑ **Permanent headquarters:** Saudi Arabia.

Hurun India Most Valuable Family Businesses 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** Barclays Private Clients.
- ❑ The total value of India's top 300 family businesses is now Rs 138 lakh crore (US\$1.46 trillion):
 1. Reliance Industries - owned by the Ambani family
 2. Birla family
 3. Jindal family (JSW Steel)
 4. Bajaj family (Bajaj Group)
 5. Mahindra family (Mahindra & Mahindra)
- ❑ **Gautam Adani family:** with a net worth of Rs 19.6 lakh crore, emerged as the richest among first-generation family businesses.

Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act 2026

- ❑ The US Senate passed a bill to penalise Russia and major buyers of its petroleum products, such as China and other countries.
- ❑ Under the bill, President Donald Trump would be permitted to impose a 100 percent tariff on goods from the top five buyers of Russian oil and gas.
- ❑ The bill would extend the validity of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 until 2031.
- ❑ It also penalises companies investing in Iran's energy sector.
- ❑ Name: after Republican Senator Lindsey Graham (who passed away on 11 July).

OPERATION ECONOMIC OUTCAST

- ❑ The US launched this operation to completely isolate Iran's economy from the rest of the world.
- ❑ **Targeted sectors:** strict sanctions have been imposed on five key sectors of Iran - digital assets, technology, gold, aviation and shipping.

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **Operation Trishul:** between 2019 and 2026, India succeeded in bringing back 274 fugitive criminals from 36 countries.

- ❑ Nepal's President Ramchandra Poudel honoured the Chief of the Indian Army with the honorary rank of General of the Nepal Army, at a special ceremony held at Sital Niwas in Kathmandu.
- ❑ **Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI):** this public-sector defence company has become the first Indian company to obtain 'S400 Lab Approval' from America's GE Aerospace.
- ❑ According to the International Labour Organization, India's social security coverage has reached 101 crore citizens - 68% of the total population - up from just 19% in 2015.
- ❑ The death toll in the unprecedented migrant crisis that recently occurred in Ceuta, Spain's North African enclave, has risen to 72.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Summit / Meeting / Conference	Date & Venue	Description
1st India-Rwanda Joint Trade Committee Meeting (JTC)	30-31 July 2026, New Delhi	• The second session of the JTC will be held in Rwanda in 2027. • India is Rwanda's largest pharma importer (24.5%) and second-largest foreign investor.
2nd Meeting of the BRICS Special Network on Asset Recovery	4-5 August 2026, Hyderabad, Telangana	• Nodal Department: Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), India.
13th Meeting of BRICS Education Ministers	5-7 August 2026, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	• Chaired by Shri Pralhad Joshi (Union Education Minister, India).
11th Meeting of BRICS Culture Ministers	8 August 2026, Bhopal	• Chaired by Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Union Minister of Culture and Tourism). • India's initiative: announcement of a voluntary registry (pilot project) for artists. • Festival theme: "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah".
BRICS Youth Council Meeting and BRICS Youth Summit	19-20 August 2026, Gandhinagar, Gujarat	• Organised by the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. • Theme: Youth — Pillars of Resilience, Innovation and Sustainable Transformation. Approval given to create a 'BRICS Youth Volunteer Network' for disaster response and community development in member countries. • The programme concluded with the formal draft and adoption of the 'Gandhinagar BRICS Youth Declaration 2026'.

12th Meeting of BRICS Environment Ministers	18 August 2026, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	Chaired by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav. Four Knowledge Compendiums launched: 1. Best Practices in marine litter management 2. Bifocal Approaches for biodiversity conservation 3. mitigating climate change through nature-based solutions 4. resource efficiency and circular-economy initiative.
6th Meeting of the India-Lesotho Joint Bilateral Commission (JBCC) for Cooperation	30 July 2026, New Delhi	• Co-chaired : by Shri Jainesh Kain (Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, India) and Shri Thabang P. Lekhela (Principal Secretary, Lesotho). • India formally invited Lesotho to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). • The 7th session is scheduled for 2027 in Maseru (capital of Lesotho).
Meeting of BRICS Youth and Sports Ministers	22-23 August 2026, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	• Chaired by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports. • The "BRICS Sports Joint Declaration" was adopted.
12th Meeting of BRICS Communications Ministers	21 August 2026, Pune, Maharashtra	• Chaired by: Union Communications Minister Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. • Theme of the ICT Track under India's chairmanship: "Innovate, Cooperate and Transform for a Resilient Future." • India and Brazil signed an MoU to strengthen bilateral cooperation in telecommunications and ICT.
14th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting	21 August 2026, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	• Chaired by: Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences. The Chennai Declaration was adopted unanimously at the concluding session.
17th Session of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	17-28 August 2026, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	• Indian representation led by Union Environment Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav. • India's land-restoration commitments: India stated that under the Bonn Challenge it successfully restored 2.176 crore hectares of degraded land during 2011-2020. India's final target is to restore 2.6 crore hectares of land by 2030.

27th Session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation	24 August 2026, Moscow	• Co-chaired by: India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.
India-Japan Industry Roundtable on Semiconductors and Artificial Intelligence	25 August 2026, Tokyo	• Chaired by: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal.
2nd India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue	24 August 2026, Wellington	• Co-chaired by: Shri Amitabh Prasad (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence, India) and Mr. Richard Shimmin (Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Defence, New Zealand).
7th India-Morocco Joint Commission	24-25 August 2026, Morocco	• India-Morocco Joint Commission on Language and AI: the two countries partnered to set up a joint commission to integrate the local Moroccan languages Darija and Amazigh into Morocco's digital public-service portal, Idarati.
India-Japan Startup Roundtable	26 August 2026, Tokyo	• Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal proposed a four-pillar framework including a Shark Tank-style pitching format, to be supported by the US\$1 billion Indian Fund of Funds.
Inaugural Meeting of the India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee	28 August 2026, New Delhi	• Co-chairs: Joint Secretary Shri Amitabh Prasad and Brigadier General Raed Alaskaran of the Kuwaiti delegation.
4th Meeting of the India-Argentina Joint Trade Committee	24 August 2026, Buenos Aires	• Indian delegation led by Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal.
26th Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)	31 August - 1 September 2026, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)	• The summit was held to mark the 25th anniversary of the SCO. The Prime Minister will address the summit. • Theme: "25 Years of SCO – Together Towards Sustainable Peace, Development and Prosperity."
8th India-Brazil Trade Monitoring Mechanism Meeting	Brasília, Brazil	• Co-chaired by: Commerce Secretary Shri Rajesh Agrawal and Foreign Trade Secretary Ms. Tatiana Lacerda Prazeres.

Space Technology

PowerBank-50 Battery

- ❑ This is the first satellite battery manufactured in India, which received the '**Flight Heritage**' tag.
- ❑ **Development:** Space startup TechMe2Space, Hyderabad
- ❑ The battery pack successfully completed its first mission aboard the Vikram-1 rocket (Mission Aagman).
- ❑ The PowerBank-50 unit powered CosmoServ Space's experimental payload on the Orbital Adjustment Module (OAM) of the launch vehicle at an altitude of 450 kilometres.

Everest

- ❑ India's first privately built Full-Flow Staged Combustion (FFSC) **LOX-methane rocket** engine.
- ❑ **Development:** Astrobase Space Technologies, Bengaluru
- ❑ **Fuel:** Liquid Oxygen (LOX) and Liquid Methane
- ❑ **Thrust:** 800 kilonewtons (80-tonne class)
- ❑ It is designed for a reusable 'Medium-Lift Launch Vehicle'.

SpaceX

- ❑ On 15 August 2026, SpaceX set a new record by launching two Falcon 9 rockets from two different U.S. coasts just 38 minutes apart.
- ❑ The first rocket launched from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, carrying 8 Globalstar satellites.
- ❑ Exactly 38 minutes later, a second Falcon 9 rocket was launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, carrying the classified 'USSF-366' mission for the U.S. Space Force into space.

Defense Technology

INS Mangrol

- ❑ The third anti-submarine shallow-water craft '**Mangrol**', built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, was handed over to the Indian Navy on 21 August 2026.
- ❑ The ship uses more than 80 percent indigenous content.
- ❑ It is equipped with capabilities for submerged surveillance, anti-submarine warfare in coastal waters, low-intensity maritime operations, and mine-countermeasures.
- ❑ The ship is powered by waterjets and is equipped with state-of-the-art torpedoes, anti-submarine rockets, advanced radar and sonar.
- ❑ **Name:** Named after the coastal town and small port 'Mangrol' in Junagadh district, Gujarat, a major port for the marine fishing industry.
- ❑ It also carries forward the legacy of the erstwhile Indian Navy minesweeper INS Mangrol, which was in service until 2004.
- ❑ **Capability:** It is approximately 78 metres long and can travel at a maximum speed of 25 knots.

Nipun

- ❑ Handed over to the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam on 30 July 2026.
- ❑ Nipun is a Sanskrit word meaning: skilled/proficient/expert.
- ❑ It is the second diving support vessel of the Nistar class.
- ❑ Builder: Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)
- ❑ Standard: Designed and built in accordance with the classification standards of the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS)
- ❑ **Features**
 - ◆ Equipped with state-of-the-art equipment for saturation diving missions, search and rescue operations.

- ◆ Equipped with a side diving stage and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that aid in the monitoring and search operations of divers.
- ◆ Will function as the primary support vessel for the Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV), enabling the safe evacuation of personnel from submarines in distress.
- ◆ The vessel is built with approximately 75% indigenous content.

Yard 3037 (Shruti)

- ❑ It is a next-generation offshore patrol vessel.
- ❑ It was launched on 11 August 2026 at Messrs GRSE, Kolkata.
- ❑ Construction: At Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Goa and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata
- ❑ **Name:** Named 'Shruti', symbolising the four Vedas
- ❑ The ship's crest depicts the **Saptarishi constellation and a red-and-white lighthouse.**

ICGS Ajeet (Yard 1277)

- ❑ Goa Shipyard Limited formally handed over the state-of-the-art Fast Patrol Vessel ICGS Ajeet (Yard 1277) to the Indian Coast Guard.
- ❑ Built with more than 65 percent indigenous content.
- ❑ Maximum speed: More than 27 knots
- ❑ Operating range: 1,500 nautical miles
- ❑ Structure: 51.43 metres long, 8 metres wide, with a displacement of 330 tonnes and a draft of 2.5 metres
- ❑ It is powered by two marine diesel engines that drive Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPP).
- ❑ It is the first vessel of its kind in this class of fast patrol vessels to feature this facility, improving the vessel's propulsion capability and operational performance.
- ❑ The vessel is fitted with an advanced Integrated Machinery Control System.

Samarthak

- ❑ Samarthak, the first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) built by Larsen & Toubro Limited, Kattupalli, was handed over to the Indian Navy on 27 August 2026.

- ❑ The ship uses more than 75 percent indigenous content.
- ❑ **Meaning:** 'One who provides support'

Indigenous Diving Support Craft DSC A24

- ❑ It is the fifth ship among five Diving Support Craft (DSC) projects.
- ❑ Launched at Titagarh, Kolkata.
- ❑ 70 percent of the primary and auxiliary equipment is indigenous.

In-house 'Launch and Recovery System' (LARS) Test Plinth

- ❑ **Inauguration:** Inaugurated by Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, on 19 August 2026
- ❑ **Location:** Submarine Rescue Unit (East), Visakhapatnam
- ❑ **Purpose:** To enable shore-based testing, trials and maintenance of the Launch and Recovery System for the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle

Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile System (ATGM)

- ❑ The Indian Army has signed a government-to-government agreement to procure approximately 100 Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile Systems from the United States.
- ❑ Equipment: Under the deal, around 100 Javelin missile rounds and 25 lightweight Command Launch Units (CLU) are being procured
- ❑ It is based on a 'fire and forget' system.
- ❑ Co-production: Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and the Javelin Joint Venture (Lockheed Martin and RTX) have signed a memorandum of understanding for the co-production of Javelin missiles within India

Agni-4 Missile

- ❑ Agni-4 was successfully test-fired from Chandipur, Odisha, on 6 August 2026.
- ❑ It is a medium-range surface-to-surface ballistic missile.
- ❑ The missile is capable of carrying both nuclear and conventional warheads.

- ❑ **Fuel:** Two-stage solid
- ❑ **Range:** 4,000 kilometres
- ❑ **Structure:** Length - 20 metres, Weight - 17,000 Kg
- ❑ The missile can carry a payload of 1,000 kilograms.
- ❑ The missile is also fitted with advanced navigation and control systems.
- ❑ It uses a ring laser gyroscope-based Inertial Navigation System and Flex Nozzle Thrust Vector Control technology.

Bhargavastra

- ❑ Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL) successfully conducted a live trial of its indigenous anti-drone system 'Bhargavastra' before the Indian Army at Nagpur.
- ❑ The system is designed to counter growing threats such as aerial attacks and drone swarms.
- ❑ It can also be integrated with the Army's command and communication network.
- ❑ **Kill range:** 2.5 to 6 kilometres
- ❑ **Sensors and radar:** Detect small aerial threats from a distance of 6 to 10 kilometres
- ❑ **Mobility:** It can be easily mounted on any vehicle, enabling rapid deployment in deserts, plains or high-altitude mountainous areas

KAL (Kaal) Drone

- ❑ India's first indigenous long-range one-way attack suicide drone.
- ❑ **Development:** IG Defence
- ❑ Capable of reaching targets ranging from Rajasthan to Afghanistan.
- ❑ **Range:** Can fly up to 1,000 kilometres away and at an altitude of 5,000 metres
- ❑ **Speed:** 200 km/h
- ❑ Capable of carrying 50 kilograms of explosives.
- ❑ Can remain airborne for up to 8 hours.

Baaz Battalion

- ❑ The Indian Army has formed its first Baaz Battalion, equipped with state-of-the-art drones, in Punjab.
- ❑ The battalion will function as a surveillance mechanism in the sky and provide an edge over the enemy on the battlefield.
- ❑ The Army's 11 Corps, known as the 'defender of Punjab' and also called the Vajra Corps, is the first corps to operationalise the Baaz Battalion.

Sher

- ❑ The first 100% indigenous AK-203 assault rifle 'Sher' was successfully test-fired at the Korwa Ordnance Factory in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ **Weight:** 3.6-3.8 Kg
- ❑ **Effective range:** 800 metres
- ❑ It fires 7.62 × 39mm intermediate cartridges.
- ❑ **Manufacture:** By the India-Russia joint venture 'Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited' (IRRPL)
- ❑ It will replace over 600,000 ageing INSAS rifles.
- ❑ In September 2026, this indigenous prototype will be handed over to the Army for user trials.

Biotechnology

'MA-104'

- ❑ **Development:** By the Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal
- ❑ It is India's first indigenous African Swine Fever vaccine for pigs.
- ❑ The vaccine is a cell-line-based live attenuated vaccine (live attenuated technology).

RK-251

- ❑ It is an experimental smart prodrug.
- ❑ The drug is designed to target cancer cells without harming healthy cells.
- ❑ **Development:** Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati and IIT Guwahati

- ❑ The Ministry of Science and Technology announced the new 'smart' cancer drug 'RK-251' as a potential targeted alternative to conventional chemotherapy.
- ❑ **Mechanism**
 - ◆ The prodrug remains inactive as it circulates normally through the body.
 - ◆ It becomes activated on contact with the highly reactive oxygen species (ROS) present inside cancer cells.
 - ◆ It releases an anti-cancer compound called 'NBDHEX', which blocks the protein that allows cancer cells to grow.

ACSCeND

- ❑ AI-based Cancer Stem-like Cell Profiler and Neoplasm Deconvoluter
- ❑ It is a new artificial intelligence system that identifies three distinct developmental states of cancer stem-like cells (CSC) - pluripotent, multipotent and unipotent - from tumour gene expression data.
- ❑ Development: S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences and Ashoka University

Nanobots

- ❑ Nanobots are microscopic machines designed to operate at the atomic and molecular scale.
- ❑ Light-activated, multifunctional nanobots for more precise and targeted treatment of breast cancer.
- ❑ Development: Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), Mohali
- ❑ Size: 50-100 nanometres (nm)
- ❑ **Mechanism**
 - ◆ They respond to external or internal signals.
 - ◆ They can be controlled from outside the body using near-infrared light or a magnetic field.
 - ◆ They are activated based on internal pH levels or enzymes in the body.
 - ◆ As a result, they attack cancer cells directly without harming healthy cells.

Protein Language Models (pLMs)

- ❑ Scientists have created a new AI-based framework to shrink proteins. It is named Regan.
- ❑ **What are pLMs?**
 - ◆ pLMs learn from millions of protein sequences. They understand the hidden biological rules of proteins.
 - ◆ The AI converts amino acids into numerical form. This allows the structure and function of a protein to be predicted.
 - ◆ AI can help identify the essential parts of a protein and remove the non-essential parts.
 - ◆ This allows the protein to be shrunk or redesigned.

Examples: ProtGPT2 and ProGenA

ICAR Recognises 16 New Indigenous Animal Breeds

- ❑ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal (ICAR-NBAGR) has recently registered 16 new indigenous breeds of livestock and dogs.
- ❑ **Newly Registered Breeds**
 1. Cattle-4: Umarda, Periyar, Koppal, Mahakaushali
 2. Sheep-4: Madgyal, Seemanchali, Kov Deber, Asomi
 3. Goat-2: Totapuri, Battisi
 4. Other animals/species-6:
 - ◆ Gomanchali buffalo, Kombai dog
 - ◆ Nagal pig
 - ◆ Kashmiri pony horse
 - ◆ Braj donkey
 - ◆ Sikkimi yak
- ❑ With the addition of the new breeds, ICAR-NBAGR now has a total of 262 registered breeds, of which 258 are indigenous breeds and 4 are crossbred/hybrid breeds.

Major Exercises

Operation Shockwave

- ❑ **Conducted by:** Bikaner Police
- ❑ **Action:** Recovered 10 kg of Afghan heroin and 11 foreign pistols dropped by a drone in the Khajuwala border area

Exercise Tarang Shakti-2026

- ❑ A multinational military exercise.
- ❑ **Venue:** Jodhpur Air Force Station, in September 2026
- ❑ **Participants:** Air forces of countries including the USA, France, Australia, UAE, Greece, Singapore, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
- ❑ It will feature Tejas, Rafale, Su-30MKI, Mirage-2000, MiG-29, Jaguar and Prachand helicopters.

8th Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026

- ❑ **Partners:** Indian Navy and United States Navy
- ❑ **Venue:** Southern Naval Command, Kochi, from 10 to 14 August 2026
- ❑ **Objective:** To enhance interoperability between the specialist diving and explosive ordnance disposal teams of both navies

Pitch Black

- ❑ **Host:** Royal Australian Air Force
- ❑ **Venue:** Australia
- ❑ **Participants:** Indian Air Force and the air forces of more than 20 other countries

Udara Shakti 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Subang Airbase, Malaysia
- ❑ **Participants:** Indian Air Force and Royal Malaysian Air Force

Sahyog-HOP TAC

- ❑ **Venue:** Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ❑ **Participants:** Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG)
- ❑ **Participation:** This included 8 Indian vessels and 6 aircraft, along with the Vietnamese vessel CSB 8002
- ❑ During this exercise, the 7th high-level meeting between the coast guards of both countries was also held in Chennai.

Operational Readiness and Emergency Landing Drill

- ❑ **Organiser:** Jodhpur Army Aviation Corps of the Indian Army

- ❑ **Venue:** Near the India-Pakistan border, in the Jaisalmer-Barmer sector
- ❑ **Participants:** AH-64E Apache and Rudra helicopters
- ❑ **Objective:** To test operational readiness for logistics supply, rescue of injured soldiers, and countering anti-drone threats in high-intensity combat conditions, using temporary helipads built among sand dunes and the Bharatmala highway

Miscellaneous

South India's First Semiconductor Packaging Unit

- ❑ **Inauguration:** By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 1 August 2026
- ❑ **Location:** Tarluvada, Visakhapatnam, via virtual mode
- ❑ **Development:** ASIP Technologies (Advanced System In Package Technologies)
- ❑ **Technical partnership:** South Korean major APACT Co. Ltd.

'Hippocampus amandavinceniae'

- ❑ It is a new species of thorny seahorse, the fifth species of seahorse found in India.
- ❑ **Discovery:** By researchers at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOOS), Kerala
- ❑ **Naming:** Named in honour of renowned marine biologist and founder of 'Project Seahorse', Amanda Vincent
- ❑ **Location:** Its first specimen was collected as bycatch during fishing at Tuticorin fishing harbour, Tamil Nadu, and it has also been recorded along the coast of Kerala

India's First Industry-Academia Nuclear Technology Programme 'Anugyan'

- ❑ **Launch:** By IIT Hyderabad, on 3 August, in collaboration with Crimson Energy Experts Private Limited (CEEPL)
- ❑ **Objective:** To support India's goal of increasing its nuclear energy capacity from 8.8 gigawatts to 100 gigawatts by 2047

- ❑ **Duration:** A 3-month residential training course
- ❑ **Curriculum:** Reactor Physics, Thermal Hydraulics, Small Modular Reactors and Nuclear Safety Regulation

Param Pragya

- ❑ It is an artificial intelligence-powered, high-performance supercomputing facility.
- ❑ **Inauguration:** By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 August, during the 57th Convocation of the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
- ❑ **Location:** Established at the institute's Sonapat campus under the National Supercomputing Mission
- ❑ **Capability:** Up to 8 petaflops for high-performance computing and up to 250 petaflops for AI workloads

India's First Large-Scale Biopolymer Plant

- ❑ **Location:** Kumbhi Chini, Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh
- ❑ **Development:** By Balrampur Chini Mills Limited (BCML)
- ❑ **Annual production capacity:** 80,000 tonnes of Polylactic Acid (PLA)

IntelliSeat

- ❑ It is a smart driver seat that detects driver fatigue and alerts them in time.
- ❑ **Development:** By the Rehabilitation Bioengineering Group of IIT Madras, led by Professor Venkatesh Balasubramaniam, in collaboration with vehicle seat manufacturer Harita

Vulcan

- ❑ Razorpay has launched India's first AI payment foundation model.
- ❑ It is designed to improve payment success rates, predict user behaviour, and detect fraud and promote digital transactions, with advanced machine learning capabilities built for India's financial ecosystem.

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **SpaceX:** A discarded upper stage of a Falcon 9 rocket struck the lunar surface at a speed of nearly 8,690 km/h, forming a new crater there.
- ❑ **NASA:** Under the Artemis Accords, NASA has formally invited India's ISRO to join the proposed Moon base programme near the lunar south pole.
- ❑ **'AIM-424 Malice':** The U.S. Navy has officially unveiled a new long-range air-to-air missile with a range of over 463 kilometres. It has been developed by U.S. defence company Raytheon.
- ❑ **Zhuque-3 Rocket:** China has successfully landed its reusable Zhuque-3 rocket back on the ground for the first time; the test was conducted by Chinese space company LandSpace.
- ❑ **Shenzhou-23:** Chinese astronauts successfully harvested the first crop of rice grown in microgravity aboard the Tiangong space station.
- ❑ **Bhawna Kanth:** An Indian Air Force Squadron Leader and daughter of Bihar, she has become the country's first woman Fighter Combat Leader.
- ❑ **Deepak Dhar:** Indian physicist honoured with the 'Dirac Medal' 2026.
- ❑ **Hemant Kumar Bhukar:** A resident of the small village of Gothda Bhukaran in Sikar district, Rajasthan, has been selected as a Scientist 'A' grade officer at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ❑ **'FarmGuard':** The Kerala Forest Department has launched an AI-based digital sentinel system to prevent the growing conflict between humans and wild animals and to protect crops.
- ❑ **'Eco-Educational Hub' - 'Prakriti Gyan Dham':** Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh dedicated to the nation the centre developed by CSIR-NBRI at the Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre in Banthra, Lucknow.

- ❑ **'Garbhini Mitra':** The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, under the Ministry of Ayush, has launched a course for Ayurveda-based maternal welfare support for the 2026-2027 academic session.
- ❑ Scientists at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology, have developed a small molecule probe called 'TZ-48' and a smartphone-based portable diagnostic platform called 'ADxFluor' for low-cost and accessible detection of Amyloid-B (AB), an early biomarker of Alzheimer's disease.
- ❑ Scientists have discovered an extraordinary and extremely dense 'mega-Earth' planet named GJ 523b, which is nearly 23.5 times heavier than Earth but only 2.5 times larger in size.
- ❑ According to the DPIIT Startup India portal, about 440 space technology startups are registered in India. IN-SPACe has granted 113 authorisations to 52 Non-Government Entities (NGE) to carry out various space activities, of which 18 are startups.

नई तकनीकों में कौशल विकास के लिए

'ब्रह्मगुप्त सेंटर फोर इंफोर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी'

का संचालन कहाँ किया जा रहा है?

(A) जोधपुर

(B) जयपुर

(C) बीकानेर

(D) कोटा

Football**135th Durand Cup 2026**

- ❑ **Venue:** Vivekananda Yuva Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata
- ❑ **Winner:** East Bengal FC
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Mohun Bagan Super Giant
- ❑ **East Bengal's total titles:** 17
- ❑ **Player of the Match:** Edmund Lalrindika - hat-trick (Mizoram) (Club: East Bengal)

Hockey**FIH Hockey World Cup 2026**

- ❑ **Dates:** 15-30 August 2026
- ❑ **Venue:** Wagener Stadium (Amstelveen, Netherlands) and Belfius Arena (Wavre, Belgium)
- ❑ **Final results:**

Men:	Women:
Winner - Germany	Winner - Argentina;
Runner-up - Spain	Runner-up - Netherlands
- ❑ **India's performance:**
 - ♦ **Men's team**
 - **Captain:** Harmanpreet Singh
 - Pool D: England, India, Pakistan, Wales
 - Result: 8th place
 - Advanced to the second round after finishing second in Pool D (defeated Wales 3-1, defeated Pakistan 5-3; lost to England 2-4)
 - Harmanpreet Singh: 8 goals - joint-highest goal scorer of the tournament
 - ♦ **Women's team**
 - **Captain:** Salima Tete
 - Pool D: China, India, England, South Africa
 - Result: **5th place** - India's best performance since finishing 4th in 1974

- Entered the second round after finishing second in Pool D (drew with China and England, defeated South Africa 6-1)
- Lost only one match in the tournament (against the Netherlands)
- Defeated Germany 3-1 in the classification match for 5th-6th place

Badminton**Taipei Open**

- ❑ **Tournament:** BWF Taipei Open Super 300
- ❑ **Category:** Women's Singles
- ❑ **Champion:** Tanvi Sharma (India)
- ❑ **Age:** 17 years
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Nguyen Thuy Linh (Vietnam)
- ❑ **Final score:** 21-16, 21-16
- ❑ Tanvi Sharma won her first BWF World Tour title.
- ❑ She became the youngest player to win the Taipei Open women's singles title, breaking the record of Tai Tzu-ying (Chinese Taipei).

VICTOR Korea Masters 2026 (BWF Super 300)

- ❑ **Venue:** Ansan Yi Sun-sin Gymnasium, Ansan, South Korea
- ❑ **Women's Singles Final:**
 - ♦ **Winner:** Ashmita Chaliha (India) - from Assam
 - ♦ **Runner-up:** Han Qianxi (China)
- ❑ Ashmita reached the final by defeating her fellow Indian shuttler Rakshita Ramraj in the semifinal.

BWF World Championships 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi, India (17-23 August 2026)

- ❑ **Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand** won a bronze medal at the BWF World Championships 2026. In the women's doubles semifinal, they lost to defending champions Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning of China, 21-18, 13-21, 8-21.

- ❑ With this, India's 15-year wait for a World Championships medal came to an end. They became the first Indian women's doubles pair to win a medal at the World Championships since Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa.

Event	Gold	Silver
Men's Singles	Alex Lanier (France)	Kodai Naraoka (Japan)
Women's Singles	An Se-young (South Korea)	Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Liang Weikeng / Wang Chang (China)	Aaron Chia / Soh Wooi Yik (Malaysia)
Women's Doubles	Baek Ha-na / Lee So-hee (South Korea)	Liu Shengshu / Tan Ning (China)
Mixed Doubles	Thom Gicquel / Delphine Delrue (France)	Feng Yanzhe / Huang Dongping (China)

Tennis

Bonn Open 2026

- ❑ **Tournament:** Bonn Open 2026 (ATP Challenger)
- ❑ **Category:** Men's Doubles
- ❑ **Champions:** Ramkumar Ramanathan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth (India)
- ❑ **Runners-up:** Scott Duncan (England) and Adam Heinonen (Sweden)
- ❑ **Final score:** 7-6(4), 6-3
- ❑ This was Ramkumar Ramanathan's second ATP Challenger doubles title of 2026.

Canadian Open Tennis 2026 (National Bank Open)

- ❑ **Women's Singles Final (Toronto):**
 - ♦ Winner: Iga swiatek (Poland, 7th seed)
 - ♦ Runner-up: Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan, 2nd seed)
- ❑ **Men's Singles Final (Montreal):**
 - ♦ Winner: Ben Shelton (USA, 5th seed)
 - ♦ Runner-up: Brandon Nakashima (USA)

Cincinnati Open 2026 - WTA 1000

- ❑ This tournament is played on outdoor hard courts at the "Lindner Family Tennis Center" in Mason, Ohio, USA.

Women's Singles:

Champion	Coco Gauff (USA);
Runner-up	Jessica Pegula (USA)

- ❑ The 2026 women's singles final was the first all-American final at the Cincinnati Open since 1970.

Cincinnati Open 2026 - ATP Masters 1000

- ❑ Arthur Fils became the youngest French player to win an ATP Masters 1000 title.

Champion:	Arthur Fils (France)
Runner-up:	Frances Tiafoe (USA)

WTT Feeder Olomouc 2026 - Table Tennis

- ❑ **Venue:** Olomouc, Czechia
- ❑ **Men's Singles:**
 - ♦ **Winner:** Ankur Bhattacharjee (India)
 - ♦ **Special achievement:** first WTT men's singles title
 - ♦ Final: defeated Deni Kozul (Slovenia)
- ❑ **Men's Doubles:**
 - ♦ **Winners:** Ankur Bhattacharjee and Akash Paul (India)
 - ♦ **Final:** defeated Csaba András Szantó (Hungary) and Elen Kulczycki-Ja?owiecki (Poland)
- ❑ India's N. Sriram Balaji and Aniruddha Chandrasekhar won the men's doubles title of the ATP Challenger 125 Cancún Country

Open in Mexico. In the final, they defeated Ivan Liutarevich and Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela 6-3, 7-6(4).

Wrestling

U17 World Wrestling Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Baku, Azerbaijan
- ❑ **Organizer:** United World Wrestling (UWW)
- ❑ **India's total medals:** 13 (women's wrestling + men's freestyle)
- ❑ **Men's freestyle team ranking:** 3rd place with 123 points

Wrestler	Medal	"Opponent"
Sitender Malik (60 kg)	Gold	Sergei Karimyan (Russia)
Aryan (48 kg)	Silver	Bakdaulet Agabek (Kazakhstan)
Hanumant Rajendra Jadhav (45 kg)	Bronze	Mahdi Davoud Damarchelli (Iran)
Prathmesh Suryakant Patil (55 kg)	Bronze	Chase Karenbyar (USA)
Saksham (92 kg)	Bronze	Mohammad Reza Baherang Isazadeh (Iran)
Arush Rana (110 kg)	Bronze	Sagynidik Temirgali (Kazakhstan)

❑ Women's freestyle

Wrestler	Medal	Opponent
Sandhya Vishnoi (46 kg)	Silver	Kokona Makino (Japan)
Akshara (53 kg)	Silver	Mali Solomon (USA)
Nitika Sehwat (57 kg)	Silver	Apenesa Elison (USA)
Kamna Babal (49 kg)	Bronze	Irina Stidova (Russia)
Avanshika (61 kg)	Bronze	Arujan Bakitnur (Kazakhstan)
Tania (69 kg)	Bronze	Maja Vechan (Poland)
Garima (73 kg)	Bronze	-

- ❑ Sandhya Vishnoi is a resident of Bhilwara district, Rajasthan.

U20 World Wrestling Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Bratislava, Slovakia (16-23 August 2026)
- ❑ **India's women's wrestling team:** 6 medals - 1 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze

Weight (kg)	Athlete	Medal	"Opponent"
76	Kajal Dhokchak	Gold	Jingru Sun (China) 7-0
72	Tanu Sharma	Silver	Chisato Yoshida (Japan)
68	Mansi Lathar	Silver	Chenling Song (China)
62	Savita	Silver	Sakura Onishi (Japan)
59	Komal	Bronze	Eda Balazs (Hungary)
57	Tanvi Gundesh Magdum	Bronze	Agnia Krakovska (Canada)

- ❑ **Kajal Dhokchak** became only the second Indian wrestler to win consecutive U20 world titles (she had previously won the title in the 72 kg category in 2025).
- ❑ **India ranked second in the women's freestyle** team standings with 133 points, while Japan finished first with 167 points.
- ❑ The Indian men's team **could not win** any medal.
 - ◆ Men's freestyle champion: USA - 205 points
 - ◆ Greco-Roman champion: Russia - 142 points

Squash

PSA Budapest Squash Open 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Budapest, Hungary
- ❑ **Winner:** Velavan Senthilkumar (India)
- ❑ **Final:** defeated Balázs Farkas (Hungary)

Tuanku Muhriz Trophy 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Seremban, Malaysia
- ❑ **Category:** PSA Challenger Tour 15
- ❑ **Winner:** Abhay Singh (India)
- ❑ **Final:** defeated Henry Leung (Hong Kong, China)

FISU World University Squash Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Somaiya Vidyavihar University, Mumbai, India
- ❑ **Organizers:** International University Sports Federation (FISU), Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI), in collaboration.

Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Men's Singles	Suraj Kumar Chand (India)	Benedek Takács (Hungary)	Om Semwal (India) and Joshua Fineñera (France)
Women's Singles	Chan Sin Yuk (Hong Kong, China)	Marta Domínguez (Spain)	Vanessa Jansen (Netherlands) and Karina Taima (Poland)

- India won two medals in the individual event: Gold - **Suraj Kumar Chand**, and Bronze - Om Semwal.
- India hosted this championship for the first time.

Athletics

World Athletics U20 Championships 2026

- Venue:** Hayward Field, Eugene, Oregon, USA
- India's medal tally:**
 - India won a total of 3 medals - 2 silver and 1 bronze.

Medal	Athlete	Event	Performance
Silver	Ashish Yadav	Men's Javelin Throw	74.09 m
Silver	Basant Kumar Meghwal	Men's High Jump	2.21 m
Bronze	Shahnawaz Khan	Men's Long Jump	7.84 m

- Basant Kumar Meghwal** became "the first Indian to win a medal in the men's high jump at the World U20 Championships."
- Basant Kumar Meghwal** is a resident of **Sri Ganganagar**, Rajasthan, and serves as a Petty Officer in the Indian Navy.

Lausanne Diamond League 2026 (Athletissima)

- Venue:** Stade Olympique de la Pontaise, Lausanne, Switzerland (20-21 August 2026)
- Key result - Men's Javelin Throw:**
 - Gold: Rumesch Pathirage (Sri Lanka) - 88.14 m
 - Silver: **Neeraj Chopra (India)** - 88.05 m 'season's best performance'

- Bronze: Anderson Peters (Grenada) - 86.69 m

World Athletics Continental Tour (Silver Level) 2026

- Venue:** Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar
- Key Indian result - Men's Javelin Throw:**
 - Gold: Rohit Yadav - 87.68 m (personal best)
 - Silver: **Yash Vir Singh - 82.94 m - Jaipur, Rajasthan**
 - Bronze: Sumedha Ranasinghe (Sri Lanka) - 80.29 m
- Note:** Rohit's throw is the fourth-best in the world this season (after Rumesch Pathirage, Julian Weber and Neeraj Chopra).
- Men's Long Jump:**
 - Gold: Murali Sreeshankar - 8.07 m
 - Silver: Diwan Manuel (South Africa) - 8.03 m
 - Bronze: David Solomon (India) - 7.78 m
- Women's Long Jump:**
 - Gold: Ancy Sojan (India) - 6.71 m
 - Silver: Shaili Singh (India) - 6.56 m
 - Bronze: Mubasina Mohammed (India) - 6.31 m
- Women's 100 m Race:**
 - Gold: Abhinaya Rajaraman - 11.34 seconds (new Indian U-20 national record)

Chess

Esports World Cup 2026 - Chess

- Venue:** Paris, France
- Champion:** Magnus Carlsen (Norway, Team Liquid)
- Runner-up:** Denis Lazavik (Belarus)
- Carlsen won the title for the second consecutive year and remained undefeated throughout the tournament.

Kanizsa Open 2026

- Venue:** Nagykanizsa, Hungary
- Category:** Group-I
- Champion:** **Pranesh M. (India)**
- Opponent:** Vadim Petrovsky (Germany)
- Score:** 7/9
- Pranesh M.:** 19 years old, from Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu
- Karthik Venkataraman (Indian player) finished in fourth place.

Asian Junior Classical Chess Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** ITC Maratha Sheraton, Mumbai
- ❑ **Edition:** U-20 Asian Junior (Classical, 9 rounds)

Category	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Open	IM Mayank Chakraborty (India) - 7.5/9	Artem Pingin (Russia) - 7	Daksh Goyal (India) - 6.5
Girls	Pratiti Bardoloi (India) - 7.5/9	Maria Khoylavko (Kazakhstan) - 7	Nivedita V.C. (India) - 6.5

Other

- ❖ Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won the 2026 St. Louis Rapid & Blitz title (a Grand Chess Tour event) with 23.5 points.

Skating

Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating Trophy 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Himadri Ice Rink, Maharana Pratap Sports Complex, Dehradun (17-20 August 2026)
- ❑ **Organizer:** Ice Skating Association of India (ISAI)
- ❑ **Participants:** 270+ athletes from 14 countries
- ❑ **Final medal table:**
- ❑ **Note:** India won the most medals overall, but ranked second based on gold-medal count. This was the second consecutive year India hosted this competition.

Flanders Grand Prix 2026 - Inline Speed Skating

- ❑ **Venue:** Belgium
- ❑ **Anandkumar Velkumar (India)** won the gold medal in the men's senior 1000 m.
- ❑ **Time:** 1:24.275

- ❑ **He also won other medals:**

- ◆ Gold: 500 m
- ◆ Silver: 30,000 m Road
- ◆ Bronze: 10K Elimination
- ◆ Bronze: 5K Points

- ❑ He was the overall champion of the senior men's category.

Weightlifting

Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Tashkent, Uzbekistan (7-14 August 2026)

- ❑ India's performance:

→ Junior category

◆ Men's 60 kg

- Tomchou Meitei Namoirakpam
- ❖ Gold: Total
- ❖ Silver: Clean & Jerk
- ❖ Bronze: Snatch
- Gurunaidu Sannapati
- ❖ Silver: Total
- ❖ Silver: Snatch
- ❖ Bronze: Clean & Jerk

◆ Men's 65 kg

- Maharaja Arumugapandiyan
- ❖ Silver: Total
- ❖ Silver: Clean & Jerk

→ Youth category

◆ Women's 45 kg

- Titli Maji
- ❖ Silver: Total
- ❖ Silver: Snatch
- ❖ Silver: Clean & Jerk
- Parishmita Gogoi
- ❖ Gold: Snatch

- ❑ India's junior-category team finished 8th, and in the junior team classification India ranked 4th with 527 points.

- ❑ India's youth-category team finished 4th in the team classification, with 676 points.
- ❑ Top countries in the junior medal table:
 1. Iran 2. Uzbekistan 3. Kazakhstan

Other

Lionel Messi retires from international football

- ❑ Argentine football legend Lionel Messi (39) announced his retirement from international football after a 21-year career with Argentina.
- ❑ **Most important records:**
 - ◆ **8 Ballon d'Or:** record for most Ballon d'Or wins.
 - ◆ **6 European Golden Shoe:** most in football history.
 - ◆ **2 World Cup Golden Balls:** won in 2014 and 2022; he is the only player to win the World Cup Golden Ball twice.
 - ◆ **2022 FIFA World Cup:** Messi became the first player to win the Golden Ball twice, and also became world champion with Argentina.
- ❑ **International achievements:**
 - ◆ FIFA World Cup: 2022
 - ◆ Copa América: 2021, 2024
 - ◆ Finalissima: 2022
 - ◆ Olympic Gold: 2008
 - ◆ FIFA U-20 World Cup: 2005

Indian women's lacrosse team wins bronze in Kuala Lumpur

- ❑ **Event:** International Lacrosse Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- ❑ **Result:** Indian women's team - Bronze medal
 - ❑ **Rajasthan's contribution:** 9 players from the tribal region of Udaipur district played an important role in the team's success.
- ❑ **Rajasthan's players:**
 - ◆ Captain Dali Gameti ◆ Sunita Meena,

- ◆ Yashishtha Batr ◆ Yashoda Gameti
- ◆ Jula Kumari Gurjar ◆ Meera Dauja
- ◆ Vishakha Meghwal ◆ Roshni Bose
- ◆ Jhanvi Rathore.

FIBA U18 Asia Cup 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat (Veer Savarkar Indoor Stadium, Veer Savarkar Sports Complex) (13-23 August 2026)
- ❑ **India's group:** Group D
- ❑ **India's placing:** 3rd in Group D
- ❑ **Champion:** Australia
- ❑ **Runner-up:** China
- ❑ **Australia's title:** 3rd FIBA U18 Asia Cup Championship title overall

Players with 100 sixes in Test cricket

- ❑ Rishabh Pant has become the first Indian, and only the fourth player in the world, to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket.
- ❑ **Players with 100+ sixes in Test cricket:**
 1. Ben Stokes (England) - 138
 2. Brendon McCullum (New Zealand) - 107
 3. Adam Gilchrist (Australia) - 100
 4. Rishabh Pant (India) - 100

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announces National Sports Awards 2025

- ❑ **Announced:** 18 August 2026
- ❑ **Key points:**
 - ◆ **No individual was selected this year for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (the highest sporting honour).**
 - ◆ The selection committee was chaired by **Justice (Retd.) Arun Kumar Mishra** (former Supreme Court judge).
 - ◆ **Rudransh Khandelwal (Para Shooting)** - from Bharatpur, Rajasthan - won the Arjuna Award.
- ❑ Arjuna Award 2025 for outstanding performance in sports and games:

S.No.	Player's Name	Discipline
1.	Shri Tejaswin Shankar	Athletics
2.	Shri Muhammed Ajmal V.	Athletics
3.	Ms. Priyanka Goswami	Athletics
4.	Ms. Treesa Jolly	Badminton
5.	Ms. Pullela Gayatri Gopichand	Badminton
6.	Shri Narender	Boxing
7.	Shri Vedit Santosh Gujrathi	Chess
8.	Ms. Divya Jitendra Deshmukh	Chess
9.	Shri Dhanush Srikanth	Deaf Shooting
10.	Ms. Lalremsiami	Hockey
11.	Shri Rajkumar Pal	Hockey
12.	Shri Surjeet	Kabaddi
13.	Ms. Pooja	Kabaddi
14.	Shri Rudransh Khandelwal	Para-Shooting
15.	Ms. Ekta Bhyan	For Athletics
16.	Shri Arvind Singh	Rowing
17.	Shri Akhil Sheoran	Shooting

Arjun Award (Lifetime)

Name	Discipline
Shri I. Aruminayagam	Football

- ❑ Dronacharya Award 2025 for outstanding coaches in sports and games
- ❑ **Regular Category**

S.No.	Coach's Name	Discipline
1.	Shri Parveer Singh	Athletics
2.	Shri Chhote Lal Yadav	Boxing
3.	Ms. Neha Nandkumar Chavan	Shooting

- ❑ **Lifetime Category**

S.No.	Coach's Name	Discipline
1.	Shri Dharmendra Singh Yadav	Boxing
2.	Shri Virendra Kumar	Wrestling

- ❑ National Sports Promotion Award 2025 - Army Paralympic Node, Pune

Nagaland's players selected for the Indian Sepak Takraw team for the 2026 Asian Games

- ❑ **Competition:** 20th Asian Games
- ❑ **Venue:** Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (19 September 2026)
- ❑ **Selected from Nagaland (Women's Sepak Takraw team):**
 - ◆ Players: Meninu Tsuru, Seiyekhino Tapa
 - ◆ Coaches: Pulino Neikha, Pungotolu Puro
- ❑ **Significance:** this is the fifth consecutive Asian Games (since 2010) in which Nagaland's Sepak Takraw players and coaches are representing India.

ABB FIA Formula E World Championship 2025-26

- ❑ **Drivers' Champion:** Pascal Wehrlein (Germany, Porsche)
- ❑ Wehrlein won his second Formula E title (after 2023-24) at the season's final London E-Prix.
- ❑ He became the second driver, after Jean-Éric Vergne, to win two Formula E titles.

52nd Junior National Aquatics Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Aquatic Complex, Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- ❑ **Organizer:** Odisha State Swimming Association, under the aegis of Swimming Federation of India (SFI)
- ❑ Karnataka became the overall champion, topping the medal table with 80 medals - 40 gold, 22 silver and 18 bronze.
- ❑ Rajasthan finished 10th in the overall medal table:
 - ◆ 1 Gold: **Dakshina Joshi** won gold for Rajasthan in the girls' 200 m butterfly.
 - ◆ 1 Bronze
- ❑ **Notable performances:**
 - ◆ Tanishi Gupta (Karnataka) was among the standout performers. She set national records in the 100 m backstroke (1:03.36) and the 50 m butterfly (27.41 seconds).
 - ◆ Laitonjam Lanchenba (Manipur) won two

gold and one silver medal. She won gold in the 200 m butterfly with a national record time of 2:03.73, and later took gold in the 100 m butterfly with a time of 54.96 seconds.

(23rd) Commonwealth Games 2026

1. Countries that participate in the Commonwealth Games are those that were

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total Medals
1.	Australia	70	45	56	171
2.	England	29	45	36	110
3.	Canada	19	20	23	62
4.	India	13	17	9	39

❑ Gold Medals - 13 Winners

1. Mirabai Chanu - Weightlifting (48 kg)
2. Sharmila Dhankar - Para-Athletics (Shot Put F57)
3. Dilip Gavitt - Para-Athletics (100 m race T47)
4. Asmita Dey - Judo (48 kg)
5. Harsh Singh - Judo (60 kg)
6. Soman Rana - Para-Athletics (Shot Put F57)
7. Preeti Panwar - Boxing (54 kg)
8. Jasmine Lamboria - Boxing (57 kg)
9. Sakshi Chaudhary - Boxing (51 kg)
10. Priya Ghanghas - Boxing (60 kg)
11. **Arundhati Chaudhary - Boxing (70 kg) - RAJASTHAN**
12. Sachin Siwach - Boxing (60 kg)
13. Ankush Panghal - Boxing (80 kg)

❑ Silver Medals - 17 Winners

1. Neeraj Chopra - Athletics (Javelin Throw)
2. Gulveer Singh - Athletics (10,000 m race)
3. Murali Sreeshankar - Athletics (Long Jump)
4. Sarvesh Kushare - Athletics (High Jump)
5. Praveen Chithravel - Athletics (Triple Jump)
6. Rishikanta Singh Chanambam - Weightlifting (60 kg)
7. Muthupandi Raja - Weightlifting (65 kg)
8. Gyaneshwari Yadav - Weightlifting (53 kg)
9. Ajay Babu Vellury - Weightlifting (79 kg)
10. Harjinder Kaur - Weightlifting (69 kg)
11. Lovepreet Singh - Weightlifting (+110 kg)
12. Lovlina Borgohain - Boxing (75 kg)

once part of the British Empire.

- ◆ Venue: Glasgow, Scotland
- ◆ Dates: 23 July - 2 August 2026
- ◆ Motto: 'Sport Is Just the Beginning'
- ◆ Mascot: 'Finnie' [a 'unicorn', Scotland's national animal]

13. Narender Berwal - Boxing (+90 kg)
14. Jadumani Singh - Boxing (55 kg)
15. Yamini Maurya - Judo (57 kg)
16. Mohammed Basil - Para-Athletics (100 m race T47)
17. Shubham Juyal - Para-Athletics (Shot Put F57)

❑ Bronze Medals - 9 Winners

1. Gulveer Singh - Athletics (5,000 m race)
2. Yashveer Singh - Athletics (Javelin Throw) - RAJASTHAN [TT in Railway, Jaipur]
3. Tejaswin Shankar - Athletics (Decathlon)
4. Seema Kaliramna - Athletics (Discus Throw)
5. Selva Prabhu - Athletics (Triple Jump)
6. Bindyarani Devi - Weightlifting (58 kg)
7. Unnati Sharma - Judo (63 kg)
8. Jhandu Kumar - Para-Powerlifting
9. Shilpa Jaila - Para-Athletics (Shot Put F57)

Important Facts

❑ Opening Ceremony

1. Flag-bearer - Mirabai Chanu
2. Baton-bearer - Lovlina Borgohain

❑ Closing Ceremony

1. Boxer Jasmine Lamboria.

- ❑ **Mirabai Chanu** won gold at the Commonwealth Games for a third consecutive time (2018, 2022 and 2026), completing a 'hat-trick'.

- ❑ **Athlete Gulveer Singh** became the first Indian runner to win two medals in a single Commonwealth Games track event (silver in the 10,000 m and bronze in the 5,000 m).

- ❑ **Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh** gave India its first Commonwealth Games gold medal in judo.
- ❑ **'Sharmila Dhankar'** became the first Indian to win gold in para-athletics (shot put).
 - ◆ Wrestling, badminton, shooting, hockey, cricket and table tennis were not part of these Commonwealth Games this time.
 - ◆ At the 2026 Games, a total of 122 Indian athletes (players) took part, in only 10 sports.
 - ◆ Boxing was India's most successful sport, in which our athletes won the most medals - 10 (7 gold and 3 silver).
 - ◆ The (24th) Commonwealth Games 2030 will be held in the city of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

◆ The **Indian Army contingent** won a total of "16 medals (8 gold, 7 silver and 1 bronze)" at the "Commonwealth Games 2026" held in Glasgow, including historic first achievements in "judo, para shot put and high jump."

1. Havildar Harsh Singh - Judo (60 kg)
2. Naib Subedar Sarvesh - High Jump
3. Lance Naik Shubham Juyal - Para Shot Put (F-57)

22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship - 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi (27 July - 2 August 2026)
- ❑ **Organizers:** Delhi Government and Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)

Event	Winner	"Runner-up in Final"
Men's Team	India	Malaysia
Women's Team	India	Malaysia
Men's Singles	Ankur Bhattacharjee (India)	Payas Jain (India)
Women's Singles	Yashaswini Ghorpade (India)	Sreeja Akula (India)
Women's Doubles	Sreeja Akula / Sindrella Das (India)	Yashaswini Ghorpade / Divyanshi Bhowmick (India)
Mixed Doubles	Tanisha Kotecha / Manav Thakkar (India)	Aishin T. / Richard Rui Zhe Yap (Malaysia)
Men's Doubles	Shen Q. Wong / Javen Choong (Malaysia)	Manav Thakkar / Manush Shah (India)

- ❑ **Best Male Player:** Manush Shah
- ❑ **Best Female Player:** Sindrella Das

Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Lagos, Nigeria
- ❑ **India's historic achievement:** India won the overall title for the first time and claimed the Wilkinson Sword Trophy.
- ❑ **Medal table:** 35 medals in total across the U23 and Senior categories - 13 gold, 8 silver and 14 bronze.

Important One Liners

- ❑ Arunachal Pradesh's **'Biri Takar'** put in a stellar performance at the BWF Para World Circuit 2026 held in Brazil, winning gold in

men's doubles (SL4) and bronze in men's singles SL4.

- ❑ **Ariha Pangambam (Manipur)** became the first Indian woman to win an individual senior gold medal at the 10th Asian Aerobic Gymnastics Championship 2026 (Tagaytay, Philippines). Her score was 19.100.
- ❑ Odisha won the 16th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2026 (Division A), held in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-1.
- ❑ At the 9th World Youth Transnational Championship 2026 held in Hefei, China, **Sagnik Roy and Sayantan Kushari (India)** won gold in the under-31 pairs event, defeating M. Ferenecka and F. Katusic (Croatia).
- ❑ The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has launched a dedicated digital module called

'Friends of MY Bharat' through Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), aimed at connecting "youth of Indian origin living abroad with India's youth-led nation-building activities."

- ❑ India proposed the establishment of a BRICS Sports Manufacturing Conclave, which received broad support from BRICS member countries. It is proposed that the first edition be hosted in **Udaipur, Rajasthan**, in November 2026.
- ❑ Grandmaster **Trilok Subba of Sikkim** has been selected to represent India at the World Taekwondo Poomsae Championship 2026 held in Chuncheon, South Korea. He will compete in the senior under-60 men's individual poomsae and team events.
- ❑ Indian Grandmaster **R. Praggnanandhaa** achieved the distinction of becoming "the first Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour 2026", defeating defending champion Fabiano Caruana of the USA 15-13 in the final in St. Louis, USA.
- ❑ **Lalianzuala Chhangte of Mizoram** has been named Indian Footballer of the Year 2026 by the Football Players Association of India (FPAI). The 29-year-old forward recently moved from Mumbai FC to Mohun Bagan.

Rajasthan Special

Rajasthan achieves top position in the national SAI network

- ❑ **Achievement:** according to official data presented in the Rajya Sabha, Rajasthan ranks first in the country with 20 Sports Authority of India (SAI) centres and training extension centres.
- ❑ **Local achievements (as of the 18 August report):**
 - ♦ **Lakshya Ramawat** (Harnawa, Nagaur/Parbatsar region) - gold medal at the CBSE West Zone Skating Tournament.

- ♦ The Khelo India Asmita Women's League soft tennis event was held in Makrana (Nagaur).

Rajasthan Junior Boys' Athletics Competition-2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Patel Stadium, Ajmer (synthetic track)
- ❑ **Results (Jaipur athletes):**
 - ♦ Ayush Chaudhary (under-20 age group): gold medal in the 3000 m race (time: 8 minutes 44.62 seconds)
 - ♦ Rishabh Chaudhary: gold medal in the under-16 pentathlon event

Rajasthan State Junior Girls' Athletics Championship-2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Patel Stadium, Ajmer
- ❑ **Key results (Jaipur):**
 - ♦ **Riya Rathore:** gold medal in the under-18 3000 m race walk
 - ♦ **Nitu Chaudhary:** gold medal in the under-20 100 m and 200 m
 - ♦ **Riddhima Meena:** gold medal in the under-18 100 m
 - ♦ **Dilkhush Chaudhary:** silver medal in the under-18 javelin throw
 - ♦ **Manvi Meena:** silver medal in the under-16 60 m

State Cycling Championship

- ❑ **Venue:** Bikaner (22-23 August 2026)
- ❑ **Details:** 250 athletes from 25 districts will take part. The national MTB team will be selected based on performance.
- ❑ The Bikaner team won the title of the 31st State-level Road Cycling Championship.
 - ♦ **Bikaner** - 17 points (Champion)
 - ♦ Hanumangarh - 14 points (Runner-up)

11th Asian Men's Youth Handball Championship

- ❑ **Venue:** Amman, Jordan
- ❑ **Rajasthan's player:** Manvendra Singh (Jodhpur) selected for the pivot position in the Indian team.

5th India Taekwondo Kyorugi National Championship

- ❑ Venue: Pune (16-21 August 2026)
- ❑ Jaipur's results:
 - ◆ Tanishtha Jodha: gold medal in the junior women's under-42 kg category
 - ◆ Kajal Shekhawat: gold medal in the cadet women's under-44 kg category
 - ◆ Jaipur won 5 medals in total; Bhuvnesh and Pratigya won silver medals.

52nd Junior National Swimming Competition

- ❑ Venue: Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar
- ❑ Jaipur's player: Dakshina Joshi won gold in the 15-16 age-group 200 m butterfly.
- ❑ Time: 2:21.21

Jaipur Yoga League (10th edition)

- ❑ Venue: Sawai Man Singh Indoor Stadium, Jaipur (22-23 August 2026)
- ❑ Results:
 - ◆ Namita Chauhan - gold in the Advanced Women's category
 - ◆ Pooja Jangid - silver in the Advanced 25-35-year Women's category
 - ◆ Anjali Sharma - bronze in the Expert 18+ Women's category
 - ◆ Krishna Kumar Joshi - 'Yoga Ratna' title
 - ◆ (600 participants from 10 states)

33rd Mathuradas Mathur Award

- ❑ Senior: Ashok Sharma (Jaipur) - fast bowler and batsman
- ❑ Junior: Kushagra Ojha (Bhilwara) - left-handed batsman
- ❑ Sub-Junior: Shifan Khan (Jaipur) - batsman
- ❑ Special Honour: Manav Sudhar (Rajasthan Test player)
- ❑ Award ceremony: 6 September 2026, Hotel Hawa Sadak, Jaipur

5th Rajasthan State Pickleball Championship

- ❑ Venue: Jaipur
- ❑ Key results:

- ◆ Utkarsh Dubey - Open champion
- ◆ Aditya Chandrawat (15 years) - gold in under-16 singles and doubles (two golds)
- ◆ Ashutosh Mehta / Utkarsh Dubey - Open doubles winners
- ◆ 350+ participants

6th India Progressive Cup National Open Taekwondo Championship

- ❑ Venue: Kolkata (21-23 August 2026)
- ❑ Jaipur (Raksha Sports Academy) results:
 - ◆ Medhansh Kumawat - Gold
 - ◆ Vivek and Kapish - Gold
 - ◆ Parth and Bhagirath - Silver
 - ◆ Vansh and Ayan - Bronze
 - ◆ Total: Jaipur won 7 medals

Rajasthan State Chess Competition (Junior Under-19)

- ❑ Venue: Jaipur
 - ❑ Winners:
 - ◆ Akshat Kumar Lakhara (Bhilwara) - Open category champion (7.5 points)
 - ◆ Ashi Upadhyay (Jaipur) - Girls' category champion (7.5 points)
- (217 players from 25+ districts)

Batumi Open International Wushu Competition 2026

- ❑ Venue: Batumi, Georgia
- ❑ Key achievements of Rajasthan's players:
 - ◆ Divya Chaudhary: won 3 gold medals in Baguazhang, Wudang Bagua and doubles-weapon events.
 - ◆ Tanvi Dadhich: won 1 silver medal in the 48 kg weight category.

7th Rajasthan State Deaf Chess Competition

- ❑ Venue: Ajmer

Category	First	Second
Men	Deepak Kumar Lalwani (Jaipur)	Rajat (Hanumangarh)
Women	Suman Bhambhu	Kusum Lata
Junior Boys	Raghav Sharma (Jhunjhunu)	Govind Jangid (Jodhpur)
Junior Girls	Kavita Jangid (Jodhpur)	-
Sub-Junior Boys	Lakshya Jain (Sri Ganganagar)	Lavish Jangid (Sikar)
Sub-Junior Girls	Aarti (Sri Ganganagar)	-

Rajasthan State Sub-Junior Badminton Championship (U-17) 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Udaipur

Event	Winner
Boys' Singles	Shreyansh Chaudhary
Boys' Doubles	Harman Pandit and Kandarp Sharma
Girls' Singles	Nehal Sisodia
Girls' Doubles	Aaradhya Jodha and Deshna Jain
Mixed Doubles	Kandarp Sharma and Deshna Jain

Rajasthan State Under-23 Athletics Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** District Sports Stadium, Sikar (25-26 August 2026)
- ❑ **Organizer:** District Athletics Association, Sikar, under the aegis of the Rajasthan Athletics Association
- ❑ **Gold Medal Winners**

Athlete	District	Event
Dona Dhakad	Jaipur	100 m Women
Rahul Githala	Jaipur	400 m Men
Mahipal Singh	Jodhpur	1500 m Men
Deepika	Sikar	1500 m Women
Deependra Kumawat	Sikar	3000 m Steeplechase
Sneha Bhambhu	Hanumangarh	Pole Vault

42nd Sub-Junior National Swimming Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** SMS Stadium, Jaipur
- ❑ **Gold-medal table:**
 1. Tamil Nadu - 13
 2. Karnataka - 10
 3. Bengal - 6
- ❑ **Notable performances:**
 - ♦ Mayra Singh (Delhi): 4 gold medals + 4 new meet records - the championship's 'Gold Girl'
 - ♦ Divyashree Keshavan (Tamil Nadu) and Mohammed Hafeez (Karnataka): each won 5 gold medals.
- ❖ **Rajasthan finished without a medal.**

Senior State Archery Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Railway Ground, Bikaner
- ❑ **Key results:**
 - ♦ Jaipur Indian Round Men's Team: Gold medal
 - ♦ Recurve Women's Team: Gold medal (Yuvraj Verma, Arpit Badiwal, Kartik Jwala) - Jaipur
 - ♦ Compound Men's Individual: Gold medal - Vayu Yadav (Golden Arrow) - Jaipur
 - ♦ Compound Men's Team: Gold medal - Sikar's Rajat Chauhan (712 points)
 - ♦ Indian Round Mixed Team: Bronze medal - Jaipur
 - ♦ Recurve Mixed Team: Bronze medal - Jaipur
 - ♦ Compound Women's Individual: Gold medal - Priya Gurjar (Dholpur)
- 1. **Jaivir Singh:** Jaipur's national para-triathlete Dr. Jaivir Singh became India's first National Para Triathlon Champion by winning gold at the first National Para Triathlon Championship held at Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Pune. A triathlon comprises swimming, cycling and running.
- 2. Rajasthan's **Harshita Jakhar** made history by becoming the **first Indian woman to take part in the Tour de France Femmes**. She took part in the formal launch of the second phase of

- the UCI World Cycling Talent Programme in Aigle, Switzerland.
3. Rajasthan's **Paral Chaudhary**, from Churu, won the under-19 girls' singles title at the All India Junior Ranking Badminton Tournament held in Bhubaneswar. In the final, she defeated Diksha S.R. of Tamil Nadu 20-18, 15-7 to qualify for the "BWF World Junior Championship, to be held in Egypt."
 4. **Vanya Bohra of Dholpur**, Rajasthan, has been selected for the Indian team for the Asian Ice Skating Championship held in Dehradun.
 5. Dholpur defeated Udaipur in a sudden-death penalty shootout to win the "Rajasthan Junior Girls' Football Championship" title for the first time.
 6. **Lakshya Faujdar (Jaipur)** won a gold medal in the 32 kg category at the 2nd International Open Karate Championship 2026 held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
 7. Darsh Preeti (Jaipur) won a silver medal in the under-18 (18 kg) kumite category at the South Asian Karate Championship held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
 8. Bikaner defeated Kota 4-1 to win the Rajasthan State Junior Boys' Football Championship held in Nagaur.
 9. Kriti Sharma of Warren Academy School won a silver medal in the plus-68 kg category at the CBSE Taekwondo Best Zone Championship.
 10. Rajasthan Sports Council: at the recently held Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior State-level Taekwondo Championships, players of the Rajasthan Sports Council (RSSC) won a total of 26 medals, including 16 gold, 4 silver and 6 bronze.
 11. Jaipur's players Pragyan, Havi, Hardik, Cherisha and Lakshya won gold at the 2nd South Asian Open Karate Championship-2026 held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
 12. Bharat Singh of Jaipur has been appointed assistant coach of the Indian Under-17 Volleyball team. Rajasthan's Ashish Chauhan is also part of the team.

सुरभि मिश्रा एशियन गेम्स में राजस्थान की एकमात्र कोच

768 सदस्यीय भारतीय दल में 503 खिलाड़ी

जयपुर | गुलाबी नगर की अंतरराष्ट्रीय खिलाड़ी एवं कोच सुरभि मिश्रा को जापान के आइची-नागोया में होने वाले 20वें एशियन गेम्स के लिए



भारतीय स्ववैश टीम का कोच नियुक्त किया गया है। वह भारतीय दल के कोचिंग स्टाफ में

राजस्थान की एकमात्र सदस्य हैं। खेल मंत्रालय ने 768 सदस्यीय भारतीय दल को मंजूरी दी है, जिसमें 503 खिलाड़ी शामिल हैं। इनमें 269 पुरुष और 234 महिला खिलाड़ी हैं, जो 36 खेलों में हिस्सा

लेंगे। दल में 246 कोच, सपोर्ट, मेडिकल स्टाफ और टीम अधिकारी हैं। स्ववैश टीम में चार पुरुष और चार महिला खिलाड़ी शामिल हैं। सुरभि 2023 हांगकॉङ एशियन गेम्स में भी भारतीय टीम की कोच रही थीं, जहाँ भारत ने दो स्वर्ण, एक रजत और दो कांस्य पदक जीते थे। सुरभि ने कहा कि भारतीय खिलाड़ियों के हालिया प्रदर्शन को देखते हुए इस बार स्ववैश में भारत के पदकों में और इजाफा होने की उम्मीद है। उन्होंने कहा कि एशियन गेम्स 2028 के लास एंजिल्स ओलंपिक की क्वालीफाइंग इवेंट भी है।

06

Important Days

Date	Day	Official 2026 Theme/Details
1st to 7th August	World Breastfeeding Week 2026	"Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen What Works."
2 August	National mustard day	(1 st Saturday of August)
3 August	16th Indian Organ Donation Day	
4 August	International Clouded Leopard Day	IUCN Status: Vulnerable. • It is the State Animal of Meghalaya.
7 August	National Handloom Day	It commemorates the launch of the Swadeshi Movement in 1905.
9 August	ICoAS Day 2026	Theme: "Role of ICoAS Officers in Cost Optimization for Atmanirbhar Bharat". Indian Cost Accounts Service (ICoAS) – a Group 'A' Central Civil Service under the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
10 August	World lion day	
12 August	World Elephant Day	National Celebrations-Visakhapatnam
12 August	International youth day	Theme: "Different Contexts, Common Aspirations."
14 August	Partition Horrors Remembrance Day	
15 August	80th Independence Day	
August 19	World Humanitarian Day	
August 20	Sadbhavana Diwas, or Harmony Day	to mark the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
August 21	World Senior Citizens Day	
29 August	National Sports Day	It marks the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand.
23 August	3 rd National Space Day (NSPD)	Theme is "Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership" The inaugural event was held at Ahmedabad
23 to 27 August	World Water Week 2026 Event: Stockholm, Sweden and celebrated online.	theme of "Water for People and Progress" Organizer: the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) India's Representative: Rohini R. Bhajibhakre (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development)

07

Important Books

- ❑ Two publications (books/monographs) were released by the Lalit Kala Akademi on its 72nd Foundation Day:
 1. "Chitrakar Kanu Desai"
 2. "Kalaguru Ravishankar Raval"
 - ◆ Author: Shri Kanaivalal Fakirchand Patel (Kanu Patel).
- ❑ "Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles"
 - ◆ It is the official autobiography of Ram Nath Kovind.
- ❑ Belonging: A Journey of Love
 - ◆ It is Sonia Gandhi's memoir.
- ❑ Janpriya Neta Venkaiah Naidu: Udayagiri Se Uparashtrapati Tak.
 - ◆ It is Hindi-language biography of former Vice President Janpriya Neta Venkaiah Naidu.
- ❑ Kaho Kalidasa
 - ◆ Author: Shri Yugul Joshi

**THE RAJASTHAN PUBLIC EXAMINATION (MEASURES FOR PREVENTION OF UNFAIR MEANS
IN RECRUITMENT) ACT, 2022**

The Rajasthan Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, 2022

"Be it enacted by the Rajasthan State Legislature in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India, as follows:-"

- Act Number: Act No. 6 of 2022
- Governor's Assent: 5 April 2022
- Notified in the Rajasthan Gazette: 6 April 2022
- Enforced throughout the State: 12 April 2022 (by notification of the State Government)
- Legal Structure: The Act comprises 20 sections and 2 Schedules.

❖ **Section 1: Short title, extent and commencement -**

- **Short title:** The Rajasthan Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, 2022.
- **Extent:** It shall extend to the whole of the State of Rajasthan. It shall come into force on such date, as the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

❖ **Section 2: Important definitions -**

- a) 'Conduct of public examination' means and includes preparation, printing, supervision, coding, processing, storing, transportation, distribution and collection of question papers, answer sheets, OMR sheets and result sheets, evaluation and declaration of result, etc.
- b) **Examination authority:** An examination authority as specified in Schedule-I.
- e) **Public examination:** A public examination as specified in Schedule-II.

S. No.	Schedule I: Section 2(b) (Examination Authority)	Schedule II: Section 2(e) (Public Examination)
1.	Rajasthan Public Service Commission	Any examination conducted by the Rajasthan Public Service Commission.
2.	Rajasthan High Court	Any examination conducted by the Rajasthan High Court.
3.	Rajasthan Staff Selection Board	Any examination conducted by the Rajasthan Staff Selection Board.
4.	Any other authority, agency or recruitment committee engaged or constituted by the State Government	Any examination conducted by any other authority, agency or recruitment committee engaged or constituted by the State Government.
5.	State Funded Universities	Any recruitment examination conducted by the State Funded Universities.
6.	Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education	Any recruitment examination conducted by the Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education.
7.	Rajasthan Police Recruitment and Promotion Board, Jaipur	Any examination conducted by the Rajasthan Police Recruitment and Promotion Board, Jaipur.
8.	Public Sector Undertaking owned by the State Government	Any examination conducted by a Public Sector Undertaking owned by the State Government.
9.	Any Societies, Corporations, Local Bodies and all PSUs owned by the State Government substantially or partially	Any other examination conducted by any Societies, Corporations, Local Bodies and all PSUs owned by the State Government substantially or partially.
10.	Any other authority notified by the State Government	Any other examination notified by the State Government or conducted by any agency appointed by the State Government.

(c) **Examination center:** Any institution or part thereof or any other place fixed and used for the holding of a public examination and includes the entire premises attached thereto.

(d) **Examinee:** A person who has been granted permission by the concerning authority to appear in a public examination, and includes a person authorized to act as scribe on his behalf.

(e) **Public examination:** Examination for the purpose of recruitment to any post under the State Government including autonomous bodies, authorities, boards or corporations as specified in Schedule II.

(f) **Unfair means:** The definition of 'unfair means' and the related provisions are set out in the table below.

✓ **Explanation.- Any person also includes an examinee.**

(g) Words and expressions used herein and not defined, but defined in the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (Central Act No. 45 of 1860), shall have the same meanings respectively assigned to them in that Code.

Section 2(f)(i): 'Unfair means' in relation to an 'examinee'	Section 2(f)(ii): 'Unfair means' in relation to 'any person'
- To take unauthorized help in public examination from any person or group directly or indirectly or from any material written, recorded, copied or printed, in any form whatsoever, OR - Use of any unauthorized electronic or mechanical instrument or gadget.	- To impersonate or leak or attempt to leak or conspire to leak question paper; or to procure or attempt to procure or possess or attempt to possess question paper in unauthorized manner. - To solve or attempt to solve or seek assistance to solve question paper in unauthorized manner. - Directly or indirectly assist the examinee in the public examination in unauthorized manner. Note:- Any person also includes an examinee.
Punishment on conviction under section 2(f)(i) -	Punishment on conviction under section 2(f)(ii) -
❖ Under section 10(1), an 'examinee' - Imprisonment: Up to 3 years. - Fine: Not less than Rs. 1 lakh. - Default of fine: Imprisonment up to 9 months.	❖ Under amended section 10(2), 'any person' - Imprisonment - Min. = 10 years. Max. = Imprisonment for life. - Fine: Min. = Rs. 10 lakh. Max. = Rs. 10 crore. - Default of fine: Imprisonment up to 2 years.
❖ Section 11: Debarment from taking a public examination for a period of 2 years.	❖ Section 12: Attachment and confiscation of movable or immovable property obtained from an offence under this Act. ❖ Section 13: Where found guilty, the Management, Institution, Limited Liability Partnership or others shall pay all cost and expenditure related to the examination.

❖ **Section 3: Prohibition of use of unfair means -**

- No person shall use unfair means at any public examination.

❖ **Section 4: Possession and disclosure of question paper -**

- No person authorized by virtue of his duties in conduct of public examination shall before the time fixed for opening and distribution of question papers -
 - (a) open, leak or procure or attempt to procure, possess or solve such question paper or any portion or a copy thereof; or
 - (b) give any confidential information or promise to give such confidential information to any person or examinee, where such confidential information is related to or in reference to such question paper.

❖ **Section 5: Prevention of leakage by person entrusted or engaged with examination work -**

- No person, who is entrusted or engaged with any work pertaining to public examination shall, except where he is permitted by virtue of his duties so to do, directly or indirectly divulge or cause to be divulged or make known to any other person any information or part thereof which has come to his knowledge by virtue of the work being so entrusted to him.

❖ **Section 6: Unauthorized possession or disclosure of question paper, answer sheet or OMR sheet in any form -**

- No person who is not lawfully authorized or permitted by virtue of his duties to do so, shall, before the time fixed for the distribution of question papers -
 - (a) procure or attempt to procure or possess, such question paper or answer sheet or OMR sheet or any portion or copy thereof in any form; or

(b) impart or offer to impart, such information which he knows or has reason to believe to be related to, or derived from or to have a bearing upon such question paper.

❖ **Section 7: Prohibition to enter examination center -**

- No person who is not entrusted or engaged with the work pertaining to public examination or conduct of public examination or who is not an examinee, shall enter the premises of the examination center.

❖ **Section 8: No place other than an examination center shall be used for a public examination.**

❖ **Section 9: Offences by Management, Institution or others -**

(1) Whenever an offence under this Act has been committed by Management or Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others, every person who at the time the offence was committed was in charge of, or was responsible to the Management or Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others for conduct of the business of the Management or Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others, as well as the Management or Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly. A person shall not be liable if he proves that-

- the offence was committed without his knowledge; and
- he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, partner, manager, secretary or other officer, such person shall also be deemed to be guilty and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

❖ **Section 10: Penalties -**

(1) Examinee: If an examinee indulges in unfair means under section 2(f)(i) -

- Imprisonment: Up to 3 years.
- Fine: Not less than one lakh rupees (and may be higher).
- Imprisonment in default of payment of fine: Up to 9 months.

(2) Any person, including an examinee: If the person indulges or attempts to indulge in unfair means under section 2(f)(ii),

or contravenes or abets the contravention of any other provision of this Act -

- **Imprisonment: A term which shall not be less than ten years but which may extend to imprisonment for life.**
- Fine: Not less than ten lakh rupees but which may extend to ten crore rupees.
- Imprisonment in default of payment of fine: Up to 2 years.
- **Provided that the Court may for any adequate and special reasons to be recorded in the judgment impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than ten years.**

Note:- The following amendment took effect on 8 August 2023 through the Rajasthan Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) (Amendment) Act, 2023: Amendment of Section 10 of Rajasthan Act No. 6 of 2022.- In sub-section (2) of Section 10 of the Rajasthan Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, 2022 (Act No. 6 of 2022),-

- (i) for the existing expression "which shall not be less than five years but which may extend to imprisonment of ten years", the expression "which shall not be less than ten years but which may extend to imprisonment for life" shall be substituted; and
- (ii) in the proviso, for the existing expression "five years", the expression "ten years" shall be substituted.

❖ **Section 11: Debarment on conviction: An examinee who has been convicted of an offence under the provision of this Act shall be debarred from taking any public examination for a period of 2 years.**

❖ **Section 12: Attachment and confiscation of property -**

(1) No person shall hold or be in possession of any proceeds of any offence under this Act.

(2) If an officer, investigating an offence committed under this Act, has reason to believe that any property represents proceeds of any offence under this Act, he shall, with the prior approval in writing of the State Government make an order seizing such property, movable or immovable or both, and where it is not practicable to seize such property, make an order of attachment directing that such property shall not be transferred or otherwise dealt with except with the prior permission of the officer making such order or, as the case may be, the Designated Court and a copy of such order shall be served on the person concerned.

(3) The investigating officer shall duly inform the Designated Court, within 48 hours of the seizure or attachment of such property.

(4) It shall be open to the Designated Court either to confirm or revoke the order of seizure or attachment made under sub-section (2): Provided that the Designated Court shall not pass an order unless an opportunity of making representation is given to the person whose property is being attached.

(5) Where the accused has been convicted of any offence punishable under this Act, the Designated Court may, in addition to awarding any punishment, by order in writing, declare that any property, movable or immovable or both belonging to the accused and specified in the order shall stand confiscated to the State Government free from all encumbrances.

- ✓ Explanation.- For the purpose of this section 'proceeds of any offence under this Act' means all kind of properties which have been derived or obtained from commission of any offence under this Act or have been acquired through funds traceable to any offence under this Act and shall include cash, irrespective of person in whose name such proceeds are standing or in whose possession they are found.

❖ **Section 13: Liability of Management, etc. to pay all cost and expenditure -**

- If the person of the Management of Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others has been found guilty of the offence under sub-section (2) of section 10 of this Act, the Management or Institution or Limited Liability Partnership or others shall be liable to pay all cost and expenditure related to the examination, determined by the Designated Court and shall be banned forever.

❖ **Section 14: Offences to be cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable: All offences specified under this Act shall be cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable.**

❖ **Section 15: Investigation of offences: No police officer below the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police shall investigate an offence committed under this Act.**

❖ **Section 16: Cases triable by Designated Courts -**

- Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act No. 2 of 1974), or in any other law for the time being in force, the offences specified under this Act shall be tried by the courts designated under this Act.

❖ **Section 17: Power to appoint Designated Courts -**

- The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, designate as many Courts of Sessions in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court of Rajasthan as it may be necessary to try offences punishable under this Act.

❖ **Section 18: Act not in derogation of any other law -**

- The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, the provisions of any other law for the time being in force.

❖ **Section 19: Power to remove difficulties -**

- (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty. No such order shall be made after the expiry of 2 years from commencement of this Act (12 April 2022).
- (2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before the House of the State Legislature.

❖ **Section 20: Power to make rules -**

- (1) The State Government may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.
- (2) All rules made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after they are so made, before the House of the State Legislature, while it is in session, for a period of not less than 14 days, which may comprise in one session or in two successive sessions and, if before the expiry of the sessions in which they are so laid or of the sessions immediately following, the House of the State Legislature makes any modifications in any of such rules or resolves that any such rule should not be made, such rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be, so however, that any modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.