



Current Affairs

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Famous Personalities

Rajasthan Ratna – Kesari Chand (K.C.) Maloo

- ❑ **Passed away:** July 14, 2026
- ❑ **Contribution:** Preserved Rajasthani folk music and served as the President of the committee advocating for the official recognition of the Rajasthani language.
- ❑ **Profile:** Born in 1946 in Sujangarh, Churu district.
- ❑ Founder of the renowned 'Veena Cassettes' and 'Sur Sangam'.
- ❑ Actively involved in the movement to include the Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.
- ❑ **Rajasthan Ratna Award:** Honoured in 2022.

North Western Railway: Pankaj Sharma appointed as the new General Manager

- ❑ An officer belonging to IRSEE (1989 batch) and IRMS.
- ❑ **Contributions to Indian Railways:**
 - ◆ Served as the Principal Executive Director for India's first 9000 HP electric locomotive (rolling stock engine) project (D-9) at Dahod, Gujarat.
 - ◆ 'Mission Raftaar' (160 km/h speed): Implementation of the 2x25 kV overhead electrification system.
 - ◆ **Hyperloop Initiative:** Played a supervisory role in the trial of the indigenous Hyperloop technology 'Garuda Pod' in collaboration with IIT Madras and the startup TuTr Hyperloop.
 - ◆ BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) – Green Railways
 - ◆ Electric locomotive- 'Digital Twin Technology'

Dr. Rohil Singh Kakkar – Jaipur

- ❑ Appointed as a **faculty member** in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the prestigious **Royal College of Surgeons, England**.
- ❑ **Specialization:** Joint Replacement and Orthopaedic Surgery.
- ❑ Obtained a super-specialty degree in Orthopaedics from the renowned **Ninewells Hospital** in Scotland and has previously served at Eternal Hospital, Jaipur.

Dr. Samin K. Sharma – Jaipur

- ❑ **Global Appointment:** Chief of Clinical Cardiology (Mount Sinai, New York, USA)
- ❑ Interventional Cardiologist
- ❑ Dr. Samin Sharma is a Patron Member of RANA.

Organization: RANA

- ◆ **Name:** Rajasthan Association of North America
- ◆ **Headquarters:** California, USA
- ◆ **President:** Prem Bhandari
- ◆ A prestigious global organization of Rajasthanis residing worldwide; it has a major presence in New York (its largest chapter) and is organizing its upcoming conference in 2027.

Places in News

Udaipur's First Aadhaar Seva Kendra

- ❑ The **first resident-centric Aadhaar Seva Kendra** in Udaipur was inaugurated on July 17 by MP **Dr. Mannalal Rawat** and MLA **Tarachand Jain**. The center was established by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) under the Ministry of Electronics and IT.
- ❑ This is the **10th** UIDAI-operated Aadhaar Seva Kendra in **Rajasthan**; the target is to reach a total of 29 such centers in the state by September 2026.

Shakti Sangam Nari Kaushal and RRR Center – Jaipur

- ❑ **Launch Date:** July 23 | Phagi (Panchayat Samiti), Jaipur; RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)
- ❑ **Collaboration and CSR Funding:** Jaipur Zila Parishad, Finova Capital Private Limited (CSR contribution of Rs. 10 lakh), and participation by the Shakti Sangam organization.
- ❑ **Main Objectives:** Skill development of rural women, livelihood enhancement, women entrepreneurship, and promoting a green economy through waste management.

- ❑ **Theme: 'Waste to Wealth'** (an exhibition of upcycled products made from fabric scraps).
- ❑ **Training:** 20 rural women in the first phase.

TAFE Motors - Deutz Engine Plant: Alwar

- ❑ **Inauguration:** On July 20, Industries and Commerce Minister Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated the Deutz engine production unit at the manufacturing plant of TAFE Motors and Tractors Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE).
- ❑ This marks the first international partnership in the production and manufacturing sector between TAFE Motors and Tractors Ltd. and the German company Deutz AG.

Kota-Bundi to become the country's first 'Zero Fatality Parliamentary Constituency' –

- ❑ **Announcement:** By Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
- ❑ This initiative will be implemented under the effective execution of the 'Zero Fatality District Program'.
- ❑ **Technical Partner:** SaveLIFE Foundation (a leading organization working in the field of road safety).
- ❑ Three key pillars of road safety improvement –
 1. Engineering: Black spots and critical corridors.
 2. Enforcement: Traffic management, stricter policing.
 3. Emergency medical services: 'Post-crash SOP'.

Bhusawar College of Agriculture (Bharatpur)

- ❑ July 17. Governor and Chancellor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde inaugurated the newly constructed administrative building and released the booklet '**Bhusawar at a Glance**', published by the college.
- ❑ **Affiliation:** A constituent unit of Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner.

India's First Agri-PV Plant - Kundanpura, Jaipur

- ❑ **Inauguration:** On June 24 in Kundanpura village (Bassi-Tunga block, Jaipur), under the 'Annadata se Urjadata' (From Food Provider to Energy Provider) initiative, to enable the dual production of food crops and clean solar energy from the same acre of land.
- ❑ **Achievement:** Kajodmal Jat became the **first** progressive farmer to adopt an **Agri-PV (Agrivoltaics) pilot plant**.

- ❑ **Scheme and Capacity:** A solar plant with a capacity of 0.5 MW (500 kW DC), established under Component-A of the PM-KUSUM scheme.
- ❑ **Development:** By the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).
- ❑ **Financial Support:** Kotak Mahindra Bank (CSR funding).
- ❑ **Infrastructure:** Solar panels have been installed at a height of **10-12 feet above** the ground, ensuring sufficient sunlight for crops beneath the panels and allowing for the easy operation of tractors and agricultural equipment.

Schemes/ Programme/ Campaign

State-level launch of the 'VB G Ram G' scheme

- ❑ **Launch:** July 2, 2026 - Virtually inaugurated by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma from the **Masuda Agricultural Produce Market** (Beawar).
- ❑ Rajasthan **ranks first** nationwide in **labor deployment** under this scheme.
- ❑ **Devmali Village:** The Chief Minister announced the construction of a '**shelter facility**' for visitors – at a cost of Rs. 2 crore – in this village, which has received the '**Best Tourist Village**' award from the Government of India.

Flagship 'Lado Protsahan Yojana': Amendment

- ❑ **Implementation:** It will be implemented across entire Rajasthan from August 1, 2024.
- ❑ **Review meeting:** Conducted by Additional Chief Secretary Rajesh Kumar Yadav on July 9, 2026.

Nodal Department	Elementary Education Department, Government of Rajasthan
Financial Assistance (Benefit)	₹1.50 lakh (in the form of a bond)
• Key Relaxation in Eligibility (Amendment)	Requirement regarding ' not more than two children ' completely removed
• Education Institution (Amendment)	Now, girl students from recognized private schools are also eligible
Total Beneficiaries (Since 1 August 2024)	Over 6.50 lakh girls

First cluster under the PM SETU scheme: Rajasthan became the first state in North India and the fifth in the country.

- ❑ **Approval:** The proposal for cluster from M/s H.G. Infra Engineering Limited for the Bhiwadi cluster was approved during a State Steering Committee meeting held in July 2026, chaired by Chief Secretary V. Srinivas.
- ❑ Names of the 08 clusters proposed in Rajasthan:

● Bhiwadi	● Jodhpur
● Jaipur	● Balotra
● Banswara	● Bharatpur
● Bikaner	● Kota
- ◆ Effective implementation of the PM SETU (Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs) scheme – an initiative to enhance the overall quality and relevance of vocational training through upgraded ITIs.

Bharat Audhyogik vikas Yojana (BHAVYA): Proposal for 4 new world-class industrial parks in Rajasthan –

- ❑ **Meeting and Nodal Body:** A meeting of the state-level committee under the BHAVYA scheme was held on July 27, **chaired by Chief Secretary V. Srinivas**, regarding four industrial parks proposed in Rajasthan (to be developed by RIICO):
 1. KBNIR Industrial Park (Kotputli-Behror)
 2. Dausa-Bandikui Industrial Park (Dausa)
 3. Bhojyara Industrial Park (Jaipur)
 4. Udaipur Kalan Industrial Park (Kishangarh, Ajmer)
- ❑ **Capacity of the proposed industrial parks –**
 - ◆ Total area: Approximately 2,000 acres
 - ◆ Estimated investment: Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000 crore
 - ◆ Potential employment generation: 45,000+ persons.

Outbound portability mechanism of the 'MAA Scheme' –

- ❑ A progress report regarding the Mukhyamantri Ayushman Arogya (MAA) scheme was released on July 21.
- ❑ **Departmental Leadership: Principal Secretary** (Medical and Health Department, Government of Rajasthan) – Gayatri Rathore.

- ◆ **Portability effective from:** December 15, 2025.
- ◆ **Annual insurance cover scheme:** Provides cashless, free medical treatment of up to Rs. 25 lakh per year to 1.36 crore eligible families in the state.
- ◆ **Treatment packages:** Includes a total of 2,179 packages (covering cancer, heart disease, etc.); portability is available at Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)-empanelled hospitals across all states and Union Territories of the country, except Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- ◆ **Beneficiary data:** Over the last 6 months, more than 30,000 people from the state received treatment in other states, and 5,959 claims (amounting to over Rs. 17 crore) were submitted.
 - Residents of Rajasthan primarily sought treatment in hospitals across Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Delhi; the facility is available at approximately 16,000+ government and 14,000+ private hospitals empanelled with PMJAY nationwide.

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme - Inauguration of eight new Amrit stations in Rajasthan (July 17, 2026)

- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Inauguration conducted virtually from Jalandhar, Punjab).
- ❑ **Rajasthan:** Inauguration performed by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma at **Gotan Railway Station, Nagaur**.
- ❑ Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, 75 redeveloped Amrit stations across 20 states were inaugurated, including 8 stations in Rajasthan:
 - ◆ Gotan, Deeg, Somesar, Dausa
 - ◆ Khairthal, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Gangapur City

Railway Progress in Rajasthan –

- ◆ 05 pairs of Vande Bharat Express services are operational.
- ◆ Since 2014, **3,900 km** of new railway tracks have been constructed, and work is **underway** on 85 stations.
- ◆ **Budgetary Increase:** Rajasthan's railway budget has risen to Rs. 10,228 crore for 2026-27, compared to Rs. 682 crore during the 2009-14 period.

Rajasthan Skill Policy-2025: Approval of the RTD model by RSLDC – (Granted during the 50th Board meeting of RSLDC).

- ❑ **RTD Model:** Recruit-Train-Deploy.
- ❑ **Agency:** Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC).
- ❑ **Objective:** To bridge the 'skill gap' by directly selecting youth based on industry demand, providing training, and ensuring 100% placement.
- ❑ **Eligibility Criteria –**
 - ◆ **Age Limit:** Unemployed youth aged 18 years or older; regular students are not eligible.
 - ◆ **Qualification:** In accordance with the specific job role and NSQF (National Skills Qualification Framework) standards.
 - ◆ **Training:** Mandatory 120-hour 'Employability Readiness Module' + OJT (On-the-Job Training).
 - ◆ **Assessment:** Mandatory third-party assessment after training.
 - ◆ **Agency Selection Process:** Through a transparent EoI (Expression of Interest) process, based on past placement records and financial capacity.

'Prerna Pakhwada' in Rajasthan on the occasion of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee's 125th birth anniversary (July 1-15).

- ❑ **Inauguration:** July 1, at Rajasthan University, Jaipur, by V. Srinivas (Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan).
- ❑ **National Context:** It is Part of a two-year **commemoration** organized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, to mark Dr. Mookerjee's 125th birth anniversary year and to disseminate his nationalist ideals to the general public.
- ❑ Ajmer's **'Panchsheel Multipurpose Stadium'** renamed as 'Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Stadium'.
- ❑ **National Seminar** held on July 6 at the Main Auditorium, National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur.
 - ◆ **Organizers:** A joint initiative of the **Department of Peace and Non-Violence** and the **National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur**.
 - ◆ **Theme:** 'Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Personality and Contributions'
 - ◆ **Chief Guest:** Arun Chaturvedi (State Finance Commission)

- ❑ **Naming of four major parks in Rajasthan:** As announced by the Chief Minister, the following parks have been named after Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee:

- 1) Woodland Park: Jaipur
- 2) Central Park (located at Vivek Vihar): Jodhpur
- 3) Park located at Ramchandrapura Atwal Nagar: Kota
- 4) Park located in the Sector-12 scheme area: Udaipur

Two 'Community-Based Events' to be held monthly at Anganwadis in Rajasthan under the 'Poshan Abhiyaan'

- ❑ **Directives issued:** 07 July 2026
- ❑ **Nodal Department:** Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) under Department of Women and Child Development, Rajasthan
- ❑ **ICDS Directorate:** During the period from July to September 2026 Two theme-based 'Community-Based Events' will be organized every month at all Anganwadis across the state.
- ❑ **Digital tracking and monitoring:** 'Poshan Tracker App'

Month	Program: 1 (Date & Theme)	Program: 2 (Date & Theme)
July	8 July Godbharai/Prave shotsav	July 22: Regional Food Day
August	August 11: Nutrition Day	August 25: Public Message Health Day
September	9 September Godbharai/Prave shotsav	Sept. 23: Regional Food Day

Curtain-raiser event for the 5th edition of 'Lokmanthan-2026' –(July 1 - Constitution Club, Jaipur)

- ❑ **Chief Guests:** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Union Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- ❑ **Organizing Body:** Pragya Pravah Samiti.
- ❑ **Theme (2026):** 'Hum Bharat Ke Log' (We, the People of India).
- ❑ **Unveiling/Launch:** Launch of the book 'Folk Se Pare Lok' (Beyond Folk), authored by J. Nandakumar (Convener, Pragya Pravah Samiti), and the **official website of Lokmanthan**.
- ❑ **Background:** Lokmanthan was launched in 2016 in Bhopal, **Madhya Pradesh**, and the theme of the inaugural edition was 'Liberation from Colonialism'.

Sahakar 2026: State-Level Kisan Samman Samaroh

- ❑ **Event on :** July 2 at Apex Bank Auditorium, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Gautam Kumar Dak (Minister of Cooperatives, Government of Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Key Vision:** Strengthening the rural economy by promoting organic farming under the Government of India's Ministry of Cooperation's 'Sahakar Se Samriddhi' program.
- ❑ Organic produce grown by farmers will now be sold through **consumer sales outlets** operated by **District Cooperative Consumer Stores** and **CONFED (Rajasthan State Cooperative Consumers' Federation)**.
- ❑ **State-level farmer felicitation:** Recognizing individuals for outstanding work in the cooperative sector across three categories:
 - ◆ **Category 1 (Progressive Farmers)**
 - ◆ **Category 2** (Chairpersons of Gram seva Sahkari Samiti)
 - ◆ **Category 3** (Managers of Gram seva Sahkari Samiti)
- ❑ **Launch of the book 'Rajasthan Mein Sahakarita' (Cooperatives in Rajasthan) –**
 - ◆ **Author:** Dr. Jaiprakash Yadav (Assistant Registrar)
 - ◆ **Launched by:** Gautam Kumar Dak (Minister of State for Cooperatives and Civil Aviation – Independent Charge)

Rajasthan Mahila Kisaan Sanvaad Samaroh 2026

- ❑ **Event:** July 18; the country's first such event, organized by the Vedic Medicinal Plant Centre, Sanganer (Jaipur) and the International Institute of Advanced Agriculture Skill Development.
- ❑ **Joint Organizers:**
 1. All India Gaushala Sahayog Parishad.
 2. Organic Farmer Producer Association of India.
- ❑ **Chief Guests:** Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde and Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani.
- ❑ Held to mark the United Nations (UN) declaring the year 2026 as the '**International year of the women farmer**'.
- ❑ **Main Theme:** 'Prosperous farming through Women's Power – Towards a Self-Reliant Rajasthan'
- ❑ **5 Key Policy Agenda Points:**
 - ◆ Promoting natural and organic farming.

- ◆ Ensuring soil health conservation.
- ◆ Adopting a cow-based agricultural model.
- ◆ Women's participation in agricultural entrepreneurship.
- ◆ 'Rajasthan Organic State Vision-2030' framework.

World Population Day State-Level Function: Swasthya Bhawan, Jaipur – 11 July 2026

- ❑ **Presided over by:** Gayatri Rathore (Principal Secretary, Medical and Health Department – Government of Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Tagline:** 'Jab bachcho me ho sahi antral, pariwar bane swasth aur Khushhaal'
- ❑ **Rajasthan's Latest Demographic Data**
 - ◆ **Total Fertility Rate (TFR):** It has reached 2.1, aligning with the national goal of 'population stabilization'.
 - ◆ **Use of Modern Contraceptives:** Rajasthan (57.1%) has significantly surpassed the national average (52.7%).
- ❑ **United Nations (UN) Global Theme 2026**
 - ◆ Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people – today and for the future.
- ❑ **State-level Family Welfare Awards distributed** – Districts, Panchayats, health institutions, and health personnel who demonstrated outstanding performance during the year 2024-25 were honored across various categories.
 - ◆ Visit the official website of Springboard Academy to view the complete list of award winners.



State-level webinar on 'PM SHRI Schools' in Rajasthan

- ❑ **Event :** July 14, 2026, Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** V. Srinivas (Chief Secretary) and Rajesh Yadav (Additional Chief Secretary, School Education)
- ❑ **Key Highlights:** National Education Policy (NEP 2020), 21st-century skills, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education, and 'peer learning'.

- ❑ **14 heads of institutions** shared their experiences. Innovations from 7 schools in the state became role models :-

PM SHRI Schools	Unique Innovation/Program
1. Weir - Bharatpur	Mere Kanha-Mere Aangan' Program - Aimed at enhancing community participation.
2. Raholi, Niwai - Tonk	Listed in the Hindustan Book of Records . School Challenge - TOFEI (Tobacco-Free Educational Institutions) 2026 Award
3. Bankalsar, Mohangarh - Jaisalmer	Matra Sammelan and Street Plays: Fostering awareness among the local rural community and parents.
4. Mandal - Bhilwara	Alumni Engagement Campaign: Transformed the school.
5. Station Road - Barmer	Consistent 100% Results: Achieved in Class 10 board exams for the past 7 years and Class 12 board exams for the past 4 years.
6. Jamwaramgarh - Jaipur	Selections in prestigious examinations - NEET, JEE, IAS, RAS.
7. Devgarh - Rajsamand	Successful conduct of 'Balika Sansad' (Girls' Parliament).

- ❑ **Performance of Rajasthan in PM SHRI Scheme:** Member of Parliament S. Venkateshan replied on the topic 'Schools under PM Shri Scheme' in Lok Sabha on 27.07.2026 which the number of non-Hindi native language teachers of Rajasthan appointed-
- ◆ Sanskrit Teacher: 768
 - ◆ Urdu Teacher: 141
 - ◆ Regional Language Teacher: 47
 - ◆ PM SHRI Schools in Rajasthan Total = 749

National Seminar of IPPTA

- ❑ **Event :** July 10-11, **Marriott Hotel Jaipur**
- ❑ **Organizer:** Indian Pulp and Paper Technical Association (IPPTA).
- ❑ **Main Theme:** Future Ready Paper Industry: Policy, Sustainability and Technology Convergence-
- ❑ **Major Institutional Partnerships-**
- ◆ Confederation of Indian Industry: New Delhi
 - ◆ ITC Ltd.: Kolkata, West Bengal
 - ◆ Bureau of Energy Efficiency: New Delhi

12th World Youth Skills Day - State-level Ceremony

- ❑ **Event:** RIC, Jaipur - July 15, 2026
- ❑ Declared by the UN General Assembly in 2014.
- ❑ **2026 UN Theme:** Skills for a Shared Future
- ❑ **Presided over by:** K.K. Bishnoi, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Department of Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship.
- ❑ **Launch:** 'Rozgar Sandesh' (magazine) by the Department of Skill, Employment & Entrepreneurship.
- ❑ **Pledge:** 'Skilled Youth - Prosperous Rajasthan'
- ❑ **Honours:** A total of 22 talented individuals were honoured.

State-level Workshop on Agricultural Value Chains and FPOs -

- ❑ Organized virtually on July 17 at Yojana Bhawan, Jaipur, by the **Rajasthan Institute of Transformation and Innovation (RITI)**, Government of Rajasthan.
- ❑ **Main Theme:** 'Banking Support for Agricultural Value Chains and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)'
- ❑ **Objective:** To strengthen access to institutional finance for agricultural infrastructure, value addition, food processing, storage, logistics, and Farmer Producer Organizations.
- ❑ **Unified Lending Interface (ULI):** A digital credit delivery system designed to make the Kisan Credit Card loan process simpler, more transparent, and time-bound.

'Snake Rescue' Workshop organized by Jaipur Forest Division

- ❑ **Event:** July 16, Bird House, Nindar-Benad (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Key Leadership:** V. Ketan Kumar, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Jaipur
- ❑ **Technical Partner:** Hope and Beyond Foundation (Dr. Joy Gardner and team)
- ❑ **Distribution:** 'Snake Rescue Kits' provided by Hope and Beyond Foundation to all ranges of the Forest Division.

'Panch-Gaurav' Program: Showcasing the district's unique identity

- ❑ Review meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary V. Srinivas at the Government Secretariat, Jaipur, on July 17.
- ❑ The 'Panch-Gaurav' program is an ambitious initiative by the State Government to leverage the unique identity of each district as a foundation for development.
- ❑ **Evaluation Period:** Financial Year 2024-25
- ❑ **Targets and Indicators:**
 - ◆ Short-term: Year 2026-27
 - ◆ Medium-term: Year 2029-30
 - ◆ Long-term: Year 2047 (Viksit Rajasthan)



Launch of 'Toy Banks' and 'Praveshotsav' at Anganwadi centers in Rajasthan – July 1, 2026

- ❑ **Nodal Department:** Department of Women and Child Development (ICDS Directorate), Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **Target Age Group:** Children aged 3–6 years (for quality pre-school education)
- ❑ **Launch:** By Government Secretary Smt. Poonam at the Gautamnagar Anganwadi in Jaipur.

National 'Disha' Model to be implemented in Rajasthan for children with intellectual disabilities – 2026

- ❑ **Pilot Project:** Workshop organized at Apex University, Jaipur, from July 7–9.
- ❑ **Rajasthan's National Status:**
 - ◆ Rajasthan has become the **9th state in the country** to implement the curriculum approved by the Government of India.
 - ◆ Note: This model is already operational in **8 states** – Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh.

- ❑ **Endorsement:** Curriculum provided by the 'National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities' (NIEPID), Government of India.
- ❑ **Organizers:** This workshop was organized by the 'Baudhik Divyang Abhibhavak Mahasangh Parivar' (Federation of Parents of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities) and faculty from the Jai Vakeel Foundation (Mumbai) also conducted the sessions.
- ❑ **Implementation Phases:** To be implemented across the state in three phases –
 - ◆ **First Phase (Capacity Building):** Held in Jaipur in July. Training was provided to 100 special educators from 52 special schools across 23 districts of the state.
 - ◆ **Upcoming Phase:** Following the training, the initiative will be expanded to all special schools in Rajasthan by providing 'Disha' teaching materials and worksheets based on the number of children.

Major Awards, Publications, and Distinguished Authors

17th National Agriculture Leadership Awards

- ❑ **Distribution:** 08 July 2026 in New Delhi.
- ❑ **Award presenters:** Defense Minister Rajnath Singh and Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde.
- ❑ **Winning States:** Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat (two major categories)
 - ◆ **Uttar Pradesh:** Excellent policy leadership in agriculture sector.
 - ◆ **Gujarat:** Excellence in horticulture.

Dr. Nalin Joshi (Respiratory Specialist Jaipur)

- ❑ **Honour:** Times Award
- ❑ **President:** Jaipur Medical Association (JMA)
- ❑ **The only Rajasthani:** Dr. Nalin Joshi included in the list of top 50 doctors selected from across the country.
- ❑ Presented by Raman Deka, Governor of Jharkhand at a function held in New Delhi.

WHO World No Tobacco Day Award for the Rajasthan Government –

- ❑ On July 24, the Medical and Health Department of the Rajasthan Government (Jaipur) was honored with the first-place award in the South-East Asia Region (SEAR) by the World Health Organization for the effective implementation of the National Tobacco Control Programme.

- ❑ **Recipient:** Dr. S.N. Dholpuria, State Nodal Officer and Joint Director of the National Tobacco Control Programme in New Delhi, received it from the WHO Country Head.

Book: Braveheart Savarkar: Keeper of the Secular Saffron Flame -

- ❑ Presented to Governor Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde by Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani at Lok Bhavan, Jaipur.
 - ◆ **Author:** Ashutosh Deshmukh
 - ◆ **Publisher:** 'The Write Place'

Discussion on Vinod Bhardwaj's new book, Zinda Khwab Ke Shayar Kaifi Azmi –

- ❑ **Venue:** Rajasthan Adult Education Society Auditorium, Jaipur
- ❑ **Event:** Monthly symposium 'Sur Sangat' Samvad
- ❑ **Book's Preface:** Authored by Jodhpur-based litterateur Sheen Kaaf Nizam.

Publication of the country's first joint research paper on Swami Vivekananda's sojourn in Rajasthan (316 days) –

- ❑ **Subject:** 'Ek Karmayogi ki Rajasthan Yatraen'
- ❑ **Journal:** International Multifocal Research Journal.
- ❑ **Researchers:** Jointly authored by Dr. Indresh Kumar and Dr. Zulfikar (a scholar of Swami Vivekananda's philosophy).
 - ◆ The research offers a remarkable account of Swami Ji's deep personal bond with key cities and princely states of Rajasthan – Alwar, Jaipur, Ajmer, Khetri (Jhunjhunu), and Jodhpur – and his interactions with the local people.
 - ◆ The **Maharaja of Khetri** was a close friend and devotee of Swami Vivekananda. (It was the Maharaja who suggested the name '**Vivekananda**' to him and provided financial assistance for his trip to the 1893 Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago).

3rd Memorial Lecture Series for former IAS officer Dr. Satya Narayan Singh – RIC, Jaipur - July 12

- ❑ **Main Theme:** 'Administration for Good Governance'
- ❑ Two books authored by Dr. Singh were

released, and the official website was also launched.

1. **Book:** "Jeevan ka Satya"

2. **Book:** "Satya ke Aaine Se"

Meet the Author Event

- ❑ **Event :** Organized by the Department of Information and Public Relations on July 26 (Kargil Vijay Diwas) at the Information Centre, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Inauguration:** By Rajasthan Police DGP Rajiv Kumar Sharma.
- ❑ **Organizations:**
 - ◆ Rajasthan Sahitya Akademi (Udaipur)
 - ◆ Sharanya Seva Sansthan (Udaipur)
- ❑ Launch of the book '**Shaurya aur Shahadat ko Salaam**' by renowned painter and author **Chandra Prakash Gupta**; the book compiles portraits and tales of valor of martyred soldiers from Rajasthan since the Kargil victory.
- ❑ **NOTE:** On the occasion of the 27th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, '**Operation Vijay Kargil-2026**' was organized at Rawti-Ghoda Ghati (at the foothills of Mehrangarh Fort) in Jodhpur by Kreedha Bharati (Jodhpur Chapter); during the event, 16 brave soldiers and **Veeranganas** (wives of martyrs) of the Kargil War were honored by the Governor and Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

Dr. Jayesh Narayan Bhanu (Jaipur)

- ❑ Dr. Bhanu was honored with the 'International Literary Award 2026' (Best Author) by the Sahitya Samrat Academy for his story '**Ek Aakhri Khat**'.

'AYUSH Legendary Award'-2026 for Dr. Swarupanand

- ❑ The Nepal edition of the 'International AYUSH Conclave 4.0' was held in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, in June 2026. Dr. Swarupanand Sarkar, a homeopathic specialist from Jaipur, was honored with the 'AYUSH Legendary Award' for his contributions to the AYUSH sector.
- ❑ **Joint Organizers:** Nepal Chamber of Commerce and India's Council for Integrative Vaidya Innovation and Collaboration.

Science & Technology

29th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) - Jaipur

- ❑ **Event:** Held on July 1-2, 2026, at the Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Theme:** 'Viksit Bharat 2047: AI-Enabled, Data-Driven, and Secure Digital Governance'
- ❑ **Vision:** 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'.
- ❑ **Organizers:** Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, and the Government of Rajasthan (DoIT&C).
- ❑ **Knowledge Partners:** NASSCOM, MNIT-Jaipur.
- ❑ **V. Srinivas's Record:** V. Srinivas, Secretary of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, became the first IAS officer in India to organize the National Conference on e-Governance **nine times**. He spearheaded the event eight times while based in Delhi and led the ninth edition in Jaipur.

- ❑ **Inauguration (July 1):** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma launched the following initiatives:
 - ◆ Smart Rajasthan Project.
 - ◆ e-Mitra WhatsApp Service (covering 27 government services).
 - ◆ Rajasthan Language Model Training Hackathon.
 - ◆ Rajasthan Innovation Challenge.
 - ◆ Digital Rajasthan Coffee Table Book.
- ❑ **Total Technical Sessions:** 12 special sessions were held, comprising 6 plenary sessions and 6 breakout sessions.
- ❑ **Closing ceremony and Award Distribution:** on July 2 by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology.
- ❑ **National e-Governance Awards 2026:** In the field of good governance, 17 awards (10 Gold, 6 Silver, and 1 Special Jury Award) were presented across seven categories to institutions demonstrating excellence.
 - ◆ Gold Award Winners: Rs. 10 lakh.
 - ◆ Silver Award Winners: Rs. 5 lakh.
 - ◆ New Amendment (Year 2026): A 'Gram Panchayat' category was introduced for the first time, with the primary objective of recognizing digitization efforts at the grassroots level.

S.No.	Project: Gold Award-10	Concerned Organization/Ministry - Winner
1.	AgriStack	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
2.	Mahakumbh 2025 Digital Management Initiative	Prayagraj Mela Authority, Uttar Pradesh
3.	e-Sanjeevani AI-enabled Clinical Decision Support System for Telemedicine Services	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
4.	District Court Case Management System	Kerala High Court
5.	ICMR-MINDS Project	Indian Council of Medical Research
6.	Cybersecurity Framework for e-Nagarpalika	Department of Urban Development and Housing, Madhya Pradesh
7.	e-Arogya Dhamani: Transforming Healthcare through e-Governance-	Health Department, Zilla Parishad, Nandurbar, Maharashtra
8.	' Trinetra ': AI-based Video Surveillance System for the Mahakal-Rudrasagar Integrated Development Area (including Mahakaleshwar Temple)	Mahakaleshwar Temple Trust, Samrat Vikramaditya Prashasti Sankul Bhavan, Ujjain
9.	Panchayat Unnati Index - Data-driven Governance for a Developed India	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
10.	'Gram Panchayat' Category: Kadepura Gram Panchayat	Sangli, Maharashtra

S.No.	Project: Silver Award-06	Winning Organization/Ministry
1.	e-Jagriti	Ministry of Consumer Affairs
2.	Blood bag traceability and citizen engagement portal to promote voluntary blood donation	Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)
3.	Threat intelligence distribution and DNS filtering security product	Space Applications Centre (SAC), ISRO
4.	Digital banking cybersecurity framework	Bank of Baroda
5.	Pune 360 Initiative	Pune Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra
6.	<u>Gram Panchayat'</u> Category: Vijoy Nagar Gram Panchayat	West Tripura, Tripura
Note: The Survey of India was awarded the Jury Award (01) for Real-Time Precise Positioning Services via the CORS network.		

- ❑ **Rajasthan AI Builders Pitch-a-thon -**
 - ◆ **Organizer:** DoIT&C, Government of Rajasthan
 - ◆ **Partner Institutions -**
 - Knowledge Partner:** ISB Hyderabad
 - Media/Digital:** Outlook Business
 - ◆ 1,700 startups participated. The top three startups received cash prizes of Rs 1 lakh, Rs 50,000, and Rs 25,000 respectively, along with exclusive mentorship from ISB Hyderabad.
 - ◆ **Winning Startups -**
 1. Mahavanti Solutions Pvt. Ltd. - Jaipur
 2. Holoclock - Daksh Pareek
 3. ShopIQ - Raunak Chindalia
 - ◆ Rajasthan E-Governance Exhibition: 42 exhibition stalls. Showcasing the achievements of the Rajasthan Government's key digital platforms – Jan Aadhaar, e-Mitra, Rajasthan Sampark-181, RajKaj, Raj Kisan Saathi, and the State Data Center – on a national platform.
 - ◆ Launch of the 'IT Platform and Building Blocks Handbook' and Rajasthan's progress in the startup ecosystem (over the last 2 years)
 - Number: 4,000 → 8,500+
 - Investment: Rs. 250 Cr. → 1,000 Cr.
 - Job Creation: 22,000 → 47,000+
 - 9 incubation centers, 65 iStart Launchpads, and 65 iStart Launchpad Nests for fostering innovation at the rural/school level across the state.

- ❑ **'Jaipur Declaration':** Issued with a vision for the future of e-governance. A citation booklet, an excellence booklet, and a compendium were also released alongside it.
- ❑ **Session:** Deliberation on 'Driving Urban Transformation through Technology' - emphasis placed on the National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) and the 'Surat Model' for Smart City development.

Rajasthan became the first state in India to sign a 'Framework for Action' with the International Solar Alliance (ISA) –

- ❑ **Date of signing:** July 8, 2026
- ❑ **Agreement: Framework for Action - Advance Clean Energy, Driven Sustainable Development**
- ❑ **Signatories:** Aarti Dogra (Energy Secretary, Government of Rajasthan) and Ashish Khanna (Director General, ISA)
- ❑ **Technical Innovation:** Under the framework, an 'Energy Transition Plan' will be prepared, keeping in mind the requirements for the 2030-35 period.
- ❑ **A 'Digital Twin' pilot project** will be launched at the Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam to enable accurate assessment of electricity demand.
 - ◆ **Digital Twin -** Creating an exact 'digital or virtual model' of a real-world object, machine, or entire system.

IIT Jodhpur becomes a full member of CERN's CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid) experiment - July 1, 2026

- ❑ CERN "Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire" (European Organization for Nuclear Research)

Key Achievement-	IIT Jodhpur has been inducted as a full member of the prestigious CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid) Collaboration at CERN, Geneva (Switzerland).
Significance of CERN-	• CERN is the world's largest particle physics laboratory and houses the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the world's most powerful particle accelerator. • The World Wide Web (WWW) – which transformed human life – was also developed at this laboratory.
Significance of Membership-	With this full membership, IIT Jodhpur has joined an elite international group of universities and leading research institutes collaborating to find answers to humanity's most significant scientific questions.
Research Question-	The collaboration seeks answers to the following three fundamental questions: 1. What is the universe made of? 2. How did it begin? 3. What are the smallest and most fundamental particles of matter?
CMS Experiment and the 'God Particle'-	• CMS is a major scientific experiment conducted at the Large Hadron Collider. • It was through this experiment that the historic discovery of the Higgs boson – popularly known as the 'God Particle' – was made in 2012.
Technical Innovation-	• Scientists from the institute will directly participate in the long-term scientific programs of the CMS collaboration. • Modern technologies such as AI and ML, along with next-generation detector technologies, will be developed to analyze the vast data generated from particle collisions.
Lead Scientist- 	• IIT Jodhpur faculty members Dr. Lata Panwar and Dr. Jitendra Kumar will lead this effort. • These scientists have been honored with the 'Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics' in 2025 for their outstanding contributions. • Both scientists have conducted research with CERN's world-renowned ATLAS, ALICE, and CMS collaborations and have made significant contributions to the field of Experimental Particle Physics.
Institute Leadership	This frontier research has received significant impetus under the guidance and visionary leadership of Prof. Avinash Kumar Agrawal, Director of IIT Jodhpur.

India's largest 'Solar and Battery Storage' (BESS) park to be built in Pugal, Bikaner –

- ❑ **Decision:** July 2, Tenders will close on August 3, 2026.
- ❑ **Associated Entities –**
 - ♦ Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission.
 - ♦ Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited.
- ❑ **Project Capacity:** 2,450 MW Solar PV + 1,600 MW/6,400 MWh.
- ❑ **Primary Objective:** To cater to evening 'peak hours' Meeting rising electricity demand seamlessly and reliably through Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and enhancing grid stability.
- ❑ **Distinguishing feature:** It differs from conventional renewable energy projects as it is based on the procurement of Firm and Dispatchable Renewable Energy (FDRE) integrated with an Energy Storage System (ESS).
- ❑ Key provisions/deviations approved by RERC: Ministry of Power's 'Tariff-Based Competitive Bidding' (TBCB) guidelines –

Provision/ Condition	New Rule
Severe penalty	Penalty for supply shortfall during peak hours increased from 1.5× to 2×.
50% rule Payment	Payment for non-peak solar energy reduced to 50% in the event of a peak-hour shortfall.
Procurement from the green market	Allowance to procure up to 5% of energy to meet peak obligations.
Basis of evaluation	BESS supply during peak hours instead of a minimum CUF (Capacity Utilization Factor) requirement.
Minimum bid capacity	Lot-1: 250 MW Lot-2: 225 MW
Early commissioning	Early commissioning permitted only if the BESS is also mandatorily operational alongside the solar component.

State Government Deliberates on Maternal Health: 25% Reduction in Maternal Deaths Over the Last Two Years

- ❑ **Review Meeting:** July 13; Swasthya Bhawan (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Gajendra Singh Khimsar (Minister of Medical & Health, Government of Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Key Issue:** Review and prevention of causes of maternal deaths.
- ❑ **Maternal Mortality Statistics** (During the current government's tenure): Approximately 25% reduction in maternal deaths
 - ◆ Maternal deaths in 2023-24: 1,094
 - ◆ Maternal deaths in 2024-25: 986
 - ◆ Maternal deaths in 2025-26: 824
- ❑ **Major causes of recent deaths:** Maternal deaths were recorded in government hospitals in Kota, Bikaner, Bhilwara, and Banswara (involving referred cases). According to experts, the primary causes were not infections, but rather anemia, high blood pressure, PPH (Postpartum Hemorrhage), and malnutrition.
- ❑ **Intensive Screening Campaign:** A five-day campaign starting July 15 To strengthen maternal and child health services in Rajasthan and reduce the maternal mortality rate.
 - ◆ **Registration:** Mandatory registration of every pregnant woman within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy and entry of health details on the PCTS portal; a minimum of four quality ANC (Antenatal Care) check-ups is mandatory.

- ◆ **Innovation:** A dedicated tracking system will be developed for 'high-risk pregnancies' (such as those involving anemia, hypertension, or diabetes). Additionally, a preliminary analysis of every maternal death case within 24 hours has been made mandatory.

Rajasthan ranks second in India in the organ donation pledge campaign (based on data from July 23, 2026) –

- ❑ **National Status:** First place – Maharashtra
- ❑ Rajasthan trails by a margin of only 8,136 pledges.
- ❑ **Duration:** Campaign conducted until August 3, 2026.
- ❑ **Pledge Statistics:** As of July 22, 108,904 citizens in the state had pledged to donate organs.
- ❑ **Principal Secretary (Medical and Health Department):** Gayatri Rathore
- ❑ Leading districts with the highest number of pledges –
 - **First:** Jhunjhunu (13,619 pledges)
 - **Second:** Hanumangarh (12,828 pledges)
 - **Third:** Churu (10,780 pledges)

Pledge for a TB-free Rajasthan –

- ❑ **Review Meeting:** July 13, 2026, Lok Bhawan, Jaipur
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde (Governor)
- ❑ **Department:** Medical and Health Department, Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **State-level Goal:** According to Medical and Health Minister Gajendra Singh, a target has been set to make Rajasthan completely TB free by the year 2030. (90% of the target achieved so far)
- ❑ **Surveys and Special Camps –**
 - ◆ Intensive surveys were conducted in 11,143 high-risk villages across the state to eliminate TB; effective TB-free initiatives were implemented by organizing medical camps in 9,719 of these villages.
 - ◆ Rajasthan recorded the highest number of X-ray screenings in the country, and 'TB-Free Ward Campaigns' will be launched in urban local bodies.

A 10-square-kilometer area in Bhindar (Nivania), Udaipur, has been reserved for five years for uranium and thorium exploration –

- ❑ **Order issued:** July 2026
- ❑ **Department:** Department of Mines and Petroleum, Government of Rajasthan

New geographical area	Bhindar Tehsil - Udaipur (Nivaniya-Keekwas villages) (Geographical reference: Toposheet 45 L/2)
Total reserved area	10 square kilometers (over 6,250 bighas); duration: for the next 5 years.
Atomic minerals	Uranium and Thorium (Radioactive Minerals)
Carbonatite rocks	Naturally high concentration of uranium, thorium, and other radioactive substances.
Surveyor (Nodal)	AMD (Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research – Government of India) A key agency of the Central Government; it explores for radioactive minerals required for nuclear energy.
Legal restriction	Atomic Minerals Concession Rules, 2016 (New leases cancelled; this restriction does not apply to already approved, operational mines).
Previously known major deposits	Rohil region (Sri Madhopur, Sikar)

'Indigenous Gender-Sorted Semen Technology' in Rajasthan

- ❑ **Subject:** Use of 'indigenous gender-sorted semen' technology to boost the income of livestock farmers and increase milk productivity.
- ❑ **Controversy:** Recent complaints regarding the technology's results prompted the state government to commission an independent investigation by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, using random samples.
- ❑ **Result:** Functional 'X-chromosomes' (responsible for the birth of female calves) were found in the semen at rates ranging from 88% to 96%.

Rajasthan ranks second in onshore natural gas production and third in crude oil production –

- ❑ **Review Meeting:** Jaipur, July 14. Additional Chief Secretary (Mines and Petroleum) – Aparna Arora.
- ❑ **Subject:** Action plan regarding the use of the latest technology (ASP technology) to address the decline in crude oil and natural gas production in the state.
- ❑ **Petroleum Basins:** A total of 4 basins in the state –
 - ◆ Jaisalmer ◆ Barmer-Sanchore
 - ◆ Bikaner-Nagaur ◆ Vindhyan
 - ◆ Exploration and extraction activities are ongoing in three of these basins, excluding the Vindhyan basin.
 - ◆ **HRRL Refinery:** The Pachpadra refinery has a total capacity of 9 MMTPA, allowing for the refining of 1.5 million tonnes of locally produced crude oil from Rajasthan; additionally, 12 petroleum leases and 12 exploration licenses have been issued.

- ◆ **Current oil production:** 54,000 barrels per day.
- ◆ **Current gas production:** 2.2 MMSCMD (Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters per Day).

- ❑ **ASP Technology:** Alkaline Surfactant Polymer. In petroleum science terminology, this is known as an EOR (Enhanced Oil Recovery) technique. Its primary function is to extract the residual oil trapped within wells – oil that cannot be recovered using standard pumps or water pressure methods.

Blockchain-based 'contactless and faceless' online registration module for seed companies –

- ❑ **Innovation:** Module proposed for launch in August 2026.
- ❑ The process for registering seed varieties will be entirely online/digitized.
- ❑ **Development:** Blockchain-based registration module.
 - ◆ Department of Information Technology – Government of Rajasthan.
 - ◆ In collaboration with the 'Raj Kisan Sathi' team and IT experts from IIT-Kanpur.
- ❑ The Regulatory Framework shall comply with all operational guidelines and standards set by the Central Seed Committee/State Seed Sub-Committee under the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

'Seed Variety Registration Orientation Workshop'

- ◆ Organized on **July 15** at the Agriculture Commissionerate, Jaipur, to facilitate the implementation of the technology.
- ◆ Attended by **117 seed experts.**

- ◆ **Presentation of the new module:** Several organizations, including the National Seed Association of India, the Rajasthan State Certified Seed Producers Association (Sri Ganganagar), and the Rajasthan Agriculture Input Dealers Association (Jaipur).

IIT Jodhpur: Smart materials driven by visible light and MOST technology –

- ❑ **Leadership:** Dr. Monica Gupta, Professor, Department of Chemistry.
- ❑ **Laboratory:** Functional Organic Materials Laboratory.
- ❑ **Innovation:** Development of smart organic materials that utilize visible sunlight instead of relying solely on ultraviolet (UV) rays.
- ❑ **Achievement:** (Molecular Photoswitches) – Development of microscopic molecules driven by visible light that alter their structure under normal sunlight. By integrating these molecules with liquid crystal materials, their optical and mechanical properties can be modified.
- ❑ **MOST Technology (Molecular Solar Thermal Fuels):** Storing solar energy as chemical energy for extended periods – rather than using it directly – and retrieving it as heat when needed.
 - ◆ **Special Feature:** Enables the controlled use of solar energy even in extremely cold environments.
 - ◆ **Applications:** Smart windows, wearable devices, self-adjusting optical devices, smart coatings, advanced photonic systems, and clean energy storage.

IIT Jodhpur - 'Fire Safety Technologies' development -

- ❑ **Development:** On July 7th, the Department of Civil and Infrastructure Engineering at IIT Jodhpur developed future 'Fire Safety and Structural Engineering Technologies'.
- ❑ **Leader:** Dr. P. Ravi Prakash, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil and Infrastructure Engineering.
- ❑ **Research Basis:** Performance-Based Structural Fire Engineering (This technology studies the behavior of an entire building before, during, and after a fire) conducts a scientific analysis of many serious structural failures occur

during the 'cooling phase' after the fire has been extinguished – a period often overlooked during post-fire inspections.

❑ **Integrated Digital Technologies –**

- ◆ **AI-Based Early Warning System:** Limited Predicting a building's fire response based on sensor data.
- ◆ **Intelligent Platform:** Creating smart, sustainable, and safe infrastructure by integrating technologies such as BIM (Building Information Modeling), Digital Twins, IoT, and GIS.

IIT Jodhpur's 'Cognitive Brain Dynamics Lab' Shares Neuro-Research Findings –

- ❑ **The Lab (CBDL):** On July 24, the laboratory shared findings from cutting-edge research on the mysteries of the human brain and neuro-technologies.
- ❑ **Lead Researcher:** Professor Dipanjan Roy, School of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science.
- ❑ **Research Focus:** Attention, memory, emotions, speech perception, and brain plasticity.
- ❑ **Key Technical Findings and Applications –**
 - ◆ **Hearing and Assistive Devices:** Improving the ability to hear and comprehend in noisy environments by using mild electrical stimulation to modulate brain waves.
 - ◆ **Memory and Age-Related Conditions:** Early detection of neurological disorders such as Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Frontotemporal Dementia.
 - ◆ **Mental Health:** Identification of neurocognitive markers for depression, anxiety, and OCD (Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder).
 - ◆ **Attention and Distraction:** Seeking treatments for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) by studying the brain's response to sudden threats and irrelevant distractions.

❑ **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur**

- ◆ Established in 2008 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, as an Institute of National Importance.
- ◆ A modern residential campus spanning 852 acres, dedicated to education, multidisciplinary research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and social development.

State-level workshop at COERRA (Jaipur) to strengthen cybersecurity frameworks - July 10, 2026.

- ❑ **Venue:** Centre of Excellence for Revenue Research and Analysis (COERRA), Jaipur.
- ❑ **Theme:** "Strengthening Cybersecurity Frameworks for State Data" (Part of the third phase of the 'National Consultation Process'.)
- ❑ **Organizing Agencies:** Department of Information Technology & Communication (Government of Rajasthan), in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Government of India) and the National e-Governance Division.
- ❑ Emphasis placed on the effective implementation of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, and the 'DPDP Rules, 2025'.
- ❑ **Key technical terminology discussed:**
 - ◆ **Cyber Warriors:** Cybercrime resolution.
 - ◆ **Zero Trust principle and Secure-by-Design.**
 - ◆ Formation of **CSIRT** (Computer Security Incident Response Team) and mandatory appointment of **CISO** (Chief Information Security Officer) across all departments.

Integration of AI into Indian Railways' laundry technology: Pilot project in Jaipur and Jodhpur divisions –

- ❑ Includes North Western Railway's Jaipur and Jodhpur divisions, as well as Central Railway's Pune division.
- ❑ **AI Technology:** Automated AI camera-based stain detection technology.
- ❑ Cleanliness measurement tool: Whito-meter.
- ❑ **Prescribed service life of linen items –**
 - ◆ Bed sheets: Handloom 12 months, KVIC Polyvastra 24 months; Pillow covers 9 months.
 - ◆ Face towels: 9 months.
 - ◆ Pillows and woollen blankets: 24 months.

- ❑ **North Western Railway Initiative:** Provision of blanket covers to AC-class passengers on operational trains and the newly introduced Vande Bharat Sleeper train running between Kamakhya and Howrah.

Inauguration of a 'Modern Mechanized Transfer Station' with a capacity of 150 TPD - July 8, 2026.

- ❑ **Location:** Jhalana, Jaipur; inaugurated by Jhabar Singh Kharra (Minister for Urban Development and Housing, Government of Rajasthan).
- ◆ **Beneficiary Areas:** Malviya Nagar and Jhalana, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Capacity:** 150 tonnes per day; waste will be compressed in a 'Static Compactor Unit' and transported directly for final disposal using a mechanized process.
- ❑ **Disposal Center:** 'Langariyawas Waste-to-Energy Plant'.
- ❑ **Model:** Developed on the BOT (Build-Operate-Transfer) model, wherein the company will execute all civil, electrical, and mechanical works.

Advanced Quantum, AI, and Makers Labs at MNIT Jaipur –

- ❑ **Inauguration:** June 11, 2026, by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw (Railways, Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & IT).
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry & Project:** Under the Electronics and ICT Academy project of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ❑ **Announced Laboratories –**
 1. Advanced Quantum Computing and Quantum Communication Laboratory.
 2. AI Lab: Affiliated with the IndiaAI Mission.
 3. Makers Lab: Software and hardware training.
 4. **Semiconductor Training Platform:** Lam Research's 'Semiverse' platform for training in semiconductor chip design and manufacturing using 3D virtual environments and digital twin technology.

Rajasthan's First Generative AI Campus at VGU –

- ❑ **Announcement:** June 16, 2026, by Vivekananda Global University (VGU), Jaipur, in partnership with **Google Cloud**.

- ❑ Under this initiative, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cloud technology will be integrated into the curriculum, research, and administrative operations of the university.
- ❑ A **Google Center of Excellence (CoE)** will be established on the campus, focusing on live labs, hackathons, industry-based projects, and work on Agentic AI applications.

Key MoUs relevant to Rajasthan

'Non-financial' MoU between the Rajasthan Agriculture Department and 32 organizations - July 10, 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Pant Krishi Bhawan, Jaipur
- ❑ **Presided by:** Manju Rajpal (Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Horticulture Department, Government of Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Main Objective:** To modernize Rajasthan's agricultural sector, make it sustainable and resilient to future challenges, and implement the vision for natural and organic farming on the ground.
- ❑ **Nature:** All 32 agreements are entirely non-funded; there will be no additional financial burden on the state government.
- ❑ **Model Basis:** Formulated based on suggestions and experiences gathered from various entities during the 'State-level Consultation Workshop' held on January 12, 2026.
- ❑ **32 Key organizations including following:-**
 - ◆ National Institute of Agricultural Marketing.
 - ◆ 10 leading agritech startups.
 - ◆ 20 reputed civil society organizations.
- ❑ Excellent work is being carried out in collaboration with Manipal University, Jaipur, regarding the use of AI in agricultural operations.
- ❑ Special brainstorming sessions were held at 'Shri Ramshantay Organic Farming and Training Centre' and 'Goyal Rural Development Institute, Kota' to promote organic farming.

Jaipur Foot: 2 MoU between BMVSS, Jaipur and Government of Uttar Pradesh for Rehabilitation of Disabled

- ❑ **Institution:** Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayata Samiti Jaipur (Maker of the famous 'Jaipur Foot')
- ❑ **Collaborating Institutions-**
 1. 'Department of Disabled Empowerment' of Government of Uttar Pradesh
 2. 'Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University' (Lucknow-UP)

- ❑ **Signatories:** Dr. Deependra Mehta, Technical Secretary of BMVSS, and Rajesh Kumar Singh of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

'Digital Revolution' in Rajasthan's school education: MoU between the Education Department and Piramal Foundation.

- ❑ Signed between the State Education Department and Piramal Foundation at the Government Secretariat, Jaipur, on July 16, 2026.
- ❑ **Innovation:** Based on AI and Personalized Adaptive Learning (PAL); the Foundation will act as a 'Technical Support Unit' (TSU).
- ❑ **Target Group:** Specifically aimed at improving 'learning outcomes' for students in classes 8-12.
- ❑ **Administrative Vision –**
 - ◆ Creation of a PAL (Personalized Adaptive Learning) dashboard to strengthen data and database governance.
 - ◆ Promoting girls' education and enhancing the transparency of scholarship schemes.

MoU between the Agriculture Department and TAFE JFarm

- ❑ Signed on July 16 with the Agriculture Department, Government of Rajasthan (at Pant Krishi Bhawan, Jaipur).
- ❑ **Main Objective:** To provide modern agricultural machinery (tractors) on rent to small and marginal farmers without any additional service charges.
- ❑ **Technical Integration:** Integration of the 'JFarm Services Platform' with the state's 'Raj Kisan Saathi Portal'.
- ❑ **Vision:** According to Manju Rajpal, Principal Secretary (Agriculture), the goal is to establish Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) at the level of every Gram Panchayat in the state, to be operated by federations, FPOs, or entrepreneurs.

Visit of Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Durgadas Uikey, to Udaipur - MoU between TRI and BSNL for a digital library (July 11, 2026).

- ❑ **Venue:** Manikyalal Verma Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRI), Udaipur.
- ❑ **Representation:** Babulal Kharadi (Minister for Tribal Area Development, Government of Rajasthan).

Scheme under Review	Dharti Aaba Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan. PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan).
India's first Tribal Tele-medicine Centre-	Minister Babulal Kharadi - 'India's first Tribal Tele-medicine Center,' operated in Abu Road (Sirohi) in collaboration with AIIMS Jodhpur, has completed three years of operation. New proposal for a tele-medicine center: For Pratapgarh district.
Establishment of a digital library	<u>Agreement between TRI and BSNL: A library will be established at the Manikyalal Verma Tribal Research and Training Institute (TRI), Udaipur, to assist tribal children in Rajasthan with preparation for competitive examinations.</u>
Booklet released-	' Hum Hain Badlav ' a booklet highlighting the achievements of the 'Navadi Sandarbh Kaushal Karyakram' (Navadi Contextual Skills Program) conducted in tribal ashram hostels and residential schools.
Tribal studio-	Inspection of Banphool Studio (TRI campus, Udaipur) and a proposal by MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat to establish an IIT Jodhpur campus in Udaipur.

- ◆ Union Minister Durgadas Uikey met with players from Rajasthan who are part of India's national lacrosse team.
- ◆ The International Olympic Committee has included 'Lacrosse' for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics.
- ◆ **Mohanlal Gameti:** Represented India at the Asian Lacrosse Games (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) and emerged as the tournament's 'Best Scorer' (secured the gold medal for India by scoring the highest number of goals in the final match against Pakistan).
- ◆ **Sunita Meena:** Currently the captain of the Indian women's lacrosse team; **Neeraj Batra:** National coach for the sport of lacrosse.
- ◆ Financial support is being provided by Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML) to ensure the participation of tribal players at national and international levels.
- ◆ Udaipur Divisional Commissioner Pragya Kevalramani is currently serving as a 'Lacrosse Promoter'.

23rd ARCASIA Forum-2026 (MoU signing)

- ❑ **Proposed dates:** September 11-12, 2026
- ❑ **Main venue:** Jaipur (with some special sessions in Delhi and Agra)
- ❑ **Main theme:** 'Bringing Back Vernacular Wisdom'

❑ **Organizing Organizations and MoU -**

- ◆ The Indian Institute of Architects (IIA)
- ◆ Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB)

- ❑ **Signatories:** Naresh Chand Pareek (LUB) and Tushar Sogani (IIA); approximately 3,500 delegates from over 24 countries are expected to participate.

MoU between Rajasthan Police Academy (RPA) and the University of Manchester (UK) -

- ❑ **Event :** July 28; Police Headquarters (Jaipur)
- ❑ **Signatories:** Shankardutt Sharma (Additional Director, RPA) and Prof. (Dr.) Vimal Kumar Sharma (University of Manchester) - in the distinguished presence of DGP Rajiv Kumar Sharma.
- ❑ **UK Representatives:** Prof. Catherine Robinson, Dr. Emily Bebbington.
- ❑ **Duration:** Effective for 5 years; extendable by mutual consent.
- ❑ **Associated School (Phase I):** 'School of Health Sciences' at the University of Manchester. The agreement encompasses distance learning, certificate courses, online and offline training, visiting professorship arrangements, and specialized studies regarding mental health, stress management, workplace well-being, and suicide prevention among police personnel.

Agreement on Financial Incentives for Startups and MSMEs in Rajasthan – July 27, 2026

- ❑ An agreement was signed between RIICO and the Rajasthan Venture Capital Fund (RVCF) for the 'India Growth Fund-IV'. Under this, RIICO will make an additional investment of Rs. 30 crore, raising its total investment commitment to Rs. 75 crore.
- ❑ **Fund Size and Target:** The total fund size is Rs. 250 crore; the Chief Minister announced that financial assistance would be provided to 25 startups through this fund during the current year.
- ❑ **Nodal Officer:** Suresh Kumar Ola, MD, RIICO.
- ❑ **RVCF Track Record:** Investments in 44 companies across three funds; notable successful multi-bagger startups include –
 - ◆ **Mosambee** (Synergistic Financial): A fintech company acquired by Pine Labs.
 - ◆ **The Wooden Street Furnitures:** Stake sold to WestBridge Capital and Premji Invest.
 - ◆ **NPST (Network People Services Technologies):** Listed on the NSE SME Exchange.

Rajasthan-Australia Bilateral Cooperation

- ❑ **Event :** 14 July 2026 at Lok Bhawan, Jaipur
 - ◆ Haribhau Bagde (Governor, Rajasthan)
 - ◆ Paul Murphy (High-level Australian Diplomat and Consul General)
 - ◆ Najeen Luth (Assistant to the Australian Consul General)
 - ◆ **Jaipur, 15 July.** Australian Consul General Paul Murphy met with Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma.
- ❑ **Three main pillars of cooperation –**
 - ◆ **Higher Education Exchange:** Focusing on Australian innovations, Dialogue and discussions will be held via video conferencing between Vice-Chancellors of Rajasthan universities and Australian academicians and Vice-Chancellors.
 - ◆ **Arid Agriculture:** Higher yields with less water.
 - ◆ **Preservation of Tribal Culture:** Connecting the cultures of Australia's Aboriginal people and the tribal communities of Rajasthan.
 - ◆ Efforts are underway to conserve the associated heritage, and an Australian delegation is scheduled to visit the West

Zone Cultural Centre in Udaipur within the next month or two.

Environmental and Geographical Developments

77th Van Mahotsav at AFRI, Jodhpur

- ❑ The event was celebrated on July 7, 2026, at the Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur – an institute under the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) – under the chairmanship of Director Dr. A.K. Tripathi.
- ❑ Scientist Dr. Sachin Sharma delivered a special lecture titled "**Management of Lantana-Affected Areas: Strategies for Ecological Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation**," highlighting the scientific management of the invasive alien species **Lantana**.

Historic 'One-Time Settlement' among four states regarding outstanding payments related to the Narmada Water Dispute (1979); Western Rajasthan to receive surplus monsoon water –

- ❑ **Agreement:** Concluded on July 7 in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.
- ❑ The Chief Ministers of **Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra** signed the agreement to settle outstanding payments related to the '**Narmada Award**'.
- ❑ **Key Focus:** Final resolution of decades-old disputes regarding the states' share in the construction costs of the '**Sardar Sarovar Project**'.
 1. Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal: Water allocation among the four states was determined through the 'Award' issued in 1979.
 2. Upcoming benefits and plans for Rajasthan –
 - ◆ A Detailed Project Report (DPR) is being prepared – in line with the State Government's 2026-27 budget announcement – to store this surplus water; this will benefit the deprived and resource-scarce regions of Western Rajasthan, providing a permanent solution to the drinking water crisis.

UNCCD Pre-COP Dialogue: Gang Canal Centenary Year

- ❑ **Event :** Churu (Hotel Grand Shekhawati) on July 26th, at the initiative of Union Minister of Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal, as part of the Gang Canal Centenary Year (1927-2027).
- ❑ **Theme:** 'A Country of the Gang Canal: Land, Water, and Climate Resilience in the Thar Desert'
- ❑ The United Nations has declared the global year 2026 as the '**International Year of Rangelands and Herders**'.
- ❑ **Organizing agencies:** A joint effort of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and ATREE - Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment.
- ❑ **Locality:** Churu's high thermal and climate sensitivity and the Tal Chhapar Sanctuary (blackbuck and grassland/rangeland ecosystem).
- ❑ **Administrative Initiatives:** A special presentation on the local '**Heat Action Plan**' by the Churu District Administration in the closing session.
- ❑ **Key Partner Research Institutes:** AFRI (Jodhpur), SAC-ISRO (Ahmedabad), IGRI, ATARI, CIAH (Bikaner), and Maharaja Ganga Singh University.
- ❑ **Key Technical and Policy Agendas:** Land degradation neutrality, soil health, salinity control, Great Indian Bustard conservation, and satellite-based land change analysis.

Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0: Central Assistance of Rs 537 Crore for Rajasthan –

- ❑ The **Ministry of Jal Shakti**, Government of India, approved central assistance amounting to Rs 537.70 crore for Rajasthan for the financial year 2026-27 on July 17, 2026.
- ❑ **Allocation of assistance funds:** Rs 537.70 crore
 - ◆ General Area: Rs 307.45 crore.
 - ◆ Scheduled Castes: Rs 177.73 crore.
 - ◆ Scheduled Tribes: Rs 52.52 crore.
- ❑ Out of the 3,241 physically completed schemes in the state, 2,520 schemes will soon be formally dedicated ('Jal Arpan') in a phased manner.

General Body Meeting of the Rajasthan Protected Area Conservation Society (RPACS) - July 13, 2026 (Secretariat, Jaipur)

- ❑ **Chaired by:** V. Srinivas (Chief Secretary, Rajasthan)
 - ◆ Decision taken to organize a 'National Level Workshop' in the year 2026.
 - ◆ Representatives from the Central Government and subject matter experts will be inducted into the committee to make wildlife management scientific.
 - ◆ Approved annual budget for wildlife management (2026-27): Rs 144.43 crore.

'Mojari Craft of Jodhpur' becomes Rajasthan's 23rd Geographical Indication (GI Tag) -

- ❑ The Central Government's Geographical Indications Registry (Chennai) has granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to 'Mojari Craft of Jodhpur,' a traditional and world-renowned handicraft of Jodhpur.
 - ◆ Global recognition and prosperity for a 200-year-old heritage and its artisans.
 - ◆ Currently, the domestic market for Jodhpuri Mojari and leather products is valued at approximately Rs 100 crore.
- ❑ Associated organizations (applicants) to whom the tag was granted:
 - ◆ Jodhpur Handicraft Exporters Association.
 - ◆ Gram Vikas Seva Sansthan (Pipar City, Jodhpur).
- ❑ **Collaborating institutions:** Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) and the Textile Committee under the Union Ministry of Textiles.

Factual Details	Number
Total entries up to 31 December 2025-	21
Joint Tag (Phulkari)- Joint rights held by the three states of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. • Registered as 'India (Punjab, Haryana-Rajasthan)' in official Central Government records.	+ 1
Year 2026 - Mojari Craft of Jodhpur (Mojari Craft of Jodhpur) - Handicraft / Leather craft 735 - Certificate of Registration: 28-03-2026 Application Date: 04.01.2021	+ 1
Total GI Tag Status	23

- ❑ **Note: Ker-Sangri (Sangri of Khejri):** Since its application number 2001 is currently marked as 'New Application' (under process) on the live portal, it will not be included in this final list for the time being.
 - ◆ Applicant Name: Agriculture Produce Market Committee
 - ◆ Applicant Address: NH-62, Ganganagar Road, Behind Kishan Bhawan, Rajasthan
 - ◆ Date of Filing: 02-04-2026
 - ◆ Goods: Agriculture
- ❑ **Announcement of Total GI Tag = 24**
- ❑ **Total notified GI Tag = 23**

A massive escape reservoir with a 28 km circumference in the Thar Desert: An artificial lake

- ❑ On July 24, details regarding the achievement of the '**Burji 1356**' (RD-1356) escape reservoir—constructed under the Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP) for the Jaisalmer-Barmer region—were shared.
- ❑ **Water storage capacity:** 1,406 MCFT
- ❑ This reservoir is located in the Ghatiyali area of Jaisalmer district; it has a circumference of 28 kilometers and a depth of 13 meters.
- ❑ Its primary objective is to safely divert excess water during periods of high discharge in the canal or in emergency situations. During the monsoon season, when the demand for irrigation decreases, vast quantities of water often go to waste by flowing across the international border due to the lack of a storage system.
- ❑ **Seepage Prevention Technology:** Special HDPE sheets have been laid on the beds and slopes of the reservoirs to prevent water seepage in the sandy soil.
- ❑ **Proposed Benefits:** These four reservoirs will supply additional water to **43 major drinking water projects** under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), thereby ensuring drinking water security for over 20 lakh families across 6,707 villages, particularly during canal closure periods.
- ❑ **4 Escape Reservoirs Approved under Jal Jeevan Mission:**
 1. **Burji 1356** (RD-1356) Escape Reservoir: Jaisalmer
 2. **RD-507** (Sattasar) Escape Reservoir: Bikaner
 3. **RD-750** (Gajner) Escape Reservoir: Bikaner
 4. **RD-1121** Escape Reservoir: Jodhpur

Renovation of Eight Dams in Jaipur –

- ◆ Schemes worth Rs 2.81 crore approved by the **Jaipur Zila Parishad** on July 16: Issued under the convergence of (1) Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) and (2) Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee District Upliftment Scheme.
- ◆ **Objectives:** Rainwater conservation, strengthening of irrigation systems, and improvement of rural water availability.
- ◆ **The eight dams are:** Agar Sagar (Mauzmadabad), Badsolikyan (Mauzmadabad), Benikheda Rahlana (Dudu), Dantli (Andhi), Harsoli (Dudu), Jaitpura (Sambhar Lake), Nimla (Andhi), and Shyampura (Kotkhavda).

Rajasthan Tops in E-auction of Major Minerals

- ❑ **Achievement:** According to data released on July 21, Rajasthan secured the top position nationwide with the e-auction of 141 major mineral blocks.
- ❑ **Breakdown of blocks:**
 - ◆ 105 mining leases, 30 composite licenses
 - ◆ 01 exploration license, and 07 critical and strategic mineral blocks were auctioned in Rajasthan by the Central Government.
 - ◆ **Most auctioned mineral:** Limestone (101 blocks)
 - ◆ **Other minerals:** Iron ore (13), Base metal (8), Rare earth elements (4), Siliceous earth (4), Manganese (3), Gold (2), Potash and Halite (2), and Garnet, Emerald, Fluorite, and Rock phosphate (1 each).
 - ◆ **Target for the current financial year:** A target of 55 blocks has been set for the year 2026-27; out of these, the e-auction of 14 blocks has already been completed within the initial 3.5 months.
 - ◆ **Progress over the last 2.5 years:** 102 major mineral blocks were auctioned.
 - ◆ A '**Post-Auction Facilitation Cell**' was constituted within the Mines Department to ensure the smooth acquisition of environmental and other clearances for the auctioned blocks.
 - ◆ Rajasthan's unique system: Unlike other states where auction preparations are handled by transaction advisors whereas in Rajasthan, the Department of Mines and

Geology itself executes the entire process, ranging from the preparation of blocks to the e-auction.

Major Economic and Political Event

Prosperity through Cooperation and the Mobility Revolution: Launch of 'Bharat Taxi' in Rajasthan –

- ❑ **Venue:** On July 25, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Union Minister of State for Cooperation Murlidhar Mohol flagged off the 'Bharat Taxi' fleet (cabs, bikes, and autos) from HCM RIPA, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Operating Entity:** Operated by Sahakar Taxi Co-operative Limited (Chairman: Jayen Mehta).
- ❑ **Model:** 'Saarathi hi Maalik' (Driver-as-Owner / Co-ownership).

- ❑ **Social Security Net:** Drivers ('Saarthis') receive full earnings without additional commission deductions, plus free accident insurance cover of up to Rs. 5 lakh.
- ❑ **Geographical Expansion:** After Delhi, Gujarat, and Maharashtra, Rajasthan became the fourth state in the country to adopt this.
 - ◆ In Jaipur: Over 30,000 'Saarthis' and 7 lakh customers have joined.
 - ◆ National-level target: 500 cities.
 - ◆ MoUs: Signed by Sahakar Taxi Cooperative with RCDF, Jaipur Municipal Corporation, Jaipur Metro, and Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC).

5th Foundation Day of the Ministry of Cooperation

- ❑ **Event:** July 6 – Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- ❑ **Key Speaker:** Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Amit Shah
- ❑ Key innovations in Rajasthan's cooperative sector

Subject	Factual Information
Secured First Place at the National Level –	• M-PACS Formation: 1,977 M-PACS were formed. • e-PACS Transactions: 10 crore transactions (approximately one-third share). • Seed Cooperative: Membership of the 'Indian Seed Cooperative Society'.
'Sahkar Van'	• Location and Area: On 64 acres of land in Sumel village (Jaipur). • Plantation Method: Japanese 'Miyawaki' and conventional methods. • Key Trees: Native trees of the state – Khejri, Rohida, and Neem.
Dairy and Milk Cooperative Record	• Turnover: ₹10,000 crore – the highest in RCDF's 47-year history. • Milk Procurement: Increased from 38 lakh liters to 45 lakh liters.

State-Level Review of the Department of Cooperatives: 'Key Performance Indicators' (KPI) Ranking-

- ❑ **Date of Release:** July 10, 2026
- ❑ **Key Presenter:** Dr. Samit Sharma (Secretary to Government & Registrar, Department of Cooperatives, Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Event:** Government Secretariat, Jaipur (via Video Conferencing)
- ❑ **Core Objective:** To deliver the benefits of cooperative schemes transparently to rural Rajasthan, farmers, livestock rearers, and women through healthy competition.
- ❑ **06 Bases of Evaluation-**
 1. Grain Storage
 2. Digitization
 3. Business Expansion
 4. Safety Net
 5. Cooperation within Cooperatives
 6. Doorstep Banking

- ❑ Rajasthan Cooperative KPI Ranking (July 2026)

Position	District Central Cooperative Bank	M-PACS (Village Service Cooperative Society)
First	Sikar (67.42 points)	Nimod (77.50 points)
Second	Bundi	Bhiya, Bundi (76.50 points)
Third	Jodhpur	Ghat ka Barana, Bundi (74.00 points)

Rajasthan Leads in National Expressway and Greenfield Corridor Construction –

- ❑ **Achievement (July 23):** According to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, Rajasthan ranks first in the country for the construction of the longest stretches of national expressways and greenfield high-speed corridors.

- ❑ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari provided this information in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.
- ❑ **Length constructed in Rajasthan:** Construction of **1,192 kilometers** of expressways/high-speed corridors has been completed in the state so far—the highest among any state in the country.
- ❑ **National share:** Rajasthan alone accounts for approximately 25% of the total national high-speed corridor/greenfield expressway network (4,809 km) being developed in the country by July 2026.
 - ◆ Total sanctioned length: 10,389 kilometers.
 - ◆ Length constructed so far: 4,809 kilometers.

Rajasthan's performance in the Investment Friendliness Index 2026 (released by NITI Aayog).

- ❑ **Background:** The announcement to develop this index was made in the Union Budget 2025-26 following the Governing Council meeting held in July 2024 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.
- ❑ **Rajasthan's ranking in the index:**
 - ◆ **Category:** Investment Friendliness – **Leading State.**
 - ◆ **Overall ranking: 10th place nationwide.**
 - 8th place in the 'Large States' category.
 - **Simplification of regulations:** 2nd place.
 - **Investment promotion policies:** 3rd place.
 - **Availability of resources:** 5th place.

Departure of the first fully loaded export container rake from ICD (Inland Container Depot) Jodhpur –

- ❑ **Operator:** ICD Jodhpur, operated by Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Limited (RAJSICO).
 - ◆ **Rake:** In railway technical terminology, a complete train set formed by coupling multiple freight wagons together is referred to as a 'rake'.
- ❑ **Achievement:** On July 23, a train rake—loaded 100% with export cargo (containing no empty containers)—departed from ICD Jodhpur for Mundra Port (Gujarat) for the first time.

- ❑ **Container Supply:** To ensure the timely availability of empty containers for exporters, 570 empty 40-foot containers were brought to Jodhpur from Sonipat (Haryana).

Department of Industries and Commerce
Initiative: '100 Icons of Rajasthan' (Launch: July 10, 2026)

- ❑ 55 women and 45 men contributing to the state's development will be featured in 'The 100 Icons Compendium' and will gain direct participation in policy-making and strategic dialogues.
- ❑ **Nodal Department:** Department of Industries and Commerce, Rajasthan
- ❑ **Application Deadline:** August 15, 2026 (Online at industries.rajabsthan.gov.in)
- ❑ **Selection Criteria:**
 - 55 women (under 55 years of age)
 - 45 men (under 45 years of age)

Goal to quadruple textile exports by 2030: 'State-level Dedicated Textile Cell' constituted-

- ❑ **Date:** July 12, 2026
- ❑ **Policy:** Rajasthan Textile and Apparel Policy-2025
- ❑ **Proposed:** 'Textile Summit' in October 2026
- ❑ **Textile Export Action Plan:** A first for the state Plan prepared for the state level as well as for 11 districts (comprising 7 'Champion' and 4 'Aspirational' districts).
 - ◆ **7 Champion districts:** Ajmer, Bhilwara, Jaipur, Banswara, Chittorgarh, Jodhpur, and Kota
 - ◆ **4 Aspirational districts:** Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Nagaur, and Churu
- ❑ **Export targets and statistics-**
 - ◆ **National:** The Government of India has set a target to reach textile and apparel exports of US\$ 100 billion by 2030.
 - ◆ **Current contribution:** In the year 2024-25, the state's total exports stood at Rs 97,171 crore, with the textile sector's share being Rs 13,500 crore (over 13%).
 - ◆ **Rajasthan's ranking-**
 - Wool production: First in the country (approximately 47%)
 - Cotton production: Fifth in the country.

Rajasthan Deregulation Phase-1: Monthly Impact Assessment Report (June 2026) - Released on July 17, 2026 -

- ❑ **Issued by:** The Deregulation Cell constituted under the Office of the Chief Secretary (V. Srinivas).
- ❑ **Objective:** To strengthen Ease of Doing Business and digital governance through regulatory reforms and the 'RajNivesh' single-window system.
- ❑ **Key pillars of Phase-1 reforms:**
 - ◆ Simplification of approval processes.
 - ◆ Expansion of online services.
 - ◆ Risk-based inspection system.
 - ◆ Reduction in compliance burden.
- ❑ **Investment:** Investment proposals worth over Rs. 1,03,003.64 crore (Rs. 1.03 lakh crore) were received on the RajNivesh portal in June 2026.
 - ◆ **District-wise performance -**
 - **Leaders:** Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, and Kota.
 - **Rapid growth (50%+):** Compared to the previous month - Didwana-Kuchaman, Sirohi, Beawar, Karauli, and Phalodi.
 - ◆ **Improvement in service disposal timelines**
 - Average approval time for new electricity connections reduced from 20 days (in the previous financial year) to 10 days.
 - Average approval time for tourism projects reduced from 22 days to 16 days.
 - Participation of the female workforce in technical and operational roles within industrial units increased from 26% to 32%.

India's First 'Vidhayi Gaurav Yatra': A historic gathering of former and current legislators –

- ❑ **Event Date:** July 15, 2026 - Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Jaipur
- ❑ This is the first official event marking the 'Amrit Kaal' celebrations of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.
- ❑ **Presided over by:** Vasudev Devnani (Speaker, Legislative Assembly)
- ❑ **Details of Chief Guests –**
 - ◆ **Inauguration:** Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
 - ◆ **Valedictory Session:** Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan.
 - ◆ **Guests of Honour:** Governor Haribhau

Kisanrao Bagde and Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma.

- ◆ **Minister for Parliamentary Affairs:** Jogaram Patel
- ◆ **Leader of the Opposition:** Tikaram Jolly (Congress)
- ◆ **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association:** Secretary Sandeep Sharma
- ❑ **Key Discussion:** A discussion on **24 significant** laws enacted over the past 75 years, in which 16 experienced former and incumbent MLAs participated.
- ❑ The inauguration of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly took place on **Chaitra Shukla Pratipada** of the Vikram Samvat 2006 (Hindu calendar).
- ❑ 410 public representatives participated in the event.
 - ◆ 237 former MLAs.
 - ◆ 163 incumbent MLAs.
 - ◆ 10 additional former MLAs attended who had not registered for the event.
 - ◆ A total of **35 Members** of Parliament – comprising **25 from** the Lok Sabha and **10 from** the Rajya Sabha – gathered on a single platform.
- ❑ **Awards:** A total of 26 incumbent and former MLAs were honored for their contributions toward strengthening the House's glorious tradition (having served six or more terms). Notable names include Gulabchand Kataria, C.P. Joshi, Kirodi Lal Meena, Devi Singh Bhati, Rajendra Rathore, Deependra Singh Shekhawat, Tara Bhandari, Pandit Ramkishan Sharma, Ram Narayan Meena, Rao Rajendra Singh, etc.
- ❑ Trolley bag kits were presented to the 200 incumbent and 495 former MLAs of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (totaling 695 members). (Contents included:)
 - ◆ A copy of the Constitution.
 - ◆ A booklet containing Acts enacted from 1952 to the present.
 - ◆ A telephone directory of former and incumbent members.
 - ◆ Literature provided by the Tourism and Cooperative Departments.
- ❑ **'Vidhayi Gaurav Yatra' - Session I:**
 - ◆ **Moderated by:** Vasudev Devnani (Incumbent Speaker), Dr. C.P. Joshi (Former Assembly Speaker), and Sandeep Sharma (Secretary, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association).
- ❑ **'Vidhayi Gaurav Yatra' - Session II:**
 - ◆ **Moderated by:** Vasudev Devnani (Incumbent Speaker), Former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje, and Sandeep Sharma (Secretary, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association).

India-UK CETA: Dispatch of two export consignments from Jaipur to the UK –

- ❑ The flag-off ceremony for the **first jewellery export consignment** was organized by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council in collaboration with the Office of the Joint Director General of Foreign Trade, Jaipur.

15.07.2026	First jewellery export consignment	Multi-product export consignment
Point of departure-	Air Cargo Complex, Sanganer International Airport, Jaipur.	ICD CONCOR Depot, Kanakpura, Jaipur
Mode of transport-	Air route (Air Cargo Parcels)	Rail/Dry port route
Partner nodal agency-	<u>GJEPC</u> (Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council)	<u>EPCH</u> (Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts)
Main product-	Handcrafted jewellery made of gold, silver, and platinum, and studded with diamonds and colored gemstones.	Handicrafts, pharmaceuticals, and jewelry.
Consignment quantity and total value-	+ 10 million USD (Part of the nationwide +\$10M initiative)	04 containers; Total value: 1,68,395.54 GBP
Participating firms-	Dwarka Gems Ltd., Gallant Vinayak Jewels India, Vaibhav Ltd. Jewellery, Global	M/s Parampara, M/s Poly Medicure Limited, M/s ArtAsia.
Tariff and customs duty benefits-	Elimination of import duty of up to 4% levied by the UK.	Direct and easy access for Rajasthan's products to the UK market.
Future export targets-	Jewellery exports to the UK projected to rise from + 754 million to +2.5 billion USD over the next 3 years.	Long-term benefits for Rajasthan's cottage industries and MSME sector .

❖ Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)

- Establishment & Ministry: Established in 1966 by the **Ministry of Commerce, Government of India**.
- Core Objective: To promote and facilitate the country's gem and jewellery exports.
- Autonomy: Granted the status of an autonomous body in 1998.
- Membership Base: Currently represents over 11,000 members across the country.
- Headquarters: Mumbai; Regional Offices: New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Surat, and **Jaipur**.
- Role: Providing business services to exporters, representing the industry in international trade negotiations (e.g., the CETA agreement), and promoting Indian craftsmanship and jewellery on the global stage.

Rajasthan's Textiles and Handicrafts at Bharat Tex 2026 - July 14-17, Bharat Mandapam (New Delhi)

- ❑ **Organizers:** Bharat Tex Trade Federation (BTTF) and the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.
- ❑ **Rajasthan Pavilion Theme:** Jaipur's 'Pink City'

- ◆ **Entrance:** Modeled after 'Ajmeri Gate'.
- ◆ **Key Products:** Bagru and Sanganeri block prints, Kota Doria, embroidery, appliqué work, and tie-and-dye (Bandhej/Leheriya); 12 stalls were set up.
- ◆ **Live Demonstrations:** 'Bagru Block Print' and 'Tie and Dye' (Bandhej/Lehariya)
- ◆ **Nodal Departments:** Department of Industries and Commerce (Government of Rajasthan), RIICO, BIP, and RAJSICO

'District Good Governance Index' (DGGI) in Rajasthan

- ❑ **Announcement:** On May 15, 2026, the Central Government's Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances issued a work order to implement the '**District Good Governance Index**' in Rajasthan for the first time.
- ❑ The Central Government's DARPG department has appointed **CGG Hyderabad** as the **knowledge and technical partner** for the Rajasthan project.
- ❑ **Cost and Timeline:** The project will incur an expenditure of approximately Rs. 39.29 lakh, and the final report will be prepared within the next six months.
- ❑ **Key Evaluation Criteria:** Administrative ranking of each district—determined by scheme implementation, service delivery, administrative efficiency, and public amenities.

'International Election Conference' in Jaipur: ELCs to be established in every school across the country by July 15, 2026.

- ❑ **Theme:** International Conference on Elections, Media, and Voter Education: Strengthening Democracy through Informed Participation.
- ❑ **Organizer:** Chief Electoral Officer (Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Partner Institutions:**
 - ◆ India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM), New Delhi
 - ◆ National Law University (NLU), Jodhpur
 - ◆ Representatives from 7 countries participated:
 - India, Georgia, Croatia, Uzbekistan
 - Nepal, Philippines, Guyana
- ❑ **Panel 1:** Theme – Beyond Broadcasting: The Evolving Role of **Media in Voter Education**.
- ❑ **Panel 2:** Theme – Media Certification and Monitoring: **Promoting Transparency, Equity, and Public Trust**.
- ❑ **Announcement:** Election Commission Director General Ashish Goyal – Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs) will be established in 'every school' across the country.
- ❑ On National Voters' Day, 1,000 students from across the nation will be felicitated for outstanding work.

Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code (UCC) 2026

- ❑ **Committee Formation:** An official

announcement was made on June 22, and a 5-member high-level committee was constituted to draft the 'Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code, 2026'.

❑ **Committee Composition -**

- ◆ **Chairperson:** Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai (Retired Judge, Supreme Court)
- ◆ **Members:** 1. Shatrughna Singh (Retired IAS), 2. Basant Singh Chhaba (Additional Advocate General), 3. Ramswaroop Agarwal (Retired Principal), 4. Dr. Shuchi Chauhan.
- ◆ **Member-Secretary:** Additional Chief Secretary (Home Department), Government of Rajasthan (Bhaskar A. Sawant).
- ◆ **Tribal Protection:** In accordance with the State Cabinet's decision dated April 14, 2026, the traditional customs and practices of Rajasthan's tribal communities will be preserved.
- ◆ **Focus Areas:** Complete ban on polygamy, mandatory registration of live-in relationships, and equality regarding divorce and property rights.
- ❑ Public suggestions regarding the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Rajasthan have been invited until August 5, 2026; a questionnaire comprising 19 questions is available.
- ❑ **Constitutional Basis:** Article 44 of Part IV (Directive Principles of State Policy - DPSP) of the Constitution ("The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India").

❑ **National Status of UCC Implementation:**

- ◆ **First State** (Colonial era): Goa
- ◆ **Second State** (Independent India): Uttarakhand
- ◆ **Third State** (First in the Northeast): Assam
- ◆ **21st Law Commission:** The UCC is deemed non-enforceable (falling under Directive Principles of State Policy - DPSP). The Commission stated that a UCC is 'neither necessary nor desirable'; instead, emphasis should be placed on gender-based reforms within personal laws.

Orientation and Inspection Program for RPSC Members

- ❑ **Key Initiative:** This program was organized on July 20, 2026, at the special initiative of

the **41st Chairman** (9th Acting Chairman) of the RPSC, Lieutenant **Colonel Kesari Singh**.

- ❑ **Objective:** To establish better coordination between members and officials by familiarizing them with the Commission's internal processes, organizational structure, security standards, and technical aspects.

Vasudev Devnani's 'PRIDE' Orientation Program in Kolkata – July 3, Kolkata (West Bengal)

- ❑ **Organizing Body:** This national orientation program was held under the joint auspices of the Lok Sabha Secretariat's 'Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies' (PRIDE) and the West Bengal Legislative Assembly.
- ❑ **Subject:** Address on 'Financial Functions and Budgetary Process in the Parliamentary System'.
- ❑ Currently, the Speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly holds the financial authority to undertake development and administrative works worth up to Rs. 50 lakh annually without requiring prior approval.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Visit to Rajasthan –

- ❑ **Date:** July 4, 2026 | National launch of the 'Revised UDAN Scheme' (worth ₹28,840 crore) and inauguration of the new Jodhpur Airport terminal (costing ₹480 crore) –
 - ◆ **Commencement of regular flight services:** July 12, 2026
 - ◆ **Chief Guest:** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India)
 - ◆ **First Passenger:** Chandravir Singh
- ❑ **Employment Generation:** Appointment letters for various government jobs were handed over to more than 54,000 youths of the state.
- ❑ **Infrastructure:** Inauguration and foundation stone laying for projects worth Rs. 1.06 lakh crore, including the country's first 'Greenfield Integrated Refinery' at Balotra (Pachpadra) and Jaipur Metro Phase-2.
- ❑ **HPCL Rajasthan Refinery**
 - ◆ **Cost:** Approximately Rs. 80,000 crore.
 - ◆ The refinery has a 'Nelson Complexity Index' of 17. Technically, it ranks among the top 25% of refineries globally. India has become the country with the fourth-largest refining capacity in the world.

Miscellaneous

NRCC Bikaner initiates the process to secure recognition for the white-colored 'Nukra' horse –

- ❑ **Nodal Institute:** National Research Centre on Equines (NRCE), Bikaner
- ❑ The first scientific survey and documentation of the 'Nukra' horse is underway; upon receiving official approval at the central level, the 'Nukra' will become India's next official indigenous horse breed.
- ❑ **Physical Characteristics –**
 - ◆ **Color:** Completely white.
 - ◆ **Height:** Approximately 160–170 centimeters.

88th Raising Day – Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

- ❑ **Event Date:** July 27; Venue: Recruit Training Centre, Jodhpur
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India
- ❑ **Key Feature:** The world's largest paramilitary force, with a strength of over 3.25 lakh personnel.
 - ◆ CRPF was established on July 27, 1939, in Neemuch, Madhya Pradesh, as the 'Crown Representative's Police'.
 - ◆ Renamed as the 'Central Reserve Police Force' (CRPF) on December 28, 1949, under the 'Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949'.

Rajasthan's first MLFF tolling system at Daulatpura Toll Plaza (NH-48) – June 19, 2026.

- ❑ **Nodal Agency:** National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
- ❑ **MLFF:** Multi-Lane Free Flow.
- ❑ **Technology:** ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras + FASTag-based automated RFID/electronic toll collection.
- ❑ **Rules & Timeline:** E-notice issued if FASTag is invalid or has insufficient balance; double the fee charged as a penalty if payment is not made within 72 hours.
- ❑ **Expansion Plan:** The MLFF system will also be implemented at the Shahjahanpur and Manoharpur toll plazas to make the NH-48 corridor completely barrier-free.

❑ **Previously established national centers:**

- ◆ Chorasi Toll Plaza – Gujarat
- ◆ Mundka-Bakkarwala Toll Plaza – Delhi

20 kW capacity Akashvani FM transmitter at Ramgarh (Jaisalmer) – June 11, 2026

- ❑ Inaugurated by Ashwini Vaishnaw (Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & IT) from Akashvani Jaipur
- ❑ **FM transmitters in Rajasthan:** The count has risen to 39.
- ❑ **Coverage:** 80 km radius and approximately 20,000 sq. km of the border region in Jaisalmer district.
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry and Organization:** Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Prasar Bharati (Akashvani/AIR)

7th LEADS Report 2025 – Rajasthan

- ❑ **Released:** May 13, 2026; Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi.
- ❑ Rajasthan Specific (LEADS 2025 Ranking) –
 - ◆ **Category and Classification:** Rajasthan has been placed in the 'Aspirers' (Growth-Seekers) category within the 'Landlocked States' group. The state is in the initial phase of institutional strengthening and foundational development of its logistics system.

Somnath Swabhiman Parv (1025–2025)

- ❑ Celebrated nationwide on May 11, 2026, in accordance with the directives of the Government of India. This festival was organized by the Ministry of Culture to commemorate the completion of **1,000 years** since the **first attack** on the **Somnath Temple** and **75 years** since the temple's reconstruction.
- ❑ **State Level:** The main event was organized at the **Shri Jharkhand Mahadev Temple** in Jaipur. Alongside the capital, Jaipur, special religious and cultural events were also held at prominent Shiva temples (Mahadev temples) across 41 districts of the state.

Important One Liners

National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU)

- ◆ V. Srinivas (Chief Secretary, Rajasthan) inspected the temporary campus of NFSU at Tower No. 8, Pratap Nagar (Jaipur's coaching hub) on July 11, 2026; the permanent campus is proposed to be located at Daulatpura, Jaipur.

Statue of 'Lord Buddha'

- ◆ Unveiled by **Ramdas Athawale**, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, at Abu Road (Sirohi) on July 13, 2026.

East African country Malawi

- ◆ An **8-member delegation** underwent an 8-week training program on the technique of manufacturing the '**Jaipur Foot**' (a global brand of prosthetic limbs) at the '**Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti**' (BMVSS) in Jaipur, with the support of the Ministry of External Affairs (Government of India) and the Economic Cooperation Programme.

University of Homeopathy: Jaipur

- ◆ Convocation ceremony-Birla auditorium: Jaipur on July 16 with the chief presence of Governor of Rajasthan Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde and Union Minister of State for Ayush Pratap Rao Jadhav.
- ◆ **The world's first homeopathy university which was established in Rajasthan in the year**
 - **Founder:** Former MP Dr. Manoj Rajoria.
 - **Source of inspiration:** Dr. Girendrapal.

424th Meeting of the RSMML Board of Directors

- ◆ **Schedule:** July 23 Government Secretariat, Jaipur
- ◆ **Chief Secretary:** V.K. by Srinivasa.
- ◆ **Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited**
 - Established: 30 October
 - Headquarters: Udaipur
 - Registered Office: Jaipur

Special Vendor Development Program for SC/ST Entrepreneurs

- ◆ An 'Entrepreneur Awareness and Special Vendor Development Program (EA-SVDP)' was organized on July 7, 2026, at the Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Welfare Society (Jhalana), Jaipur, under the National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) initiative of the Union Ministry of MSME.
- ◆ **Organizers:** National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI), Rajasthan Chapter.
- ◆ **Chief Guest:** Smt. Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME.

CAZRI, Jodhpur: Translation Training Program

- ◆ Organized by the Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC), Jodhpur-2, under the aegis of the Central Translation Bureau, New Delhi, from July 20-24, 2026.
- ◆ **Presided over by:** Dr. S.P.S. Tanwar.
- ◆ **Training:** 25 officers and employees are participating.

Launch of 144 RSRTC 'Blue Line Express' buses

- ◆ Launched on July 26 from Heerapura Bus Terminal, Jaipur; features include CCTV cameras, panic buttons, location tracking systems, emergency alert systems, automatic announcement systems, and reverse sensors. LED TVs installed on a pilot basis in 5 new buses from the Vaishali Nagar depot to boost non-operational revenue.

Construction of three welcome gates in Jaipur by the JDA

- ◆ Target to complete construction within a six-month timeframe at an estimated cost of ₹5.36 crore.
- ◆ Showcasing environmental conservation and Rajasthani folk culture through the creative recycling of waste materials.
 - **Theme:** Delhi Kunda Mod (Amer Road) - 'Khamma Ghani'
 - **Theme:** Ghat Ki Guni Toll Plaza - 'Lahariya' design

- **Theme:** Ganga Marg - 'Padharo Mhare Des'

'One Nation, One Subscription' Scheme: Rajasthan

- ◆ Parliamentary Answer: Data presented in the Lok Sabha by the Minister of State for Education, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar (July 27, 2026)
- ◆ Total national coverage: 7,073 higher education institutions + 426 R&D institutions = 7,499 institutions.
- ◆ ONOS coverage in Rajasthan –
 - Higher education institutions: 629
 - Research & Development institutions: 10
- Total institutions covered: 639

Devasthan Department - 'Guru Vandan Sandesh' : 2026

- ◆ On the occasion of Guru Purnima (July 29), and as stated by Devasthan Commissioner Pragya Kevalramani, the Devasthan Department honored 516 saints and **mahants** (heads of religious orders) across all districts of the state under the 'Guru Vandan Sandesh' initiative. Officials visited their **ashrams**, **maths** (monasteries), or temples to felicitate them and present Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma's special 'Guru Vandan Sandesh' message, along with a sacred coconut (**shrifal**), shawl, **dupatta** (stole), sweets, and a cash amount of Rs 2,100.

Girls' Sainik School: Hathikheda, Ajmer

- ◆ **Foundation Stone:** Laid on July 20 by Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani; the school will be constructed on 30 acres of land at an estimated cost of Rs. 20.35 crore.
- ◆ **Construction:** Under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

Jaipur's Neelima Arora Scales Mount Everest

- ◆ In May 2026, Neelima Arora from Jaipur successfully hoisted the Tricolour atop Mount Everest (altitude 8,848.86 meters), despite suffering from Thalassemia Minor (a genetic blood disorder).
- ◆ She became the first woman in the world

to reach the summit of Everest while battling this genetic condition. Neelima currently works as a Silicon Validation Engineer in California, USA.

486th Birth Anniversary of Maharana Pratap

- ◆ Celebrated on June 17, 2026, according to the Hindu calendar (Jyeshtha Shukla Tritiya), the occasion was marked by a grand **Deepotsav** (festival of lights)—featuring the illumination of 21,000 lamps—for the first time at his birthplace, Kumbhalgarh Fort.
- ◆ The book **Maharana: The Story of the Rulers of Udaipur**, authored by historian Brian Masters, was launched in May 2026. This fifth edition provides a detailed and authentic account of the **1,500-year** historical journey of the Mewar dynasty and its rulers.

Rajasthan Legislative Assembly: Four conferences scheduled for the year

- ◆ **July 2026:** Conference of former and current MLAs.

- ◆ **October 2026:** Women MLAs' Conference.
- ◆ **January 2027:** Youth Parliament.
- ◆ **March 2027 (Rajasthan Diwas):** All-India Legislative Conclave (Mahakumbh).

'The Thar Dry Port', Hirnoda, Phulera-Jaipur

- ◆ **Inauguration:** By Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of Industries, Government of Rajasthan, on May 30, 2026.
- ◆ **Development:** Established under the 'Rising Rajasthan' initiative and the Central Government's PM Gati Shakti Mission, this Integrated Multimodal Logistics Park aims to directly link the trade of Marudhara (Rajasthan) with the sea.
- ◆ **Key Feature:** This dry port is directly connected to the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor, linking major industrial hubs of the state—such as Bichun, Bagru, Dudu, and Sitapura—directly to the Mundra and Pipavav ports in Gujarat.

भारत टैक्सी
का
जयपुर में शुभारम्भ

मुख्य अतिथि
श्री भजनलाल शर्मा
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री

गतिभाग्यी उपस्थिति
श्री मुरलीधर मोहोले (माननीय केन्द्रीय सहकारिता राज्य मंत्री)
श्री गौतम कुमार दक (माननीय सहकारिता राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार))

25 जुलाई, 2026 | सायं 5:30 बजे | भगवत सिंह मेहता सभागार, ओटीएस, जयपुर

भारत टैक्सी की विशेषताएं
Bike, Auto एवं Cab सेवाएं एक ही प्लेटफॉर्म पर उपलब्ध
भारत का पहला सहकारिता आधारित डिजिटल मोबिलिटी प्लेटफॉर्म
सहकार टैक्सी कोऑपरेटिव लिमिटेड द्वारा संचालित
मल्टी-स्टेट कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी मॉडल पर आधारित

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, राजस्थान

Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath

- ❑ **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh** - the ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath, located here, has been included in **UNESCO's World Heritage List** for the 2025-26 cycle.
- ❑ **Approval:** At the 48th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, held in Busan, South Korea (25 July 2026).
- ❑ **The site included in the list has two parts:**
 - i. **Chaukhandi Stupa**
 - ii. **Sarnath archaeological remains** (Dhamek Stupa, Dharmarajika Stupa, Mulagandhakuti Vihara, Ashoka Pillar, etc.)
- ❑ In Buddhist tradition, this site is known by various names - **Rishipattana, Ishipattana, Mrigadava**.
- ❑ The Sarnath Buddhist site was included in the tentative list for World Heritage status in 1998.
- ❑ India now has 45 World Heritage Sites (36 cultural, 7 natural, 1 mixed).
 - ◆ India ranks **sixth in the world and second in the Asia-Pacific region (after China)**.
 - ◆ 69 sites from India are included in UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites.

Major Initiatives Launched at Rashtrapati Bhavan

- ❑ **Launch:** President Droupadi Murmu, on 28 July, on the occasion of completing four years in office.
 - ◆ **Rashtrapati Bhavan Access and Heritage Interconnector.**
 - ◆ Inauguration of '**Bachpan Bal Parisar**': includes the '**Kilkari**' play zone and '**Samarth Anganwadi-cum-Creche**' for children.
- ❑ President Droupadi Murmu took charge as President of India on 25 July, 2022.
- ❑ The Vice President released the following books, which depict various years of the President's tenure:

1. **Rashtrapati Bhavan: The Nation's Building** (Year One)
2. **Seva Aur Samvedana** (Service and Sensitivity) (Year Two)
3. **Samaveshi Sahbhagita** (Inclusive Participation) (Year Three)
4. **Bharatiyata Ka Utsav** (Celebration of Indianness) (Year Four)
5. '**Ama Rashtrapati-Ama Gaurav**': a compilation, in the Odia language, of articles written by eminent persons.

Dharmendra Pradhan's Resignation and Additional Charge of Education Ministry to Pralhad Joshi

- ❑ Amid the NEET-UG 2026 paper-leak controversy and 36 days of student protests at Jantar Mantar, Dharmendra Pradhan resigned as minister (Education Ministry), taking moral responsibility.
- ❑ President Droupadi Murmu, on the advice of the Prime Minister, accepted it immediately under **Article 75(2)**.
- ❑ Pralhad Joshi will now also handle the Ministries of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and New and Renewable Energy, in addition to the Education Ministry.

Formation of a High-Power Task Force for Examination Reforms

- ❑ **Chairperson:** Nandan Nilekani (technology expert and co-founder of Infosys).
- ❑ **Members:** Dr. S. Somanath (former Chairman, ISRO), Tapan Deka, V. Kamakoti, Anita Karwal, Amrit Lal Meena.
- ❑ **Note:** The Central Government introduced the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha.

Aatmanirbhar Panchayat Programme

- ❑ **Launch:** Panchayati Raj Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, in New Delhi, on 27 July 2026.
- ❑ It is an initiative to enable village and block panchayats to identify local resources and opportunities and convert them into **revenue-generating projects**.

- ❑ **Objective:** To include panchayats in projects that build Own Source Revenue (OSR), are credit-worthy, and generate revenue.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India.
- ❑ **Financing:** Through **Public-Private Partnership (PPP), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), bank loans**, and convergence with other schemes.
- ❑ **Institutional partners:** NABARD and HUDCO.
- ❑ **Eligibility criteria:** (at least 3 years of tenure remaining)
 - ◆ **Village panchayats** with a minimum OSR potential of Rs. 50 lakh.
 - ◆ **Block panchayats** with a minimum OSR potential of Rs. 1 crore.
- ❑ **Target:** Development of **350 sustainable projects over 4 years** (50 in the first year, and 100 per year in the following 3 years).

Samarth Panchayat Portal

- ❑ **Launch:** By the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, on 27 July.
- ❑ It is an integrated, configurable national digital platform for taxpayer registration, demand generation, online payment, tax collection, and real-time monitoring.
- ❑ **Objective:** To strengthen the financial capacity of village panchayats and bring transparency to tax collection by digitally managing the entire lifecycle of OSR (Own Source Revenue).

The 'DAANVEER' Initiative

- ❑ **Launch:** Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- ❑ **Partner institutions:** National Informatics Centre (NIC) and DigiHaat.
- ❑ **Tagline:** "Give Back to Your Village"
- ❑ **Objective:** To provide a transparent facility, through the 'Meri Panchayat' mobile app, for voluntarily **donating computers** to village panchayats.

Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra 2026

- ❑ This main yatra begins every year in the city of **Puri, Odisha**, on **Ashadha Shukla Dwitiya**.
- ❑ Lord **Jagannath**, his brother **Balabhadra**, and sister **Subhadra** are worshipped in it.
- ❑ Their chariots are named, respectively, 'Nandighosha', 'Taladhwaaja', and 'Darpadalana'.

India's First 'Space Exploration Gallery': Bhopal

- ❑ **Inauguration:** By Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- ❑ **Location:** Regional Science Centre Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❑ **Prepared by:** National Council of Science Museums, with technical support from the Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.
- ❑ **Objective:** To boost scientific thinking and interest in science.
- ❑ Equipped with modern digital technology, this gallery showcases India's ancient knowledge traditions, **the universe**, and **space missions** such as **Aryabhata, Chandrayaan, and Gaganyaan**.

Appointments

New Appointments to the National Commission for Minorities (NCM)

- ❑ **Chairperson:** Harjit Singh Grewal
- ❑ **Vice-Chairperson:** Munawari Begum
- ❑ **Member:** Glenn E. Sooja Ticklo
- ❑ **Other member:** Behrouz Desai (appointed March 2026) ❑ **Tenure:** 3 years

Anurag Jain

- ❑ Appointed **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of NITI Aayog for a term of 2 years or until further orders.
- ❑ Previously held the post of Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh.
- ❑ Took the place of Nidhi Chhibber, Director General of the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog.
- ❑ Nidhi Chhibber had been holding additional charge as CEO since 24 February, 2026, following the end of B.V.R. Subrahmanyam's tenure.

Dr. Jagannath Nayak

- ❑ Appointed Director General of the 'Missiles and Strategic Systems' (MSS) department of the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Persons in News

Dr. Teejan Bai: Chhattisgarh

- ❑ The renowned **Pandwani** singer (**Kapalik**)

style) passed away at the age of 70 on 5 July.

- ❑ **Born:** Ganiyari village, Durg, Chhattisgarh.
- ❑ **Awards:** Padma Shri (1988), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1995), Padma Bhushan (2003), Fukuoka Prize (2018), Padma Vibhushan (2019).

Dr. Girish Bharadwaj: Sulia (Karnataka)

- ❑ Dr. Girish Bharadwaj, famous as 'India's Bridge Man/Brother', passed away.
- ❑ Developed more than 140 'low-cost suspension footbridges' across remote and river/hilly regions of the country.
- ❑ **First suspension bridge: On the Payaswini river (in 1989).**
- ❑ **Award:** Padma Shri (2017) - for road connectivity and social service.

Tegbir Singh: Ropar (Punjab)

- ❑ The world's youngest mountaineer (just 7 years, 10 months old) to climb Mount Yunam (height: 6,111 metres, Himachal Pradesh).
- ❑ He has also successfully climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and Mount Elbrus in Europe.

Places in News

Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)

- ❑ The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change inaugurated the **Centre of Excellence for Human-Wildlife Conflict at the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History**, part of the Wildlife Institute of India, Coimbatore.
- ❑ On this occasion, he also launched the **National Portal on Human-Wildlife Conflict**.

Mount Khyam Tso (5901 metres), Ladakh

- ❑ A 22-member team from the 'Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports' (JIM-WS), Pahalgam, climbed this mountain range.
- ❑ The expedition was led by **Colonel Hemchand Singh**, who also successfully completed the first paragliding flight from a height of 5600 metres.

Kamarajar Port, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- ❑ Kamarajar Port Limited has achieved an 18-

metre operational draft capacity after completing the 'Capital Dredging Phase VI' project.

- ❑ India's **second port** with an 18-metre draft capacity (Visakhapatnam Port being the 1st).
- ❑ This port can now accommodate capesize ships carrying up to 1,70,000 tonnes.

Navi Mumbai Airport, Maharashtra

- ❑ It has been included in the authorised list for the **import of drugs** under the Drugs Rules, 1945.
- ❑ With this amendment, the total number of entry points (road/rail/ship/air) has risen to 42.

Mangaluru, Karnataka

- ❑ The ONGC Board approved a **Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR)** capacity of 17.5 lakh tonnes at Mangaluru.
- ❑ **India's SPR programme:**

Phase	Capacity	Location
Phase-I	5.33 MMT	Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, Padur
Phase-II	6.5 MMT	Chandikhol (Odisha), Padur Expansion

- ❑ **Operated by:** Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL).

Puga Valley, Ladakh

- ❑ India has inaugurated its first and deepest geothermal wells in Ladakh's Puga Valley.

Kartavya Bhavan Complex, New Delhi

- ❑ The Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs has announced that the '**Central Vista Redevelopment Area**' will now be known as the '**Kartavya Bhavan Complex**' or '**Kartavya Bhavan Area**'.

Portal

'TribeX'

- ❑ Launched by Union Minister Juel Oram at the National Workshop of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in Bhubaneswar.

- ❑ It is the country's first **comprehensive digital learning platform and repository** dedicated to tribal art, culture, knowledge, and skill development.
- ❑ **Objective:** To preserve and digitise a rich heritage.
- ❑ **Courses:** 20 free certificate courses available on various art forms (100+ planned in future).

AWARDS/HONOURS

World Summit on the Information Society Prize 2026

- ❑ **Presented by:** International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- ❑ **Global winner (Action Line C6 category - enabling environment):** The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), India, received this award in Geneva for its project 'Samriddh Gram: Integrated Phygital Service Delivery Model Enabled by BharatNet'.
- ❑ Only two projects from India were selected as 'Champion Projects' (out of 90 total) across 18 categories: Samriddh Gram and the School of Hope and Empowerment (S.H.E).

Samriddh Gram A DoT project that delivers integrated 'phygital' (physical + digital) services at the village level through 'Samriddhi Kendras'.

School of Hope and Empowerment (S.H.E)

- ❑ This project was launched by Tata Communications in partnership with 'The Better India'. It is a multimedia initiative designed to educate and support women and girls in India's smaller towns.

Rangeland Restoration Award 2026

- ❑ **Recipient:** Shri Sumer Singh Bhati, Jaisalmer
- ❑ **Presented by:** Global Alliance for Rangeland & Pastoralists
- ❑ The award will be presented during a side event of UNCCD COP17, to be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on 18 August 2026.
- ❑ He is an environmentalist, pastoralist, and grazing-land conservation activist from Sanwata village in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district.

Best Egmont Case Award (BECA) 2026

- ❑ The Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) secured the runner-up position for detecting a cross-border crypto cyber fraud worth Rs. 868 crore, during the Egmont Group Plenary in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- ❑ The Egmont Group is a global network of 182 Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs).

Jestha Varna Mahavihar (Jyaba Bahi)

- ❑ It is a 17th-century Buddhist monastery in Lalitpur, Nepal.
- ❑ It received the 2025 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Cultural Heritage Conservation Award for its community-led restoration following the 2015 earthquake.
- ❑ India supported this restoration project, which was completed by the 'Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage' (INTACH), established in 1984

Leadership Award 2026

- ❑ **Recipients:**
 - ♦ Sunil Bharti Mittal: Indian national, founder and chairman of Bharti Enterprises (Airtel).
 - ♦ V. Prem Watsa: Indo-Canadian businessman, born in Hyderabad (India); and Christopher T. Calio: American businessman.
- ❑ **Contribution:** Revolutionary contribution to the telecommunications sector, and strengthening economic, strategic, and business ties between India and the United States.
- ❑ **Presented by:** US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), in Washington, D.C.

Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2026

- ❑ **Global winner:** Jameer Nazir's story 'The Serpent in the Grove'. His ancestors are from Bihar.
- ❑ **Asia region winner:** India's Sharon Aruparayil, whose story is titled 'Mehendi Nights'.

National Skill Olympiad on Seafood Value Addition

- ❑ **Event:** At 'India International Seafood Show 2026' in Kochi.
- ❑ **Winner:** P. Surya Bhaskar (Devi Fisheries Limited, Andhra Pradesh) - prize money: Rs. 1,00,000.
- ❑ **Organiser:** Marine Products Export Development Authority.

72nd National Film Awards 2024

Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus) Winners

- ◆ **Best Feature Film:** Article 370 (Hindi). Director: Aditya Suhas Jambhale.
- ◆ **Best Non-Feature Film:** Bhangar (Marathi and English). Producer and Director: Sumira Roy.
- ◆ **Best Debut Film of a Director:** Swatantrya Veer Savarkar - Randeep Hooda.
- ◆ **Most Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:** Kalki 2898 AD (Telugu). Director: Nag Ashwin Singireddy.
- ◆ **Best Children's Film:** 35 - Chinna Katha Kaadu (Telugu). Director: Nanda Kishore Emani.
- ◆ **Best Direction:** Rajkumar Periyasamy (Film: Amaran).
- ◆ **Best Non-Feature Film Direction:** Anand L. Rai (Film: Statue of Unity - Symbol of Unity).
- ◆ **Best Film Critic:** Sanjeev Srivastava (Hindi).

Rajat Kamal (Silver Lotus) Winners

- ◆ **Best Actor (Lead Role):** Mammooty (Film: Bramayugam) and Kartik Aaryan (Film: Chandu Champion).
- ◆ **Best Actress (Lead Role):** Yami Gautam (Film: Article 370).
- ◆ **Best Hindi Film:** Shrikanth. Director: Tushar Hiranandani.
- ◆ **Best Film Promoting National, Social and Environmental Values:** Captain Miller (Tamil).
- ◆ **Best Documentary (Non-Feature):** Ram-Naami (Hindi).
- ◆ **Best Biography/Historical Reconstruction Film (Non-Feature):** Kakori (Hindi).

- ◆ **Best Non-Feature Film Promoting Social and Environmental Values:** Pipalantri: A Tale of Eco Feminism (Hindi, Rajasthani, English). Producer: Johnson's Suraj Films.
- ❑ **Best Choreography:** Vijay Ganguly (Film: Stree 2, Song: 'Aaj Ki Raat').
- ❑ **Best Lyrics:** Manoj Muntashir (Film: Maidaan, Song: 'Jaane Do').

International Science and Mathematics Olympiads (July, 2026)

- ❑ **Total medals:** 12 gold and 7 silver medals.
- ❑ **Organiser:** The national Olympiad programme is led by the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), supported by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) - Bucaramanga, Colombia

- ◆ **Result:** With 5 gold medals, India jointly ranked first in the world.
- ◆ **Gold medal winners:** Kanishk Jain (Maharashtra), Riddhesh Anant Bendale (Madhya Pradesh), Rishit Garg (New Delhi), Shreshth Suraiya (Maharashtra), and Swarit Joshi (Gujarat).
- ◆ **Team leaders:** Prof. Anwesh Majumdar and Dr. Leena Joshi.

58th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) - Tashkent, Uzbekistan

- ◆ **Result:** With 4 gold medals, India jointly ranked first in the world.
- ◆ **Gold medal winners:** Debadatta Priyadarshi (Odisha), Harshit Singla (Punjab), Kabir Chhillar (Delhi), and Sandeep Kuchi (Telangana).

37th International Biology Olympiad (IBO)

- ◆ **Result:** India won 1 gold and 3 silver medals.
- ◆ **Gold medal:** Bhavya Gunwal (Haryana).
- ◆ **Silver medals:** Saumil Maity (West Bengal), Nishit Kalani (Pali, Rajasthan), and Anmol Kumar (Punjab).

67th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) - Shanghai, China

- ◆ **Result:** India secured 7th place globally out of 117 countries (2 gold and 4 silver medals).
- ◆ **Gold medal winners:** Aarav Gupta (Delhi) and Abel George Mathew (Karnataka).
- ◆ **Silver medal winners:** Bhairav Murugan (Karnataka), Kanav Talwar (Delhi), Sanjana Philo Chacko (Kerala), and Shreya Shantanu Mundhada (Mumbai).

5G Laboratory Excellence Awards

- Union Minister for Communications Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia reviewed the progress of the Bharat 6G Alliance (B6GA) at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, and presented the 5G Laboratory Excellence Awards.
- Triple IITDM Kurnool (IIITDM Kurnool) secured first place across all 4 categories for outstanding overall performance among India's 5G Use Case laboratories:
 - ◆ 5G Laboratory Excellence
 - ◆ 5G Laboratory Usage Excellence
 - ◆ 5G Laboratory Participation Excellence
 - ◆ 5G Laboratory Innovation Excellence

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Telecom Excellence Awards-2025

- **Presented by:** Jyotiraditya M. Scindia (Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region).
- **Winning organisations:**
 1. Amantya Technologies Private Limited
 2. Finara

17th National Youth Parliament Competition (2024-25)

- **Venue:** GMC Balayogi Auditorium, Parliament Library Building, Parliament House Complex, New Delhi.
- **Chaired by:** Minister of State for Law and Justice (Independent Charge) and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal.
- **First at the national level:** University of Kashmir.

Group-level winners (7 universities/ colleges):

1. DAV College, Jalandhar (Punjab)
2. Jadavpur University, Kolkata (West Bengal)
3. Shivaji University, Kolhapur (Maharashtra)
4. Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
5. SSMRV College, Bengaluru (Karnataka)
6. Chanakya National Law University, Patna (Bihar)
7. Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (Haryana)

National Conference

3rd Global Conclave on Plastic Recycling and Sustainability (GCPRS)

- **Event:** 2-5 July, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Organisers:** All India Plastic Manufacturers Association (AIPMA) and Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturers Association (CPMA).

3rd Bharat Tex 2026

- The world's largest global textile exhibition.
- It includes the 75th India International Garment Fair.
- **Event:** 14-17 July, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Organiser:** Bharat Textile Trade Federation (BTTF), with support from the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.
- **Partner state:** 8 partners, 9 exhibitors (Rajasthan).
- **PM's 5F vision:** Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign.
- BTTF and Premiere Vision Paris signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to deepen textile and clothing trade cooperation between India and the European Union (EU).
- The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) participated through the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) and provided a national platform to 'Lakhpati Didis' (rural women entrepreneurs linked to self-help groups).

- ❑ **Saras Shakti Collection:** A first-of-its-kind premium gifting initiative by rural women's SHGs (self-help groups) under DAY-NRLM.

Indie Haat 2026

- ◆ This programme is part of 'Bharat Tex 2026'.
- ◆ **Event:** 10-19 July 2026, National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy, New Delhi.
- ◆ **Organiser:** Jointly organised by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts and Handlooms) and curated by the National Institute of Fashion Technology.
- ◆ Crafts displayed included **Rajasthan's** bone inlay work on wood (bone carving), **Usta art**, **Pichwai art**, **Molela clay craft**, **Jaipur's blue pottery**, and **Bagru** block printing.

17th Toy Biz International B2B Expo

- ❑ **Event:** 4-7 July, 2026, New Delhi.
- ❑ The Jaipur-based 'Vu Toys' stall was the main attraction of this international exhibition. Its CEO is Shri Pankaj Sharma.

National Conference on NextGen Administrative and E-Governance Reforms

- ❑ **Event:** 13-14 July 2026, Shillong, Meghalaya.
- ❑ **Organiser:** Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), with support from the Government of Meghalaya.

3rd Namaste Day - 14 July, 2026

- ❑ **Main event:** Kolkata, West Bengal. Parallel events were also held across urban local bodies nationwide.
- ❑ It marks the completion of 3 years of the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme, dedicated to honouring sanitation workers.

Saushrutam 2026 International Seminar - 15 July

- ❑ **Organiser:** All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi.
- ❑ Organised on the occasion of Sushruta Jayanti, in honour of Acharya Sushruta (father of surgery).

SYNCHN 2026

- ❑ **Event:** NCR Biotech Science Cluster, Faridabad.
- ❑ **Full form:** Synergistic Collaboration in Healthcare Innovation.
- ❑ The 3rd annual industry meeting of BRIC-THSTI.
- ❑ **Host:** Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), an institution of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC).
- ❑ **BRIC-THSTI:** Established in 2009 by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) as an autonomous institution. It is located in Faridabad, Haryana.

Meetings of the 91st SC-NBWL, 46th Central Zoo Authority (CZA), 29th NTCA, 28th WII Society, and 7th CAMPA GB

- ❑ **Chaired by:** Shri Bhupendra Yadav.
- ❑ **Event:** July, 2026, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

SC-NBWL (Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife)

- ❑ The endangered pygmy hog has been included in the 'Species Recovery Programme'.

NTCA (National Tiger Conservation Authority) Meeting

- ❑ NTCA released two documents at its meeting:
 - ◆ 'Roadmap to Rescue'
 - ◆ Strides 2026

7th Meeting of the National CAMPA Governing Body

- ❑ **New wildlife projects:** approval of recovery plans for the Ganges river dolphin (endangered), Project Snow Leopard Phase-II (vulnerable), the Indian rhinoceros (vulnerable), and the wild water buffalo (endangered); and continued support for Manipur's Sangai.
- ❑ **MISHTI scheme:** Extended until 2029, for the restoration of mangrove forests, with an

additional Rs. 500 crore (total expenditure: Rs. 600 crore).

- ❑ **Aastha Van Sanrakshan Yojana** - Approved 10 July
 - ◆ **Duration:** From 2026-27 to 2030-31.
 - ◆ **Initial corpus:** Rs. 3,000 crore.
 - ◆ **Target:** To protect about 15,000 sacred groves that hold India's traditional environmental and cultural heritage.

First All-India Media Conference 2026

- ❑ **Event:** July 2026, New Delhi.
- ❑ **Organiser:** Election Commission of India (ECI).
- ❑ **Theme:** 'Connecting Stakeholders, Strengthening Democracy: The Role of Media in Elections'.
- ❑ **Chief Election Commissioner (CEC):** Shri Gyanesh Kumar (26th).

Sankalp Seminar

- ❑ **Event:** New Delhi, chaired by Minister of State for Defence Shri Sanjay Seth, on 30 July 2026.
- ❑ **Organisers:** Jointly organised by the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM).
- ❑ **Theme:** Indigenisation and self-reliance.
- ❑ The Minister of State for Defence released a book titled 'Sankalp 2026: Problem Statements of the Indian Air Force'.

Important One Liners

- ❑ **'Natural History Museum' (NHM):** The museum at **Mizoram University (Aizawl)** has been notified as **India's 21st 'designated repository'**, by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), on recommendations of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA).
- ❑ **'Golden Spice' Mission:** Launched by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia for **Meghalaya's GI-tagged Lakadong turmeric**.
- ❑ **Justice B.V. Nagarathna** has been nominated by Chief Justice Surya Kant as **Chairperson**

of the **Supreme Court Legal Services Committee**.

- ❑ **Museum of Word, Kolkata:** Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated its first phase. This museum of words traces the entire journey of language, from Omkara through grammar, oral and written traditions, palm-leaf manuscripts and inscriptions, and the printing press, up to AI.
- ❑ **Railway electrification:** **99.6 percent** of India's broad-gauge network has now been electrified. **India ranks second in the world**, after Switzerland.
- ❑ India's first indigenous hydrogen train, **'Namoo Green Rail'**: Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Haryana on 17 July 2026. The train is being run on the **Jind-Sonapat** section of the Northern Railway.
- ❑ **Tapovan Vishnugad Hydroelectric Project** (520 MW): Achieved a successful breakthrough of its head race tunnel.
 - ◆ Built by: **NTPC, on the Dhauliganga river in Chamoli, Uttarakhand.**
- ❑ **23 individuals designated as individual terrorists:**
 - ◆ By the Union Home Ministry, under Section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967.
 - ◆ Includes 17 Pakistani and 6 Indian nationals.
 - ◆ They are currently carrying out activities from Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.
 - ◆ The total number of individually designated terrorists has risen to 80.
- ❑ The Ministry of Steel granted **'Miniratna Category-I'** status to **'Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited' (MECON)**.
 - ◆ Established: In 1959. Headquarters: Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- ❑ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas granted Navratna status (**the 28th Navratna enterprise**) to **Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited**.
- ❑ **The Dree Festival** is a major agricultural festival of the **Apatani tribe**, who live in the **Ziro Valley of Arunachal Pradesh**. This festival is celebrated with great fanfare every year in the **month of July**.



Economy Current Affairs

Semicon 2.0

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet on **15 July 2026**.
- ❑ **Objective:** To build a robust ecosystem for semiconductor design, manufacturing, and research in India.
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs. 1,27,500 crore.
- ❑ **Implementation:** Through the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0.
- ❑ **Six key pillars:** Design; machinery and materials; setting up more fabrication plants (fabs); further strengthening the ATMP/OSAT industry; research and development (R&D); talent development.
- ❑ **Progress under Semicon 1.0 (launched 2021):** Under the approved Rs. 76,000 crore, 12 manufacturing units involving investment of Rs. 1.64 lakh crore have been approved.

Revised UDAN - 'Viksit UDAN' Scheme

- ❑ **Launch:** By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **4 July 2026**, during the inauguration of the new terminal building of the airport in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- ❑ **Implementation:** From financial year 2026-27 to 2035-36.
- ❑ **Total outlay:** Rs. 28,840 crore.
- ❑ The original 'UDAN' (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme was launched in October 2016.
- ❑ **Type:** Central sector scheme.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ❑ **Implementing agency:** Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- ❑ **Key components:**
 - i. Development of aerodromes (development of 100 new airports)
 - ii. Modern helipads (development of 200 new helipads)
 - iii. Operations and maintenance support
 - iv. Viability Gap Funding (VGF): a provision of Rs. 10,043 crore has been made for this. Airline operators will receive financial support for 5 years.

- ❑ India is the world's third-largest domestic civil aviation market.
- ❑ The **number of airports** in the country has risen from **74 in 2014 to 165 as of 15 July 2026**.

Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS)

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet on **15 July 2026**.
- ❑ The scheme is an extension of the Production Linked Incentive scheme (PLI-LSEM), which ended on 31 March 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** To achieve technological sovereignty and build Indian brands.
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs. 62,500 crore.
- ❑ **Implementation:** From financial year 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- ❑ **Incentives:**
 - ◆ An incentive of **2.25% to 5%** on eligible sales.
 - ◆ An additional **1.5% incentive for greater use of domestic components** (domestic sourcing).
 - ◆ Indian brands will get an **additional 3% incentive** on eligible sales for **design and research and development**.

Bharat Industrial Development Scheme - Chemicals (BHAVYA Rasayan)

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, on **24 July 2026**.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India.
- ❑ **Objective:** To set up 3 dedicated chemical parks in the country.
- ❑ Announced in: The Union Budget 2026-27.
- ❑ Implementation period: Financial year 2026-27 to 2030-31 (5 years).
- ❑ **Total financial outlay: Rs. 3,030 crore.**
 - ◆ Rs. 3,000 crore: for internal infrastructure and basic facilities of the parks.
 - ◆ Rs. 30 crore: administrative expenditure.

- ❑ **Central Assistance**
 - ◆ The Central Government will provide a grant of up to **Rs. 1,000 crore** for each park.
 - ◆ For this, the concerned state government will have to contribute a **minimum of Rs. 500 crore**.
 - ◆ Land area: Each park will have an unencumbered land area of at least 8 sq. km (about 2,000 acres).
- ❑ **Plug-and-play infrastructure:** Plug-and-play infrastructure will be made available for the chemical industry in the form of common infrastructure facilities and basic utilities.
- ❑ **Challenge route:** The Central Government will assist state governments in developing **three dedicated chemical parks** through a competitive, performance-based funding mechanism (**the challenge route**).
- ❑ **Objective:** To attract the setting up of **new gas-based urea manufacturing units** in the country.
- ❑ **Target:** To set up **8 to 9 new gas-based urea plants**.
 - ◆ Creating **1 crore tonnes** (10 million tonnes) of additional urea production capacity.
- ❑ Fixed and variable costs will be separated.
- ❑ **Reasonable return:** A minimum of **12% and a maximum of 16% has been fixed for Return on Equity (RoE)**.
- ❑ **Reduced forex risk:** A provision to convert fixed costs into Indian rupees after four years, based on the prevailing exchange rate.

Corporate Mitra Scheme

- ❑ **Objective:** To provide affordable, accessible, and quality business and compliance services to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.
 - ◆ To prepare **trained para-professionals** by providing youth with industry-linked practical training.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- ❑ **Target:** To cover **2,000 participants** nationwide in the first phase (**200 from the North Eastern Region**).
- ❑ Recognised 'Corporate Mitras' will provide affordable and accessible professional assistance to local enterprises for the non-core aspects of their business operations - such as regulatory, compliance, financial, taxation, accounting, and governance-related requirements.

'National Investment Policy for Urea' (NIPU) 2026

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 15 July 2026.

Reports/Indices

Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) Report

- ❑ **Released by:** NITI Aayog, on 17 July 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** To assess the investment ecosystem of states and union territories and to strengthen competitive and cooperative federalism in the country.
- ❑ **Key features and categories of the index:**
 - ◆ All 28 states and 8 union territories were assessed on a total of **84 indicators** (62 secondary and 22 based on primary surveys).
 - ◆ Basis: **Eight pillars** (infrastructure, business environment, availability of resources, government policies, regulatory ease, institutional environment, financial soundness, environmental resilience).
 - ◆ Based on overall scores, states and union territories have been classified into **four performance categories**:
 1. Top performers (score above 50)
 2. Leading states (45-50 score)
 3. Emerging performers (≥ 40 - <45 score)
 4. Aspiring states (score below 40)
- ❑ **Top rankings and performance:**

Category	First Place (Score)	Second Place	Third Place
Overall Ranking / Large States	Gujarat (56.6)	Maharashtra (53.7)	Tamil Nadu (53.3)
Hilly and Northeastern States	Uttarakhand (47.5)	Assam	Himachal Pradesh
City-States and Union Territories	Goa (53.1)	Delhi	Chandigarh

New Revised Series of the Index of Core Industries (ICI)

- ❑ Released by: The Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, on 20 July.
- ❑ The current update is the **fourth revision** since the ICI's inception.

❑ Key changes:

Parameter	Old Version	New Version
Base Year	2011-12	2022-23
Total number of core industries	8	9 (New industry - Iron Ore)
Weight of core industries in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)	40.27%	32.88%

- ❑ **Weightage: Electricity - 30.93% (highest)**, refinery products - 22.57%, steel - 17.58%, crude oil - 7.43%, coal - 5.59%, iron ore - 4.90%, cement - 4.41%, natural gas - 3.84%, and **fertilizers - 2.73% (lowest)**.
- ❑ The index is compiled by the OEA on a **monthly basis**.

First Edition of the Index of Services Production (ISP)

- ❑ Released by: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), on 14 July 2026.
- ❑ It will subsequently be released on the 29th of every month.
- ❑ **Base year: 2024-25.**
 - ◆ It includes **19 sub-sectors**, which cover about **60 percent of India's formal services sector**.
 - ◆ A **Technical Advisory Committee**, chaired by **Debjani Ghosh**, was formed in May 2025 to develop the ISP.

Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) 2025-26 Report

- ❑ Released by: The Union Ministry of Education.

❑ Key features:

- ◆ Number of teachers: an **8.3% increase** was recorded this year compared to 2022-23.
- ◆ Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR): Notable improvement compared to the 30:1 ratio recommended by the National Education Policy (NEP) -
 - Foundational - 10 • Preparatory - 12
 - Middle - 17 • Secondary - 21

Parameter	2024-25	2025-26
Dropout rate - Elementary	2.3%	1.8% (Improvement)
Dropout rate - Secondary	8.2%	7.0% (Improvement)
Enrollment rate - Secondary	82.8%	83.7% (Increase)
Enrollment rate - Higher Secondary	47.2%	51.9% (Increase)
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) - Middle level	90.3%	89.6%
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) - Secondary level	68.5%	71.7%
Schools with computer facilities	64.7%	69.9%
Schools with internet connectivity	63.5%	67.4%

- ❑ The Ministry of Education also released the **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report** for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Performance Grading Index (PGI-S) 2.0 Report 2025-26

- ❑ Released by: The Union Ministry of Education, for **states and union territories**.
- ❑ At the same time, the **Performance Grading Index (PGI-D)** report for districts, for the year 2025-26, was also released.
- ❑ **Prepared by:** Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL).
- ❑ **Objective:** To evaluate the performance of states and union territories in the education sector across various categories and levels.
- ❑ **Assessment structure:**
 - ◆ It carries a total weight of 1000 points across 70 indicators.
 - ◆ It is mainly divided into two categories:
 1. Outcomes

2. Governance and Management.

- ◆ **Six domains:** Learning; outcomes and quality; access; infrastructure and facilities; governance processes; teacher education and training.
- ❑ **PGI-S grading:**
 - ◆ Top performer: **Chandigarh** achieved the highest grade, 'Uttam-3'.
 - ◆ Rajasthan: **State grade - Prachesta-3.**
 - Total score: 589.5/1000.
 - ◆ No state or union territory achieved a place in the top three categories - 'Utkarsh', 'Uttam-1', or 'Uttam-2'.
 - ◆ No state/union territory was placed in the 'Aakanshi-2' (11-20%) or 'Aakanshi-3' (up to 10%) categories.

Aaroha: Annual Mine Closure Report

- ❑ **Released by:** Ministry of Coal.
- ❑ India's first report on scientific mine closure and reuse practices.
- ❑ It highlights India's progress in adopting a scientific approach to mine closure, ecological restoration, and sustainable post-mining land use.
- ❑ It documents the transformative journey of 42 scientifically closed coal mines.

- ❑ **Implementation Agreement Between the Ministry of Coal and GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) for Technical Cooperation on 'To-Be-Closed Mines'**
 - ◆ **Objective:** To strengthen cooperation on scientific mine closure, mine reuse, technical capacity building, knowledge exchange, and the adoption of global best practices.
- ❑ **Tripartite Agreement Between Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), the Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA), Hindalco Industries, and Rajdhani Universal Fabrics Private Limited**
 - ◆ This partnership will promote coordinated efforts for rehabilitation, infrastructure development, community welfare, and socio-economic development in the Jharia coalfield region.

Miscellaneous

Viksit Bharat-G RAM G (VB-G RAM G) Scheme

- ❑ **National launch:** 2 July 2026, at **Mukkavaripalli village (Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh)**, by Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chandrababu Naidu, and Pawan Kalyan.
- ❑ **Nodal ministry:** Ministry of Rural Development.
- ❑ **Wage increase:** An average increase of about 10% (minimum wage of Rs. 300 per day across all states).
- ❑ **Financial outlay:** Rs. 95,692.31 crore.

Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) Act, 2025

- ❑ This Act replaces the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.
- ❑ **Passed by the Houses:**
 - ◆ Lok Sabha: 18 December, 2025
 - ◆ Rajya Sabha: 19 December, 2025
 - ◆ Presidential assent: 21 December, 2025
- ❑ **Notified by the Government of India:** 11 May 2026.
- ❑ **Act came into force:** From 1 July 2026.

'PRAGATI' Project

- ❑ **Launch:** By Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on 7 July 2026.
- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ❑ **Objective:** To improve the income and livelihoods of 20 lakh small and marginal farmers by **making 20,000 rural youth into agri-entrepreneurs.**
- ❑ Implemented in major agricultural states - Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, **Rajasthan**, West Bengal, Assam, and Jharkhand.

Financial Assistance for the 'National Rooftop Solar Programme'

- ❑ **Approved by:** The World Bank.
- ❑ **Financial assistance:** 890 million dollars.
- ❑ **Break-up:**

- ◆ **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)** loan: \$820 million.
- ◆ **Clean Technology Fund** (concessional loan): \$60 million.
- ◆ **Livable Planet Fund (grant)**: \$10 million.

WTO's Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS)

- ❑ India formally became the **123rd member** of this multilateral agreement on 20 July 2026, by depositing its instrument of acceptance.
- ❑ **Adopted:** At the **12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12)** in Geneva, in June 2022.
- ❑ **Entered into force:** On 15 September 2025 (after acceptance by two-thirds of WTO members).

Strategic Roadmap to Globalise Ayurveda

- ❑ **Released by:** NITI Aayog, on 2 July 2026, in collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).
- ❑ **Objective:** To present a phased strategy (up to 2047) to establish Ayurveda globally as an evidence-based, recognised healthcare system.
- ❑ The three-pillar framework for globalising Ayurveda: **Availability, Acceptability, Dissemination.**

'Letter of Authorization' (LOA) for High-Seas Fishing

- ❑ **National launch:** By the Vice President in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 9 July 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** To permit **regulated fishing on the high seas, beyond India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**, for Indian-flagged fishing vessels.
- ❑ The LOA is entirely **vessel-specific and non-transferable.**
- ❑ It has been integrated with the **'RealCraft' fishing vessel registration portal.**
- ❑ On this occasion, the **'Odisha Deep Sea Fishing Mission (2026-2036)'** was also launched.

India's Maritime Manufacturing

- ❑ **Approval:** By the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)**, under the **Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SBDS).**
- ❑ **Projects:**
 - 1. Porbandar Greenfield Shipbuilding Cluster**
 - ◆ **Location:** Kuchhadi, Porbandar district (Gujarat).
 - ◆ **Developed by:** National Shipbuilding and Heavy Industry Park (**NSHIP-Gujarat**); this cluster is a joint venture of MoPSW and the Gujarat Maritime Board.
 - ◆ **Capacity:** Construction of large commercial vessels of 1.2 to 1.5 million gross tonnes (GT) annually.
 - 2. Vadinar Ship Repair Facility**
 - ◆ **Location:** Vadinar, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat).
 - ◆ **Developed by:** **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)** and **Deendayal Port Authority (DPA).**

Private 'Point-in-Space' (PinS) Procedure

- ❑ **Approved for:** Helicopter operations at **Undavalli Heliport, Andhra Pradesh.**
- ❑ India's **first private Point-in-Space (PinS)** instrument approach procedure.
- ❑ **Developed by:** Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- ❑ **Approved by:** Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- ❑ Advanced **satellite-based navigation technology** has been used in the PinS.

'Five Star Rating' for Coal Mines

- ❑ **Awarded by:** The **Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO)**, Ministry of Coal.
- ❑ Three NTPC mines received a five-star rating for financial year 2024-25:
 1. Pakri-Barwadih (Jharkhand) - top position for the second consecutive year.
 2. Dulanga (Odisha)
 3. Talaipalli (Chhattisgarh)



The Prime Minister's Visits

- ❑ Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand from 6 to 11 July 2026.

Indonesia (6-8 July)

- ❑ **President of Indonesia:** Shri Prabowo Subianto.
- ❑ Prime Minister Modi and President Prabowo inaugurated restoration and conservation work at the UNESCO World Heritage Site Prambanan Temple complex in Yogyakarta (Jogja).
- ❑ Narendra Modi was conferred Indonesia's highest civilian honour, the **Bintang Adipurna**.
- ❑ **Key agreements:**
 1. Between the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation** and Indonesia's drug agency, BPOM, on medical-product regulation.
 2. A joint venture between **Steel Authority of India Limited** and **Indonesia's PT Krakatau Steel** to manufacture stainless steel slabs in Indonesia.
 3. Between **NFTDC's** company Midwest Limited and **PT Perminas**, for the development of rare earth magnets.
 4. Between India's **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and Indonesia's **National Disaster Management Agency**.
 5. A cooperation agreement between the **Election Commission of India** and Indonesia's **General Elections Commission (KPU)**.
 6. Other agreements - space cooperation, health workforce cooperation, minerals and steel, agriculture, maritime cooperation, telecommunications and innovation, and defence (cooperation on the BrahMos missile system and air-to-air missiles).
- ❑ **Key announcements:**
 1. India's assistance in the conservation and restoration of the **Prambanan Temple**.

2. Became the 17th country to post an Indonesian international liaison officer at the **Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)**.
3. Providing Indonesia with 100 tonnes of high-quality **DWR-162 wheat seeds**.
4. Holding of the '**Tagore-Dewantara Cultural and Educational Diplomacy Year**'.
5. An **IIM Bengaluru** campus - its first international campus - will be set up in Indonesia's Singhasari Special Economic Zone (SEZ).
6. Launch of **Indonesia Open Network (ION)**, based on India's Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) model.

Australia (9-10 July)

- ❑ **3rd India-Australia Annual Summit:** Melbourne.
- ❑ **Prime Minister of Australia:** Anthony Albanese.
- ❑ **List of outcomes:**
 1. Between the Indian Coast Guard and Australia's **Maritime Border Command**.
 2. Posting of an Indian military instructor at **Australia's defence college (2028-29)**.
 3. Finalisation of administrative arrangements for implementing the 2014 **civil nuclear agreement** (paving the way for uranium supply from Australia).
 4. **Cyber and emerging technologies:** launch of **PACTS** (Partnership for Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains), and trilateral cooperation under ACITI (Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation Partnership).
 5. **Education and skills:** permission for **Flinders University** to set up a campus in Bengaluru and Victoria University in

Gurugram; a National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET)-Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) agreement for TVET (Technical and Vocational Education-Training) quality cooperation; and establishment of a Mining-METS Centre of Excellence in Bhubaneswar.

6. **Science and innovation:** between GSI and Geoscience Australia, and between CSIR and the University of Melbourne, for access to the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL).
7. **Culture and green development:** Australia returned three important ancient artefacts to India-
 - i. **Nandi (Shiva's mount)** - granite, 11th-12th century, Tamil Nadu.
 - ii. **A trident with Bhadrakali** - bronze, 11th century, Tamil Nadu.
 - iii. **A six-faced Skanda (Kartikeya)** - basalt, 12th century, Tamil Nadu.
8. An initiative in Gandhinagar, through the **Rooftop Solar Training Academy**, to train **2000 women and youth** as solar technicians.
9. Between the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, and the Griffith Film School, Australia.
10. **Other agreements:** issuance of a Joint Declaration on Security and Defence Cooperation (JDSC); launch of a Maritime Security Cooperation Framework (MSCR); and cooperation on the Indo-Pacific, maritime security, and energy and critical minerals.

New Zealand (10-11 July)

- ❑ **Prime Minister of New Zealand:** Christopher Luxon.
- ❑ This is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to New Zealand in 40 years.
- ❑ The Prime Minister took part in a special event in Auckland, '**India-New Zealand: A Successful Partnership**'.
- ❑ The relationship between the two countries was elevated to the level of a '**Strategic Partnership**'.

❑ **Key agreements (10):**

1. **Mutual Logistics Support Arrangement:** logistics cooperation between the Indian Navy and the New Zealand Defence Force.
2. **Hydrography and marine mapping:** sharing of navigational chart preparation and hydrographic data, and training.
3. Cooperation in developing the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC), located at Lothal, Gujarat.
4. **Other agreements:** cultural cooperation, sports, tourism, animal husbandry and dairy, disaster management, a joint working group on counter-terrorism, and defence and maritime cooperation.

❑ **Key announcements (8):**

1. India-New Zealand Strategic Partnership (2030).
2. Trade target: to double bilateral trade by 2030 (7 billion New Zealand dollars / Rs. 35,000 crore).
3. Establishment of a maritime security dialogue mechanism.
4. New Zealand's participation in the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), with a focus on IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated) fishing.
5. New Zealand will join the **Global Biofuels Alliance**.
6. **Kiwifruit Action Plan:** 2 centres of excellence will be set up in Nagaland and Uttarakhand.
7. **Antarctic research cooperation:** an agreement between NCPOR (Goa) and the University of Canterbury (New Zealand).
8. Education: research and student-exchange cooperation between **NIFTEM-Kundli** and Massey University.

16th India-Japan Annual Summit

- ❑ **Venue:** New Delhi.
- ❑ Japanese Prime Minister Takaichi Sanae paid an official visit to India from 1-3 July 2026.
- ❑ Building on the success of the 15th summit, they agreed to deepen cooperation based on three priority areas -
 1. Defence and security cooperation.
 2. Economic partnership, including economic security, energy security, technology, and innovation.
 3. People-to-people ties.

❑ **Key agreements:**

1. To mark the 75th anniversary, observing the year 2027 as the "**India-Japan Year of Shared Horizons**".
2. India-Japan Cooperative Biogas for Growth (CBG): cooperation in setting up 1,000 biogas and organic fertilizer plants in India.
3. Between the **IndiaAI Mission** and **Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry**: strengthening artificial intelligence, government-to-government (G2G) and business-to-business (B2B) cooperation and supply chains, to promote institutional cooperation between the IndiaAI Mission and Japan's GENIAC initiative.
4. Between India's **Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms** and **Japan's RIKEN**: establishes a framework for cooperation in academic, translational research, and startup-oriented innovation in deep-tech and life sciences, covering healthcare, agriculture, and the environment.
5. Between the **National Centre for Biological Sciences-Tata Institute of Fundamental Research** and **RIKEN**: cooperation in basic biology and neuroscience research.
6. **IIT Bombay-BharatGen-NII** agreement: joint research and cooperation for developing advanced Large Language Models (LLMs).
7. **Sarvam AI-Preferred Networks agreement**: cooperation in developing AI technology, including foundation models.
8. Between the **National Internet Exchange of India** and the **Japan Network Information Centre**: cooperation on IPv6, internet security, capacity building, and internet governance.
9. Exchange of letters between the **International Financial Services Centres Authority** and **Japan's Financial Services Agency**.
10. Next Generation Mobility Partnership (NGMP): promoting "**Make in India for the World**" by boosting private investment and cooperation in rail, roads, automobiles, aviation, shipbuilding, ports, logistics, and urban transport.

11. A joint statement on strengthening the energy sector (between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Japan's METI).

12. **Other agreements**: artificial intelligence, battery cooperation, pharmaceutical cooperation, and exploration of critical minerals.

Index/ Reports

Global Passport Index-2026

- ❑ **Released by:** Global Citizen Solutions (GCS), a residency and citizenship advisory firm.
- ❑ **Total:** 197 countries.
- ❑ **Top:** 1. Sweden 2. Switzerland 3. Finland.
- ❑ **Last:** Afghanistan.
- ❑ **India:** 125th position (124th in 2025).
 - ◆ Mobility Index: 136th position.
 - ◆ Quality of Living Index: 118th position.
 - ◆ Investment Index: 94th position.
- ❑ The Indian passport offers visa-free travel to 26 countries.
- ❑ India's visa-free mobility score improved from 18 in 2021 to 23 in 2026.

World Investment Report 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❑ **Top investment-recipient destinations:** 1. USA 2. Singapore 3. Hong Kong 4. China 5. Brazil.
 1. Global FDI (2025): \$1.6 trillion (6% growth).
 2. Developed economies: 11% growth.
 3. Developing economies: 2% growth.
- ❑ **India's position (in 2025):**
 1. **Inward FDI:** 11th (13th in 2024).
 2. **Outward FDI:** 18th (20th in 2024).
 3. FDI grew 44 per cent to reach \$38.89 billion,

4. Greenfield investment: fell from \$111.14 billion in 2024 to \$74.12 billion in 2025.
5. Indian companies' overseas activity in 2025 -
 - ◆ Investment: \$35.66 billion (47% growth).
 - ◆ Greenfield investment: \$25.29 billion (41% growth).

World's Happiest Cities 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** Time Out.
- ❑ **Jaipur's rank:** 6th (the only Indian city in the top 10).
- ❑ **Top:** Bath (England).

World Bank Country Income Classification 2027

- ❑ **Released by:** The World Bank.
- ❑ **Basis:** Per-capita Gross National Income for the previous calendar year.
- ❑ India remains in the lower-middle-income category (it has been in this category since 2009).
 - ◆ Per-capita GNI in 2025: \$2,760.
- ❑ **Lower-middle to upper-middle income:** Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Philippines, Jordan, and Micronesia.
- ❑ **Low income to lower-middle income:** Togo.

Global Liveability Index 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).
- ❑ **Total cities:** 173.
- ❑ **Top:** Copenhagen (Denmark).
- ❑ **Rankings of Indian cities:**
 - ◆ New Delhi - 120th. ◆ Mumbai - 121st.
 - ◆ Chennai - 123rd. ◆ Bengaluru - 127th.

WDMMA Global Air Powers Ranking 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA).
- ❑ 1. USA 2. Russia 3. Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ❑ **Note:** On the branch-wise list, the Indian Air Force ranks 6th (due to the separate branches of the US military).

Agreements

- ❑ **National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) - Semiconductor Lab (SCL), Mohali:** to provide a Process Design Kit (PDK) for 1.2 µm technology through indigenous semiconductor design, research, innovation, skill development, and the eChipHub.
- ❑ **DRDO's Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS) signed two agreements,** under the Airborne Early Warning & Control (AEW-C) Mk-II programme, with Airborne Early Warning-Control (AIESL) and Adani Defence Systems & Technologies Ltd. (ADSTL) -
 - i. With AIESL, to convert 6 Airbus A321 aircraft into the green configuration.
 - ii. To appoint ADSTL as a development co-production partner.
- ❑ **Andhra Pradesh Government and Punjab National Bank:** to set up India's first bank-operated quantum finance hub in Amaravati.
- ❑ **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Nalanda University:** to promote science-based sustainable development, technology dissemination, rural transformation, skill enhancement, and scientific awareness.
- ❑ **CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) and the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM):** to expand access to global scientific, technical, and intellectual property (IPR) knowledge resources through the National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC).
- ❑ **Reliance Industries and Meta:** to set up India's first built-to-suit data centre, with a capacity of 168 megawatts, in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- ❑ **Ministry of Defence-Accord Software and Systems Private Limited, Bengaluru:** for the procurement of 20 advanced-capability global navigation satellite system jammers for the Indian Navy, at a cost of Rs. 449 crore.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

9th Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy

- ❑ A 3-day summit held under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❑ **Event:** 6-8 July, 2026, Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❑ **Chaired by:** India; Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India.
- ❑ India launched the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Product Protection, adopted by the UN in December 2025.

First India-Costa Rica Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) Meeting

- ❑ **Event:** 6-7 July, 2026.
- ❑ **Co-chairs: India:** Shri Vimal Anand, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- ❑ **Costa Rica:** Ms. Eduyana Castro.

13th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee (JC) Meeting

- ❑ **Event:** New Delhi, 6-10 July.
- ❑ **Objective:** To review the progress of AITIGA. AITIGA is a free-trade agreement signed between India and ASEAN countries in 2009.
- ❑ **Co-chairs:** Shri Nitin Kumar Yadav (Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, India) and Mastura Ahmad Mustafa (Deputy Secretary-General for Trade, Malaysia).
- ❑ Three of eight sub-committee meetings were held:
 - ◆ Customs procedures and trade facilitation.
 - ◆ National treatment and market access.
 - ◆ Rules of origin.

First UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance

- ❑ **Event:** 6-7 July, 2026, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❑ It has been established under UN General Assembly **Resolution 79/325**.

- ❑ India was represented by Minister of State for External Affairs **Kirti Vardhan Singh**.

8th India-Japan Defence Policy Dialogue

- ❑ **Event:** 13 July 2026, in Tokyo, Japan.
- ❑ **Co-chaired by:** Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Japan's Vice-Minister of Defence for International Affairs, Kano Koji.
- ❑ **Objective:**
 - ◆ Review of bilateral military relations.
 - ◆ Preparing a strategic framework for the upcoming India-Japan 2+2 ministerial dialogue.

49th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC49)

- ❑ **Event:** 6-10 July, 2026, Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❑ The Commission adopted seven international food standards and guidelines developed under India's chairmanship and co-chairmanship.
- ❑ **Under India's chairmanship:**
 - ◆ Codex standards for **dried coriander seeds** and **fresh curry leaves**.
- ❑ **Under India's co-chairmanship:**
 - ◆ Codex standards for **vanilla** and **large cardamom**.
 - ◆ Guidelines for the safe use and reuse of water in food production and processing.
 - ◆ Guidelines for controlling *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* in chicken meat.
 - ◆ A general standard for the labelling of pre-packaged food items.
- ❑ **Other key achievements:**
 - ◆ CAC49 approved India's proposal to develop a global Codex standard for **cashew kernels**.
 - ◆ India was elected co-chair of the Electronic Working Group set up for new food sources and production systems.

Rome Declaration for an Unarmed and Disarming Peace

- ❑ A non-governmental and civil-society declaration adopted in Italy in July 2026, aimed at **prohibiting the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in nuclear missile launch systems**.

- ❑ More than 200 international scientists, religious leaders, and Nobel laureates signed this declaration; India is not a party to it.

BRICS Women's Ministerial Meeting

- ❑ **Event:** 8-9 July, Kochi, Kerala.
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Annpurna Devi (Union Minister for Women and Child Development).
- ❑ For the first time in the history of this women ministers' track, a 'first joint statement' was adopted by consensus.
- ❑ **BRICS Digital Repository of Best Practices:** This will serve as a shared platform for documenting and exchanging successful policies and innovations related to women's empowerment among member countries.
- ❑ **BRICS Digital Capacity-Building Guidelines:** Aimed at promoting institutional cooperation in the digital domain, and accelerating women's financial inclusion and entrepreneurship.
- ❑ **Neeru Yadav** ('Hockey Wali Sarpanch'), sarpanch of Lambi Ahir village (Buhana tehsil) in Jhunjhunu district, Rajasthan, shared her views on promoting women's leadership at the grassroots level.

16th Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers

- ❑ **Event:** 22-24 July, Chandigarh.
- ❑ **Mental health:** Announcement of a new BRICS network of centres of excellence on mental health, to be coordinated by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru.
- ❑ **Chandigarh Declaration:** The declaration of the 16th BRICS health ministries was unanimously adopted, expressing a commitment to universal health coverage and equitable access to affordable medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics.

President Droupadi Murmu's Three-Nation European Visit

Moldova (20 July): Capital - Chisinau

- ❑ Met with President Her Excellency **Maia Sandu**.
- ❑ This was the first-ever visit to Moldova by an Indian President.
- ❑ India announced doubling the number of training seats for Moldova under the **Indian**

Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.

North Macedonia (21-22 July): Capital - Skopje

- ❑ **President:** Gordana Siljanovska-Davkova.
- ❑ The first-ever historic visit.
- ❑ Inaugurated the India-North Macedonia Business Forum.
- ❑ Unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi at a museum in Skopje, and visited an official memorial to Mother Teresa.

Romania (23-25 July, 2026): Capital - Bucharest

- ❑ **President:** Nicusor Dan; and **Prime Minister:** Ilie Bolojan.
- ❑ The first visit by an Indian President in the past **32 years**, and the signing of three important agreements related to education, culture, and people-to-people contacts.
- ❑ With support from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, India established an '**Indian Studies Chair**' at the University of Bucharest.
- ❑ The Bucharest University of Economic Studies honoured President Murmu with an **honorary doctorate**.
- ❑ The two countries will mark the 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations by celebrating 2028 as the '**India-Romania Year of Innovation**'.

Summer Fancy Food Show 2026

- ❑ **Event:** 28 June, 2026, in New York, North America.
- ❑ **Highlight:** The India Pavilion recorded its largest-ever participation.
- ❑ **Organiser:** The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority and the India Trade Promotion Organisation; inaugurated jointly by Binay Sreekant Pradhan and Chef Vikas Khanna.

Second Pax Silica Summit: 2026

- ❑ **Event:** 25-26 June, in Washington, D.C.
- ❑ **India's representation:** S. Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, along with representatives of Indian industry.
- ❑ **Joint statement on AI opportunities:** India joined 34 other countries in signing this U.S.-led initiative to build a trusted and robust supply chain to support AI technology.
- ❑ India joined the Pax Silica Declaration at the 'India AI Impact Summit' held in Delhi in February 2026.

UNCITRAL@60

- ❑ 60th anniversary of UNCITRAL (the principal legal body of the UN system, established in 1966).
- ❑ United Nations Commission on International Trade Law -
 - ◆ Established: 1966.

- ◆ Member states: 70 (India is a founding member).
- ◆ Event: 24-26 July, 2026, New Delhi.
- ◆ Organisers: The Supreme Court of India and the Ministry of External Affairs.

5th Meeting of BIMSTEC National Security Chiefs

- ❑ **Event:** 16 July 2026, New Delhi (India).
- ❑ **Chaired by:** Ajit Doval (National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of India).
- ❑ **BIMSTEC Secretary-General:** Indra Mani Pandey.

21st Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity

- ❑ **Event:** 24-26 June 2026, Jeju, South Korea.
- ❑ It is a leading international public-dialogue forum in Asia, which began in 2001.
- ❑ India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar delivered a keynote address on bilateral and regional cooperation.

Major BRICS Meetings Held in July

Event	Location	Key details and outcomes
Meeting of Heads of BRICS Countries' Anti-Narcotics Agencies	Guwahati, Assam	• Organiser: Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB); the 'Vision Document on Narcotics Control (2026-2029)' was presented.
15th BRICS Trade Union Forum Summit	Hyderabad, Telangana	• Chaired by: Shri Sunkari Malleshram (hosted by the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)).
12th Meeting of Labour and Employment Ministers	Hyderabad, Telangana	• Chaired by: Union Minister for Labour and Employment Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya; the 'BRICS CONNECT' initiative was launched on India's proposal, to institutionalise technical cooperation, capacity building, and knowledge sharing among BRICS nations.
5th Meeting of Heads of National Standards Bodies	Bengaluru	• Hosted by: Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).
8th Meeting of Heads of Prosecution Services of BRICS Countries	New Delhi (virtual)	• Theme: 'Exchange of experiences and best practices in handling criminal cases from a prosecutorial perspective'; chaired by: Attorney General Shri R. Venkataramani.
Meeting of the BRICS Forum of Science Academies	IIT Hyderabad, Telangana	• Organiser: Indian National Science Academy; theme: 'Using artificial intelligence for sustainable development and strengthening Global South cooperation'.
3rd Meeting of BRICS Ministers on Disaster Risk Reduction	New Delhi	• Organised by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), chaired by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai.

Miscellaneous

India-Malaysia-Singapore Submarine Cable System

- ❑ This project will establish a high-speed, high-capacity digital connectivity link between India and Southeast Asia.
- ❑ **Total length:** More than 3600 kilometres.
- ❑ **Target for service launch:** Fourth quarter of 2029.
- ❑ Entities involved in the project: Microsoft, Lightstorm, Singtel, and Tata Communications.
- ❑ Implementation: Japan's NEC Corporation will be the system supplier, while Singapore's ASEAN Cables ship will carry out the marine installation.
- ❑ It will start from India's eastern coast, and two landing stations will be set up in India:
 1. Machilipatnam (Andhra Pradesh): the shortest-distance sea link to Hyderabad.
 2. South Chennai (Tamil Nadu).
- ❑ The cable will subsequently connect to Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Singapore.
- ❑ This direct route will connect major data centres in Hyderabad and Chennai to AI hubs in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia).

AI for Good Global Commission

- ❑ **Founding members:** Mukesh Ambani and Sunil Bharti Mittal.
- ❑ It is a UN-backed global commission.
- ❑ **Objective:** To ensure the safe, ethical, transparent, and inclusive use of AI.
- ❑ **Led by:** The International Telecommunication Union.
- ❑ **Co-chairs:** Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff.
- ❑ **First meeting:** Will be held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Operation Hard Ball

- ❑ **Conducted by:** The US intelligence agency FBI, the US Department of Justice, Canada's RCMP, and European security agencies.
- ❑ A major global crackdown against organised international crime syndicates linked to India.

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL):** Has acquired a 100% stake in Brazil's IBV Brasil Petroleo Ltda.
- ❑ The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and Social Security Agreement between India and the United Kingdom formally came into force on 15 July 2026.
- ❑ 651 Indian Army personnel deployed under the UN peacekeeping mission in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** were awarded the United Nations Medal.
- ❑ The '**Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation Agreement**' (the '**123 Agreement**'): Signed by the United States (USA) and Saudi Arabia on 22 July 2026. Signatories: US Energy Secretary **Chris Wright** and **Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman**, in Riyadh.
- ❑ Two roughly 2,000-year-old gold rings were found at the Don Yai Thong archaeological site in Thailand's Phetchaburi province. One ring bears the ancient Indian Brahmi-script inscription '**Pusarakhitasa**' (**protected by Pushya**), while the other is plain.
- ❑ The Oxford English Dictionary added **desi** words linked to the Indian subcontinent, including 13 words from South Asia (notable words: **alpana, nihari, nazim**).
- ❑ The **SHANTI (Securing Holistic Advancement through Norms, Trust and Integrity)** campaign: Launched by India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar at UN Headquarters in New York, for India's bid for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council (UNSC) for 2028-29. [Rival: Tajikistan (Asia-Pacific group)]
- ❑ On the Global AI Outsourcing Readiness Index **released by Atraxis, India** (84.55) secured **first place**.
- ❑ **South African Deputy President Paul Mashatile** and **Venezuela's Acting President Delcy Rodriguez** paid official visits to India.

- ❑ To deepen bilateral trade and investment, an inaugural **India-Mali Forum** was held in Bamako, celebrating a record 55% growth in trade in FY 2025-26, reaching \$326.61 million, under the Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme.
- ❑ **The second India-Rwanda Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC)** meeting was held in New Delhi (6-7 July, 2026), to expand ties in military training, exercises, medical cooperation, and defence industries, co-chaired by Amitabh Prasad (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence) and Brigadier General Louis Kanobiire.
- ❑ On Fortune India's 2026 list of the Most Powerful Women (MPW), Reliance Foundation Chairperson Nita Ambani topped the rankings. This 16th annual list features 100 influential women.
- ❑ 3rd Meeting of BRICS Transport Ministers: **Nagpur, Maharashtra.**
- ❑ BRICS meeting on traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine:

Person in News

Personality	Details
Keiko Fujimori	The newly-elected President of Peru.
Mindaugas Sinkevičius	The new Prime Minister of Lithuania.
Sahi Korereski I	The new Prime Minister of Ukraine. [Name unclear/possibly garbled in source]
Andy Burnham	The 59th Prime Minister of Britain.
Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani	Former Emir of Qatar and the 'Father Emir', passed away on 12 July 2026 at the age of 74; he led the country as Emir of Qatar from 1995 to 2013.
Kanishka Narayan	The UK government has appointed Kanishka Narayan, an MP of Indian origin, as the country's first cabinet-level AI minister.
Bassirou Diomaye Faye	President of Senegal, appointed the new chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). He succeeds President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone.
Volker Türk (Austria)	Appointed UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for a second consecutive term.
Anil Menon	NASA astronaut of Indian origin, departed for the International Space Station (ISS) from the Baikonur Cosmodrome (Kazakhstan) under the Soyuz MS-29 mission, where he will conduct various scientific experiments, including on the effects of microgravity on the human body.
Ruchi Agarwal and Abhishek Sahu	The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) has appointed Ruchi Agarwal and Abhishek Sahu, along with 15 researchers from around the world, as GBA Ambassadors and Fellows for the inaugural batch of its flagship Global Biofuel Champion Fellowship (GBCF) programme.
Captain Aman Johri	An Indian analogue astronaut and aerospace researcher successfully conducted a microgravity agricultural experiment on Maharashtra's major crops (onion and potato) under Project Astra Farm.

Notable Places

Country	Details
France	France has become the first European country to ban social media for children under 15, with new accounts blocked from September 2026 and existing accounts to be closed by January 2027.
China	China launched the World Artificial Intelligence Cooperation Organization (WAICO) during the World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai, with 29 founding member countries; its headquarters has been set up in Shanghai, China. Successfully launched the HY-2E (Haiyang-2E) marine surveillance satellite aboard a Long March-4B rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. Successfully tested the JL-3 (Julang-3), a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), from a nuclear-powered submarine in the Pacific Ocean. OrienSpace successfully launched its Gravity-1 rocket from a sea-based mobile platform in the East China Sea. China imposed a ban on the export of helium.
Russia	The world's first symbolic robot wedding was held between AI-powered humanoid robots Robert and Matilda at the Pushkin Library in Moscow.
Japan	JAXA successfully tested its first reusable rocket, named RV-X. Typhoon Bavi: impact felt in Japan and China.
Spain	A national emergency was declared for the first time, due to wildfires in the Madrid and Ávila regions.
USA	Imposed a 10% tariff on imports from India and other countries under a Section 301 investigation, aimed at stopping the import of goods produced using forced labour.
Venezuela	Formally notified the United Nations of its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court.
Ireland	Assumed the presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Space Technology

Vikram-1: India's First Private Orbital Launch Vehicle (Mission Aagman)

- ❑ **Launch & Development:** By Skyroot Aerospace on 18 July 2026.
- ❑ **Orbit:** In Low-Earth Orbit (LEO).
- ❑ **Launch Site:** Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota.
- ❑ **Fuel:** Three solid stages (Kalam-1200, Kalam-250, Kalam-100) and a fourth liquid stage (4 Raman engines).
- ❑ Capacity to place a payload of up to 350 kg in LEO.
- ❑ **Size:** Length - 24 metres, diameter - 1.7 metres.
- ❑ India's first fully carbon-composite orbital rocket, equipped with a 100% 3D-printed liquid-engine-based Orbital Adjustment Module.
- ❑ **Key Technology:** Ultra-Low Shock Pneumatic Separation System; indigenous propulsion, avionics, telemetry, navigation and flight-control systems.
- ❑ **Key Payloads:**
 1. **SCOPE:** Skyroot's experimental satellite.
 2. **SOLARAS:** Graha Space's compact satellite.
 3. **EMBRACE:** CosmoServe Space's robotic arm (it will test the capability to remove debris in space).
 4. **UD3PP and MD3RN (Experimental Technology Demonstration Payloads):** Developed by the German company DCUBED.
- ❑ The following items were carried aboard it -
 - ♦ **Cosmic Bloom** - a flower-shaped diamond artwork developed by Bengaluru-based Cosmos Diamonds.

♦ **Micro-Art/Tribute** - a miniature rocket made of 18-carat gold, honouring Indian scientists Dr Vikram Sarabhai, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and Professor Satish Dhawan (**Micro-artist: Ajay Kumar Mattewada**).

- ♦ Prime Minister's Postcard - a postcard of 'Vande Mataram' handwritten by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ♦ Postcards of engineers, scientists and travellers.
- ❑ India became **the third country** after the USA and China to carry out an orbital launch in the private sector.
- ❑ Which national award had Skyroot Aerospace received? - National Technology Start-up Award 2022.
- ❑ According to Tracxn's report, private space start-up Skyroot Aerospace has secured the highest funding among India's space-tech start-ups, with total funding of \$150 million.

Gaganyaan Mission

Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test

- ❑ **Organiser:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ❑ **Test Site:** Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE) Drop Zone, Sheopur (Madhya Pradesh).
- ❑ **Objective:** Validation of the main parachute system for Gaganyaan's first uncrewed mission.

SOLVE's First Ground Test

- ❑ **Organiser:** ISRO, on 3 July 2026.
- ❑ **Test Site:** Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- ❑ **SOLVE: Sub-Orbital Launch Vehicle for Experiments.**
- ❑ It is a solid-fuel-based experimental sub-orbital launch vehicle, developed by ISRO for the Integrated Parachute Test (IPT) of the Gaganyaan Mission.

- ❑ **Objective:** To test the reduction of crew-module speed, operation of the parachute system, and safe recovery under real flight-like conditions.
- ❑ Approximately 45 payloads have been launched through the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM).

LSST Mission (Legacy Survey of Space and Time)

- ❑ **Observatory:** Vera C. Rubin Observatory, Chile.
- ❑ **Objective:** To study changes occurring over time by repeatedly photographing the entire southern sky.
- ❑ It houses the world's largest digital camera (3.2 gigapixels).
- ❑ **Function:** Mapping of small asteroids, comets, black holes, supernovae, kilonovae and distant galaxies; understanding the mysteries of dark matter and dark energy; studying the rate of expansion of the universe and its future; and detailed analysis of gravitational lensing.
- ❑ **Role of Indian Scientists:** Scientists from IUCAA (Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics), Pune, and NCRA-TIFR (National Centre for Radio Astrophysics - Tata Institute of Fundamental Research) are active participants in this project.

Key Facts on Space Technology

- ❑ India has set a target of developing a \$44 billion space economy by the year 2033.
- ❑ Between July 2023 and June 2026, India completed 12 successful launch-vehicle missions and launched 11 Indian satellites along with 9 satellites of foreign customers.
- ❑ By 31 March 2026, private investment had exceeded \$618.5 million; in 2026, private investment of \$187 million was recorded.
- ❑ As of 14 July 2026, 105 Non-Government Entities (NGEs) had been authorised by IN-SPACe.
- ❑ 17 space start-ups have been granted permission.
- ❑ Indian private companies have successfully

placed more than 30 satellites in space.

- ❑ IN-SPACe has established cooperation with more than 45 countries.

Defense Technology

Mahendragiri (F-38)

- ❑ Commissioned into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam on 11 July 2026.
- ❑ It is the sixth stealth frigate built under Project 17A.
- ❑ **Design:** Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau.
- ❑ **Construction:** Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai.
- ❑ **Naming:** Named after Mount Mahendragiri in the Eastern Ghats. This is the first Indian Navy warship to bear this name.
- ❑ **Key Features -**
 - ◆ More than 75% indigenous content.
 - ◆ State-of-the-art stealth design.
 - ◆ CODOG (Combined Diesel or Gas) propulsion system.
 - ◆ High speed and long-range capability.
 - ◆ High level of automation.
- ❑ **Weapons and Sensors**
 - ◆ Mahendragiri is fitted with modern surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missile systems.
 - ◆ It is equipped with an advanced electronic warfare system.
 - ◆ It has an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) system.
 - ◆ It has been fitted with an Integrated Combat Management System (ICMS) to make combat operations effective.

Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) Pinaka

- ❑ **Test:** By DRDO on 8 July 2026, from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur.
- ❑ The rocket's flight test was jointly coordinated by the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, and the Proof and Experimental Establishment.
- ❑ The rocket was tested for the prescribed minimum strike range of 60 kilometres.
- ❑ **Development and Design:** DRDO's Armament Research and Development

Establishment, in collaboration with the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory.

♦ **Collaboration:** Defence Research and Development Laboratory and Research Centre Imarat.

- ❑ In this test, the rocket was fired from the Pinaka launcher already in service with the Indian Army.

'Baaz Battalion'

- ❑ Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi has announced the formation of the 'Baaz Battalion' to strengthen intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability on the battlefield.
- ❑ It is a special drone battalion of the Indian Army.
- ❑ It represents an upgraded form of the Army's existing Remotely Piloted Aircraft capability.

ASW-SWC Warship Malvan

- ❑ Commissioned into the Indian Navy at Karwar on 22 July 2026.
- ❑ It is the second vessel of the Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.
- ❑ **Builder:** Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi.
- ❑ **Indigenous content:** More than 80%.
- ❑ **Motto:** Silent Close.
- ❑ **Emblem:** Lion's paw (Baghnakh).
- ❑ Specially developed for anti-submarine operations in shallow-water areas.
- ❑ It is a multi-role warship capable of remaining deployed at sea for extended periods, with high manoeuvrability and precise operational capability.

Samudra Pradakshina

- ❑ India's first tri-services, all-women, round-the-world sailing expedition was successfully completed on 22 July 2026.
- ❑ 9 women officers from all three services took part in it.
- ❑ **Start:** 11 September 2025.
- ❑ Covered a distance of approximately 25,500 nautical miles in 314 days.

- ❑ The expedition was conducted aboard the Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) 'Triveni' (50 feet long).

Kusha

- ❑ **Test:** DRDO successfully test-fired the Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM) from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha, on 23 July.
- ❑ **Range:** 3 interceptors (150, 250, 350-400 km).
- ❑ **Target:** High-speed and high-altitude electronic aerial [targets].
- ❑ **Key Components:** Missile, radar, command and control centre (all indigenous).
- ❑ It is part of the Sudarshan Chakra and will strengthen India's S-400 capability.
- ❑ 'Kusha' is capable of engaging fighter aircraft, cruise missiles, UAVs (drones) and large aerial platforms such as AWACS aircraft.

Biotechnology

Awikli

- ❑ Launched in India by the Danish pharmaceutical company **Novo Nordisk**.
- ❑ It is the world's **first weekly basal insulin injection**.
- ❑ This insulin is meant for the treatment of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in adults.
- ❑ It reduces the number of annual injections from 365 to just 52.

Qdenga / TAK-003

- ❑ It is India's first dengue vaccine.
- ❑ Approved by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation.
- ❑ It is a tetravalent vaccine.
- ❑ Development: Japanese company Takeda.
- ❑ It is meant for people aged 4 to 60 years.
- ❑ It protects against all four types of dengue (DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4).

Major Exercises

Exercise Pitch Black

- ❑ **Organiser:** Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

- ❑ **Venue:** 20 July - 7 August, Darwin, Australia.
- ❑ **Indian Aircraft:** Rafale, C-17 Globemaster III, IL-78.

Tiger Lightning 2026

- ❑ **Participants:** United States of America and Bangladesh.
- ❑ **Venue:** 19-31 July 2026, Jalalabad Cantonment, Sylhet (Bangladesh).
- ❑ **Participation:** More than 160 military personnel from both countries.

Miscellaneous

NIDAR 2.0 (National Innovation Challenge for Drone Application and Research)

- ❑ **Launch:** On 13 July 2026 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in collaboration with Drone Federation India, under the SwaYaan initiative.
- ❑ It is a national innovation competition.
- ❑ **Objective:** To provide a platform for students and innovators to develop indigenous drones, drone components and autonomous systems.

Ultra-Sensitive Ammonia Sensor

- ❑ **Development:** On 14 July 2026, by scientists of the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru.
- ❑ It is based on a VOx/VS2 (Vanadium Oxide-Vanadium Sulphide) heterostructure.
- ❑ Operating at room temperature, it can detect extremely low ammonia concentrations, down to 319 parts per billion (ppb).

India's First Verified Quantum Advantage

- ❑ Scientists of BITS Pilani (K.K. Birla Goa Campus), in collaboration with IBM Quantum, achieved India's first verified quantum advantage.
- ❑ The new quantum algorithm completed a complex physics simulation in just 20 seconds.
- ❑ The same task would have taken the most powerful supercomputer approximately 2

hours to complete.

- ❑ 120 qubits were used on the IBM Quantum Processor.

India's First Mobile Smart Algal Liquid Tree - 'SALT'

- ❑ **Development:** CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CSIR-CIMFR), Dhanbad.
- ❑ It will be of great help in tackling urban air pollution.
- ❑ The Liquid Tree is a small, mobile air-purification system.
- ❑ **Function:** It works with the help of microalgae, absorbing carbon dioxide from the air and releasing oxygen.

Operation Southern Readiness 26-2

- ❑ The Indian Navy will host Operation Southern Readiness 26-2 at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi (Kerala), during 20-23 July 2026.
- ❑ **Event:** 20-23 July, Southern Naval Command, Kochi (Kerala).
- ❑ **Partner Organisation:** Combined Maritime Forces.
- ❑ It is a four-day multinational maritime training exercise.

Centre of Excellence

- ❑ The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) has announced two Centres of Excellence, in Ahmedabad and Guwahati, to promote India's semiconductor ecosystem.
- ❑ **Ahmedabad Centre:** At Chandkheda, in agreement with Infineon Technologies.
- ❑ **Guwahati Centre:** At Jagiroad, in partnership with Tata Electronics.

UNNATI AI 2.0

- ❑ **Launch:** Microsoft India and FITT, IIT Delhi.
- ❑ **Objective:** To advance start-ups and creators from small and medium (Tier-2/3) cities.

- ❑ **Focus Areas:** Fields of social interest such as health, agriculture, education and environmental sustainability.

First Indigenous Expendable Turbojet Engine

- ❑ **Development:** GTRE (Gas Turbine Research Establishment), DRDO.
- ❑ **Industry Partner:** Azad Engineering, Hyderabad.
- ❑ It is a 350 kg thrust-class Expendable Turbojet Engine.
- ❑ Use: Cruise missiles and other single-use aerial platforms.

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **Pune:** CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, has officially inaugurated its newly built, state-of-the-art Skill Development Centre.
- ❑ **Mumbai:** The Maharashtra government has approved India's **first AI-operated bird sanctuary and eco-nature** park at the **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary, Mumbai.**
- ❑ **Khavda Solar Park, Gujarat:** Delectric Systems will set up India's **first 100 MWh Vanadium Redox Flow Battery project** - India's first non-lithium, utility-scale energy-storage system, to be manufactured entirely in India.
- ❑ **Sanand, Gujarat:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **CG-SEM company's** Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility.
- ❑ **Punjab:** Became the first state in India to include AI as a core subject from Classes 1 to 12.
- ❑ **Manallur and Pillaipakkam, Tamil Nadu:** The state government approved 2 electronics manufacturing clusters.
- ❑ **Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh:** Adani Defence laid the foundation stone of a private-sector missile manufacturing facility.
- ❑ **'Bhashini Rajyam' Initiative:** Launched in Panaji by the Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) and the Government of Goa, to

promote AI-based multilingual digital governance and government services in the mother tongue, in Indian languages including Konkani.

- ❑ **'BOHR'** (Betavoltaic Orbital High-Reliability): SpaceX launched the world's first commercial nuclear-powered satellite aboard a Falcon 9 rocket under the Transporter-17 Rideshare Mission.
- ❑ **AI-Operated 'PRAXIS Mission':** Unveiled by NASA to study the rings of Saturn, Uranus and Neptune and to sample their particles.
- ❑ **Indian Navy Eastern Fleet warships** INS Udaygiri, INS Shakti and INS Kavaratti, under the leadership of Rear Admiral Alok Anand, successfully completed a three-day visit to Singapore's Changi Naval Base.
- ❑ **INS Sudarshini:** The Indian Navy training ship INS Sudarshini reached New York Port, USA, on 4 July 2026, where it represented India at the International Naval Review 250 and Sail4th 250 celebrations.
- ❑ **Supermassive Black Holes:** An international research team, including scientists of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), used the e-MERLIN radio telescope to detect - through high-resolution radio studies - a widespread presence of low-activity supermassive black holes in nearby galaxies.
- ❑ **Nanofluid Electrolyte:** Scientists of SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur, have developed this for an electrically rechargeable zinc-air battery; the technology has also received an Indian patent (IN570691).
- ❑ **Borophene (2D Nano Material):** Scientists of IASST, Guwahati, used borophene for the first time as a bio-lubricant additive, with castor oil used as the base lubricant.
- ❑ **Parrot Bornavirus 4 (PaBv4):** Indian veterinary scientists (led by Assam Agricultural University's Veterinary and Fishery Sciences faculty) examined exotic parrots and birds kept in conservation in Assam, West Bengal and Karnataka, and found more than 53% infected with this deadly RNA virus.
- ❑ **Spirulina:** The Technology Development Board (TDB) has provided financial

- assistance to KN Biosciences for commercialising an indigenous, spirulina-based C-Phycocyanin production technology developed by IIT Guwahati.
- ❑ **'Magnetic Tree' Concept:** Scientists of the Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) have, in a study, presented the first clear evidence of meridional flow in the Sun's upper atmosphere - providing a strong scientific basis for the 'Magnetic Tree' concept and aiding a better understanding of space weather and the solar cycle.
 - ❑ **Covalent Organic Framework-Based Ultra-Fast Carbonic Anode:** Developed by scientists of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science and the S.N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences; it enables lithium-ion batteries to charge up to 80% in about 1 minute and is also suitable for sodium-ion batteries.
 - ❑ **Blue Straggler Stars:** Scientists of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) unravelled the mystery of the formation of blue straggler stars by finding the first direct evidence of active mass transfer in the binary star system TIC 327546480, in the star cluster Collinder 261.
 - ❑ Under the "Safe-Trusted AI" pillar of the Government of India's IndiaAI Mission, 13 Responsible AI projects, 58 AI Centres of Excellence, 27 Data and AI Labs, and 20 indigenous AI models have been developed.
 - ❑ 4 Indians were killed in a Russian attack on the merchant vessel **MV Goldenlion** in the Black Sea, near the Odesa coast, Ukraine.
 - ❑ **Five New Species of Lichen-Forming Fungi of the Genus *Allographa***
 - ◆ **Discovery:** By scientists of MACS-Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, from the Western Ghats.
 - ◆ **Five Species:** *Allographa keralensis*, *Allographa nayakii*, *Allographa paraconsanguinea*, *Allographa persistinspersa* and *Allographa semicarbonisata*. [species names transliterated]
 - ❑ **Landslide Early Warning System**
 - ◆ **Development:** By researchers of IIT Mandi (Prof. Derex P Shukla, Ankit Singh, Nitesh Dhiman).
 - ◆ It is a fully functional, web-based system for the Indian Himalayan region, issuing accurate daily forecasts during the monsoon.
 - ◆ Unlike other systems limited to the local level, **it is the country's largest forecasting system, covering the entire Indian Himalayan region.**
 - ◆ Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, announced India's first undergraduate course in Engineering Biology, and also released a roadmap for 'making India a leading nation in the global bio-economy by 2035'.
 - ❑ Minister of State for Technology Dr Jitendra Singh reviewed science and technology institutions at the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), Shillong, and inaugurated a state-of-the-art geo-informatics laboratory.
 - ❑ Over the last five years, more than 3.75 lakh students and researchers have benefited under the INSPIRE programme



CRICKET**ICC Women's T-20 World Cup**

- ❑ **Final:** Lord's Cricket Ground, London (England)
- ❑ **Winner:** Australia (record 7th title) won by 7 wickets.
- ❑ **Runner-up:** England
- ❑ **Special Achievement:** This is the biggest successful run-chase in the history of T-20 World Cup finals.
- ❑ **Player of the Tournament:** Beth Mooney (Australia) - 238 runs
- ❑ **Highest Run-scorer:** Danni Wyatt-Hodge (England) - 302 runs
 - New record for the most runs scored in a single edition of the ICC Women's T-20 World Cup.

Indian Women's Cricket Team

- ❑ Became the first women's team to win a Test match at Lord's, defeating England by 270 runs.
- ❑ **Venue:** Lord's, United Kingdom (UK)
- ❑ **Indian Captain:** Harmanpreet Kaur
- ❑ **First century at Lord's:** Yastika Bhatia (113 runs)
- ❑ First 5-wicket haul at Lord's: India's debutant pace bowler **Kranti Goud**

India-Zimbabwe T20 International (T20I) Series

- ❑ **Series Result:** India defeated Zimbabwe 3-0.
- ❑ **Venue:** Harare, Zimbabwe
- ❑ India overtook England to reclaim the No. 1 position in the ICC Men's T20I rankings.

FOOTBALL**FIFA World Cup 2026**

- ❑ **Host:** United States, Canada and Mexico
- ❑ **Winner:** (Spain won their second FIFA Men's World Cup title.)

- ◆ Won 1-0 in extra time.
- ◆ Winning Goal: Ferran Torres
- ◆ Spain became the **first country** to win both the 'Men's and Women's FIFA World Cup' titles at the same time.

- ❑ **Runner-up:** Argentina (defending champions)
- ❑ **Tournament Awards**
 - ◆ Golden Ball (Best Player): Rodri (Spain)
 - ◆ Golden Glove (Best Goalkeeper): Unai Simón (Spain)
 - ◆ Young Player Award: Pau Cubarsí (Spain)
 - ◆ Golden Boot (Most Goals): Kylian Mbappé (France)
- ❑ **Record:** Kylian Mbappé became the first player to win the Golden Boot in more than one FIFA World Cup in history.

SHOOTING**Shotgun World Cup 2026**

- ❑ **Women's Trap Event**
- ❑ **Host:** Lonato, Italy
- ❑ **Gold:** Neeru Dhanda (India)
 - ◆ Neeru Dhanda became the **first Indian woman trap shooter** to win an individual gold medal at the ISSF World Cup. She currently serves as a Naib Subedar in the Indian Army.
- ❑ **Silver:** Cyril Comminet (France)

WRESTLING**Under-20 Asian Wrestling Championship**

- ❑ **Venue:** Pattaya, Thailand
- ❑ **India's Performance:** Total medals - 20
 - ◆ Gold: 4 ◆ Silver: 7 ◆ Bronze: 9
- ❑ **Gold:** Women's category - Parveen (50 Kg), Muskan (53 Kg), Kajal (76 Kg),

- ◆ Men's Freestyle - Sumit Kumar Lakshman Bhaskar (70 Kg)

❑ **Team Performance:**

- ◆ Women's Team: 2nd position - 1. China
- ◆ Men's Freestyle Team: 3rd position
- 1. Kazakhstan 2. Iran

Under-17 World Wrestling Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Baku, Azerbaijan
- ❑ India's medal winners

Medal	Wrestler	Category	Result
Silver	Nikita Sehrawat	Women's 57 Kg	Lost 0-6 to America's Agnessa Ellison in the final.
Bronze	Kamna Babal	Women's 49 Kg	Defeated Russia's Irina Tsvedeva 3-2.
Bronze	Garima	Women's 73 Kg	Defeated Spain's Paula Benitez Perez on technical superiority.

Budapest Wrestling Ranking Series 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Budapest, Hungary
- ❑ **Tournament:** Polyák Imre, Varga János and Kója István Memorial (UWW Ranking Series)
- ❑ **India's Performance:** Total medals - 12
 - ◆ Gold: 3 ◆ Silver: 4 ◆ Bronze: 5
- ❑ **Gold Medal Winners**

Wrestler	Event Category	Opponent
Aman Sehrawat (57 Kg)	Men's Freestyle	Robert Dingashvili (Georgia)
Neha Sangwan (59 Kg)	Women's Freestyle	Abigail Nate (USA)
Kajal Dhonchak (76 Kg)	Women's Freestyle	Diamond Gilford (USA)

ARCHERY

World Archery World Cup Stage-4

- ❑ **Venue:** Madrid, Spain
- ❑ **Indian Team:** Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Prithika Pradeep and Chikitha Tanipathi

Medal	Country	Score
Gold	Colombia	232
Silver	India	228

❑ **Key Facts**

- ◆ India had previously won **gold** in the Women's Compound Team event at Stage-1 (Puebla, Mexico) of the World Archery World Cup.
- ◆ **Individual Event:** India's teenage archer **Prithika Pradeep** won **bronze** in the Women's Individual Compound event.

Hyundai World Para Archery Series 2026 (Stage-2)

- ❑ **Host:** Nové Mesto nad Metují, Czechia (29 June-4 July 2026)
- ❑ **India's Performance:** Total medals - 10
Gold: 5 Silver: 3 Bronze: 2
- ❑ **Gold Medal Winners**

Athlete Name	Event Category
Bhavna (Individual)	Para Recurve Women's
Bhavna and Puja (Doubles Team)	Para Recurve Women's Doubles
Bhavna and Harvinder Singh (Mixed Team)	Para Recurve Mixed Team
Harvinder Singh and Vijay Sundi (Doubles Team)	Para Recurve Men's Doubles
Sheetal Devi and Shyam Sundar Swami (Mixed Team)	Para Compound Mixed Team

❑ **Key Facts**

- ◆ **Toman Kumar and Shyam Sundar Swami** won bronze in the Para Compound Men's Doubles event, defeating France (150-148).
- ◆ Shyam Sundar Swami is a resident of Bikaner, Rajasthan.

- ❑ Several stages have been scheduled for the 2026 Para Archery calendar ahead of the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Para Games.
 - ◆ **Stage-1:** Bangkok, Thailand (30 March-4 April 2026)
 - ◆ **Stage-2:** Nové Mesto nad Metují, Czechia (29 June-4 July 2026)
 - ◆ **Stage-3: Ahmedabad, India (5-9 September 2026)**
 - ◆ **Stage-4:** Santiago, Chile (14-18 October 2026)

TENNIS

Wimbledon Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** All England Club, London, United Kingdom

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Men's	Yannick Sinner (Italy)	Alexander Zverev (Germany)
Women's	Linda Nosková (Czech Republic)	Karolína Muchová (Czech Republic)
Men's Doubles	Harri Heliövaara (Finland) and Henry Patten (Britain)	Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador) and Mate Pavić (Croatia)
Women's Doubles	Gu Hanyu (China) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Luisa Stefani (Brazil)

BADMINTON

Japan Open 2026 (BWF Super 750)

- ❑ **Venue:** Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium, Tokyo, Japan
- ❑ **Champion:** P. V. Sindhu (became the first Indian badminton player to win the Japan Open title.)
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)
 - ◆ Final Score: 21-17, 21-17

ATHLETICS

65th National Senior Athletics Championship (2026)

- ❑ **Venue:** Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar
- ❑ **Event:** Women's Javelin Throw
- ❑ **Gold:** Annu Rani (Uttar Pradesh) - 56.74 metres
- ❑ **Silver:** Uma Chaudhary (Rajasthan) - 53.06 metres

CYCLING

113th Tour de France 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** 4 July-26 July 2026, Barcelona (Spain) to Paris (France)
- ❑ **Total Stages:** 21 ❑ **Total Distance:** 3,289.3 km
- ❑ The Tour de France is the world's most

prestigious cycling race.

- ❑ **Tadej Pogacar (Slovenia):** Retained the **Yellow Jersey** and also kept the overall lead after **Stage-17**.
- ❑ **Jasper Philipsen (Belgium):** Achieved his first stage win of Tour de France 2026 at Stage-17 (Chambéry to Voiron).

BOXING

Asian Under-19 and Under-23 Women's Boxing Championship 2026

- ❑ **Host City:** Jakarta, Indonesia
- ❑ **India's Performance:** Total medals - 18
 - ◆ Gold: 3 Silver: 10 Bronze: 5
- ❑ **Gold Medals**
 - ◆ **Under-23 category:** Nisha (Women's Bantamweight, 54 Kg)
Final: defeated Japan's Korin Kokufu.
 - ◆ **Under-19 category**
 - **Chandrika Bhoreshi Pujari** (Light Flyweight, 51 Kg)
Final: defeated Uzbekistan's Nazokat Mardonova.
 - **Prachi Prachi** (Featherweight, 57 Kg)
Final: defeated Indonesia's Dira Artika.

Asian Under-19 and Under-23 Men's Boxing Championship 2026

- ❑ **Host City:** Jakarta, Indonesia
- ❑ **Gold (Under-23)**

Athlete Name	Weight Category	Opponent (Country)
Vishwanath Suresh	50 Kg	Daichi Iwai (Japan)
Ganga	55 Kg	Bexultan Boranbek (Kazakhstan)

- ❑ **Silver (Under-19)**

Athlete Name	Weight Category	Opponent (Country)
Aditya	55 Kg	Elyor Rustamov (Uzbekistan)
Shubham Rajpoot	90 Kg	Asadbek Sultanbaev (Uzbekistan)

SQUASH

World Junior Squash Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada
- ❑ **Date:** 20 July to 25 July, 2026
- ❑ **Winner:** Anahat Singh (India)
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Rukayya Salem (Egypt)
- ❑ **Final Score:** 11-3, 11-7, 11-9
- ❑ **Achievement:** Became the first Indian player to win the title of the World Junior Squash Championship.

HOCKEY

FIH Youth Hockey5s Asian Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Muscat, Oman
- ❑ **Category:** Sub-Junior (Under-16) Men's and Women's
- ❑ **Significance:** Qualifying event for the inaugural FIH Hockey5s World Cup.
- ❑ **Men's Final:** India defeated Pakistan 3-1.
- ❑ **Women's Final:** China defeated India 4-2.

SHOOTING

ISSF World Cup (Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun) 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Hangzhou, China
- ❑ **Date:** 20-29 July 2026
- ❑ This was the first (inaugural) edition held in Hangzhou, part of the 2026 ISSF World Cup season.
- ❑ **Women's Individual Results**
 - ♦ **25m Pistol:**
 - Gold: Esha Singh (India)
 - Silver: Zhang Yuyu (China)
 - Bronze: Manu Bhaker (India)
 - ♦ **10m Air Pistol:**
 - Gold: Yao Qianxun (China)
 - Silver: Sanyam Vij (India)
 - Bronze: Hanieh Rostamian (Iran)
 - ♦ **10m Air Rifle:**
 - Gold: Du Yuchen (China)

♦ 50m Rifle 3 Positions:

- Gold: Seonaid McIntosh (United Kingdom)

❑ 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team

- ♦ **India's pair won bronze:** Sonam Maskar and Himanshu Dhillon
- ♦ **Score:** 441.2 points
- ♦ **Gold medal:** Wang Zifei and Sheng Lihao (China)

❑ Men's Individual Results

♦ 10m Air Rifle:

- Gold: Sheng Lihao (China) - 253.9 points

♦ 10m Air Pistol:

- Gold: Bu Shuaihang (China) - 244.4 points

♦ 50m Rifle 3 Positions:

- Gold: Zhang Changhong (China) - 363.0 points (World Record)

RAJASTHAN SPECIAL

World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) World Cup 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Novi Sad, Serbia
- ❑ **Rajasthan's Para Shooter:** Rahul Sharma
- ❑ **Event:** P5 - 10m Air Pistol Standard, Open SH1
- ❑ **Medal:** Gold
- ❑ **Score:** 362-7X (new World Record)
- ❑ **Coach:** Sachin Singh Shekhawat

First NTPC National Ranking Archery Competition 2026

- ❑ **Organizer:** Archery Association of India (AAI) and Rajasthan Archery Association (RAA)
- ❑ **Venue:** Jagatpura Archery Range, Jaipur, Rajasthan
- ❑ Rajasthan won 3 medals in the sub-junior category (1 silver and 2 bronze)
- ❑ **Sub-Junior Recurve Boys category**
 - ♦ Gold: Abhyuday Amol Pakhale (Maharashtra)

- ◆ Silver: Atharv Sharma (Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Sub-Junior Recurve Girls category**
 - ◆ Gold: Khushi Kumari (Jharkhand)
 - ◆ Silver: Kondapavuluri Yukta Sri (Andhra Pradesh)
 - ◆ Bronze: Dhriti Sharma (Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Sub-Junior Compound Boys category**
 - ◆ **Gold:** Shreyash Satish Munde (Maharashtra)
 - ◆ **Silver:** Lavpreet Singh (Haryana)
 - ◆ Bronze: Aryan Parik (Rajasthan)
- ❑ **Gold medallist in other events**

Event	Medallist
Junior Compound Men	Lavpreet Singh (Haryana)
Junior Compound Women	Prithika (Maharashtra) Pradeep
Junior Recurve Women	Shabari Somnath Shende (Maharashtra)
Junior Recurve Men	Shivam Sanjay Khandare (Maharashtra)

Rajasthan State Ranking Badminton Tournament

- ❑ **Venue:** Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Organizer:** Rajasthan Badminton Association (RBA)
- ❑ Jaipur was the most successful district, with six gold medals.
- ❑ **Category-wise Winners -**

Category	Winning Player/Pair
Men's Singles	Shubham Patel (Alwar)
Women's Singles	Sneha Lamba (Jaipur)
Men's Doubles	Shubham Patel and Dennis Shrivastava (Alwar and Jaipur)
Women's Doubles	Aaradhya Jodha and Deshna Jain (Jaipur)
Mixed Doubles	Murli Sharma and Sarril Chaudhary (Jaipur and Tonk)
U-19 Boys Singles	Vishal Chaudhary (Jaipur)
U-19 Girls Singles	Sneha Lamba (Jaipur)
U-19 Boys Doubles	Bhanu Pratap Singh and Jayvardhan Singh (Jaipur)
U-19 Girls Doubles	Kavya Swami and Sarril Chaudhary (Bikaner and Tonk)

Diyanshi Jain Creates History in International Squash

- ❑ **Residence:** Jaipur, Rajasthan (trains at the Rajasthan Squash Academy, Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur.)
- ❑ **Academy Director/Coach:** Surabhi Mishra (currently appointed coach of the Indian team for the World Junior Squash Championship 2026.)
 1. Won gold in the Under-13 Girls category at the **European Junior Open Squash Tournament 2026 in Hamburg, Germany.**
 - ◆ (Defeated: Talia Islam of Egypt)
 2. Won gold at the **Dutch Junior Open Squash Tournament 2026 in Amsterdam, Netherlands.**

Second Rajasthan State Ranking Table Tennis Tournament 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** 22-26 July, Pro Star Table Tennis Academy, Nirman Nagar, Jaipur.
- ❑ **Organizer:** Jaipur District Table Tennis Association (JDTTA).

Category/Event	Winner
Men's Singles	Yatharth Bathunia (Kota)
Women's Singles	Samriddhi Vyas (Jaipur)
Under-19 Boys Singles	Naitikveer Yadav (Jaipur)
Under-19 Girls Singles	Samriddhi Vyas (Jaipur)
Under-15 Boys Singles	Udayveer Singh (Bikaner)
Under-15 Girls Singles	Aarna Sahni (Jaipur)
Under-13 Boys Singles	Aarav Sahni (Jaipur)
Under-13 Girls Singles	Aarna Sahni (Jaipur)
Under-11 Boys Singles	Tarush Sharma (Jaipur)
Under-11 Girls Singles	Kiara Acharya (Bikaner)
Men's Doubles	Mohit Verma and Vivek Bhargava (Jaipur)
Women's Doubles	Samriddhi Vyas and D.P. Sharma (Jaipur)
Mixed Doubles	Priyansh Bhati and Yash Shrinkhala (Bikaner)

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **Mukhyamantri Yuva Suyog:** Launched as a pilot project from **Bagru Assembly constituency** and **Baran district** to enhance sports, skill development and leadership ability among the state's youth through this platform.
- ❑ **Mahendrapal Singh (Barmer), Varunjoy Singh, Manish Thakan and Yashpal Singh:** **Four players from Rajasthan** selected for the Indian team for the 19th Asian Men's Junior Handball Championship to be held in China.
- ❑ **Ashok Sharma:** Jaipur's young pace bowler made his international cricket debut with the T-20 match played between India and Zimbabwe at Harare Sports Club.
- ❑ **Rajasthan's Diya Chaudhary and Tanvi Dadhich:** selected for the Indian team for the Batumi Open International Wushu Championship-2026, to be held in Georgia from 30 July to 4 August.
- ❑ **Anamika Kanwar:** Jaipur resident selected for the Indian team for the **FIH World Para Hockey Championship** to be held in the Netherlands.
- ❑ **Sanyogita Shekhawat:** Jaipur's shooter selected for the Indian team for the Skeet event of the **ISSF Junior World Cup 2026** to be held in Italy.
- ❑ **Kshitija Sharma (Rajasthan):** selected in the **Indian Under-19 Korfbal team**. She will represent India at the **IKF Under-19 Asia Korfbal-4 Championship** to be held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❑ **Tulip Ojha and Divya Rajawat:** Rajasthan State Sports Council players won a **silver medal** in **Judo events** at the **11th All India Police Judo Cluster Competition** held in Hyderabad.
- ❑ **Khoobi Sharma:** Jaipur's Khoobi Sharma hoisted the tricolour on Rudragera and Jogin Peak (located in the Garhwal Himalayan region of Uttarakhand, India) at an altitude of 21,000 feet.
- ❑ Jaipur's Jagatpura-based The Kulish School won the Fresher-category winning trophy by taking 35 medals (5 gold, 8 silver and 22 bronze) at the Rajasthan Cup Taekwondo Championship 2026.
- ❑ **Vanya Bohra and Shivay Dobwal:** Jaipur skaters selected for the Indian team for the Asian Open Short Track Speed Skating

Trophy-2026.

- ❑ **Tanisha Parik, Harsh, Animesh, Jatan Pahadiya and Manish Singh:** five athletes from SMS Taekwondo Academy selected for the 5th India Taekwondo Senior National Championship to be held in Pune.
- ❑ **National Aerobic Gymnastics Championship 2026 To be held in Jaipur from 25-28 October, 2026**
- ❑ At the 6th National Tennis Ball Cricket Championship held at Chaugan Stadium, Jaipur, Uttar Pradesh defeated host Rajasthan by 9 runs in the men's final to win the title.
- ❑ **ARENA 2026 (Doctors' Sports Competition)**
 - o Organizer: Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS), Jaipur. This was the first comprehensive sports competition for medical professionals.
- ❑ **Chhitar Mal Balai:** Resident of Neem Ka Thana (Sikar) won a gold medal at the age of 64 in the 50m Rifle-Pistol event at the **24th Rajasthan State Rifle-Pistol Championship**.

Indian Polo Day and Jaipur Trophy 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Guards Polo Club, London, United Kingdom.
- ❑ **Event Partner:** Gulfstream.
- ❑ **Occasion:** Indian Polo Day.
- ❑ **Jaipur Trophy 2026**
 - ◆ Winning Team: Jaipur Polo. (Score: 7-6)
 - ◆ Runner-up Team: Guards Polo Club.
 - ◆ Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh (Jaipur) also participated as a key player of the team.

Government Initiative

First Vande Mataram Camp 2026

- ❑ **Organizer:** My Bharat (MY Bharat), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❑ **Venue:** Brainware University, Barasat, West Bengal.
- ❑ **Purpose:** Organized to mark 150 years of the national song Vande Mataram.
- ❑ **Participants:** 150 young representatives.
- ❑ **6 States/Union Territories represented:**
 - ◆ Gujarat ◆ Meghalaya ◆ Uttarakhand
 - ◆ Uttar Pradesh ◆ Tamil Nadu
 - ◆ Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Drug-Free Youth Campaign for a Viksit Bharat

- ❑ **Launch:** Through My Bharat (MY Bharat) by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❑ **Objective:** To make the youth participants in the promotion of a drug-free India, and to contribute to the goal of Viksit Bharat @2047.
- ❑ **Target Age Group:** 15-29 years.
- ❑ **Three-tier Structure:** District level ? State level ? National level
- ❑ **Competition Categories:**
 - ◆ Dance ◆ Music
 - ◆ Nukkad Natak (Street Play)
 - ◆ Slam Poetry ◆ Reel and Short Film

Famous Personalities

Vaibhav Suryavanshi

- ❑ Became the youngest player to make an international debut (15 years 99 days)
- ❑ **State:** Samastipur, Bihar
- ❑ **Debut Match:** India vs England, 2nd T20 International
- ❑ **Venue:** Old Trafford, Manchester
- ❑ **Previous Record:** Sachin Tendulkar (16 years 205 days), against Pakistan in 1989.

Discussed Person/Player	Achievements
Pratiti Bordoloi	Won a silver medal (8/11 points) in the Under-18 Girls category at the FIDE World Youth Chess Championship 2026 held in Montesilvano, Italy. (Gold: Valeriya Kleymenova, Russia)
Viswanathan Anand	The five-time World Chess Champion has taken charge as interim President of the International Chess Federation (FIDE). Regular FIDE President: Arkady Dvorkovich (Russia)
Kokila	Indian para-judo player won a bronze medal in the Women's J2-52 Kg category at the IBSA Judo Grand Prix São Paulo 2026. (Defeated by: Geovana Rodrigues, Brazil)

07

Important Books

- ❑ "The Voice of Justice: Justice Gavai Speaks"
 - ◆ **Author:** Professor (Dr.) S. Shivakumar
- ❑ "RSS@100: A Century of Service, Unity and Sacrifice"
 - ◆ **Authors:** Shri Shyam Jaju and Shri Anupam Trivedi
- ❑ Cell Number 14
 - ◆ This book is the prison diary and autobiography of Iran's late Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei.
- ❑ Naanirodde Nimagagi Naanirodde Nanagagi: Kannada Cinemada Tatva Mattu Rajakiya
 - ◆ **Author:** Kenchuru Pradeep Kumar Shetty
 - ◆ **Language:** Kannada
 - ◆ Honoured as the Best Book on Cinema at the 72nd National Film Awards, 2024.

06

Important Days

Date	Day	Official 2026 Theme/Details
1 July	National Chartered Accountants Day	
	National Doctors' Day	• Theme - Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?
3 July	International Plastic Bag Free Day	
4 July	International Day of Cooperatives	• Theme - Cooperatives for a Peaceful World • Observed every year on the first Saturday of July.
6 July	World Zoonoses Day	• Theme - One World One Health: Prevent Zoonoses. • The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched a 'Technical Resource Teaching-Resource Package on 10 Priority Zoonotic Diseases', covering anthrax, brucellosis, Kyasanur Forest Disease, Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever, Nipah, Mpox, rabies, leptospirosis, scrub typhus and Zika.
11 July	World Population Day	• Theme - Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people - today and for the future.
15 July	World Youth Skills Day	• Theme - Skills for a Shared Future
17 July	International Justice Day	
18 July	Nelson Mandela International Day	• Theme - It Is Still in Our Hands to combat Poverty and Inequality.
20 July	International Chess Day	
22 July	National Flag Adoption Day	
	National Mango Day	
23 July	National Broadcasting Day	
24 July	National Income Tax Day	
26 July	Kargil Vijay Diwas	
27 July	CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) Day	
28 July	World Nature Conservation Day	
28 July	World Hepatitis Day	• Theme - Hepatitis: Let's break it down • National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme - 2018
29 July	International Tiger Day	• India's national animal is the tiger (Royal Bengal Tiger). (Panthera tigris)
30 July	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons	• Theme - Trapped Behind the Scam
1 to 7 July	Van Mahotsav Week	• In 1950, the then Union Minister of Agriculture and Food, Kanhaiya Lal Manniklal Munshi, launched it at the national level.

Topper's Talk



Rank - 20
(RAS-2024)

VRINDA SHEKHAWAT

Father	- Narendra Singh Shekhawat
Mother	- Ratan Kanwar
10 th	- S.B.I.O.A Public School (9.2 CGPA)
12 th	- S.B.I.O.A Public School (84%)
Graduation	- Kanoria College (62.66%)

Question: Congratulations on your achievement in the Civil Services Examination!

Vrinda Shekhawat : Thank you very much.

Question: Please tell us about your family and educational background. What role did they play in your preparation?

Vrinda Shekhawat: My father works in a medical store whereas my Mother is a housewife. I have a younger brother Uday. They kept me motivated and optimistic throughout the journey. From an early age, I aspired to become a civil servant. Keeping this goal in mind, I chose the Arts stream in higher secondary education and later pursued a Bachelor's degree in Arts. These subjects provided me with a strong conceptual foundation & proved immensely valuable throughout my preparation for the civil services examination.

Question: When did you start preparing for the RAS examination, and in your opinion, how much time is sufficient for its preparation?

Vrinda Shekhawat: I began my preparation on 9 March 2021 by enrolling in the B-10 offline foundation batch of Springboard Academy. According to me, 1-2 years of preparation is sufficient for this exam.

Question: What study materials did you use during your preparation?

Vrinda Shekhawat: I followed classnotes prepared during the foundation batch of

Springboard Academy and current affairs.

Question: Was joining the Civil Services your goal right from the start, and who were your sources of inspiration for preparing for the Civil Services Examination?

Vrinda Shekhawat: Yes, I always wanted to become a civil servant. Service to the people of my state has been the biggest source of inspiration.

Question: What is the utility of a monthly current affairs magazine for the RAS examination?

Vrinda Shekhawat: As I mentioned that I followed current affairs for the preparation of this exam as current affairs hold significant role in pre and mains examination.

Question: What is the role of coaching in the Civil Services Examination? Is it possible to achieve success in this examination through self-study alone?

Vrinda Shekhawat: There has never been a civil servant in my family so I didn't have formal guidance. Therefore springboard academy helped me in guiding, learning and provided me a holistic approach towards this exam.

Question: What criteria should one consider when selecting a coaching institute? Did you prepare for the examination at any specific coaching institute?

Vrinda Shekhawat: When selecting a coaching

institute one must focus on their faculty, quality of study material, structured study plan with regular classes, tests and a positive environment where students can clarify their doubts without hesitation.

I prepared from springboard Academy's offline foundation course.

Question: What was your medium of language for the examination? Could you elaborate on the role that one's language medium plays in achieving success in the Civil Services?

Vrinda Shekhawat: My medium of language for the examination was English. According to me medium doesn't play a vital role, one must choose the language they are more comfortable with.

Question: What suggestions would you give for improving one's writing style for the Main Examination?

Vrinda Shekhawat: With regular practice, mock tests, continuous self-evaluation, guidance from mentors, and learning from toppers' copies, students can significantly enhance their answer-writing skills.

Question: What is the role of making short notes for both the Preliminary and Main Examinations?

Vrinda Shekhawat: Short notes are important for last minute revision. However, I would advise every student do not rely on someone else's short notes. Instead, prepare your own. Do not make short notes immediately after completing a topic. First, revise your master notes atleast 10-15 times so that the concepts are firmly ingrained. If possible, try to make your short notes from memory rather than by copying directly from your master notes. This process itself serves as an excellent revision exercise, strengthens your retention.

Question: Tell us about the role of mock interviews, and how was your experience during actual interview at the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC)?

Vrinda Shekhawat: Mock interviews play a crucial role in boosting confidence, improve communication skills, and familiarize candidates with the actual interview environment. My

interview included both factual and situational questions. I answered factual questions confidently when I knew them and honestly admitted when I didn't. For situational questions, I relied on my mock interview practice, demonstrating sound judgment and decision-making, which the board appreciated.

Question: Could you tell us about the contribution of your teachers to your success?

Vrinda Shekhawat: Teachers played an invaluable role in my RAS journey. Dilip sir built a strong foundation in Polity with exceptional conceptual clarity. Rajveer sir made History engaging through storytelling. Digvijay sir simplified Public Administration with practical concepts and outstanding notes. Vijay sir's expertise in Economy and Ethics helped me focus on high-yield topics with a strategic approach. Lakshita Ma'am's and Mukesh sir's Indian Geography and Vijay Sihag sir's Rajasthan Geography are comprehensive and highly relevant.

Question: What are your thoughts regarding having a "Plan B"?

Vrinda Shekhawat: According to me, one should dedicately give two attempts without keeping a plan B. After two attempts one should start exploring other options or plan B.

Question: As an officer, what changes will you work to bring about?

Vrinda Shekhawat: As an officer, I will work to ensure transparent governance, efficient service delivery, inclusive development and citizen-centric administration.

Question: What is the mantra behind your success?

Vrinda Shekhawat: Discipline, consistency, optimism, hardwork are my success mantra.

Question: How did you manage your time during your preparation?

Vrinda Shekhawat: ? I followed my schedule sincerely, limited social engagements, avoided distractions (social media).

Question: We wish you a bright future as an administrative officer!

Vrinda Shekhawat: Thank you very much.

Rajasthan Panch-Gaurav Programme: Distinct Identity of Each District

जिला	उपज	वनस्पति	उत्पाद	पर्यटन स्थल	खेल
अजमेर	गुलाब	नीम	ग्रेनाइट एवं मार्बल के उत्पाद	पुष्कर तीर्थ	कबड्डी
ब्यावर	गेहूं	करंज का पेड़	क्वार्ट्ज एवं फेल्डस्पार पाउडर	टोडगढ़	हॉकी
भीलवाड़ा	संतरा	अर्जुन	टेक्सटाईल उत्पाद	माण्डलगढ़ किला	बास्केटबॉल
डीडवाना-कुचामन	प्याज	खेजड़ी	मार्बल एवं ग्रेनाइट के उत्पाद	डीडवाना झील	बास्केटबॉल
नागौर	मूंग	खेजड़ी	पान मैथी एवं मसाला प्रसंस्करण	मीराबाई स्मारक	कबड्डी
टोंक	सरसों	अमलतास	स्लेट स्टोन के उत्पाद	डिगगी कल्याण जी	एथलेटिक्स
भरतपुर	शहद	कदम्ब	कृषि आधारित उत्पाद	केवलादेव नेशनल पार्क	कुश्ती
डीग	सरसों	अर्जुन	स्टोन आधारित उत्पाद	डीग महल	कुश्ती
धौलपुर	आलू	करंज	स्टोन आधारित उत्पाद	मचकुण्ड	हॉकी
करौली	तिल	बरगद	सेण्ड स्टोन के उत्पाद	कैलादेवी मंदिर	क्रिकेट
सवाईमाधोपुर	अमरूद	नीम	मार्बल के उत्पाद	रणथम्भौर नेशनल पार्क	फुटबॉल
बीकानेर	मोठ	रोहिड़ा	बीकानेरी नमकीन	करणी माता मंदिर	तीरंदाजी
चूरू	ग्वारपाठा	खेजड़ी	लकड़ी के उत्पाद	सालासर बालाजी मंदिर	एथलेटिक्स
हनुमानगढ़	किन्नु	शीशम	कृषि आधारित उत्पाद	गोगामेड़ी मंदिर	हॉकी
श्रीगंगानगर	किन्नु	शीशम	सरसों तेल	बूढ़ा जोहड़	एथलेटिक्स
अलवर	प्याज	अर्जुन	ऑटोमोबाइल पार्ट्स	सरिस्का टाइगर रिजर्व	कुश्ती
दौसा	सौंफ	ढाक	पत्थर के उत्पाद	मेहंदीपुर बालाजी मंदिर	फुटबॉल
जयपुर	आंवला	लिसोड़ा	रत्नाभूषण	आमेर दुर्ग	कबड्डी
झुन्झुनू	सरसों	नीम	लकड़ी के हस्तशिल्प उत्पाद	लोहार्गल	बास्केटबॉल
खैरथल-तिजारा	प्याज	शीशम	ऑटोमोबाइल पार्ट्स	तिजारा जैन मंदिर	कुश्ती
कोटपूतली-बहरोड़	गाजर	गूगल	ऑटोमोबाइल पार्ट्स	बैराठ	कुश्ती
सीकर	प्याज	अरडू	लकड़ी के फर्नीचर	खाटूश्याम जी मंदिर	बास्केटबॉल
बाड़मेर	ईसबगोल	रोहिड़ा	कशीदाकारी	किराडू मंदिर	बास्केटबॉल
बालोतरा	अनार	रोहिड़ा	टेक्सटाइल उत्पाद	नाकोड़ा जैन मंदिर	क्रिकेट

जैसलमेर	खजूर	जाल	येलो स्टोन के उत्पाद	जैसलमेर दुर्ग	जिमनास्टिक
जालौर	अनार	जाल	ग्रेनाईट के उत्पाद	सुंधा माता मंदिर	बॉक्सिंग
जोधपुर	जीरा	जाल	लकड़ी के फर्नीचर	मेहरानगढ़ दुर्ग	जिमनास्टिक
पाली	मेंहदी	नीम	टेक्सटाईल के उत्पाद	रणकपुर जैन मंदिर	बास्केटबॉल
फलौदी	जीरा	जाल	सोनामुखी के उत्पाद	खींचन	एथलेटिक्स
सिरोही	सौंफ	महुआ	मार्बल के उत्पाद	देलवाड़ा मंदिर	तीरंदाजी
बारां	लहसुन	चिरौंजी	गार्लिक प्रोडक्ट	रामगढ़ क्रेटर	फुटबॉल
बून्दी	चावल	धोक	सेन्ड स्टोन	रामगढ़ विषधारी सेन्चुरी	कबड्डी
झालावाड़	संतरा	सागवान	कोटा स्टोन के उत्पाद	गागरोन दुर्ग	बास्केटबॉल
कोटा	धनिया	खैर	कोटा डोरिया	चम्बल रिवर फ्रंट	कुश्ती
बांसवाड़ा	आम	सागवान	मार्बल के उत्पाद	त्रिपुरा सुंदरी मंदिर	तीरंदाजी
चित्तौड़गढ़	सीताफल	बिल्व पत्र	ग्रेनाईट एवं मार्बल के उत्पाद	चित्तौड़गढ़ दुर्ग	कबड्डी
झुंजरपुर	आम	सागवान	मार्बल के उत्पाद	बेणेश्वर धाम	हॉकी
प्रतापगढ़	कलौंजी	तेंदू	थेवा आभूषण	सीतामाता वन्यजीव अभयारण	तीरंदाजी
राजसमन्द	सीताफल	नीम	ग्रेनाईट एवं मार्बल के उत्पाद	कुम्भलगढ़	हॉकी
सलूमबर	मक्का	पलास	क्वार्ट्ज	जयसमंद झील	कबड्डी
उदयपुर	सीताफल	महुआ	मार्बल एवं ग्रेनाईट के उत्पाद	फतहसागर एवं पिछोला झील	तैराकी

