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ACADEMY

Current Affairs

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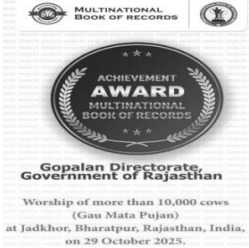

Famous Personalities

Personality in News	Why in News / Achievements
<p>Safeena Husain (Social Work)</p>  <p>2026 HONOREE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included in "TIME's women of the year list 2026" which features 16 influential women around the globe. Honored at the gala event held on 10 March in Los Angeles. Founder of the Mumbai-based NGO 'Educate Girls' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025) Contribution: Over the past two decades, successfully worked to bring back more than 2 million out-of-school girls into the education system in rural India. Connection with Rajasthan: The 'Educate Girls' organisation began its work in Pali and Jalore districts of Rajasthan.
<p>Padma Shri Ustad Anwar Khan Manganiyar- Art</p>  <p>Ustad Anwar Khan Manganiyar</p> <p>Manganiyar folk singer from Marwar, spreading the magic of Rajasthan's music across the world.</p> <p>Art Rajasthan Padma Shri 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed as the Vice Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi (Central), New Delhi, India's premier cultural institution. (Village Baiya, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan) First Rajasthan folk artist to hold the post Cultural Contribution: Promoted Rajasthan folk art globally, performing in more than 50 countries, including Russia and Scotland. Manganiyars: Renowned for its rich folk music heritage. Awards & Honors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Padma Shri (2020) - Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2017) - Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2002-03)
<p>Dr. Ashwini Mahesh Dalvi</p>  <p>पश्चिम क्षेत्र सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र, उदयपुर West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur</p> <p>Dr. Ashwin M. Dalvi, Rare Surbahar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment: Director of West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur (19 March) Appointment order: Governor of Rajasthan, Haribhau Bagde, with prior approval of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. (Chairman, WZCC: Hon'ble Governor). Tenure: Appointed for a period of 3 years on a short-term contractual basis. Renowned Surbahar player (Etawah Gharana) and an "International Installation Artist". Previous Experience: Former Chairperson of Rajasthan Lalit Kala Akademi (with status of Minister of State).

<p>IAS Shalini, Jhunjhunu, (Gujarat Cadre)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book "Shaping Tomorrow's Cities: From Climate Risk to Green Opportunities." • Released by: Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel at Gandhinagar. • Relevance: Serves as a guidebook for urban planners and policymakers, helping in the development of modern, sustainable and green cities of the future.
<p>Vasudev Devnani (16th Assembly Speaker) (17th Speaker)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conferred with the honorary degree of "Vidya Vachaspati" (Doctor of Literature - D.Litt.) by Bikaner Technical University (BTU) for his significant contributions to education, social service, and the technical field. (In Sanskrit, "Vachaspati" means "Master of Speech" or "Guardian of Knowledge"). • Awarded in the presence of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Akhil Ranjan Garg. • Book Title: <i>"Sansadiya Sanskriti ka Utkarsh – Navacharon ke 2 Varsh"</i>. – Author/Compiler: Vasudev Devnani – Released by: Bhajanlal Sharma on 10 March, along with the new edition of <i>"Sanatan Sanskriti ki Atal Drishti"</i>.






Famous Places

Place in News	Why in News / Key Information
<p>Shiv Math Temple, Chandresal, Kota - Conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ancient temple dating back to the 10th-11th century. • Announcement: By Deputy Chief Minister & Archaeology Minister Diya Kumari. • Declared as a state protected monument in 2008 by the Department of Archaeology & Museums, Rajasthan.
<p>Bandi, Sandhara, Dam-Jaswantpura, Jalore</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Bhinmal MLA Samarjit Singh raised the issue of irrigation arrangements related to Sandhara Dam in the Rajasthan Assembly in March 2026.
<p>Endla Dam-Sumerpur, Pali</p>  <p>Endla Dam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River: On the Khari River, which originates near the Shergaon hills in Revdar tehsil of Sirohi district (a tributary of the Luni River in western Rajasthan) • Approved Amount: Recently, the state government approved ₹6.88 crore for its renovation and strengthening.

<p>Shrijadkhor Godham-</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Deeg, Bharatpur • Achievement: Recorded in the Multinational Book of Records. • Record: Mass worship of 10,000 cows performed simultaneously. • Occasion: Gopashtami (29 October 2025) • Objective: Promotion of cow conservation and global recognition of Indian culture.
<p>Giriraj Parvat, Nathdwara (Rajsamand)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajasthan's tallest Hanuman statue named "Shri Shriji ke Hanumanji" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sculptor: Naresh Kumawat ➤ Height: 131 feet ➤ Inauguration: 26 March 2026 (Ram Navami) ➤ Visibility: Can be seen from a distance of around 30 km ➤ Installed opposite the world's tallest Shiva statue "Vishwas Swaroopam" in Nathdwara ➤ Golden color coating brought from Thailand.
<p>Tapukara Industrial Area, Khairthal-Tijara (Alwar)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Honda's first Electric Vehicle (EV) unit. • Announcement: Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma during a meeting with the delegation of Honda Cars India and unveiled the company's first EV model • Background: MoU signed during the 'Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024'.
<p>Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport (Shambhupura, Kota)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation Stone: Laid on 7 March by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu • Cost : ₹1507 crore • Area: 1100 acres • Terminal area: 20,000 sq. meters • In-Principle Approval: Union Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu gave approval to the Rajasthan's Kota and Odisha's Puri greenfield airport on 5 May 2025 • Objective: Under the UDAN to provide quality air connectivity and make air travel affordable and accessible
<p>Amar Sagar Jain Temple, Jaisalmer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fine example of Jaisalmer's architectural heritage • Built by: Thakur Himmat Ramji • Dedicated to: Lord Rishabhdev (Adinath), 1st Tirthankara of Jainism • Material: yellow sandstone • Famous for intricate carvings and fine craftsmanship

Famous Festivals/Celebrations/Conferences/Fairs

Major Award Winners	Details / Information
<p>Chetna Bhati (Ad. SP - Udaipur Zone)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award: Pannadhay Suraksha & Samman Award 2026. Awarded by the Department of Women & Child Development, Rajasthan on International Women's Day (8 March) at a state-level event in Hanumangarh. Prize: ₹21,000 cash, certificate, and memento. For Outstanding work in the field of women and child safety & empowerment (Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao).
<p>Rajasthan State Gas Limited (RSGL)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honoured with: National-level "Diamond Award" Presented by: India Smart Grid Forum on 13 March in New Delhi. Received by: Deputy General Manager (DGM) Vivek Srivastava + C.P. Chaudhary Reason: Effective use of IoT-based smart technologies in the field of smart gas distribution at CNG mother station. Mother Station: Main plant connected to pipeline where gas is compressed to 200-250 bar pressure
<p>National Award to Rajasthan for water management</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honoured with: National Appreciation Certificate & Shield (2026) Presented by: Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India (New Delhi). Occasion: World Water Day (22 March) - World Water Day Conclave. Achievement: Timely completion of first census of major & medium irrigation projects. Data compilation, verification & uploading on the portal was completed before dead-line. Nodal Department: Water Resources Department, Rajasthan. Key Presence: Minister Suresh Singh Rawat

<p>SKOCH Gold Award to “Samridhhi Housing Scheme” of Rajasthan Housing Board (RHB)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received by: Housing Commissioner Dr. Rashmi Sharma on 28 March 2026 at India Habitat Centre, Delhi. • Achievement: Cost-efficient housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 960 sq ft: Estimated ₹33 lakh → Actual ₹31 lakh - 1100 sq ft: Estimated ₹36 lakh → Actual ₹35 lakh • Previous Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IBC Award- Fountain Square with Exposition Ground ▪ BEE Five Star rating award : By Ministry of power, GoI ▪ NAREDCO award to mahi scheme & Indian concrete Institutes awarded SS Residencies. 																														
<p>42nd Maharana Mewar Award Ceremony - 2026</p>    	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue: Manak Chowk, City Palace, Udaipur (15 March 2026) • Organizer: Maharana Mewar Charitable Foundation • Chairperson: Managing Trustee Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar • Rajesh Vaishnav: Honored for the preservation of the 500-year-old (Jal Sanjhi” tradition of Mewar) • Maharshi Harit Samman: Awarded to Vedmurti Devvrat Mahesh Rekh for editing rare texts of the Yajurveda <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Award</th> <th>Recipient</th> <th>Field / Contribution</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Colonel James Tod Award</td> <td>Dr. Molly Emma Atkin (USA)</td> <td>Scholar of the Rajput Painting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Haldighati National Award</td> <td>Kamlesh Kishore Singh</td> <td>Journalism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maharana Uday Singh Award</td> <td>Marimuthu Yoganathan (Tamil Nadu, Bus Conductor)</td> <td>Environmental Conservation (<i>Tree Man of India</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pannadhay Award</td> <td>Jet Airways Flight 9W-569 Crew</td> <td>Human Service (<i>Emergency childbirth assistance</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dagar Gharana Award</td> <td>Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia</td> <td>Music (<i>Flute</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aravali Award (Sports)</td> <td>Ram Ratan Jat Avani Lekhara</td> <td>Ultra Marathon Para Shooting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maharana Mewar Award</td> <td>Bhuvnesh Jain</td> <td>Journalism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maharana Sajjan Singh Award</td> <td>Ajay Rawat (Pushkar)</td> <td>Fine Arts (<i>Famous Sand artist</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rana Punja Award</td> <td>Dimple Chandat</td> <td>Tribal Welfare</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Award	Recipient	Field / Contribution	Colonel James Tod Award	Dr. Molly Emma Atkin (USA)	Scholar of the Rajput Painting	Haldighati National Award	Kamlesh Kishore Singh	Journalism	Maharana Uday Singh Award	Marimuthu Yoganathan (Tamil Nadu, Bus Conductor)	Environmental Conservation (<i>Tree Man of India</i>)	Pannadhay Award	Jet Airways Flight 9W-569 Crew	Human Service (<i>Emergency childbirth assistance</i>)	Dagar Gharana Award	Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia	Music (<i>Flute</i>)	Aravali Award (Sports)	Ram Ratan Jat Avani Lekhara	Ultra Marathon Para Shooting	Maharana Mewar Award	Bhuvnesh Jain	Journalism	Maharana Sajjan Singh Award	Ajay Rawat (Pushkar)	Fine Arts (<i>Famous Sand artist</i>)	Rana Punja Award	Dimple Chandat	Tribal Welfare
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Schemes/ Programme/ Campaign

Rajasthan Day Celebrations: Entrepreneurial Dialogue 2026

- ❑ **Event Date:** March 18 → Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma
- ❑ **Attendees:** Industry and Commerce Minister Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of State K.K. Bishnoi, and Chief Secretary V. Srinivas
- ❑ **Key Announcements and Policies** → Unveiling of 3 New Industrial Policies by Hon'ble CM in the event



Name of the Policy	Cabinet Approval	Announcement / Issued/ Effective Date
1. Rajasthan Industrial Park Promotion Policy-2026	February 25, 2026	March 18, 2026
2. Rajasthan Aerospace and Defence Policy-2026	January 21, 2026	March 18, 2026
3. Rajasthan Semiconductor Policy-2026	January 21, 2026	March 18, 2026

'Rajasthan Industrial Park Promotion Policy-2026'

- ❑ **Approval:** By the Chief Minister in state cabinet meeting on February 25, 2026.
- ❑ **Key Objectives:** Promoting Private Investment: To encourage the establishment of industrial parks in the state through the private sector; MSME Development: To foster Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises; and Job Creation.
 - ◆ To promote holistic industrial park development.
 - ◆ To encourage sustainable and inclusive development.
 - ◆ To build a future-ready industrial ecosystem.
- ❑ **Vision:** To create a dynamic, sustainable, and innovative industrial ecosystem that drives economic growth, enhances employment opportunities, and supports community development through strategic planning, collaboration, and investment.
- ❑ **Scope:** This policy provides a structured framework for the **planning, development, operation, and management** of both **general and sector-specific industrial parks** in Rajasthan.

It applies to industrial parks developed through private or **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** modes, encompassing incentives and financial assistance, regulatory and procedural facilitation, as well as institutional support for project implementation and long-term maintenance.

- ❑ **Duration of the Policy:** Shall remain effective for a period of **five years from the date of notification**, or until it is superseded by a new policy-whichever occurs earlier.
- ❑ **Implementing Agency:**
 - ◆ For land allotted by RIICO (under Lease/PPP Model) → RIICO
 - ◆ For land acquired and arranged by the Developer themselves→Commissioner, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **Competent Authority:** For the identification/designation of a Private Industrial Park at a specific location under Models 'A' to 'D' → Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan
- ❑ **Eligible Fixed Capital Investment (EFCI):** As defined in RIPS-2024 "the total investment made by an enterprise in fixed assets up to the date of commencement of commercial production or operation"
- ❑ **Green Incentives:** To promote the sustainable and eco-friendly development of Industrial Parks, Green Incentives provided by the State Government shall be distributed as follows:
 - ◆ 20% (Maximum Rs. 2.5 Crores) → By the State Government
 - ◆ 40% (Maximum Rs. 5 Crores) → By the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB)
 - ◆ 40% (Maximum Rs. 5 Crores) → By RIICO
- ❑ **Asset Creation Incentive (Any one of the 3)**

Asset Creation Incentives (Any one of the 3)	Incentives	Payment Term
1. Capital Subsidy	10%-20% of EFCI	10 Years
2. Investment Subsidy	75% Reimbursement of SGST	7 Years
3. Turnover-Linked Incentive	1.0%-1.4% of Net Sales	10 Years

- ❑ **Application Process:** All applications are to be submitted through the '**Raj Nivesh Portal**' under the Single-Window System.
- ❑ **Key Provisions and Features:**

1. Four Models of Development: Four categories for the development of industrial parks-

Model	Land Arrangement
Model A	Land provided entirely by RIICO
Model B	80% developer and 20% RIICO land sharing
Model C	100% private developer's own land
Model D	PPP model

2. Eligibility Criteria:

- ◆ The area of the Industrial Park must be at least 50 acres, and a minimum of 10 units must be established within such an Industrial Park.
- ◆ Under this Policy, 50 acres shall be considered the minimum eligible area; furthermore, under Development Models B and D, there shall be no upper limit on the area of the Industrial Park.

3. **Capital Grant** - The first 10 park developers will be given a capital grant of 20%, the limits of which are as follows:

Area of Industrial Park	Maximum Capital Grant
Up to 100 acres	₹20 Crore
100 - 250 acres	₹30 Crore
More than 250 acres	₹40 Crore

4. **Infrastructure and Pollution Control-**

- ◆ **Approach Roads:** The State Government will bear 60% of the expenditure incurred on road construction leading to the park (maximum Rs. 3 Crore).
- ◆ **CETP (Common Effluent Treatment Plant):** 50% reimbursement of expenditure by the State Government (maximum Rs. 12.5 Crore).

5. **Additional Financial Benefits-**

- ◆ **Electricity Duty:** 100% exemption on captive renewable energy for a period of 7 years.
- ◆ **Stamp Duty:** 25% exemption on Stamp Duty and Conversion Charges.
- ◆ **RIPS-2024:** Additional incentives under RIPS-2024 for 'Plug-and-Play' office complexes.

Rajasthan Aerospace and Defence Policy: 2025

- **Approval:** January 21, 2026
- **Objective:** To transform the State into a global hub for aerospace and defence manufacturing (Investment, Employment, Self-reliance).
- **Targeted Sectors:** Aerospace equipment component manufacturing, Precision Engineering, and MRO (Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul).
- **Key Provisions:**
 1. **Investment Grant:** Eligible aerospace and defence manufacturing and service enterprises established within A&D Parks shall receive an investment grant-in the form of an Asset Creation Incentive-comprising a 75% reimbursement of State taxes for a period of 7 years.
 2. **Investment Categories - Service Sector:**
Min. Capital Investment : Category
 - ◆ Rs. 25-100 Cr. : Large
 - ◆ Rs. 100-250 Cr. : Mega
 - ◆ Above Rs. 250 Cr. : Ultra Mega
 3. **Investment Categories: Manufacturing Sector:**
Min. Fixed Capital Investment : Category
 - ◆ Rs. 50-300 Cr. : Large
 - ◆ Rs. 300-1000 Cr. : Mega
 - ◆ Above Rs. 1,000 Cr. : Ultra Mega

**निवेशकों के लिए विशेष
इन्सेंटिव्स के प्रावधान**

पॉलिसी में विशेष इन्सेंटिव्स का भी प्रावधान किया गया है।
 □ इनमें बैंकिंग, व्हीलिंग और ट्रांसमिशन चार्ज में छूट, फ्लेक्सिबल लैंड पेमेंट मॉडल, ऑफिस-स्पेस लीज रेंटल सब्सिडी तथा कैशिव पावर प्लांट में किए गए निवेश का 51% पात्र स्थाई पूंजीगत निवेश में शामिल करना शामिल है।

□ साथ ही, उद्योगों को दीर्घकालिक राहत देने के लिए 7 वर्षों तक विद्युत शुल्क से शत-प्रतिशत छूट, 7 वर्षों तक मंडी शुल्क अथवा बाजार शुल्क का शत-प्रतिशत पुनर्भरण, स्टाम्प शुल्क, रूपांतरण शुल्क में 75% छूट तथा 25% पुनर्भरण की व्यवस्था भी की गई है।
 □ ग्रीन इन्सेंटिव, स्किल एवं ट्रेनिंग इन्सेंटिव तथा इंटेलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी क्रिएशन इन्सेंटिव जैसे प्रावधान इस नीति को और अधिक आकर्षक बनाते हैं।

4. **Capital Subsidy:** 20-28% for the manufacturing sector and 14-20% for the service sector; alternatively, a Turnover-Linked Incentive (1.2-2%).
5. **Additional Incentives:** Benefits such as a 10-15% 'Employment Booster' (as a top-up), a 25% 'Sunrise Booster' for the first three Mega/Ultra-Mega units, a 10% 'Anchor Booster', and a 20% 'Thrust Booster' will also be provided.
6. **Land Allotment from RIICO:** Mega and Ultra-Mega manufacturing enterprises will be eligible for benefits including flexible land payment terms for up to 10 years, and a 25% lease rental subsidy for office space for a period of 5 years.
7. **Institutional Mechanism - Effective Implementation**
 - **State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC)**
 - ◆ **Chairperson:** Secretary-in-charge, Department of Industries and Commerce
 - ◆ **Jurisdiction:** Covers all enterprises involving an investment exceeding Rs. 25 Crores
 - ◆ Also covers enterprises investing across more than one district
 - **State Empowered Committee (SEC)**
 - ◆ Authorised to consider and approve customized incentive packages for eligible enterprises
 - ◆ **Chairperson:** Chief Secretary
 - **District Level Sanctioning Committee (DLSC)**
 - ◆ **Chairperson:** District Collector
 - ◆ **Jurisdiction:** Covers enterprises involving an investment of less than Rs. 25 Crores
 - ◆ Also applicable to all Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- **There are 7 operational airports in the state**, with Jaipur and Udaipur serving as international gateways. In the year 2024, these airports handled approximately 5.4 million domestic and 320,000 international passengers, facilitating executive travel, the air transport of high-value goods, and service support



Rajasthan Semiconductor Policy: 2025

- **Approval:** January 21, 2026
- **Key Feature:** Rajasthan's first Semiconductor Policy aligned with the 'India Semiconductor Mission'.
- **Objective:** To establish the state as a global hub for chip manufacturing, design, and packaging.
- **Policy Tenure:** 5 years from notification date, or until a new or revised policy is notified by the State Government-whichever occurs earlier.
- **Nodal Department:** Office of the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan (Support Agency: RIICO).

- ❑ **Rajasthan's Preparedness for Semiconductor-Related Manufacturing:** Rajasthan's semiconductor readiness is anchored in **four established corridors:**

1. Neemrana-Ghilothe (Alwar)
2. Bhiwadi-Khushkhera-Chopanki-Pathredi
3. Jaipur-Sitapura-Kanakpura
4. Udaipur (Kaladwas/Madri/Pratap Nagar)

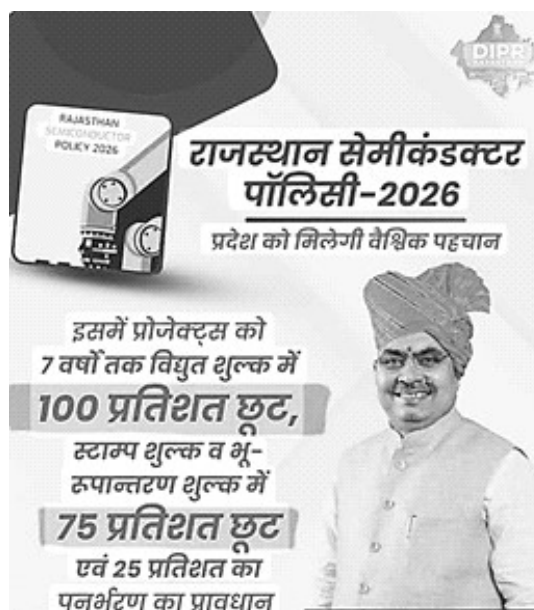
- ❑ **Key Provisions:**

- ◆ **Capital Subsidy:** The State Government will provide an additional amount equivalent to 60% of the capital subsidy granted by the Government of India.

- ◆ **Interest Subsidy:** An interest subsidy of 5% on term loans

- ◆ **Operational Exemptions:**

1. 100% exemption on electricity duty for a period of 7 years.
2. An effective 100% exemption on Stamp Duty and Land Conversion Charges (comprising a 75% exemption and a 25% refund)
3. A 50% refund on the cost incurred for environmental projects.



PM E-DRIVE Scheme: Approval Granted for 591 Charging Stations in Rajasthan

- ❑ **Name:** PM Electric-Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement
- ❑ **Nodal Agency:** Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd. (RRECL)
- ❑ **Financial Assistance:** An amount of Rs. 81.12 crore has been sanctioned by the Government of India.
- ❑ A total of 591 E-charging stations will be established across 262 locations within the state.
- ❑ **City-wise Charging Stations in Rajasthan:** Jaipur (112), Ajmer (49), Udaipur (39), Kota (28); additionally, 34 stations will be established along National and State Highways.



77th Rajasthan Foundation Day: 2026

- ❑ In 2025, the government decided to observe this occasion on '**Chaitra Shukla Pratipada**'.
- ❑ **Organized by the Government of Rajasthan, was held from March 14 to March 19, 2026.**
- ❑ "Greater Rajasthan" was established on **March 30, 1949**, through the efforts of the '**Iron Man**' Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- ❑ 'Chaitra Shukla Pratipada' is celebrated under different names across various states:
 - ◆ **Maharashtra:** Gudi Padwa [A 'Gudi' (Victory Flag) is installed at home]
 - ◆ **Sindhi Community:** Cheti Chand (Jhulelal Jayanti)
 - ◆ **South India:** Ugadi (Symbolizing the New Year)

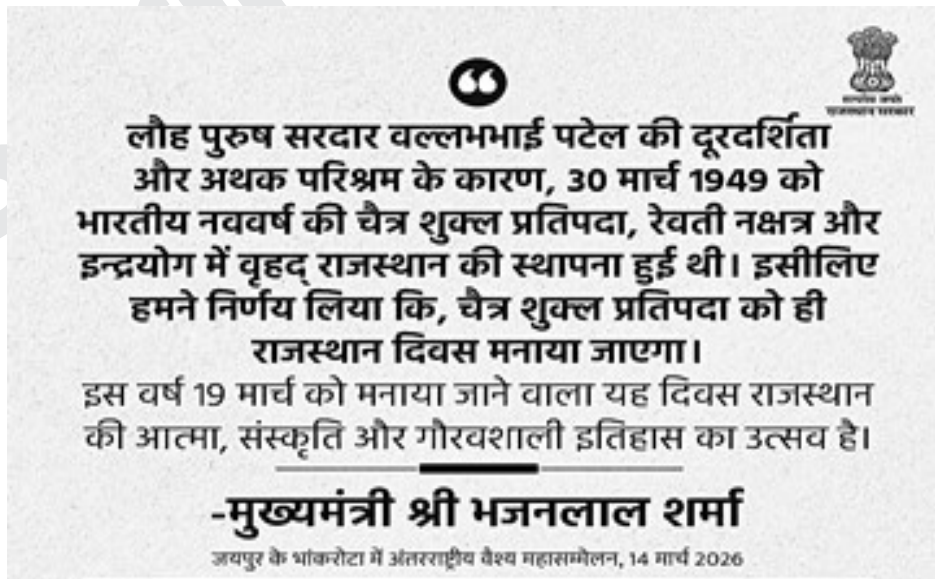
Date	Programs / Information
March 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation Week started (At Grampanchayat and ward level) • State-level program organized in Jaipur, and district-level programs in all districts.
March 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viksit Rajasthan Run: State-level race flagged off by the Chief Minister in Jaipur. • Events Across All Districts— Digital Quiz: 'Know Rajasthan' Competition (A joint initiative by the IT Department, RKCL, and the Education Department) • Fair and Exhibition: ODOP Fair and Exhibition held in Jaipur. • The 'Gems and Jewellery Exhibition-2026' (Jaipur Ratnam) was organized in Jaipur by the Jaipur District Industries and Commerce Centre, in collaboration with the Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation (RAJSICO). • Event: "Rajasthan Utsav 2026" – Held at Bikaner House, New Delhi. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inauguration: March 15 (by CM) ▪ Mr. Praveen Prajapat—a Guinness World Record holder from Alwar—performed the traditional Matka Bhavai dance; the event also featured performances of the Mayur dance and Flower Holi
March 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajasthan Tribal Pride Day: Beneshwar Dham in Dungarpur • During this event, the foundation stones were laid for 326 development projects worth ₹1,902 crore in the districts of Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, Salumbar, and Sirohi. • In Dungarpur, after offering prayers at the Valmiki Temple and the Hari Temple, prayers were offered for the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of the state.
March 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajasthan Youth Power Day (Tagore International School, Mansarovar – Jaipur) • The Atal Bihari Vajpayee Global Centre for Advanced Skilling will be established in Jaipur, and IT labs will be set up in 50 polytechnic colleges. • The Per Capita Income of the state has exceeded ₹2 lakh for the first time.

98. मार्च 2025 में, "अन्त्योदय कल्याण समारोह" राजस्थान में
पर आयोजित किया गया था।

- (A) जयपुर (B) भरतपुर
(C) बीकानेर (D) अलवर
(E) अनुत्तरित प्रश्न

क्र.सं.	अफेयर्स
✓ 25 मार्च	- मातृवंदन "महिला सम्मेलन" बाड़मेर थीम : समर्थ महिला-समृद्ध राजस्थान
✓ 26 मार्च	- किसान सम्मेलन एवं FPO, बीकानेर थीम : सशक्त किसान-समृद्ध राजस्थान
✓ 27 मार्च	- गरीब एवं अंत्योदय, भरतपुर थीम : अंत्योदय कल्याण-खुराहाल राजस्थान
✓ 28 मार्च	- सुरासन समारोह, भीलवाड़ा थीम : विकसित राजस्थान-समृद्ध राजस्थान
✓ 29 मार्च	- युवा एवं रोजगार उत्सव, कोटा
✓ 30 मार्च	- सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम, जयपुर
✓ 31 मार्च	- निवेश उत्सव, जयपुर थीम : निवेश में कीर्तिमान-राइजिंग राजस्थान
□	इस दिवस के उपलक्ष्य पर सरकार GYAN (गरीब, युवा, अन्नदाता, नारी शक्ति) की अवधारणा को प्राथमिकता दे रही है। मार्च 2025
	वेस्ट टू वंडर पार्क

March 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kisan aur pashupalak samridhi Diwas • “Industry Dialogue Ceremony” – Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur • By integrating the RajNivesh Portal with the National Single Window System, over 143 services across 14 departments have been made available on a single platform. Land Use Conversion Timeline: 60 days → 30 days • 3 Policies Unveiled– Rajasthan Industrial Park Promotion Policy, Rajasthan Aerospace and Defence Policy, and Rajasthan Semiconductor Policy – 2026
March 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Event for Rajasthan Diwas in Jalore → 77th Foundation Day • Flagged off 207 new buses belonging to the State Road Transport Corporation from the bus terminal located on Ajmer Road. → 100 Blue Line Express → 79 Starline → 28 AC Buses • Launch of the “Viksit Gram-Ward Abhiyan”- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duration: March 19 to May 15, 2026 ▪ Inauguration: March 19, 2026 – by Chief Secretary Mr. V. Srinivas ▪ Venue: Gram Panchayat Swarupganj, District Bhilwara ▪ 20th March: First Gram Sabha in all Gram Panchayats, and Ward Sabha in all urban wards • A grand state-level cultural evening was organized at the Albert Hall Museum premises: Over 100 folk artists – including Padma Shri Anwar Khan Manganiyar and Tagaram Bhil – along with Kathak dancers, mesmerized the audience with captivating performances of folk singing and dances such as Ghoomar, Gair, Chari, Kachhi Ghodi, and Kalbelia.






Famous Festivals/Celebrations/Conferences/Fairs

Famous Festivals / Conferences / Fairs	Details / Information
<p>State-Level Women's Felicitation Ceremony – Hanumangarh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event: March 8, 2026, at the Constitution Club, Jaipur • Chief Guest: Minister of Industries and Commerce, Colonel Rajyavardhan Rathore • Key Mantra: Described Nari Shakti (Women's Power) as the symbol of the "3Rs": Resilience, Results, and Revolution. • Theme : "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls" • Innovation – 'Kaushal Vahini' (Skill on Wheels): This mobile van was flagged off under the 'One District-One Product' policy. The van will travel from village to village to provide two-day modern training to artisans.
<p>'Veteran Warriors' Ceremony'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event: Held on March 8 at the District Sports Stadium in Churu. • Stadium Renaming: The District Sports Stadium in Churu has now been named after the 1971 war hero, "Lieutenant General Sagat Singh Rathore." • War Museum in Jhunjhunu: The Chief Minister announced the establishment of a modern 'War Museum' in the Jhunjhunu district. • Major Shaitan Singh Centre: The 'Major Shaitan Singh Skill Development and Training Centre' will be established in Jodhpur.
<p>Leeladhari Mahadev Cattle Fair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event: Held from March 7 to 11 in Mandar, located in the Revdar Tehsil of Sirohi district. • Under the Joint Auspices of the District Administration and the Department of Animal Husbandry • Guest: Otaram Dewasi, Minister of State for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj • Key Attractions: The fair featured renowned cattle breeds—such as Tharparkar, Rathi, and Sahiwal cows—alongside Marwari and Malani horses, as well as Sirohi and Jamunapari goats, which served as the focal points of attraction. • Liladhari Mahadev Temple: Home to an 84-foot-tall Swayambhu Shivling, which serves as a center of deep faith for devotees.
<p>JITO Town Representatives (JTR) National Conclave – Vishwa Navkar Mahamantra Day 2.0 Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Guest: Rajasthan CM Sh. Bhajan Lal Sharma • Venue: Jaipur, Sunday, <u>March 1, 2026</u> • Organizer: Jain International Trade Organization (JITO – President: Prithviraj Kothari) • Objective: A confluence of business networking and spiritual values (Navkar Mahamantra)

<p>ITB Berlin 2026 (March 3-5, 2026) - Rajasthan's Showcase</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inauguration: The pavilion of the Rajasthan Department of Tourism (located at Stand 200 in Hall 5.2) was inaugurated by Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and India's Ambassador to Germany, Ajit Vinayak Gupte. • Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy-2025: Presented on a global platform, with the aim of establishing Rajasthan as a premier filming destination for international filmmakers. • ITB Berlin (Internationale Tourismus-Börse) is the world's largest tourism trade fair, held annually in Germany's capital, Berlin.
<p>Developed India Youth Parliament 2026</p>  <p>राज्य स्तरीय विकसित भारत युवा संसद STATE LEVEL VIKSIT BHARAT YOUTH PARLIAMENT</p> <p>37. राजस्थान की "राज्य स्तरीय विकसित भारत युवा संसद" में श्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन पर, कितने युवाओं का युवा संसद में प्रतिनिधित्व के लिए चयन हुआ?</p> <p>(1) आठ (2) छः (3) तीन (4) चार (5) अनुत्तरित प्रश्न</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event: State-Level Program - March 6 - Constitution Club, Jaipur (Successfully organized across 41 districts in collaboration with 'My Bharat' and the National Service Scheme [NSS]) • Organizer: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports • Objective: To foster democratic values among the youth and engage them in nation-building; Target → Participation of 100,000 youths from non-political backgrounds. • Theme: "<u>Union Budget 2026: Strengthening the Path of Indian Youth Towards a Developed India 2047</u>" • Outcome: Winners (3) - Will represent Rajasthan at the National Youth Parliament held at the Parliament House, New Delhi: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Darshana Rajpurohit (Jodhpur) 2. Renuka Jangid (Sawai Madhopur) 3. Rajbala (Jodhpur)
<p>'Spices Industrial Seminar and Farmers' Fair - 2026'</p>  <p>इंडस्ट्री मीट एवं किसान मेला-2026 में सम्मिलित हुए केंद्रीय कृषि राज्य मंत्री</p> <p>• बीजीय मसालों के अनुसंधान और तकनीक से किसानों की बढ़ेगी आय</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event: National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Tabiji - Ajmer • Organizers: Under the joint aegis of ICAR, the Indian Society of Seed Spices, and the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development (March 7) • Chief Guest: Bhagirath Choudhary, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare • Guests of Honour: Dr. Mangilal Jat, Director General of ICAR, and Vice-Chancellors of various agricultural universities • Participation: Over 2,000 participants from across the country (farmers, scientists, industry representatives, and students) attended.

<p>55th National Safety Day: State-Level Ceremony</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held on: March 4, 2026, at the HCM-RIPA Institute, Jaipur • Chief Guest: Dr. Prem Chand Bairwa, Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan • Theme: "Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety" • Release of the Safety E-Booklet • Rajasthan Factory Safety Awards – 2026: Awards presented to a total of 15 industrial units across various categories (Large, Medium, and Small) for outstanding work in the field of industrial safety. • Key Winner: The Gulabpura (Bhilwara) unit of RSWM Ltd for the second consecutive time
<p>'Patrika Keynote' Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue: Birla Auditorium, Jaipur – March 21 • Subject: "Democracy and Newspapers" • Organized by the Rajasthan Patrika Group to mark the birth centenary of its revered founder, Karpoor Chandra Kulish.
<p>Gangaur Festival, Jaipur</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date: March 21–22, 2026 (Chaitra Shukla Tritiya–Chaturthi) • Venue: Tripolia Gate, Jaipur (Grand Royal Procession) • Organizers: Department of Tourism and District Administration, Jaipur • Meaning of Gangaur: 'Gan' (Shiva) and 'Gaur' (Parvati)
<p>Important One-Liner Questions-</p>  <p>Hindustan Zinc Signs Strategic MoU with Tripura Group to Fast-track Zinc Park Development in Rajasthan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the country's first 'Zinc Park': Khankhala, Bhilwara <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In February 2026, Hindustan Zinc Limited signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tripura Group. ○ Partnership: Project RIICO + Hindustan Zinc Limited ○ Objective: To create India's first integrated 'Downstream Zinc Industrial Hub,' dedicated to zinc-based value chains. • Shri Lalita Mahayajna – Venue: Shrimath, Kanana (Balotra district) • Military Exercise 'Agnivarsha': Conducted by troops of the Indian Army's Southern Command at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. • Hosting of India's first 'Jain Chadar Mahotsav': Jaisalmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Main Venue: Jaisalmer's famous Sonar Fort ▪ Featuring the 1,000-year-old ancient Jain temples situated within the fort

Science & Technology

Science and Technology	Key Details
<p>Indigenous Technology for Producing Pectin from Waste</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientists from the Department of Environmental Science at the Central University of Rajasthan (CURAJ), Bandarsindri, Ajmer, have developed a technique to produce pectin from fruit and vegetable waste. (March 7, 2026) • Lead Researcher: Dr. D. Bhagwan and his team • Raw Materials: Peels of lemons, oranges, etc. (waste from Kishangarh Mandi) • Product: Pectin • Applications: Food industry, jams and jellies, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics • Cost: Production is 60-70% cheaper • Model: Zero Waste + Circular Economy • Benefits: Waste management + Pollution reduction
<p>The Country's First International-Standard 'Institute of Dermatology' (Institute of Skin Diseases)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Sawai Man Singh Hospital - Charak Bhawan, Jaipur • Second most advanced institute of its kind in the world following London • Affordable Treatment: Cosmetic treatments that cost lakhs of rupees in private hospitals are available here at minimal government-regulated rates. • Modern Technology: Equipped with 6 types of state-of-the-art laser machines (Diode Laser, Fractional CO2 Laser, Excimer Laser, Nd:YAG (Neodymium-doped Yttrium Aluminum Garnet) LASER, and Alexandrite LASER, Hair Transplant (PRP Method) • Anti-Aging: Removal of wrinkles and skin tightening using HIFU technology. Laser treatment for white patches (Vitiligo) and Psoriasis. • Congenital Marks: Treatment for cosmetic conditions and birthmarks present since birth.
<p>"TB Free India Campaign" in Rajasthan</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch: March 24, 2026 (World Tuberculosis Day) • Conclusion: July 29, 2026 (Estimated duration of 100 days) • Scope: Organization of special health camps in 11,184 selected villages and urban areas across the state. • Eligibility: Health screening for all individuals aged 14 years and above. • World Tuberculosis Day: March 24 • Theme 2026: "Yes! We Can End TB: Led by countries, powered by people"

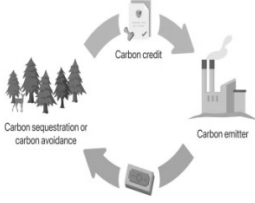

<p>Rajasthan Mining Sector: Eco-friendly Initiatives</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The way for transforming 'waste' into 'art'- This decision was taken during the 422nd Board Meeting held on March 6 under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary of Rajasthan and RSMML's Chairman- Sh. V. Srinivas • The 'Sangtarash' Initiative – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Innovation: The overburden (waste stones) and waste materials generated from the Jhamarkotra Rock Phosphate Mine in Udaipur will no longer be discarded as useless waste. ▪ 'Sangtarash' is a Persian term meaning 'one who carves stone' or a 'sculptor' ▪ Environmental Conservation: Reutilizing mining waste will reduce the size of dump yards and mitigate the problems of dust and pollution in mining areas.
<p>Rajasthan Global Capability Centers (GCC) Conclave-</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event Date: March 25, 2026 → Jaipur • Inauguration: Colonel Rajyavardhan Rathore (Minister of Industries and Commerce, Rajasthan) • Organiser: Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Rajasthan • Vision 2030: To establish over 200 new Global Capability Centers (GCCs) in Rajasthan by the year 2030. • Job Creation: To generate 1.5 lakh high-quality employment opportunities for the youth of the state through these centers. • Tier-2 City Development: To position Jaipur as a 'Future GCC Hub'—an alternative to Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Pune. • Key Sectors: Special focus on IT, FinTech, Healthcare, and Engineering Research & Development (ER&D).
<p>84th All India Ophthalmological Conference (AIOC 2026)- 12th March</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue: Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre - Sitapura, Jaipur • Main Theme: "New Vision, New Perspective" • Organizer: All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS)

बर्स 2025 रै
साहित्य अकादेमी
पुरस्कार

राजस्थानी भासा रा ठावा कवि-कहाणीकार
जितेंद्र कुमार सोनी नै कहाणी संग्रै
'भरखमा' सारु घोषित हुयै है।

Key Agreements of the Government of Rajasthan: March 2026

MoU / Project	Objective / Information
<p>1. Water Management Cooperation Agreement</p>  <p>जलग्रहण विकास विभाग एवं ऑस्ट्रेलिया-इंडिया वाटर सेंटर के बीच एमओयू</p> <p>जल प्रबंधन में सहयोग का महत्वपूर्ण कदम -पंचायती राज मंत्री</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between: Department of Watershed Development and Soil Conservation, Government of Rajasthan + Australia-India Water Centre (AIWC) • Focus Areas: Rajasthan Water Security – Research and Innovation; Utilization of Modern Water Management Techniques; Implementation of Australia's Successful Water Management Models in Rajasthan. • Partner Institutions: Total → 33 (India → 22 Institutions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → PHED, Rajasthan → Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology (MPUAT), Udaipur → IIT Guwahati, Roorkee, Madras • Australia → (11 Institutions) → Department of Environment and Water; Universities including Western Sydney, Flinders, Griffith
<p>2. Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 (JJM 2.0)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To realize the resolve of 'Har Ghar Jal' (Water in Every Home) and ensure the availability of clean drinking water to every household in the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between: Government of Rajasthan + Central Government <i>(Note: An agreement was also signed with the State of Madhya Pradesh.)</i> • Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to sign an MoU in accordance with the new guidelines under the "JJM 2.0" initiative. • Purpose: Promote infrastructure improvements, strengthen governance, and ensure sustainable, reliable and safe rural water • Key Presence: Union Minister of Jal Shakti C.R. Patil, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, and Rajasthan's Minister of Public Health Engineering, Kanhaiya Lal. • "Jal Arpan" Process: Completed piped water supply schemes will be formally handed over to the Gram Panchayats (Village Water and Sanitation Committees) and the local community under the 'Jal Arpan' process. • Digital planning platform at district and GP level for source sustainability • Decision support System Platform: It is integrated with 'Sujalam Bharat' and the 'National Water Dataset' (making accurate data on water management available).
<p>3. Rajeevika's Mission: 'Health and Prosperity' – For the Next 3 Years</p>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between: Rajasthan Grameen Aajeevika Vikas Parishad (Rajeevika) + Centre for Microfinance (CMF), Jaipur - March 28 • Objective: To strengthen 'Model Cluster Level Federations' (CLFs). • Key Focus (FNHS): Centered on raising awareness regarding Food, Nutrition, Health, and Sanitation among rural women. • Signatories: Smt. Neha Giri, State Mission Director of Rajeevika, and Smt. Malika Srivastava, Executive Director of the Centre for Microfinance. • Beneficiaries: Women associated with Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the rural areas of Rajasthan.


<p>4. Carbon Finance Facility for farmers (as per Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between: Rajasthan Agriculture Department + IORA Ecological Solutions • Objective: To generate additional income through 'Carbon Credits' for the implementation of an agricultural land management carbon project. • Rajasthan's Agriculture Minister, Kirori Lal Meena, launched this carbon credit pilot project in the agricultural sector while sharing details of this initiative. • Pilot Project: Being implemented in three regions of Rajasthan – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bansur (Kotputli-Behror), Mahuwa (Dausa), and Malpura (Tonk). ▪ Tree plantation and soil carbon enrichment. ▪ Micro-irrigation and construction of farm ponds. • Aligned with the Government of India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023.
<p>5. Military and Medical Cooperation MoU</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between: Sapta Shakti Command, Indian Army + Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (BMCHRC) - Jaipur → March 17 • BMCHRC will now collaborate with military welfare systems (ECHS → Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme) to provide specialized oncology services to the families of soldiers. • It will provide special medical assistance to ex-servicemen, war widows, and their dependents. • BMCHRC also donated essential medical equipment worth ₹15 lakh to the Asha School, Jaipur.

भारत में पहली बार जसवंतगढ़ में कृष्ण मृगों का किया ट्रांसलोकेशन

आज के युग में पारिस्थितिकी व पर्यावरण संतुलन के लिए मुख्यमंत्री श्री भजनलाल शर्मा के नेतृत्व में प्रदेश सरकार समर्पित प्रयास कर रही है। प्रदेश सरकार के संकल्पित प्रयासों से तालछापर में काले हिरणों की बढ़ती हुई संख्या को ध्यान में रखते हुए हाल ही ताल छापर वन्यजीव अभयारण्य से निकटवर्ती जसवंतगढ़ वन क्षेत्र में हैबिटेट मैनेजमेंट एंड ग्रासलैंड डवलपमेंट हेतु 1.65 करोड़ रुपये की स्वीकृत राशि से 04 हैक्टेयर क्षेत्र में कृष्णमृग एनक्लोजर विकसित कर 22 कृष्णमृगों को ट्रांसलोकेट किया गया है। यह ट्रांसलोकेशन कार्य सम्पूर्ण भारत

में पहली बार है, जब वाइल्ड टू वाइल्ड ब्लैकबक ट्रांसलोकेट किए गए हैं। जसवंतगढ़ में ताल वेटलैंड विकसित होने और कृष्ण मृगों के स्थानांतरण से यहां जैव विविधता को नया जीवन मिला है। जसवंतगढ़ में वेटलैंड विकसित होने से प्रवासी पक्षियों की आवक भी बढ़ी है और हाल ही में सर्द ऋतु के दौरान यहां भरपूर संख्या में प्रवासी पक्षी देखे गए हैं।

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous-News	Details/Information
<p>1. World Record: Food Safety Training (Rajasthan)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record: The Food Safety Commissionerate of Rajasthan set a world record by providing training to over 48,000 food business operators and related individuals on March 17-18. • Recognition: Recorded in the 'World Book of Records, London'. • Objective: To ensure pure and safe food products under the 'Campaign Against Adulteration' and to raise awareness regarding hygiene among food handlers.
<p>2. Inter-State Tiger Translocation 2025-26 (Operation "Tiger Airlift")</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's First Inter-State Tiger Translocation - December 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tigress: PN-224 (Panna National Park) ▪ Origin: Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni (Madhya Pradesh) ▪ Airlift: Indian Air Force Mi-17 V5 ▪ Airstrip: Suktara Airstrip (MP) ▪ New Location: Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve, Bundi • Second Inter-State Tiger Translocation in Rajasthan - February 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tigress: 3.5 years old ▪ Origin: Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (MP) ▪ Airlift: IAF Mi-17 Helicopter ▪ New Location: Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve, Kota ▪ Note: The second inter-state tigress in Rajasthan
<p>3. Great Indian Bustard (GIB) – 'Captive Breeding Program'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the March 2026 report, the project has entered its fourth year, and the total bird population has reached 70. • Increase in Numbers: Two new chicks were born at the Jaisalmer breeding center—one through natural breeding and the other using artificial insemination techniques. • Project Details: Initiated in June 2019 following an MoU signed between the Government of Rajasthan, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), and the Central Government. • Desert National Park (DNP), Jaisalmer: Two major conservation breeding centers (hatcheries) are located here, specifically at 'Sam' and 'Ramdevra'. • Scientific Name: 'Ardeotis nigriceps'

<p>4. CAMPA Fund in Rajasthan-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting of the Steering Committee of the 'Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)' was held in Jaipur, presided over by Rajasthan's Chief Secretary, V. Srinivas. • On March 21, 2026—on the occasion of the International Day of Forests—460 motorcycles, funded under CAMPA, were handed over to the field staff by the Rajasthan Forest Department, with the Honorable Minister for Forests, Environment, and Climate Change, Mr. Sanjay Sharma, serving as the Chief Guest. • CAMPA—Full Form: Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Origin: The Supreme Court ordered the creation of this fund in 2002 (in the T.N. Godavarman vs. Union of India case). ▪ Legal Status: It was accorded statutory status under the 'Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016' (CAF Act, 2016). ▪ Objective: This fund was established to compensate for the loss incurred whenever forest land is utilized for developmental activities.
<p>5. State-Level Program: International Day of Forests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inauguration: On March 21, 2026, by the Minister of Forests and Environment, Shri Sanjay Sharma. • Venue: Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur. • Global Theme: "Forests and Economies." • State Theme: "Forests and Economies - Walking Together, Flourishing Together." • Inauguration of 'Atal Van': Dedication of a forest area developed across 30 hectares in Shahpura, Jaipur. • Coffee Table Book: Release of a book based on the campaign "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam". • 'Digi-Van': Live monitoring of forest management and carbon credits through a digital platform. • Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Promotion Project: Agreement signed with 'Rajivika' for ecosystem services → to provide employment opportunities to rural women. • Base Augmentation Centers: Inauguration of 20 Pre-Base Augmentation Centers within the protected areas of Kota, Baran, Pali, Sirohi, Churu, Mukundra, and Ajmer (Cost: ₹30 Crores).

बंध बरेठा वन्यजीव अभयारण्य में पहली बार कैमरा ट्रैप में कैद हुआ दुर्लभ कैरेकल

राजस्थान वन विभाग द्वारा फरवरी-मार्च 2026 में किए गए कैमरा ट्रैप सर्वे में पहली बार कैरेकल की मौजूदगी दर्ज हुई। कभी अवैध खनन से प्रभावित रहे इस क्षेत्र में संरक्षण, आक्रामक प्रजातियों को हटाने और जल स्रोत विकसित करने जैसे प्रयासों ने इसे अब दुर्लभ और संकटग्रस्त वन्यजीवों के लिए सुरक्षित आवास में बदल दिया है।

Census-2027

- ❑ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah soft-launched **four digital tools and mascots- "Pragati" and "Vikas"** for Census-2027
 - ❑ MASCOTS: "Pragati" (female enumerator) and "Vikas" (male enumerator) were also unveiled as friendly, relatable faces.
 - It symbolises the equal participation of women and men.
 - ❑ **FOUR DIGITAL TOOLS** : Census 2027 will be India's first Census conducted using digital tools.
 - Developed by: The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)
 - 1. **Houselisting Block Creator (HLBC) Web Application:** A web-map application that enables Charge Officers to digitally create Houselisting Blocks using satellite imagery, ensuring standardised geographic coverage across the country.
 - 2. **HLO Mobile Application:** A secure offline mobile application for enumerators to collect and upload Houselisting data.
 - ◆ Only enumerators registered on the CMMS Portal can access the application.
 - ◆ The app enables direct field-to-server data transmission, eliminating traditional paperwork.
 - 3. **Self-Enumeration (SE) Portal:**
 - ◆ The option of Self-Enumeration is being introduced for the First Time.
 - ◆ The SE Portal is a secure web-based facility that allows eligible respondents within a household to submit their household information online before field operations.
 - 4. **Census Management and Monitoring System (CMMS) Portal:** A centralised, web-based digital platform designed to plan, manage, execute, and monitor all census-related activities across administrative levels.
 - ❑ International sand artist **Sudarsan Patnaik:** Appointed as the brand ambassador of Census 2027 by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❑ **Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner** (Headquarters: New Delhi)
 - Commissioner - Sh. Mrityunjay Kumar Narayan
 - ❑ **Directorate of Census Operations, Rajasthan (Jaipur)**
 - Director: Bishnu Charan Mallick
 - The Directors appointed to conduct every census in the states carry out the census operations in their respective states under the guidance and supervision of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India
 - ❑ Article 246: The conduct of the census is a responsibility of the Government of India

Passive Euthanasia:

- ❑ The Supreme Court permitted Passive Euthanasia for the first time in the "**Harish Rana vs. Union Government**" 2026 case.

- ❑ Common Cause (2018) recognised the right to die with dignity as a fundamental right and legalised passive euthanasia with advance directives; the Harish Rana case clarified its implementation by treating artificial feeding as a withdrawable medical intervention
- ❑ **What is Euthanasia?:** The intentional ending of the life of a person suffering from an incurable and irreversible disease, to provide them relief from unbearable pain and suffering.
- ❑ **Types of Euthanasia:**

Passive Euthanasia	Active Euthanasia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life-saving treatment is withdrawn or removed. Such as turning off a ventilator, stopping life-saving medications. • The patient is allowed to die a natural death. • Legally valid in India (subject to strict guidelines/conditions). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct action is taken to cause the patient's death. eg.- Administering a lethal injection (e.g., Sodium Pentothal). • Death is actively and intentionally induced. • Illegal in India.

- ❑ **Constitutional Basis**
 - Article 21: The Right to Life and Personal Liberty & live with dignity.
 - **Common Cause vs. Union of India (2018):** In 2005, an NGO called "Common cause" filed a petition in the SC seeking passive euthanasia as a right. On 9th March 2018, a 5 judge constitutional bench led by CJI Deepak Misra declared that the Right to Die with Dignity is a fundamental right under Article 21.

Supreme Court Decisions

- ❑ The Supreme Court has ordered **12 weeks of maternity leave for adoptive mothers.**
 - **Section 60(4) of the Social Security Code, 2020:** Women adopting a child three months of age or older were denied maternity leave, which the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional.
 - According to the court, the adoptive mother **can avail 12 weeks of paid maternity leave irrespective of the age of the child.**
- ❑ The Supreme Court said that the Scheduled Caste status under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, is limited to Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists only.

River-Based Lighthouses

- ❑ Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, laid the foundation stone of **4 river lighthouses on the banks of the Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2) in Assam**
- ❑ 4 sites: **Pandu, Bogibeel, Silghat** (south bank) and **Biswanath Ghat** (north bank)
- ❑ These will be the country's **first riverside lighthouses.**
- ❑ Developed by: **The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** in collaboration with the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL).
- ❑ **National Waterway-2:** Connects Dhubri, West Bengal, to Sadiya, Upper Assam on the Brahmaputra River.
 - It is the **longest navigable section (891 km)** of any Indian waterway.

Blue Book

- ❑ **Why in News?** A controversy arose after West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee and her ministers were absent during President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Bagdogra Airport, Siliguri triggering allegations of a protocol breach.

- ❑ It is a confidential protocol and security manual issued by the **Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
- ❑ It lays down detailed procedures for the reception, security, ceremonial arrangements and logistics during visits of the **President, Vice-President, and Prime Minister** within India.
- ❑ It is kept by the **District Magistrate and the District Police Chief**.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

- ❑ The Government has sent the following proposals to the World Heritage Centre for consideration for inclusion in the World Heritage List:
 - Ancient Buddhist Site **Sarnath**, Uttar Pradesh (2025-26).
 - **Jingkieng Jri / Lyu Charai Cultural Landscape** (2026-27), Meghalaya
 - ◆ This landscape features living root bridges created spanning the **Khasi and Jaintia Hills** from the **aerial roots of rubber trees** (*Ficus elastica*).
 - ◆ **Hailey War (Meghalaya):** Padma Shri Award for Conservation - 2026
- ❑ The country has **44 World Heritage Sites - Cultural: 36, Natural: 07, Mixed: 01**

Appointment

Name	Appointment
Nand Kishore Yadav	Governor of Nagaland
Lieutenant General (Retired) Syed Ata Hasnain	Governor of Bihar
Taranjit Singh Sandhu	Governor of Bihar
T.N. Natarajan	Director (Commercial), Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).
Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti	Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes
Krishan Kumar Thakur	Director (Personnel) at NMDC Limited
Kiran Umesh Mahale	Member of the National Commission for Backward Classes

Name	Appointment	Former Post
R. N. Ravi	Governor of West Bengal	Governor of Tamil Nadu Former Governor C. V. Ananda Bose resigned.
Jishnu Dev Varma	Governor of Maharashtra	Governor of Telangana
Shiv Pratap Shukla	Governor of Telangana	Governor of Himachal Pradesh
Kavinder Gupta	Governor of Himachal Pradesh	Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh
Vinay Kumar Saxena	Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh	Lieutenant Governor of Delhi
Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Governor of Tamil Nadu (Acting)	Governor of Kerala

Popular Places

V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu)

- ❑ The authority has implemented a **Digital Twin platform** for port management
- ❑ First port to implement digital twin initiative

- ❑ Inauguration: On February 23, 2026, by the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal.
- ❑ Features: The platform will provide a real-time virtual replica of the port's infrastructure, operational assets, and marine ecosystem.
- ❑ Advanced technologies such as IoT sensors, GPS tracking, LiDAR mapping, drone imaging, and CCTV networks have been integrated.

V.O. Chidambaranar Port

- ❑ It is one of the 13 major ports of India.
- ❑ In the year 2011, it was renamed in honor of **V.O. Chidambaram Pillai**
- ❑ Chidambaram Pillai founded the **Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company** (in the year 1906) during the Swadeshi Movement.

Gujarat

- ❑ The Gujarat Legislative Assembly passed the **Gujarat Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026**
- ❑ Second state in the country to pass the UCC bill. (**First-Uttarakhand, 2024**)
- ❑ **Article 44 (DPSP):** "The State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India."

Lipulekh Pass

- ❑ The central government has issued guidelines to restart international trade (China) through the Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand.
- ❑ Indo-China land trade will resume through the Lipulekh Pass after seven years. It was closed after the Galwan clash in 2019.

Odisha

- ❑ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah **inaugurated the Sulfuric Acid Plant (SAP-III) installed by IFFCO in Paradip** and also laid the foundation stone for the **National Forensic Sciences University campus in Bhubaneswar**.

Chandigarh

- ❑ Chandigarh has achieved the status of a '**fully literate Union Territory**' by achieving **99.93% literacy**.
- ❑ It is the **sixth State/Union Territory** and the **second Union Territory** in the country (1st UT: **Ladakh**) to achieve this.
- ❑ Achieved under the **ULLAS programme**.
- ❑ **ULLAS guidelines:** The criterion for declaring a **State/UT** fully literate is achieving a literacy rate of **95% or above**.

ULLAS (Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram)

- ❑ Centrally Sponsored Scheme. ❑ **Duration:** FY 2022-2027
- ❑ Popularly known as **ULLAS** (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society).
- ❑ Objective: To provide basic literacy and numeracy to all illiterates aged 15 years and above in all States/Union Territories.
- ❑ Implemented through **volunteerism**.
- ❑ States/UTs achieving full literacy: **Ladakh, Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh (December 2025), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (January 2026)**

Note: SDG- 4 target: To 'ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all and promote lifelong learning opportunities' by 2030.

Person in News

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

- ❑ As Prime Minister on **March 22, 2026**, he holds the distinction of being the **longest-serving head of government** (both as Chief Minister and Prime Minister) in India's democratic history.
- ❑ He surpassed the record of **8,930 days** held by former **Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling**.
- ❑ He is the **first PM of India born after independence (1947)**.
- ❑ **Three consecutive terms as a PM:** He is the second leader after Jawaharlal Nehru to win three consecutive Lok Sabha elections (2014, 2019, 2024).
- ❑ He is also the **first non-Congress Prime Minister** to hold power for **three consecutive terms**.

Nitish Kumar, Bihar

- ❑ The **Chief Minister of Bihar** was elected as a **Rajya Sabha member from Bihar**.
- ❑ The new Rajya Sabha term will begin **after April 10**.

Mountaineer Bhupathiraju Anmish Verma, Andhra Pradesh

- ❑ Set a Guinness World Record for the **fastest time to climb 7 peaks on 7 continents**.
- ❑ Anmish climbed these peaks in **92 days and 4 hours**.

Menaka Guruswamy

- ❑ Menaka Guruswamy, a Rajya Sabha MP elected from West Bengal, became **India's first openly homosexual MP**.
- ❑ In 2018, she represented the petitioners in the constitutional decision that decriminalized homosexuality in India by **striking down Section 377** of the Indian Penal Code.

Campaign

'Prarambh 2026' Campaign

- ❑ **Launch:** Central Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** launched it on March 20, in New Delhi.
- ❑ **Run by:** By the **Income Tax Department**
- ❑ **Aim:** To raise public awareness about the new 'Income Tax Act, 2025'
- ❑ **'Kar Saathi' chatbot : AI-based chatbot** has been launched under this campaign,
 - It will provide taxpayers with information about the new rules and laws
- ❑ The Income Tax Act 2025 will be implemented from April 1, 2026

Yoga 365 Initiative

- ❑ **Launched by:** Ministry of **AYUSH**.
- ❑ **Main Goal:** To adopt yoga not just limited to June 21, but for all 365 days.
- ❑ **announced :** During **Yoga Mahotsav 2026**.
- ❑ According to the **National Sample Survey (NSS)**, 95% in rural India and 96% in urban India know about yoga, but very few practice it regularly.
- ❑ **Objective:** To bridge the gap between awareness and regular practice, so people can make yoga a part of their lifestyle and daily habit.
- ❑ **Umbrella Program:** It acts as a comprehensive campaign integrating multiple initiatives, such as:
 - **Common Yoga Protocol (CYP)** - for the general public
 - **Y-Break** - workplace yoga
 - **Therapeutic Yoga** - for disease management
- ❑ **Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY)** has partnered with the wellness platform Habuild.
 - **Objective:** To provide free online daily yoga sessions.

Yuva Sangam (Phase VI)

- ❑ Yuva Sangam is organised under "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" initiative.
- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education).
- ❑ In Phase VI, 22 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country have been identified as nodal institutions (acting as senders and receivers).
 - In Rajasthan- MNIT Jaipur (Receiver); IIT Dharwad, Karnataka (Sender).
- ❑ **Main Themes (The 5 Ps):** Paryatan, Parampara, Pragati, Parasparik Sampark, Prodyogiki and innovation.

Bug Bounty Program

- ❑ **Objective:** To enhance the security of the Aadhaar system
- ❑ **Launched by:** Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
- ❑ **Collaboration:** Cybersecurity solutions provider M/s Com Olho IT Private Limited

Conferences

National Conference of Women Elected Representatives of Panchayats

- ❑ **Venue:** New Delhi, March 11, 2026.
- ❑ **Organized by:** Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- ❑ **Occasion:** This conference was organized to mark the one-year anniversary of the launch of the 'Sashakt Panchayat-Netri Abhiyan' (Launch: March 4, 2025).
 - Goal: To strengthen women's leadership and decision-making capabilities at the grassroots (rural) level.
- ❑ "Nirbhay Raho" initiative was launched.

"Nirbhay Raho" Initiative

- ❑ Launched by: The **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** under the Nirbhaya Fund
- ❑ 3 main pillars: **Empowerment, Transformation, and Safety**
- ❑ Objectives: To train **14.5 lakh elected women representatives** regarding their legal rights and leadership skills
 - To sensitise approximately **17.5 lakh male elected representatives** to promote gender equality and accountability.
 - To install CCTV cameras at strategic locations in rural areas to strengthen technology-based safety infrastructure in women-friendly panchayats.

Bharat Innovates Deep-Tech Pre-Summit

- ❑ **Venue:** ASPIRE- IIT Bombay Research Park, Mumbai, 21-22 March 2026
- ❑ **Organised by:** Union Ministry of Education.
- ❑ **Inaugurated by:** Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India .
- ❑ The Pre-Summit serves as a precursor to the **Bharat Innovates 2026** journey that culminates in India's global innovation debut at Nice, France, in June 2026.

Bharat Innovates Initiative:

- It was announced by Prime Minister Modi at the inauguration of the **India-France Year of Innovation** on 17 February.
- It is a national initiative to showcase India's top **100 deep-tech ventures** on the global stage.
- A flagship programme of the **Ministry of Education**, it operates under the strategic guidance of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India

Conference in New Delhi	Subject/Description
1st Edition Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 (19-22 March)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme: “Electrifying Growth. Empowering Sustainability. Connecting Globally” • An India-Africa Strategic Partnership Meet was convened at this Summit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chaired by: Manohar Lal, Union Minister for Power. • 2nd Edition: Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 2028. • Installed capacity: 520 GW, Transmission network has expanded to over 5 lakh circuit kilometres.
World Water Day Conclave 2026 (23 March)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organiser: Ministry of Jal Shakti • Theme: “Industry for Water” • Key Releases during this conclave: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7th Minor Irrigation Census ▪ National Water Data Policy ▪ 2nd Census of Water Bodies ▪ 1st Census of Major & Medium Irrigation Projects • World Water Day- 22 March (Theme: “Water and Gender”)
9th PharmaMed 2026 (27th March)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizer: The Department of Pharmaceuticals, under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers in association with the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), • Theme ‘Healthcare Equity: Reaching Every Citizen of Viksit Bharat.’
RRB Conclave 2026 (11 March)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host- The Indian Banks’ Association. • The conclave was convened to deliberate on opportunities, challenges, and the roadmap for next-generation reforms for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).
National SAMAVESHA 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue- IIT Delhi • Host: In collaboration with I- STEM, the Delhi Science and Technology (S&T) Cluster (DRIIV) and the Dean (R&D), IIT Delhi.
International Malaria Conference (IMC) 2026 (7-9 March 2026)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organiser: ICMR- National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR- NIMR), under ICMR. • Theme: “Discovery, Development and Delivery: Driving Malaria Elimination and Beyond.”

Major Conferences and Events 2026	Subject/Description
National Governance Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue- Jammu, March 3, 2026 Theme- "Holistic Development of Districts: Transforming Governance for Viksit Bharat" Organised by: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), GoI + Govt of Jammu and Kashmir. A platform to share and scale innovative district-level governance practices to improve service delivery, welfare, and effective implementation of government schemes.
National Conference on Cold Water Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue: Srinagar, J&K Organised by: the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D). The first-of-its-kind National Conference on Cold Water Fisheries
9th International Santal Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue: Darjeeling, West Bengal (7 March) Organised by: the International Santal Council. "The President paid tribute to Tilka Majhi, who led the revolt 240 years ago, and to the leaders of the Santal Hul of 1855: Sido-Kanhu, Chand-Bhairav, and Phoolo-Jhano. Note: Recently, in 2025, the Indian Constitution was released in the Santali (Ol Chiki script) language. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ol Chiki Script- invented by Pandit Raghunat Murmu in 1925. Santali language - added to the 8th Schedule by 92nd CAA, 2003
National Conference on Ancient Indian Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (IIT Dhanbad, Jharkhand) Organizer: Supported by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).
7th Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Pune, February 26-28, 2026) Organised by: the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Pune International Centre(PIC). Theme- "Geoeconomics Beyond Globalisation: Tariffs, Technologies and Strategic Alignments." It is "track 1.5" Diplomacy

Festival/Mahotsav

Jal Mahotsav 2026

- ❑ **Start:** Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil from **Rehej village (Navsari district, Gujarat)** on March 8 (International Women's Day was observed as "Sujalam Shakti Diwas.).
- ❑ **Objective:** For "Jan Bhagidari through Gram panchayats for Sujal Gram" and to promote water conservation under the **Jal Jeevan Mission**.
- ❑ **Organized by:** Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti
- ❑ **Held on:** March 8 to March 22 (World Water Day)
- ❑ **Slogan:** "Gaon ka Utsav, Desh ka Mahotsav"
- ❑ **Organized at 3 levels:** Jal Mahotsav at the national level, State **Jal Utsav/Nadi Utsav** at the state level, and Lok Jal Utsav at the Gram-Panchayat level.
- ❑ It began with '**Jal Arpan Diwas**', in which the responsibility for water supply assets was handed over to village panchayats.
- ❑ **Goal:** To make every village a '**Sujal Gram**' and ensure sustainable conservation of water sources.
- ❑ A national mega event was organized in **New Delhi** on March 11, 2026, in the presence of the President, messaging "**Jal Hai to Kal Hai**"

Bharat Tribes Fest 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** New Delhi.
- ❑ **Organized by:** **The Ministry of Tribal Affairs**, in collaboration with the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED).
- ❑ A multi-day Bharat Tribe Trade Summit was organized starting from March 19, 2026.

40th AAHAR - The International Food & Hospitality Fair-2026

- ❑ **Event:** March 10-14, in New Delhi

- ❑ **Organized by:** Ministry of Food Processing Industries(MOFPI) and the **India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)**.

Indian Orchid Festival 2026

- ❑ **Venue :** Pakyong, Sikkim (7-10 March 2026)
- ❑ **Theme: Orchids for Beauty and Prosperity**
- ❑ **Organised by:** Indian council of agricultural research(ICAR)-National Research Centre for Orchids

Janaushadhi Saptah 2026

- ❑ **Duration:** March 1 - 7
- ❑ **Organizer:** Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers
- ❑ **Theme:** 'जनऔषधि सस्ती भी, भरोसेमंद भी, सेहत की बात, बचत के साथ'
- ❑ Health check-up camps are being organized by the **Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau (PMBI)**
- ❑ **Note:** Jan Aushadhi Kendras operated under the **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)** - 18,000+,
- ❑ **Target:** to increase to **25,000** by March 31, 2027.

Exclusive Handloom Expo "Virasat Shakti"

- ❑ **Schedule:** March 7-14, **Venue :** New Delhi
- ❑ **Organized by:** **National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC)** in collaboration with the Ministry of Textiles
- ❑ **Objective:** Celebrate India's rich traditional weaving heritage and highlight the role of women in the handloom sector.

Awards

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2025

- ❑ **Announced by:** The Sahitya Akademi, in 24 recognized Indian languages
- ❑ **24 Indian Languages:** This includes the 22 languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution and English and **Rajasthani**.

❑ **Award Winners:**

Language	Books (Genre)	Author's Name
English	Crimson Spring (Novel)	Navtej Sarna
Rajasthani	Bharkhama (Stories)	Jitendra Kumar Soni
Hindi	Jeete Ji Allahabad (Memoir)	Mamta Kalia
Sanskrit	Prasthanachatustaye Brahmaghosha (Poetry)	Mahamahopadhyay Sadhu Bhadreshdas
Urdu	Safar Jari Hai (Poetry)	Pritpal Singh Betab
Santhali	Mid Birna Chenne Saon Inag Sagai (Short Stories)	Sumitra Soren
Sindhi	Waghoo (Stories)	Bhagwan Atlani (Resident of Jaipur, former President of Rajasthan Sindhi Academy)

Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2026

- ❑ **Award Winner: Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh** (Renowned Saraswati Veena exponent) .
- ❑ **Presented by: The Madras Music Academy, Tamilnadu**
- ❑ It is the highest honor in the field of Carnatic music
- ❑ **Other Major Awards (2026)**
 - Sangita Kala Acharya Award: Sugandha Kalamegham, Trichur C. Narendran (Mridangam player).
 - **Awards for Dancing**
 - ◆ Nritya Kalanidhi: Narendra Ji (Bharatanatyam).
 - ◆ Nritya Kala Acharya: A. Janardhanan.

- ❑ **Carnatic Music :** It is the classical music tradition of South India.
 - It is one of the two main genres (sub-systems) of Indian classical music, the other being Hindustani music.
 - It is primarily devotional in nature.

60th Jnanpith Award 2025

- ❑ **Award Winner: R. Vairamuthu** (Tamil poet and lyricist).
- ❑ He is the **third Tamil author** and the first **Tamil poet** to receive this award.
- ❑ **Presented by:** Bharatiya Jnanpith.
- ❑ **Major Literary Works:** His prominent works

include **Kallikattu Ithihasam**, Karuvachi Kaviyam, Thaneer Desam, and Moondram Ulaga Por (World War III).

- ❑ **Other Awards:** Seven-time National Film Award winner (Best Lyricist), Padma Bhushan (2014), Padma Shri (2003), and Sahitya Akademi Award (2003).

20th Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards

- ❑ Prestigious awards were presented in 19 categories to 24 journalists for their outstanding work across print, digital, and broadcast platforms.
- ❑ **Print (Hindi): Awadhesh Akodia (Dainik Bhaskar)**
- ❑ **Broadcast/Digital (Hindi): Sarvapriya Sangwan (BBC News Hindi)**
- ❑ 'Uncovering India Invisible' Category: **Vijaypal Dudi (Dainik Bhaskar)**
- ❑ Awadhesh Akodia and Vijaypal Dudi are reporters for Dainik Bhaskar Rajasthan.
- ❑ Ramnath Goenka was the founder of the Indian Express Group.

Environment

Indian government approves Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

- ❑ The Union Cabinet has approved India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the **period of 2031 to 2035**.

Areas of Commitment	New NDC Targets (2031-2035)	Updated NDC Targets for 2030 (Announced in 2022)	Current Status
Reduction in emission intensity relative to GDP (from 2005 level)	47%	45%	Achieved 36% reduction by 2020
Share of non-fossil fuels in total installed electricity capacity	60%	50%	Achieved 52.57% by February 2026
Additional carbon sink through forest and tree cover (from 2005 level)	3.5-4 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent	2.5-3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent	2.29 billion tonnes equivalent by 2021

First National Report on Nagoya Protocol Implementation

- ❑ **Report Submission:** Submitted to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat on February 27, 2026.
- ❑ **Prepared by:** National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❑ **Period:** Progress from November 1, 2017, to December 31, 2025.
- ❑ **Subject:** Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization.
- ❑ Outlines India's contribution to Goal 13 of its updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

Nagoya Protocol

- **What is it?** A supplementary international agreement under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- **Objective:** To regulate access to genetic resources and ensure a just and equitable distribution of benefits arising from their utilization.
- **Accepted:** 2010 (Nagoya); Entered into force: 2014

'Hanuman' project

- ❑ Initiative launched in **Andhra Pradesh** to tackle human-wildlife conflict.

- ❑ **HANUMAN:** Healing and Nurturing Unit for Monitoring, Aid and Nursing of Wildlife

High-Level Expert Committee to Combat Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

- ❑ **Constituted by:** National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- ❑ **Objective:** Address the growing ecological and socio-economic risks posed by invasive alien species across the country.
- ❑ **Chairman:** Mr. Dhananjay Mohan (Retired IFS), former Chief of Forest Force, Uttarakhand.
- ❑ **Co-Chairman:** Professor Dr. A. Biju Kumar.

National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)

- ❑ **Headquarters:** Chennai
- ❑ **Statutory Body:** It is a statutory body under the Biodiversity Diversity Act, 2002.

Portal

NETRA Platform

- ❑ **NETRA:** NDSA Engine for Tracking and Review using AI
- ❑ **Launched by :** Union Minister of Jal Shakti, C.R. Patil
- ❑ **Developed by:** National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA)

- In collaboration with the Weapons and Electronics Systems Engineering Establishment (WESEE), a research laboratory of the Indian Navy.
- The artificial intelligence (AI)-based system provides a conversational interface.
- Rashtriya Bandh Suraksha Darpan (RBSD) was launched during this event.
 - Developed by: Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

Real-Time Audit Portal

- Launched by: Ministry of Rural Development.
- Development by: National Informatics Centre (NIC).
- Provides information on audit status, Action Taken Reports (ATRs), and pending cases.

MOUs

NITI Aayog and UNICEF India

- Objective: To improve nutrition & health outcomes in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks
 - To leverage the strengths of both institutions to advance efforts toward improved maternal and child nutrition outcomes in underserved regions.
- UNICEF India will provide support through its IMPAct4Nutrition (I4N) platform.
 - I4N is a knowledge and resource platform on nutrition.
 - It connects businesses (CSR) with the social movement of nutrition campaigns.
- NOTE: A delegation from Global Bridges (Germany), visited NITI Aayog to learn about the Aspirational District and Aspirational Block programmes.

Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Academy have signed an MoU

- RRU will provide academic accreditation for various training programmes conducted at the SSB Academy.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry with fintech platform Razorpay

- Objective: To empower startups by providing access to financial instruments, founder-capacity programs, and ecosystem support.
- In its initial phase, the 'Startup Sahayak' platform was launched to assist founders.

AYUSH Ministry with Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) under the Ministry of Home Affairs

- To promote AYUSH-based preventive healthcare, wellness, yoga, stress reduction, and holistic healthcare.

Important One-Liner

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL) an airport license for which airport in Uttar Pradesh? **Noida International Airport (NIA), Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar.**
- Where was the 'Roots and Rhythms' exhibition inaugurated by the President on March 6?

Lok Bhavan, New Delhi

- Which airport in Tamil Nadu has been granted the status of an international airport by the Union Cabinet?

Madurai Airport

- Where was the Tribal Art Festival 2026 organized to promote and preserve tribal art?

New Delhi

- In which state/union territory is Asia's largest Tulip Garden located?

Jammu & Kashmir (Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, Srinagar)

- Which fort in Uttar Pradesh was recently granted National Land Heritage status by the Geological Survey of India?

Kalinjar Fort

- Where did the Prime Minister inaugurate India's first ring metro?

New Delhi.

- ❑ The "VB-G Ram Ji Youth Digital Campaign" is being implemented by which ministry?
The Ministry of Rural Development.
- ❑ The first face-to-face training-cum-workshop for "Road Safety Mitra" (SSM) volunteers was organized by?
The Centre of Excellence in Road Safety (CoERS) of IIT Madras in collaboration with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- ❑ With which organisation has the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change signed an agreement to act as the 'Environmental Audit Designated Agency' (EADA) under the Environmental Audit Rules, 2025?
National Productivity Council (NPC)
- ❑ Which ministry launched the 'Say No to Proxy Sarpanch' campaign on International Women's Day (March 8, 2026)?
Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR)
- ❑ Where did Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) launch India's first 24x7 LPG ATM, 'BharatGas Insta LPG', as a pilot program?
Gurugram, Haryana
- ❑ Where was the festival of nature, 'Sarhul Festival 2026', celebrated?
Jharkhand
- ❑ Which was India's first mining company to produce 50 million tonnes of iron ore in a single financial year?
National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
- ❑ Where was a special convention held to mark the centenary of the Mahad Satyagraha, commemorating its 99th anniversary, on March 20, 2026?
In Maharashtra
- ❑ Where was the National DMF Summit 2026, inaugurated by Shri G. Kishan Reddy to optimize fund utilization for ADP/ABP mining districts, recently held?
New Delhi.



Economy Current Affairs

Scheme

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

- ❑ Extension Approval by Union Cabinet: To **December 2028**.
- ❑ The implementation of the mission will be restructured, shifting focus from merely creating infrastructure to ensuring effective service delivery.
- ❑ **Budget Increased:** Total Budget: Rs. 8.69 lakh crore (Central Government's Share: Rs. 3.59 lakh crore)
- ❑ Target: To provide tap water connections to all 19.36 crore rural households by December 2028.
- ❑ **Announcement:** Union Budget 2025-26.
- ❑ **Sujalam Bharat:** Every village will be assigned a unique 'Sujal Village ID'.
- ❑ The entire drinking water supply system, **from the source to the tap**, will be digitally mapped to create a national digital framework.
- ❑ **Jal Arpan:** To bring transparency to the schemes, the process of handing over operational responsibilities to the Gram Panchayats will be formalized through this initiative.
- ❑ **'Har Ghar Jal' Certification:** Gram Panchayats will declare themselves as 'Har Ghar Jal' villages once a sustainable system for **operations and maintenance (O&M)** of the water supply is confirmed by the state government.
- ❑ **Jal Utsav:** A 'Jal Utsav' (Water Festival) will be celebrated annually to encourage and increase community participation.

Jal Jeevan Mission

- ❑ **Launch:** 2019 **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Jal Shakti
- ❑ **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- ❑ **Objective:** To provide a Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) capable of supplying **55 liters** of water per capita per day to every rural household.
- ❑ **Achievements:** In 2019, tap water connections were available in only 17% of rural households. This has now increased to approximately 81.6% (15.80 crore households).
- ❑ 11 States and Union Territories have achieved 100% tap water connectivity for all rural households.

'Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna' (BHAVYA)

- ❑ The Union Cabinet has approved the 'Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna' (BHAVYA).
- ❑ **Objective:** To create world-class industrial infrastructure.
- ❑ **Main Target:** To develop **100 "plug-and-play" industrial parks** across the country.
- ❑ Allocated Budget: **Rs 33,660 crore**.
- ❑ Duration: from financial year **2026-27 to 2031-32(6 years)**.

- ❑ Nodal Ministry: **Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**
- ❑ Implementation: Through **National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)** with participation from states and private sector.
- ❑ The scheme is based on the success of the **Industrial Smart City model under NICDP.**
- ❑ Size: Industrial parks will range from 100 to 1,000 acres.
- ❑ Financial Assistance: **Up to Rs 1 crore per acre for basic infrastructure, value-added infrastructure, and social infrastructure development.**
- ❑ Support of up to 25% of project cost for external infrastructure.
- ❑ Projects will be selected through challenge mode.
- ❑ **Ease of Business:** Regulations will be simplified, and a single-window system will be made effective for approvals.
- ❑ These parks will be based on **PM Gati Shakti principles**, ensuring better transportation and connectivity.
- ❑ Emphasis will also be on green energy and efficient resource utilization.

Small Hydro Power (SHP) Development Scheme

- ❑ The Union Cabinet has approved the 'Small Hydro Power (SHP) Development Scheme'.
- ❑ Small hydro power projects fall under **1-25 MW capacity** and are developed as decentralized energy sources.
- ❑ Implementation Period: From **financial year 2026-27 to 2030-31.**
- ❑ Allocated Budget: **Rs 2,584.60 crore.**
- ❑ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- ❑ Target: Approximately 1,500 MW capacity SHP projects will be installed under this.
- ❑ The scheme is based on the '**run-of-the-river**' model.
- ❑ **Assistance Details (Central Government)**

Area	Per MW Assistance	Maximum Limit (per project)
Northeastern states and border districts	₹3.6 crore or 30% of cost (whichever is lower)	₹30 crore
Other states	₹2.4 crore or 20% of cost (whichever is lower)	₹20 crore

- ❑ States will be incentivized to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for about **200 projects.**
 - Rs 30 crore has been allocated for this.
- ❑ **Benefits:** Creation of 51 lakh man-days of employment, development of rural and remote areas, promotion of clean energy and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', environment-friendly, minimal displacement.

Regional Connectivity Scheme - Modified UDAN Scheme

- ❑ The Union Cabinet has approved the implementation of the Revised Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN).

- ❑ Total Outlay: **Rs. 28,840 crore**
- ❑ Duration: **FY 2026-27 to 2035-36 (10 years)**
- ❑ UDAN Scheme Launch: October 2016.
- ❑ Implementation: **Ministry of Civil Aviation**
- ❑ **Key Components**
 - **100 airports** will be developed from existing unused runways with a total expenditure of 12,159 crore over 8 years.
 - Approximately 441 airports will be provided with Rs. 2,577 crore in operations and maintenance support for three years.
 - **200 modern heliports** will be constructed with an investment of Rs.3,661 crore over 8 years.
 - **Viability Gap Funding (VGF):** Rs. 10,043 crore assistance will be provided to airline operators for operations on allocated routes over 10 years.
 - Proposal to purchase 2 HAL "Dhruv" helicopters for Pawan Hans and 2 HAL Dornier aircraft for Alliance Air.

Immigration, Visa, Foreigners Registration & Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme

- ❑ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the IVFRT scheme for a further five years beyond March 31, 2026.
- ❑ **Financial Outlay:** Rs. 1,800 crore
- ❑ **Duration:** April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2031 (5 years)
- ❑ **Initiated:** May 2010
- ❑ Objective: To modernize and upgrade immigration and visa services within a secure and integrated service delivery framework.
- ❑ The next phase would focus on three broad areas:
 - (a) emerging technology innovations,
 - (b) Transformation of Core infrastructure, and
 - (c) Technology and service optimization.

Credit Guarantee Scheme for Microfinance Institutions-2.0 (CGSMFI-2.0)

- ❑ Aims: To provide guarantee cover to Banks/ FIs through National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) against expected losses on the financial assistance extended by them to Non-Banking Financial Company-Microfinance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs) and MFIs for on lending to small borrowers.
- ❑ Features:
 - **Eligible borrowers:** Existing or new small borrowers within the regulatory definition of micro finance as prescribed by RBI from time to time.
 - **Guarantee coverage:** 80% of amount in default for small, 75% for medium and 70% for large NBFC-MFIs/ MFIs.
- ❑ Valid till 30.06.2026 or loans till Rs. 20,000 crores are guaranteed, whichever is earlier.

Index/Report

2nd Fiscal Health Index 2026

- ❑ Released by: NITI Aayog
- ❑ Includes 18 major states and 10 North-Eastern and Himalayan states.
- ❑ Released for the financial year 2023-24.
- ❑ First edition: 2025 (only for 18 major states).
- ❑ FHI 2026 evaluates the fiscal performance of states based on 5 main pillars (Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Collection, Fiscal Prudence Debt Index, Debt Sustainability).
- ❑ Objective: To increase revenue mobilization, strengthen the state's own tax capacity, and improve the structure and quality of capital expenditure.
- ❑ States are divided into four categories: Achiever, Front Runner, Performer, and Aspirational.

Ranking	In 18 major states	NE/ Himalayan States
1	Odisha (73.1)	Arunachal Pradesh (59.5)
2	Goa (54.7)	Uttarakhand (52.5)
3	Jharkhand	Tripura
Rajasthan's Ranking: 14th (Score: 27.6, Performer category). This represents a drop of 2 places in the ranking compared to FHI-2025 (which had a score of 28.4).		

Above 50	Achiever
Greater than 40 & less than or equal to 50	Front Runner
Greater than 25 & less than or equal to 40	Performer
Less than or equal to 25	Aspirational

First National Highway Green Cover Index (NH-GCI) 2025-26

- ❑ Released By: Prepared by the NHAI in coordination with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of ISRO.
- ❑ Objective: To provide a scientific and quantitative assessment of the green cover within the Right of Way (RoW) of the National Highway network by leveraging advanced space-based technologies.
- ❑ Coverage: It covers approximately 30,000 kilometers of National Highways spread across 24 states for the period of July to December 2024.
- ❑ It utilizes 5-meter resolution Resourcesat-2A imagery to assess the green cover along the highways managed by NHAI.
- ❑ The consolidated GCI for **Rajasthan is 40.72.**

SDG Bulletin Report on "Planet" and "Prosperity"

- ❑ Released by: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- ❑ Report Name
 - a. Focus on the Planet: Advancing Environmental Sustainability under the SDGs
 - ◆ Reflects India's progress towards environmental sustainability.
 - ◆ It focuses on SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

- b. Delivering Prosperity at Scale: India's Economic Transformation through the SDGs.
 - ◆ Demonstrates India's progress in promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
 - ◆ Highlights progress in the SDGs related to economic opportunity and well-being, including SDGs 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.
- ❑ Objective: To provide a concise and accessible overview of India's progress on the SDGs by synthesizing key indicators, policy initiatives, and national achievements.
- ❑ It is aligned with the five fundamental pillars of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership (5Ps).
- ❑ It is prepared using the latest official data presented in the "SDG - National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report 2025" released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- ❑ NOTE: The SDG India Index is released by NITI Aayog

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Annual Report, 2025

- ❑ Released by: National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
- ❑ For persons aged 15 years and above in usual status (ps+ss)
-
- ❑ LFPR and WPR based on usual status (ps+ss) remain stable in 2025 compared to 2024.

Labour Participation (LFPR) 2025	Force Rate	59.3%
Worker Population Ratio (WPR)		57.4%
Unemployment (UR) 2025	Rate	3.1%

Miscellaneous

Approval for Changes in Investment Guidelines by Union Government

- ❑ For investments originating from countries that share a land border with India.
- ❑ Objective: To simplify the investment process in India and attract foreign funds.
- ❑ Definition of 'Beneficial Owner' (Real Owner):
 - New Exemptions: If the shareholding of investors from bordering countries in a foreign investment is 10% or less, and they do not hold control over the company, such investment will be permitted under the 'automatic route' (without requiring government approval).
 - Mandatory Reporting: The concerned company must report the details of such investments to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- ❑ Expedited Approval: The government must make a decision within 60 days regarding investment proposals in sectors such as electronic components, polysilicon, and ingot-wafers.
- ❑ Amendments to Sectors: The Committee of Secretaries (CoS), chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, has the authority to amend the list of specified sectors.
- ❑ Ownership and Control: In these cases, the majority shareholding and control of the investee entity must always remain with resident Indian citizens and/or a resident Indian entity that is owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens.
- ❑ Regulatory Framework: These amendments fall under the Prevention of Money Laundering Rules, 2002.

Standards for 'Green Ammonia' and 'Green Methanol'

- ❑ Released by the MNRE
- ❑ Emission limit criteria for classifying ammonia and methanol production as 'green'.
- ❑ Total non-biogenic greenhouse gas emission limits from green hydrogen production, ammonia/methanol synthesis, refining, compression, and on-site storage -

Fuel Type	Emission Limit (kilograms CO ₂ equivalent per kilogram of fuel)	Calculation Basis
Green Ammonia (NH ₃)	0.38	Previous 12-month average
Green Methanol (CH ₃ OH)	0.44	Previous 12-month average

AI-based Apparel Center of Excellence

- ❑ **Name:** 'Chaudhary Ajit Singh Center of Excellence (CoE) for Design and Fashion Technology'
- ❑ **Inaugurated by:** Union Minister Jayant Chaudhary in Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ **Main goal:** To connect rural youth with modern technology (such as AI) and make them self-reliant in the fashion and textile sectors.

Coconut Production

- ❑ India is the largest producer of coconut in the world, contributing **30.37% to global coconut production.**
- ❑ Coconut cultivation in India covers approximately 2,165.20 thousand hectares.
- ❑ India produces approximately 21,373.62 million coconuts annually.

Coal Production

- ❑ According to the Ministry of Coal, the country achieved the 1 billion tonne (BT) coal production milestone for the second consecutive year.
- ❑ **Aims :** To produce 1.5 billion tonne (BT) of coal per year by FY 2030.
 - Under the Coal Logistics Policy and Plan (2024)

Metro Rail

- ❑ **Scale of Operation:** Approximately 1,095 km of metro rail lines (including 55 km of the Delhi-Meerut RRTS) are now operational in 26 cities.
- ❑ **Global Position:** India has become the country with the third largest operational metro network in the world.
- ❑ **Water Metro:** Kochi, Kerala is the first city in India to have a water metro service.
- ❑ **Underwater Metro:** India's first underwater metro operates under the Hooghly River in Kolkata.
- ❑ **Namo Bharat Train:** India's first state-of-the-art semi-high speed 'Namo Bharat' regional train was launched in October 2023.



Premium Signature Brand "Reesa: Timeless Tribal"

- ❑ Launch: Shri Jual Oram, Minister of Tribal Affairs, on March 18, 2026, in New Delhi.
- ❑ The name Reesa is inspired by the traditional handwoven shawls of Tripura.
- ❑ Goal: To create a unique brand identity for tribal products.
- ❑ Department of Posts (DoP) with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)
 - Objective: To establish a strong, reliable, and cost-effective logistics framework to support the delivery of products sold through TRIFED's e-commerce platform "Tribes India E-Marketplace".

Lower Kopili Hydroelectric Project, Assam

- ❑ Inaugurated: The Prime Minister the project,
- ❑ It is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric project.
- ❑ Total installed capacity: 120 MW.
- ❑ River: Kopili River (a south bank tributary of the Brahmaputra).

Green Hydrogen and Storage Start-up Challenge 2026

- ❑ Launched by: International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- ❑ Objective: To identify and support leading innovative startups in the field of green hydrogen and energy storage solutions.



Canada PM's Visit to India

- ❑ Visit from 27 Feb to 2 March.
- ❑ PM- **Mark Carney**
- ❑ "Strategic Partnership" since 2018.
- ❑ Set a goal to reach **US\$50 billion** in bilateral trade by 2030.
- ❑ **List of Outcomes**
 1. **Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership**-under this, an MoU on cooperation in technology and innovation among these 3 countries.
 2. **Joint Pulse Protein Centre of Excellence at NIFTEM-K Kundli, Sonipat**- signed a Declaration of Intent for this. (Canada-Pulse exporter to India)
 3. Agreement for Fully-funded internships for up to **300 eligible Indian students** annually for three years (beginning 2027)
 4. **India and Canada's Cameco** signed a \$1.9 billion uranium supply agreement for around **10,000 tonnes (2027-2035)**.
 5. Signed the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**
- ❑ **Announcement**
 1. Canada to join Global Biofuel Alliances, International Solar Alliance.
 2. Establishment of India-Canada Parliament Friendship Group, India-Canada Defence Dialogue.
 3. Participation of Canada in the upcoming **Bharat Tribes Fest-2026, New Delhi from 17-30 March 2026**.

11th Raisina Dialogue

- ❑ **Venue:** New Delhi, 5 March-7 March.
- ❑ **Organised by:** MEA in collaboration with Observer Research Foundation (ORF).
- ❑ **Inauguration:** Prime Minister Modi
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** President Alexander Stubb
- ❑ **Theme:** **"Sanskara: Assertion, Accommodation, Advancement."**
- ❑ It is named after Raisina Hills in New Delhi,
- ❑ Launched in 2016 and held annually in New Delhi. It is India's leading forum on **Geo Politics and Geo Economics**.

Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (SDI)

- ❑ **Venue:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. 5 March 2026.
- ❑ **Launched by:** Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the GoI and the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) as part of the Raisina Dialogue.
- ❑ **Chaired by:** The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**,
- ❑ This inaugural Edition focused on Strategic Autonomy and Disruptive Technologies

President Alexander Stubb's India Visit

- ❑ President Dr Alexander Stubb was on a State Visit to India from 4-7 March 2026.
- ❑ List of Outcomes- MoUs/ Agreements
 - Elevation of bilateral relations to **"Strategic Partnership in Digitalisation and Sustainability"**.
 - Creation of **Joint Task Force on 6G**
 - Establish a cross-sectoral **Joint Working Group on Digitalisation**
 - Aim to **double the present bilateral trade** (EUR 1.5-2 bn) between India and Finland by 2030 (Capitalising on the recently concluded India-EU FTA)

- MoU on Migration and Mobility Partnership, Cooperation in the field of statistics.
- Renewal of the MoU on Environmental Cooperation signed in November 2020.
- Co-hosting of the **World Circular Economy Forum in India in 2026**
- Greater connectivity of startup ecosystems through the Indo-Finland Startup Corridor

Indo- CIS Pharma-Nutraceutical Corridor for Eurasian Market

- **India and Uzbekistan** jointly launched this.
- The trade corridor will operate through a **dual-city engagement model** linking **Mumbai & Tashkent**.
- The commercial launch is scheduled for May 2026.

Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) region

- Constituted in 1991, post the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- **Membership:** 12 countries.

Operation Sagar Bandhu

- **News:** The Indian Army launched a **240-foot Bailey bridge project in Sri Lanka** under Operation Sagar Bandhu.
- **About Operation Sagar Bandhu**
 - Launched in November 2025 to provide urgent Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) support to Sri Lanka in the immediate aftermath of the devastating **Cyclone Ditwah**.

High-Level India-Vietnam Meeting

- Union Minister **Jual Oram** and Vietnam's **Dao Ngoc Dung** met in New Delhi on March 20 to strengthen the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** through **cooperation in tribal and ethnic development**.

Special 301 Report

- **News:** The USA launched Section 301 investigations into the manufacturing

policies of 16 major trading partners, including the EU, China and India, to address unfair trade practices.

- This report **annually reviews** the global **state of intellectual property (IP) rights** protection and enforcement.
- **Categories:** It designates countries as "**priority foreign country**", "**priority watch list**", and "**watch list**".

Nepal Election

- New elected PM of Nepal- **Balendra Shah**
 - Rapper-Turned-Politician Balendra Shah is the youngest PM of Nepal.
 - He is the first PM from the **Madhesi community**.
 - Belongs to the Rashtriya Swatantrata Party

Hexagon of Alliances

- Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu announced the **Hexagon** alliance.
- It is a proposed six-nation strategic framework to strengthen economic, diplomatic, and security cooperation across West Asia and the Mediterranean.
- It is also being seen as a counter of the "Shia axis", also known as the "axis of resistance".
- Member nations: The bloc includes **Israel, India, Greece, Cyprus**, and undisclosed Arab/African and Asian countries.
 - **As of now, no country has endorsed this plan - or its sectarian framing.**

India-New Zealand Sports Cooperation (2026)

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Mansukh Mandaviya discussed expanding sports cooperation with New Zealand.
- 2026 marks 100 years of sporting ties between India and New Zealand.
- These relations trace back to the 1926 Indian Army hockey tour to New Zealand,

Events/Conferences/Meetings

ITB Berlin 2026

- ❑ Internationale Tourismus-Börse (ITB) Berlin is the world's leading **tourism trade fair**.
- ❑ **Organised by: Messe Berlin, Germany, 3-5 March 2026**
- ❑ India's Participation
 - Union Minister for Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- ❑ The **Ministry of Tourism has partnered with Netflix** to promote Indian tourist destinations globally. **Incredible India and Netflix** will together produce 10 short promotional videos in **1 year**.

Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems (GCWAS-2026)

- ❑ **Venue: New Delhi, 12-14 February 2026.**
- ❑ **Inauguration:** President Droupadi Murmu.
- ❑ The programme is taking place during the **UN-declared 'International Year for Women Farmers' in 2026.**
- ❑ Theme- "**Driving Progress, Attaining New Heights.**"
- ❑ **Organised by:** ICAR+ Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), CGIAR, and PPV&FRA.
- ❑ It aims to produce a set of actionable recommendations, compile global best practices, and outline a clear roadmap for the future.
- ❑ **Krishi Sakhi Initiative:** Launched by Agriculture Insurance of India Limited (AIC) to empower women farmer & work towards achieving inclusive growth.

10th Foundation Day of ISA

- ❑ **Green Hydrogen and Storage Start-up Challenge 2026**
 - **Announcement by:** The ISA on **11th March** (Foundation Day)

- To identify and support innovative startups working at the forefront of green hydrogen and energy storage solutions.

- ❑ **Total members:** 112, Signatory member countries- 14.
 - Recently, Romania ratified the ISA framework agreement.
- ❑ Total Solar Energy installed capacity of India- 136GW

World Mobile Congress

- ❑ **Venue: Barcelona, Spain. March 2-5, 2026**
- ❑ **Theme: "The IQ Era"**
- ❑ **Organised by: GSMA**
- ❑ Participation from India- Union Minister for Communications **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia,**

ANVESH-2026

- ❑ **Full form:** Advanced Next Generation Vision for Emerging and Sustainable Healthy Foods
- ❑ **Venue: NIFTEM Kundli, Sonipat, 26-28 February 2026.**
- ❑ **Participation: from 25 countries.**
- ❑ Platform for dialogue on emerging areas such as digital compliance, food safety and traceability, and alternative proteins.

70th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

- ❑ **Venue:** New York, United Nations Headquarters, 9-19 March
- ❑ **Theme: 'Ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls'**
- ❑ **India's Participation:** Savitri Thakur, Minister of State, Women and Child Department.
- ❑ The Minister highlighted the role of the IBSA Fund in global South Cooperation.

1st International Buddhist Peace Conference 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Hyderabad, 27-29 March 2026
- ❑ **Organised by: Buddhavanam and Telangana Tourism Development Corporation,** in association with the **Vietnam Buddhist Sangha.**

- ❑ Telangana Cultural Minister **Jupally Krishna Rai** was honoured with the '**Grand Prize**' for his contribution to world peace.

6th BRICS CCI WE Summit 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** New Delhi, 21-23 March 2026.
- ❑ **Theme:** "Women in Innovation, Science Leadership, Innovation & Entrepreneurship (WISE) - Inspiring Change, Shaping Tomorrow,"
- ❑ **Organised by:** BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women Empowerment (BRICS CCI WE) vertical with support from the BRICS Women Business Alliance (BRICS WBA).
- ❑ Women Empowerment Trailblazer Award- **Kalpna Soren**
- ❑ **Women Empowerment Trailblazer:** Living Legend Award- **Shabana Azmi**.

Index/ Reports

World Happiness Report

- ❑ **Published by:** The Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford, in partnership with Gallup and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UNSDSN).
- ❑ **Published on:** 19 March 2026 (Released annually around the International Day of Happiness, March 20).
- ❑ **2026 Theme:** "Happiness and Social Media".
- ❑ **Method:** Country rankings were based on answers given by around 100,000 people in more than 140 countries and territories who were asked to rate their own lives.
 - It asks people to rate their life on a 0-10 scale, from the worst possible life (0) to the best possible life (10).
- ❑ **Top:** 1. Finland (continuously 9th time) 2. Iceland 3. Denmark 4. Costa Rica (Previously ranked 23) 5. Sweden.

- ❑ **Bottom 3 ranked countries:** Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Malawi

- ❑ **India 2026:** 116th out of 147 countries, 2025: 118th.

- **Life Evaluation Score (2026):** 4.536 out of 10

- **Strengths:** Perception of corruption (64th), Generosity (78th), and Freedom (61st).

- **Weaknesses:** Social support (123rd) and GDP per capita (89th) are major drags on the overall score.

- ❑ **Regional Comparison:** India lags behind China (65th), Nepal (99th) and Pakistan (104th) but ranks ahead of Bangladesh (127th) and Sri Lanka (134th).

Global Terrorism Index 2026

- ❑ **Published by:** the Institute for Economic and Peace (IEP)
- ❑ It measures the impact of terrorism in 163 countries, analysing trends, patterns, and the global distribution of terrorist activity.
- ❑ **India- 13th**
- ❑ **Top Affected Countries:** 1. Pakistan 2. Burkina Faso 3. Niger
- ❑ Sub-Saharan Africa remained the global epicenter of terrorism.

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026

- ❑ **Published by:** Quacquarelli Symonds, a Global higher education consultancy.
- ❑ **India's Standing:** 4th largest representation globally (after US, China, UK).
- ❑ This report provides a ranking of institutions for **55 subjects**.
- ❑ The ranking is based on **5 key indicators**, including H- index (research productivity), Academic reputation etc.

Institutions	Rank	Subject
IIT (ISM) Dhanbad	21	Mineral & Mining Engineering
IIM Ahmedabad	21	Business & Management Studies and entered into top 25 in Marketing
IIT Delhi	36	Electrical & Electronics Engineering
IIT Kharagpur	28	Petroleum Engineering

- ❑ **Note:** In June 2025 QS World University ranking was released which ranks an entire University as a single unit.

Global Trade Outlook and Statistics Report, 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** Biannual report by the **World Trade Organisation**.
- ❑ Global merchandise trade growth is projected to decelerate to **1.9% in 2026 (from 4.6% in 2025)**, hampered by West Asian tensions, normalised AI demand, and the effects of tariff-driven frontloading.

15th Hurun Global Rich List 2026

- ❑ **Launched by :** Hurun Research Institute.
- ❑ **India- 3rd:** 308 billionaires (increase of 57 new billionaires)
- ❑ **Top Countries:** 1. China 2. USA
- ❑ **Top billionaires :** 1. Elon Musk 2. Jeff Bezos 3. Larry Page
- ❑ While **Mumbai (95 billionaires)** leads in India, it lost its title as Asia's billionaire capital to **Shenzhen**, which now hosts 132 billionaires.
- ❑ **Mukesh Ambani:** Richest Asian in 2026.
- ❑ Shah Rukh Khan has re-entered this list.

40th Forbes World's Billionaires List 2026

- ❑ **Global Overview:** It features a record 3,428 billionaires (Total Net Worth: USD 20.1 trillion, up from USD 16.1 trillion in 2025).
- ❑ **Top 3 Global:** 1. Elon Musk, 2. Larry Page, 3. Sergey Brin **21st Mukesh Ambani** (Richest in Asia).

- ❑ **Country Rankings:** 1. USA (989), 2. China (539) and 3. India (229).
- ❑ Women comprise 14% (481) of the list; Alice Walton remains the world's richest woman.
- ❑ **Surya Midha (India):** Ranked 6th youngest globally (Age: 22).

8th World Air Quality Report 2025

- ❑ **Released by:** IQAir, A Swiss Company.
- ❑ The report analyses data from **9,446 cities across 143 countries**.
- ❑ **India's Position:** **6th** National average concentration of **48.9 µg/m³**.
- ❑ WHO's safe limit of 5µg/m³.
- ❑ **Most Polluted countries:** 1. Pakistan 2. Bangladesh 3. Tajikistan
- ❑ **Most Polluted Cities in India:** 1. Loni, Uttar Pradesh (#1 most polluted city in the world) 2. Byrnihat (Meghalaya) 3. Delhi
- ❑ 66 of the world's 100 most polluted cities are in India.
- ❑ Most Polluted Capital New Delhi (remains #1 for the 8th consecutive year)
- ❑ The world's 25 most polluted cities were all located in India, Pakistan and China, with India home to three of the four most polluted.

UN World Water Development Report 2026

- ❑ **Published by:** UN Water on World water Day
- ❑ It emphasises that universal water security (SDG 6) cannot be achieved without closing the gender gap (SDG 5).

UNIGME Report

- ❑ The Levels and Trends in Child Mortality Report 2025 highlights that India has achieved a significant decline in its child mortality.
- ❑ **Released by:** the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UNIGME).

- ❑ **Key Findings:** Under Five Mortality: 26.6 in 2024.

SIPRI Report

- ❑ World's largest arms importer during the year 2021-25-
 1. Ukraine
 2. India (8.2% of Global arms imports)
 3. Saudi Arabia
 4. Qatar
 5. Pakistan
- ❑ **Largest Exporter:** 1. USA 2. France 3. Russia
- ❑ **Full form:** Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Innovators Business Environment Index (IBEI) 2026

- ❑ **Released by:** StartupBlink
- ❑ 1. USA (Perfect score of 100) 2. Singapore 3. UK
- ❑ **India- 54th (Score-55), China- 85th**
- ❑ It evaluates the ease of establishing and operating a business **across 125 countries using more than 30 indicators.**

World Trade and Development Report 2026

- ❑ **Published by:** Research and Information System for Developing Countries
- ❑ **Note:** Launched during the International Conference on Multilateralism Under Pressure: Roadmap to the WTO Ministerial Conference in New Delhi.

Awards

Mark Lynton History Prize 2026

- ❑ The prize honours historical writing that demonstrates a combination of scholarly excellence and literary quality.
- ❑ **Winner:** Historian William Dalrymple.
- ❑ **Book:** "The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World".
- ❑ **Award Value:** USD 10,000.

RBI Wins 'Initiative of the Year'

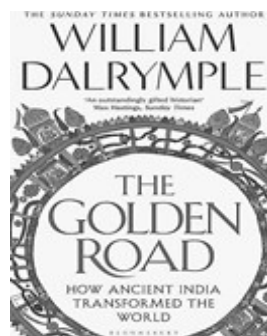
- ❑ **Given by:** Central Banking, a London-based financial publication.
- ❑ **The winning initiative:** The **.bank.in** is an exclusive, RBI-mandated secure internet domain that prevents cyber fraud by ensuring only licensed banks can host official websites, effectively eliminating phishing and domain spoofing.

Abel Prize 2026

- ❑ **Winner:** Gerd Faltings, German Mathematician
- ❑ For his contribution to Arithmetic Geometry.
- ❑ **Abel Prize:** It is an international mathematics award presented annually by Norway, often regarded as the Nobel Prize of Mathematics.

98th Oscar Awards, 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles, March 15, 2026.
- ❑ **Host:** Conan O'Brien.
- ❑ **Most Nominations:** Sinners (16 nominations).
- ❑ **Most Wins:** One Battle After Another: 6 Awards.
- ❑ Autumn Durald Arkapaw became the first woman to win Best Cinematography.
- ❑ **Neeraj Ghaywan's Homebound** reached the Oscars shortlist (Top 15) for Best International Feature but did not secure a final nomination in the Top 5.



Category	Winner	Film
Best Picture	One Battle After Another	
Best Director	Paul Thomas Anderson	One Battle After Another
Best Actor	Michael B. Jordan	Sinners
Best Actress	Jessie Buckley	Hamnet
Best Supporting Actor	Sean Penn	One Battle After Another
Best Supporting Actress	Amy Madigan	Weapons
Best International Feature Film	Sentimental Value (Norway)	
Best Animated Feature Film	K Pop Demon Hunters	
Best Documentary Film	Mr. Nobody Against Putin	
Best Original Song	"Golden"	K Pop Demon Hunters

One liner

- ❑ **Saint Thirumangai Alvar:** The Ashmolean Museum of the University of Oxford returned the 16th century bronze idol of this Saint to India.
 - Origin: Shri Soundararaja Perumal Temple, Thadikombu, Tamil Nadu
 - **Saint Thirumangai Alvar is one of the 12 Alvars.**
- ❑ **Indonesia**
 - Recently, the Archeological survey of India signed an agreement with **Indonesia** for restoration of 9th century **Prambanan Temple Complex**.
 - Indonesia signed an agreement to buy **BrahMos missiles** from India.
 - Indonesia has announced a major **social media ban for children under 16**. Implementation will begin on March 28, 2026. It became the 1st south Asian country to do this.
- ❑ **Agreement between NITI Aayog and JICA** for Phase II of Japan - India Cooperative Actions towards SDGs in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks.
- ❑ Agreement **between NITI Aayog and UNICEF India** for strengthening nutrition and health outcomes in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks.
- ❑ Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Asian Traditional Textile Museum in Siem Reap, Cambodia
 - Visited by MEA secretary (East), P. Kumaran. This museum showcases rich textile traditions from the Mekong-Ganga region.
- ❑ Britain abolished 'Hereditary Peers', the system of keeping seats reserved for rich people by birth in the House of Lords.
- ❑ Recently, which country has formally withdrawn its membership from WHO?

Argentina (earlier the USA has also left it).

 - Formal exit under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT).

- ❑ Which country's 1st Blue Bond, an LKR 3 billion issuance, is dually listed on NSE International Exchange (IX) at GIFT City, Gujarat and Colombo Stock Exchange? **Sri Lanka**
- ❑ Which Indian animated short film, directed by Dr Partha Sarathi Mahanta (IPS), won the Best Director Award at the New York Short Animation Festival, 2026? **"Chyimi"**
- ❑ Which is the second country in the world to eliminate Leprosy?
Chile (1st country from the American Continent), 1st: Jordan.
- ❑ Which country has become the first in the EU to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and Syphilis? **Denmark**
- ❑ Which state has agreed with Finnish Companies to develop Sassoon Dock? **Maharashtra**
- ❑ A state of emergency was declared in which country to address the impact of intense rainfall on public safety? **Peru**
- ❑ Japan, South Korea, and Malaysia Partner with which state to Strengthen Chip Ecosystem and get fresh investment of Rs 1600 crore? **Gujarat**
- ❑ The Echinus Geyser, known as the world's largest acidic geyser, has erupted again after a six-year dormant period at which place?
Yellowstone National Park in the United States.
- ❑ The WHO Foundation has partnered with which company to address childhood obesity in India through school-based health programs and awareness campaigns?
Novo Nordisk
- ❑ Which Indian conglomerate was recently named by President Donald Trump as the primary investor in a historic USD 300 billion project to build the first major new oil refinery in the United States in nearly 50 years at the Port of Brownsville, Texas?"
Reliance Industries Limited.
- ❑ Which Country has become India's 3rd largest export destination by replacing the Netherlands? **China**
- ❑ Which country unveiled its 15th five-year plan? **China**
- ❑ Who releases the **Global Education Monitoring Report**? **UNESCO**
- ❑ The World Bank and India launched a \$299.66 million programme to improve air quality in in which state? **Uttar Pradesh**
- ❑ Where did the Government of India host the first BIMSTEC Young Professional Exchange Programme? **Maharashtra**
- ❑ Which country has invited India as a key partner to the G7 Summit 2026 scheduled for June 15-17? **France**
- ❑ The UPU-UPI initiative between India and Bhutan primarily aims to improve what?
Cross-border digital remittance and financial connectivity.

Person In News

Name	Role / Why in the News?	Key Note
Jayant Chaudhary	India-UK Achievers Award 2026	MoS (Independent Charge) for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. LSE Alumnus; honoured as an "Outstanding Achiever."
José Antonio Kast Rist	President of Chile	
K.V. Subramanian	Chicago Alumni Award	1st Indian economist to win the University of Chicago Alumni Award
Prof. Hermann Kulke	Died Recently	German Indologist and Padma Shri winner. Global voice on Odisha history and the Jagannath culture.
Vikram K. Doraiswami	New Indian Ambassador to China	Going to Succeed Pradeep Kumar Rawat in Beijing. Previously - India's High Commissioner to the UK.
Kaveh Madani	Youngest Winner of Stockholm Water Prize	He is the director of the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).
Javed Ashraf	Honoured with France's Legion of Honour (Commander Rank)	First Indian Ambassador to be honoured with this recognition.
Nita Ambani	Conferred with the KISS Humanitarian Award 2025	An annual international award conferred by the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
Bhupatiraju Varma	Guinness World Record	For the fastest ascent of the 7 Volcano Summits.
Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran	Conferred with Honorary Knight Commander (KBE) by the UK	He is TATA Sons Chairman and honored for strengthening India-UK trade ties.
Arpita Patra	successfully submitted Nevado Ojos del Salado	It is the world's highest volcanic peak. Arpit Patra is a Professor at the IISc, Bangalore.
Dr Thomas Pucadyil	New Director of BRICS-NCCS, Pune	
Rituparna Sengupta	Received Women Empowerment Awards for Art and Culture	At the House of Commons, UK
Chandrikapersad Santokhi	PM Modi Condolled his sudden demise.	Former president of Suriname
Dr. Kriti Karanth	Winner of Esmond B Martin prize	1st Indian to win this award.

USA/ Israel - Iran War

- ❑ The USA and Israel launched a joint military operation against Iran on February 28, 2026.
- ❑ 4 objective of war (as given by Trump in Feb 28 Address)-
 1. To destroy Iran's missile capabilities
 2. Regime change,
 3. Prevent it from obtaining a nuclear weapon
 4. Ensure that it cannot continue to support allied armed groups (Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis, etc.)
- **Though objectives of this war have changed significantly with time.**

Country	Operation Name	Objective
USA	Operation Epic Fury	Started Feb 28, 2026. Aimed at dismantling Iran's missile/nuclear infrastructure and security apparatus.
Israel	Operation Lion's Roar	Pre-emptive strikes on Tehran and nuclear sites (Coordinated with Epic Fury).
Iran	Operation True Promise 4	Iran's retaliatory missile and drone strikes against Israel and US regional bases.
USA (Venezuela)	Operation Absolute Resolve	(Jan 3, 2026) Capture of President Maduro; part of a broader "Regime Change" policy.

Famous Places

Iran:

- **Minab:** In this area of Iran, a school was airstriking, killing around 160 school children.
- **Kharg Island:** It handles nearly 90% of Iran's oil exports.
- **Strait of Hormuz**
 - The Strait of Hormuz carries 85% of India's LPG, 55% of LNG.
 - At its narrowest point, it is about 32 kilometres (20 miles) across.
- **Natanz:** Nuclear research facility in Iran, recently attacked.
- ❑ **UAE:** Port of Fujairah, Habshan gas field, Shah gas Field.
- ❑ **Qatar:** Ras Laffan Industrial City.
- ❑ **Israel:** Negev nuclear research centre, Dimona
- ❑ **Kuwait:** Mina Al Ahmadi
- ❑ **South Pars / North Dome Gas Field:** The world's largest natural gas field. It is located deep under the Persian Gulf and is shared by Iran (South Pars) and Qatar(North Dome).

IRIS Dena

- ❑ This frigate was torpedoed by the USS Charlotte (US Navy Submarine)
- ❑ The ship was operating 20 NM west of Galle in the SAR region under Sri Lanka's responsibility.
- ❑ The Indian Navy promptly launched its SAR (Search and Rescue) efforts led by INS Tarangini
- ❑ Participated in the Milan Exercise.

Major Global Oil Benchmarks

- ❑ **Brent crude oil**
 - Origin: North Sea oil fields
 - Most widely used global benchmark
 - Used for: Europe, Africa, Middle East exports; Seaborne oil trade pricing.
- ❑ **West Texas Intermediate**
 - Benchmark for North America and inland benchmark (pipeline-based)
- ❑ **Dubai/Oman crude benchmark**
 - Used mainly for Middle East exports to Asian markets

Iran: Leadership Transition & Key Appointments

- ❑ The assassination of the Supreme Leader on Feb 28 has led to a major shift:

Position	Individual
Late Supreme Leader	Ayatollah Ali Khamenei
Interim Supreme Leader	Alireza Arafii
New Supreme Leader	Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei
President	Masoud Pezeshkian
Foreign Minister	Abbas Araghchi
Secy. Security Council	Ali Larijani (Deceased)
New Secy. Security Council	Md. Bagher Zolghadar

Missiles used

- ❑ **Iran:** Cluster Bomb Missile (Khorramshahr-4), Shahab-3, Fateh Series, Qader cruise missiles, Fattah 2 (Hypersonic ballistic missile).
- ❑ **Israel:** Jericho Missiles, Arrow-3 (Interceptor)
- ❑ **USA:** Tomahawk Land Attack Missile, Patriot Missile Defence System, THAAD.

Law related to Wars

Legal Instrument	Core Objective & Mandate	Key Articles & Provisions
UN Charter	To save future generations from the scourge of war ; maintain international peace and security.	Art 2(4) : Prohibits threat/use of force against 'territorial integrity' or 'political independence' of another state.
UN Charter (Exceptions)	Restricts the "use of force" unless authorised by the UN Security Council .	Art 51 : Sole exception; permits use of force in self-defence against an actual armed attack.
International Humanitarian Law (IHL)	Governs how war is fought (<i>Jus in bello</i>); ensures humane conduct regardless of how war started.	1949 Geneva Conventions : Protects wounded, sick, POWs, and civilians; restricts brutal weapons/methods.
Rome Statute	Establishes the International Criminal Court (ICC) for individual accountability.	Defines intentional targeting of civilians, schools, and hospitals as War Crimes .
UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea)	Governs maritime conduct mainly during peacetime but does not regulate naval warfare during armed conflicts.	

About Force Majeure

- ❑ **News:** In the backdrop of the United States-Israel war on Iran, Gulf countries, including Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait, have declared force majeure on gas exports.
- ❑ A 'Force Majeure' provision serves as a protective legal shield, suspending performance obligations during catastrophic events such as natural disasters that lie beyond the reasonable control of the contracting parties.

Steps taken by the Government of India to deal with the West Asia War

- ❑ **Official Position:** Strong advocacy for dialogue, diplomacy, and de-escalation. Condemns attacks on civilians, energy/transport infrastructure, and obstruction of international waterways (Strait of Hormuz).
- ❑ **Domestic Vigilance:** Heightened alert across coastal, border, cyber, and strategic domains. Strict directives were issued to states to prevent crisis exploitation, black-marketing, and hoarding.
- ❑ India has evacuated over 550 of its nationals from Iran **through Armenia**.
- ❑ **Inter Ministerial Group**
 - As part of the coordinated whole-of-government response to the crisis situation, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) on Supply Chain Resilience was operationalised on March 02, 2026 to monitor the situation and coordinate facilitation measures.

- ❑ The Govt of India formed **7 empowered committees** on the West Asia Crisis.
 - To deal with the potential long-term impacts of the West Asia conflict.
- ❑ **Excise Duty:** Govt of India has reduced excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs. 10/litre.
- ❑ **Export Levy:** Further, the Government of India has imposed an export levy of Rs 21.5 per litre on diesel and Rs 29.5 per litre on aviation turbine fuel (ATF) to ensure availability of these products in the domestic market.
- ❑ To ensure India's energy security, the government has diversified its supply chain by expanding its import basket from **27 to 41 nations in the last 11 years**.

Natural gas

- ❑ India's total natural gas consumption is approximately **189 million cubic meters per day**. Out of this, about 97.5 million cubic meters per day is produced domestically. Due to unforeseen circumstances, around 47.4 million cubic meters per day of supply has been affected.
- ❑ The Union Govt has invoked the Essential Commodities Act and issued the Natural Gas Control Order on 9 March 2026-
 - To regulate LPG & natural gas supply, ensuring fair distribution & preventing hoarding.
 - The Government of States/UTs has to play a primary role in monitoring and regulating the supply situation of essential commodities, including Petrol, Diesel and LPG.

Natural Gas and Petroleum Products Distribution (Through Laying, Building, Operation and Expansion of Pipelines and Other Facilities) Order, 2026

- ❑ It was passed under the **Essential Commodity Act, 1955**.
- ❑ The Order establishes a time-bound, streamlined framework for **pipeline expansion** by resolving land access and regulatory bottlenecks.
- ❑ **Key objectives include:**
 - **Accelerated Piped Natural Gas (PNG) Expansion:** Boosting last-mile connectivity in residential sectors.
 - **Energy Transition:** Facilitating the shift to cleaner fuels to enhance energy security.
 - **Economic Impact:** Advancing India toward a gas-based economy through rapid infrastructure development.

Essential Commodity Act, 1955

- ❑ It was enacted to control the production, supply, and distribution of specific commodities deemed essential for the general public.
- ❑ It empowers the government **to prevent hoarding and black marketing** while ensuring equitable distribution at fair prices.

Port of Refuge

- ❑ **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)** established India's **first** 'Port of Refuge' at **Dighi Port (Mumbai)** and **Gopalpur Port (Odisha)**.
- ❑ A Port of Refuge (PoR) is a designated safe location where ships in distress-due to fire, collision, or mechanical failure-can seek shelter. Its purpose is to stabilise the vessel, safeguard lives, and minimise environmental damage.

Crude Oil

❑ **Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR):**

- Over 5.3 MMT (Million Metric Tonnes) in SPR.

- **Expansion:** increase capacity by an additional 6.5 MMT.

- Locations

- ◆ Phase-I SPR Facilities (5.33 MMT): Currently operational at three locations

- Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)

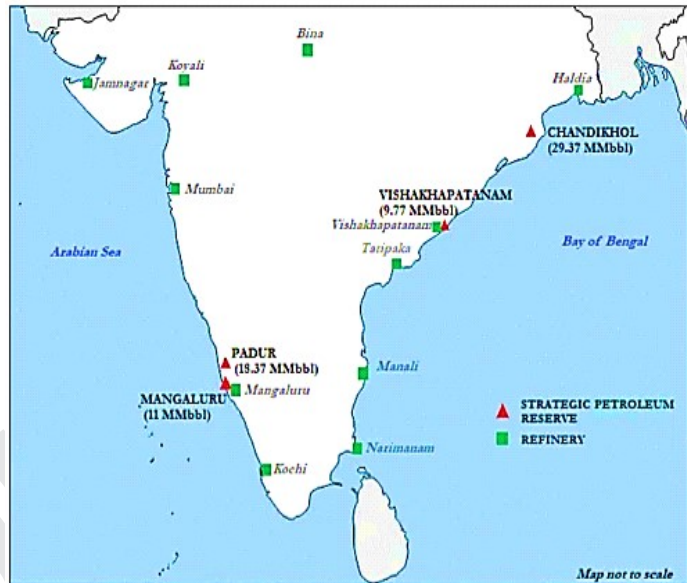
- Mangaluru (Karnataka)

- Padur (Karnataka)

- ◆ Phase-II (approved in 2021, with an additional 6.5 MMT): Future expansion planned at

- Chandikhol (Odisha)

- Padur Phase-II



Operation Sankalp

- ❑ **News:** Indian Naval warships escort Indian-flagged merchant vessels Shivalik, Nanda Devi, and Jag Laadki from the Gulf of Oman.
- ❑ **About Operation Sankalp**
 - Launched: **19 June 2019**
 - **Objective:** Ensure the safe passage of Indian-flag vessels and protect India's maritime trade and energy supply lines by the Indian Navy.

Operation Urja Suraksha

- ❑ Operation Urja Suraksha is the strategic naval mission launched by the **Indian Navy on March 25, 2026**.
- ❑ **Objective:** This is to ensure the safe movement of cargo ships in conflict-affected areas.

- ❑ Under this operation, more than five frontline warships, which include destroyers and frigates, have been deployed in the **Gulf of Oman**.

Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation (RELIEF) scheme

- ❑ **Launched by:** Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM)
- ❑ **Aim:** To support Indian exporters affected by extraordinary freight escalation, heightened insurance premium and war-related export risks arising from disruptions in the Gulf and wider West Asia maritime corridor.
- ❑ **Financial Outlay:** Rs 497 Crores.
- ❑ **Launch Date:** 19 March, 2026
- ❑ **Coverage:** RELIEF covers both eligible past shipments and prospective exports, with a strong focus on MSME support.
- ❑ Intervention will be funded under EPM and reviewed periodically based on geopolitical developments.
- ❑ **Nodal Implementing Agency:** Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd.
- ❑ **Key Features**
 - Up to 100% extra risk coverage for insured consignments during the eligible period (February 14, 2026, to March 15, 2026), and up to 95% support for exporters planning to ship upcoming consignments during the next three months (March 16, 2026, to June 15, 2026).
 - Up to 50% reimbursement (maximum limit Rs. 50 lakh) for eligible non-ECGC-insured MSME exporters.
- ❑ **Export Promotion Mission (EPM)**
 - Approved by the Union Cabinet on November 12, 2025.
 - Announcement: Union Budget 2025-26
 - Implementation period: FY 2025-26 to 2030-31
 - Total outlay: Rs. 25,060 crore
 - Objective: Strengthening India's export competitiveness, especially for MSMEs, first-time exporters, and labour-intensive sectors.



Space Technology

Vikko Sat-1

- ❑ Vikko Sat-1 is a small, student-built **mini satellite/payload weighing 600 grams**.
- ❑ **Developed by:** A group of 11th grade students from the Government Higher Secondary School, Ariyakudi, Sivaganga District, **Tamil Nadu**.
- ❑ **Objective:** To study **fungus spores** in the stratosphere.
- ❑ **Features:**
 - It is equipped with 5 specialized sensors.
 - Launched using a helium balloon into the stratosphere.
 - It reached an altitude of approximately 22km in the stratosphere.

CE20 Cryogenic Engine

- ❑ **News:** ISRO successfully conducted a ground test of the **CE20 cryogenic engine**.
- ❑ **Venue:** ISRO Propulsion Complex, **Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu**.
- ❑ Indigenously developed by **ISRO**.
- ❑ **Objective:** To **enhance the payload capacity** of rockets for future satellite and space exploration missions and to **become self-reliant**.
- ❑ This test demonstrated the engine's **high-thrust capability**.
- ❑ This will improve the performance of India's heavy-lift rocket, the LVM3 launch vehicle.
- ❑ Globally, before India, only 5 other nations possessed this technology (the United States, Russia, Japan, France, and China-making **India the 6th nation**).
- ❑ It has also undergone human-rated tests for India's upcoming **Gaganyaan mission**.

NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation)

- ❑ **News:** Work on the atomic clock of the Indian Regional Navigation System satellite '**IRNSS-1F**' has stopped functioning.
- ❑ **Other name:** Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (**IRNSS**).
- ❑ India's satellite navigation system.
- ❑ It provides navigation requirements for India and its borders within an area up to 1500 km from its boundaries.

3D-Printed Booster Engine Agnite

- ❑ **News:** Chennai-based space technology startup **Agnikul Cosmos** has successfully tested it.
- ❑ **Features:**
 1. It is a one-meter-long engine.
 2. It is the first engine of its kind to be tested with electric motor-driven pumps.
 3. It is made of **Inconel**, a high-performance nickel superalloy.
 4. It is used in extreme temperature aerospace applications.

Defence Technology

Air Droppable Container-150 (ADC-150)

- ❑ **News:** The **DRDO** and the **Indian Navy** conducted four successful in-flight release trials of the indigenously developed 'ADC-150' air-droppable container from a **P-8I maritime patrol aircraft** off the coast of Goa between February 21 and March 1, 2026.
- ❑ **Objective:** To bolster the Indian Navy's **maritime logistics** and **emergency support capabilities**.
- ❑ **Development and Design:** Indigenously developed by **DRDO**.

- ❑ **Nodal Laboratory:** The Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam.
- ❑ This container is capable of delivering payloads of up to 150 kg (essential equipment, medical supplies, logistics, etc.) via air-drop to naval ships in distress at sea.
- ❑ Following successful trials, the ADC-150 system is expected to be inducted into the Indian Navy soon.

INS Tarangini

- ❑ The Indian Navy's **Sail Training Ship**, INS Tarangini, **arrived in Colombo** (Sri Lanka) on March 6, 2026.
- ❑ The ship reached Colombo following a maritime training exercise with the **Sri Lanka Navy's 'Sea Riders'**.
- ❑ The training commenced in **Trincomalee** and involved practical exercises in sail handling and ship maneuvering.
- ❑ During the three-day port visit, joint training sessions, sports competitions, yoga sessions, and awareness activities will be conducted.
- ❑ This deployment reinforces maritime cooperation and training ties between India and Sri Lanka.

Project Vayu Baan

- ❑ This is India's first helicopter-dropped drone project.
- ❑ **Operated by:** Directorate of Aerospace Design (DAD) of the Indian Air Force
- ❑ **Features:**
 1. The drones will be launched from a moving helicopter. After launch, the drones will deploy their wings and autonomously fly towards the target.
 2. **Type:** Hybrid surveillance and loitering munition (Kamikaze Drone)
 3. **Range:** 50-80 km

Aakash 300 3D Printer

- ❑ **News:** Recently delivered to ISRO.
- ❑ It can print rocket parts.
- ❑ It is a high-temperature industrial-grade 3D printer.
- ❑ **Developed by:** Spacetime 4D Printing Solutions startup, Kerala

INS Taragiri

- ❑ **News:** Commissioned into the Indian Navy on 3rd April.
- ❑ **Built by:** Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai under the Project 17A
- ❑ **Features**
 - Made from more than 75% indigenous components
 - It is equipped with advanced stealth features and modern combat systems.
 - This is the fourth stealth frigate under Project 17A.

2. BharatGen

- **Param2 17B** is a Mixture-of-Experts (MoE) - an indigenous AI language model.
- unveiled a 17-billion-parameter multilingual foundational AI model.

3. Gnani.AI

- Introduced **Inya VoiceOS** at the Summit, a 5-billion-parameter, voice-first AI model designed for multilingual speech, enabling seamless and natural voice-to-voice interactions for government, enterprise, and public sector applications.
- Text-to-Speech Model, **Vachana- Gnani.ai**'s voice model supports 12 Indian languages.

M.A.N.A.V.

- During the inaugural address (February 19, 2026), PM Narendra Modi presented the M.A.N.A.V. vision.
- **It is a human-centric AI framework.**
 1. **M- Moral and Ethical Systems:** Artificial Intelligence must be grounded in ethical guidelines.
 - **Guinness World Record achieved:** 250,946 pledges in 24 hours for an AI responsibility campaign - promoting ethical AI as a mass commitment.
 2. **A - Accountable Governance:** Transparent regulations and robust oversight.
 3. **N - National Sovereignty:** Data belongs to its true owner.
 4. **A - Accessible and Inclusive:** AI should serve as a multiplier, not a monopoly.
 5. **V - Valid and Legitimate:** Artificial Intelligence must be legally compliant and verifiable.

India's First Dedicated Quantum and AI University Campus

- **Location:** Amravati, Andhra Pradesh
- **Development:** By the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)
- **Agreement:** An agreement for this project was **signed between NIELIT and the Government of Andhra Pradesh on February 20, 2026.**
- This project is part of the 'Andhra Quantum Mission'.
- **Objective:** To develop Amravati as a global 'Quantum Valley'.

SAHI and BODH Initiatives

- **Launch:** February 17, 2026, by Jagat Prakash Nadda, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare.
- **SAHI (Strategy for AI in Healthcare for India)**
 - A strategy for Artificial Intelligence in healthcare in India.
 - Launched to enable the adoption of AI within India's healthcare system in a safe, ethical, evidence-based, and inclusive manner.
- **BODH**
 - **Full form: Benchmarking Open Data Platform for Health AI (BODH)**

- **Developed by:** IIT Kanpur in collaboration with the **National Health Authority**.
- It is a **digital public good** under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. (ABDM)
- ❑ **Note:** The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has established a regulatory pathway for the regulation of all medical devices, including those enabled by **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**.

GPU Expansion and Compute Capacity

- ❑ The government has announced plans to enhance its AI compute capacity.
- ❑ Under this initiative, 20,000 additional Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) will be added to the existing fleet of 38,000 GPUs.
- ❑ **Target:** The goal is to increase the total number to over **100,000 GPUs by the end of 2026**.

Launch of the IndiaAI Mission 2.0

- ❑ The 2nd phase of the mission was launched during the conference.
- ❑ **Announcement:** Made during the **Union Budget 2026-27**.
- ❑ **Objective:** To expand compute infrastructure, create large datasets, and promote the adoption of AI across various sectors.

VoicERA

- ❑ **MeitY** unveiled VoicERA at this conference.
- ❑ Launched by - **Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD)** under the Digital India Corporation (DIC), MeitY
- ❑ Developed in collaboration with **EkStep Foundation, COSS, IIIT Bengaluru, and AI4Bharat**
- ❑ It is an open-source, end-to-end Voice AI stack supporting real-time speech systems

Agriculture

- ❑ Initiatives like **Kisan E-Mitra (AI chatbot)** help farmers optimise fertiliser use, reducing costs and environmental runoff.
- ❑ **MausamGPT** is an AI-powered chatbot currently under development to provide personalised, conversational climate and weather advisories to farmers in regional languages.

Flood Forecasting

- ❑ Systems like **BrahmaSATARK** use AI-integrated physics modeling to provide impact-based forecasts for the Brahmaputra and Ganga basins.

Gyan Bharatam

- ❑ Gyan Bharatam has demonstrated its mission to digitize over 10 million manuscripts-through extensive public participation-and to preserve India's knowledge heritage via a robust digital repository.

Bharat GI

- ❑ 'Bharat GI' was unveiled at the India AI Impact Summit.
- ❑ It is a national umbrella initiative to showcase India's unique GI products to the globe.
- ❑ Launched by: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Global AI-for-Energy mission

- ❑ **Issued by:** The International Solar Alliance (ISA).

India AI Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM) Report released.

- ❑ **Prepared by:** 1. UNESCO 2. IndiaAI Mission 3. Ikigai Law

AI4Bharat (IIT Madras) developed a benchmark for speech recognition in 15 Indian languages.

Roundtable with CEO

- ❑ PM Narendra Modi held a roundtable with AI and deeptech startup CEOs at Seva Teerth on 20th February 2026.
- ❑ 16 AI and deeptech startups participated in the meeting.

BHASHINI

- ❑ BHASHINI, or the **BHASHa INterface for India**, is an AI-powered language translation platform.
- ❑ It is developed by the MeitY under its **National Language Translation Mission**.

Human Centric AI Session

- ❑ **Organised by:** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- ❑ It outlined a structured **three-tier framework - AI for All, AI for Many and AI for Few**, to build capabilities from foundational literacy to advanced specialisation.

"Resilient AI Challenge": Launched by UNESCO and France.

The AI Impact Startup Book: Launched by MeitY, presenting insights into India's AI and deeptech startup ecosystem.

The AI Impact Expo is one of the largest AI exhibitions globally, with over 850 exhibitors across 10 thematic pavilions.

- ❑ Six global casebooks documenting high-impact AI deployments were released, covering:
 - AI in Health (with WHO)
 - AI in Energy (with IEA)
 - AI in Gender Empowerment (with UN Women)
 - AI in Agriculture (with the Government of Maharashtra, supported by the World Bank)
 - AI in Education (with CSF and EkStep Foundation)
 - AI in Accessibility (with ALIMCO, IIIT-Bangalore and ChangeInkk Foundation)

America-India Connect announced at India AI Summit

- ❑ **News:** Google has announced that it will connect India with the US through new subsea cables as part of a 15 billion dollar investment spread over 5 years at the Summit.

❑ Key Points:

- **Initiative name:** America-India Connect.
- A new international subsea cable gateway will be established at **Visakhapatnam (Vizag)**, India.
- **Three new subsea paths connecting India to Singapore, South Africa, and Australia**
- **Four Strategic Fiber Routes:** New paths linking the US East/West coasts to India via Africa and the South Pacific.
- **West Coast Connectivity:** A direct fiber-optic path between Mumbai and Western Australia.

New Delhi Declaration

- ❑ The AI Impact Summit 2026 concluded with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact.
- ❑ The Declaration has been endorsed by 92 countries and international organisations.
- ❑ Based on the motto:
 - **"Sarvajan Hitaya, sarvajan Sukhaya" (Welfare for all).**
 - India promoted the concept: "AI for All."
 - Major Global deliverables announced
 - Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI
 - Global AI Impact Commons platform a Voluntary initiative.
 - Trusted AI Commons repository
 - International Network of AI for Science Institutions
 - AI Workforce Development Playbook

New Delhi Frontier AI Commitments (2026)

- ❑ Announced by the MeitY Minister Ashwini Vaishnav
- ❑ **2 commitments under this**
 - 1st Commitment (Advancing Understanding of Real-World AI Usage)
 - 2nd Commitment (Strengthening Multilingual and Contextual Evaluations)

Project 'Moonshot'

- ❑ **Launched by:** the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru the Pratiksha Trust.
- ❑ **Objective:**
 - To enhance the capabilities of the human brain by developing a '**brain co-processor**'
 - To create new technologies for the **treatment of neurological disorders** (such as strokes).
- ❑ This project will combine **neuromorphic hardware and Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms** to develop technology capable of improving brain functions or restoring damaged neural functions.

1. Neuromorphic Hardware
 - ◆ This refers to hardware that mimics the structure and functioning of the human brain.
2. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - ◆ AI algorithms will analyse neural signals to help enhance brain functions.

What is a Brain Co-processor?

- ❑ A brain co-processor is an emerging neurotechnology designed to communicate directly with the human brain.

Saksham:

- ❑ It is India's **first AI-driven skill census system**.
- ❑ Launched in the suburban district of Mumbai.
- ❑ **Objective:** Its primary objective is to collect data regarding the educational qualifications, skills, and employability of the youth (aged 18-40) in order to connect them with appropriate training and livelihood opportunities.
- ❑ **Launched by:** Ashish Shelar, Maharashtra's Minister for Information Technology and Cultural Affairs, at R.D. National College in Bandra (West).

National AI Skills Development Initiative

- ❑ This program will be completed in two phases.
- ❑ **Phase 1:** March 23 to June 30, 2026
 - It will provide basic AI learning through Google Career Certificates, such as AI Essentials, Prompting Essentials, Introduction to Generative AI, etc.
- ❑ **Phase 2:** July to December 2026
 - The curriculum will include advanced training on storytelling, YouTube best practices, and the use of AI tools such as Gemini 3, Nano Banana, Veo, and Vertex AI.
- ❑ **Objectives**
 1. To prepare content creators, media professionals, students, and developers for the future
 2. To establish India as a global hub for digital content and innovation.
- ❑ **Announcement:** Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in collaboration with Google and YouTube
- ❑ **Implementation:** Through the Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT)
- ❑ **Target:** "To train 15,000 participants from the creative and media sectors in AI."

Robotics

G-Spider Robot

- ❑ **Location:** The Thiruvananthapuram Corporation has deployed it in the Amayizhanchan Canal, near the railway station complex in Thampanoor.
- ❑ It has been deployed under **the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0**.
- ❑ It is an **AI-driven robotic canal-cleaning system**.
- ❑ **Development:** Genrobotik Innovations, a company based at Technopark.
- ❑ **Technology:** It is based on Cable-Driven Parallel Robotics (CDPR) architecture and is equipped with **AI-enabled vision** and sensor intelligence, enabling it to accurately identify, assess, and remove accumulated waste.

Conferences

Yoga Mahotsav-2026

- ❑ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of AYUSH (which has successfully organized 11 editions of Yoga Day to date).
- ❑ **Inauguration:** Prataprao Jadhav, MoS (Independent Charge) Ministry of AYUSH in New Delhi.
- ❑ This marks the beginning of the **100-day** countdown to **12th International Yoga Day 2026**.
- ❑ On this occasion, 10 Yoga protocols were launched for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and specific target groups.
- ❑ **Objective of Yoga Mahotsav-2026:** To promote a global movement for health, wellness, and peace.

2nd National Additive Manufacturing Symposium (NAMS) 2026

- ❑ **Organised by:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity)
- ❑ **Venue:** SCOPE Convention Centre, New Delhi
- ❑ **Objectives:**
 - To promote Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing).
 - To strengthen the Additive Manufacturing (AM) ecosystem in India.
- ❑ **Highlight:** The report titled "**India and Global AM Ecosystem 2026**" was released during the event.

National Arogya Mela 2026

- ❑ **Organised by:** Ministry of AYUSH and the All India Ayurvedic Congress.
- ❑ **Venue:** Shegaon, Buldhana District (Maharashtra).
- ❑ **Inauguration:** President Droupadi Murmu.
- ❑ **Objectives:** To promote holistic healthcare, preventive medicine, and rural empowerment through AYUSH systems.

Science Communication Workshop - National Science Day 2026

- ❑ **Organised by:** CSIR-NIScPR (National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research) and INSA (Indian National Science Academy).

- ❑ **Venue:** Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ❑ **Occasion:** National Science Day 2026.
- ❑ **Theme:** "Creative Ways of Science Communication."
- ❑ **Inauguration:** Prof. Shekhar C. Mande, President of INSA.
- ❑ **Objectives:** To strengthen science communication skills, disseminate scientific knowledge to the general public in a simple and effective manner, and utilise digital tools and new communication strategies.

First Strategic Communication Conference

- ❑ **Venue:** Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- ❑ **Organised by:** Central Command, Indian Army
- ❑ **Theme:** Institutionalization of Strategic Communication as a Capability for Future Preparedness in the Emerging Communication Domain

National Defence Industry Conference 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Manekshaw Centre, Delhi
- ❑ **Organised by:** Department of Defence Production
- ❑ **Theme:** Advanced Manufacturing Technologies

Earth Hour Awareness Campaign and Exhibition

- ❑ **Event:** Celebrating 20 years of Earth Hour at Scindia School, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- ❑ **Organised by:** World Wide Fund for Nature-India and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- ❑ **Theme:** "Nature Conservators and Ecotourism Guides"

Miscellaneous

Global Achievement in Glaucoma Surgery

- ❑ The **Army Hospital** (Research and Referral) achieved a **world-first milestone in glaucoma surgery**.
- ❑ The surgery involved the simultaneous performance of a cataract operation and glaucoma treatment.
- ❑ **New Technique:**
 - Intra-operative Aqueous Angiography was used.

- This was accompanied by the successful implantation of a Hydrus Microstent.
- Imaging technology from the Heidelberg Retina Angiograph (HRA) was employed.
- **Procedure:**
 - This technique precisely positions the stent within Schlemm's canal.
 - This facilitates improved aqueous flow (fluid drainage) within the eye.
 - This achievement was led by Dr. Aarti Sarin.

Integrated Phygital (Physical + Digital) Service Center (Samriddhi Kendra)

- **Inauguration:** By the Union Minister of Communications, **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, under the '**Samriddh Gram Phygital Services**' initiative.
- **Venue:** Umri Village, Guna District, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Objectives:**
 - Integration of digital connectivity and services in rural areas.
 - Access to high-speed internet via BharatNet.
 - To make all essential services available to villages at a single location.
- **Key Features:**
 - It serves as a 'One-stop' (Single Window) Service Center.
 - A combination of digital and physical services.
 - Availability of urban-quality amenities right within the village.
- Services available at Samriddhi Kendra: Telemedicine, Health ATMs, **affordable medicines** under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, Smart Classes, and **Skill Training** provided by the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT). Additionally, services such as soil testing, agricultural consultation and drone services, e-governance facilities, banking and digital payments, as well as broadband and public

Wi-Fi connectivity, provided through **BharatNet and PM-WANI**, are made available.

IBM's 1st Sangam Infrastructure Innovation Center

- **Venue:** IBM India Systems Development Lab (ISDL) campus, Bengaluru.
- **Objective:** To accelerate AI development at the enterprise level and foster advanced digital infrastructure innovation.
- **Methodology:** IBM's system architects **will collaborate with clients and technology partners** to co-create AI solutions.
- **Focus Areas:** The center will work on hybrid cloud, data architecture, automation, and AI-based technologies.
- **Significance:** This center will help position India as a leading global hub for AI and digital infrastructure innovation.

Sudarshan

- It is an in-house Artificial Intelligence (AI) system developed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- **Function:** Its role is to monitor digital platforms for misleading financial content and illicit investment advice that could misguide investors.

Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO-India)

- **News:** Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has secured a contract from India's Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) for the **construction of the LIGO-India project**, which is set to be established in **Aundha, Hingoli district, Maharashtra**.
- LIGO-India is an interferometer-based gravitational-wave observatory.
- The Government of India granted '**in-principle**' approval for the project in 2016.
- **It will be part of the global gravitational-wave observatory network.**
- **Objectives:**
 - To detect gravitational waves.
 - LIGO detectors measure extremely minute changes occurring in space.
- **Key Partner Institutions:**
 - Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)

- Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- In collaboration with the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF)

Recombinant Cell and Sensor Central Facility

- ❑ **Inauguration:** Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh
- ❑ **Venue:** BRIC - Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB), Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)
- ❑ **Cost:** Rs 60 Crores
- ❑ **A GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) facility** will also be established alongside this, which will boost the development of CAR-T and other cell-based therapies.

30 kW WBG-based Integrated Drive System (IDS)

- ❑ **News:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched a 30 kW Wide Band Gap (WBG)-based Integrated Drive System (IDS) for electric vehicles (EVs) in Chennai on March 2, 2026.
- ❑ **Developed by :** C-DAC Thiruvananthapuram, IIT Madras, and Lucas TVS under the aegis of NAMPET (National Mission on Power Electronics Technology).
- ❑ This system integrates the electric motor and the inverter into a single compact unit, thereby making the EV powertrain more efficient and compact.

FraudPro

- ❑ **News:** It has garnered global recognition at the Mobile World Congress 2026 and has also secured a spot among the **top finalists** for the **Global Mobile (GLOMO) Awards** in the 'Best Network Security and Fraud Prevention' category.
- ❑ **Design and Development:** By **C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics)**, under the Department of Telecommunications.
- ❑ **Objective:** To safeguard telecommunication systems against identity-based fraud.
- ❑ **Features:**
 - It is an advanced AI/ML-driven fraud detection platform.

- This solution employs sophisticated AI and Machine Learning techniques to perform large-scale image de-duplication, detect forged documents, and facilitate re-verification.

Three Small Modular Nuclear Reactors to be Established in India

1. **Bharatiya Small Modular Reactor (BSMR): 200 MW** (Location: Tarapur Atomic Power Station, Maharashtra)
2. **Small Modular Reactor (SMR): 55 MW** (Location: Tarapur Atomic Power Station, Maharashtra)
3. **High-Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor (HTGR): Up to 5 MW** (Location: BARC Vizag, Andhra Pradesh)

Terafab Project

- ❑ **Objective:** To make Elon Musk's companies (Tesla, SpaceX, xAI) self-sufficient in semiconductor and AI chips.
- ❑ **Location:** At Tesla's Gigafactory campus in Texas (USA).
- ❑ **Capacity:** This plant will produce chips with up to 1 terawatt (one trillion watts) of computing power annually.

SATHEE Portal (Self-Assessment, Test and Help for Entrance Exams)

- ❑ **Launched by:** Ministry of Education in collaboration with IIT Kanpur
- ❑ **Features:**
 1. Designed specifically for students who cannot afford expensive coaching, allowing them to prepare at a high level from the comfort of their homes.
 2. The app is available in **Hindi, English**, and 12 other regional languages.
 3. Provides free coaching and study material for competitive exams like JEE, NEET, CUET, SSC, Banking (IBPS), and Railways (RRB).

IOS SAGAR 2.0

- ❑ **Launch:** March 16, 2026
- ❑ **IOS SAGAR:** Indian Ocean Ship Security and Growth for All in the Indian Ocean Ship Region

- ❑ IOS SAGAR is a unique operational engagement program that enables naval personnel from friendly foreign countries to train and sail together on Indian Navy ships.
- ❑ The program will commence with professional training sessions at the Indian Naval Training Centres in Kochi
- ❑ **Participation: 16 Countries**

First Indigenous Floating LiDAR Buoy System

- ❑ **News:** The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) successfully conducted a test off the Muttom coast of Tamil Nadu.
- ❑ **Features:**
 1. This system is based on a floating platform (buoy) and uses LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) technology.
 2. It analyses the Doppler shift of light reflected from airborne dust particles using laser pulses, providing accurate wind speed and direction
 3. It uses advanced motion compensation algorithms to maintain stability in ocean waves, providing accurate data even when the buoy moves.
 4. It derives its power from solar panels and micro wind turbines and transmits real-time data via the INSAT satellite.

Major Exercises

Cold Response 2026

- ❑ A major multinational NATO **winter military exercise led by Norway**.
 - **Venue:** Norway and Finland, March 9 - 19, 2026.
 - **Participants:** Approximately 25,000 troops from 14 countries are participating.

Joint Military Exercise - 11th LAMITIYE 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Seychelles Defence Academy, March 9- 20, 2026.
- ❑ **Participants:** Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and Seychelles.
- ❑ In the Creole language, 'Lamitiye' means 'Friendship'.
- ❑ This exercise has been conducted in Seychelles since 2001.

Sea Dragon 2026

- ❑ It is a multinational exercise conducted by the United States Navy
- ❑ **Location:** Andersen Air Force Base, Guam
- ❑ **Partners:** United States, India, Australia, Japan, New Zealand.

Exercise Amogh Jwala'

- ❑ **Organised by:** Indian Army Southern Command
- ❑ **Venue:** Babina Field Firing Range, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh
- ❑ It was a technology-based, multi-domain military exercise aimed at testing operational preparedness.

IONS Maritime Exercise (IMEX) TTX 2026

- ❑ **Organised by:** Indian Navy
- ❑ **Venue:** Maritime Warfare Centre, Southern Naval Command, Kochi
- ❑ **Partners:** India, Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Kenya, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Timor-Leste

Exercise Kakadu-2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Darwin, Australia.
- ❑ **Organised by:** Royal Australian Navy
- ❑ INS Nilgiri participated on behalf of India.
- ❑ It is a multinational naval exercise.

Important One-Liners

- ❑ **INSV Kaundinya**, a sailing vessel of the Indian Navy built using **traditional techniques**, completed a historic maritime voyage from **Porbandar to Muscat (Oman)** and was flagged in at Mumbai Port on March 2, 2026, by the Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth.
- ❑ A two-day 'Ayur Swadotsav' (**Ayurveda Food Festival**) was organized by the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar.
- ❑ **Finsider**: An invite-only early access program for the **JioFinance app**, launched by Jio Financial Services, wherein select users test new features, provide feedback, and earn rewards.
- ❑ The Kerala Health Department has launched the '**MeHEALTH**' app, which provides information on government health centers, their services, diagnostic test rates, and doctor appointments within a 10-kilometer radius.
- ❑ A leak of the toxic gas '**Oleum**' occurred from a 2,500-liter Oleum tank at a chemical unit located in the Boisar MIDC (Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation) area of Palghar district, Maharashtra.
- ❑ The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has banned the **advertising of GLP-1 drugs** in light of their increasing misuse.
 - GLP-1 (Glucagon-like peptide-1) drugs function similarly to hormones within the body to **regulate blood sugar levels** and aid in weight loss by suppressing appetite.
 - **Originally used for the treatment of Type-2 diabetes**, these drugs have now become a cause for concern due to their growing use for weight reduction.
- ❑ A new particle, **the Xi-cc-plus**, baryon consisting of two heavy 'charm' quarks has been discovered at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) of CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research).
- ❑ Yard laying ceremony of the second and third vessels of the series of six Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs), 16402 and 16403, was held at M/s YMPL, Ratnagiri.
- ❑ A rare hermaphrodite (Dual-Sex) crab, **Vela carli**, has been discovered in the Silent Valley National Park in Kerala.
- ❑ Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India have discovered a **new species of cockroach** in Maharashtra's Pune district, which has been named **Neoloboptera peninsularis**.

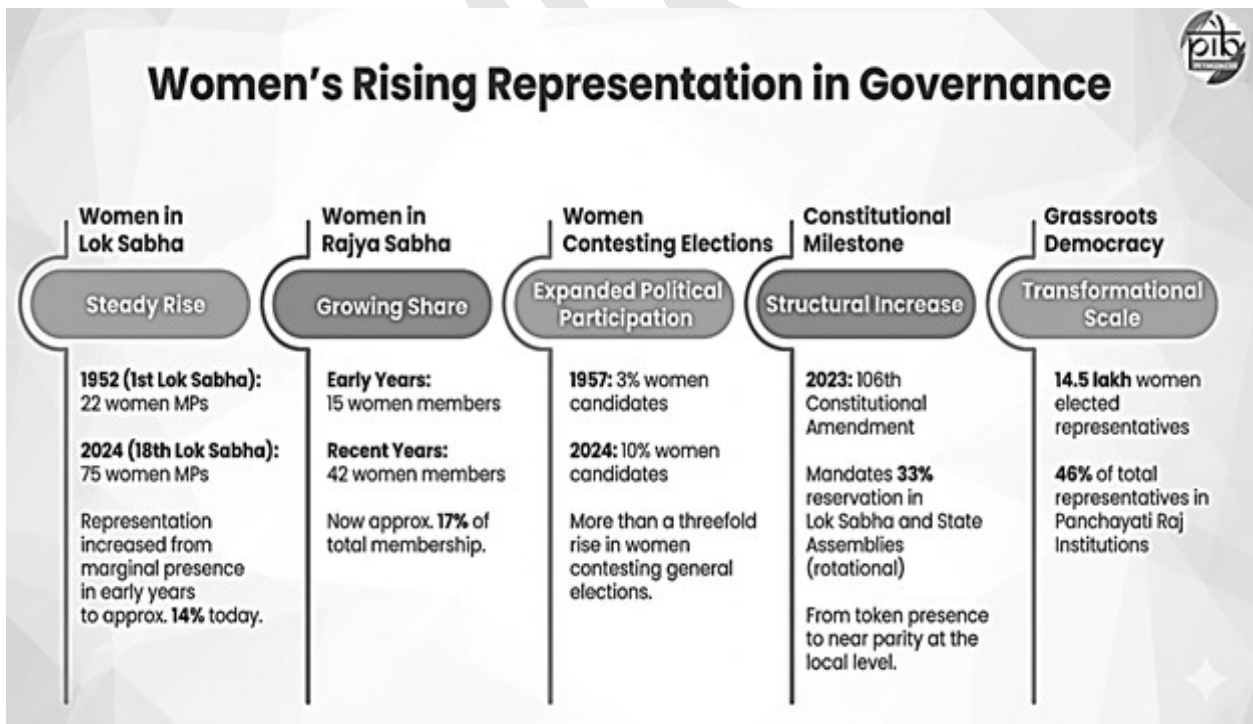
Key Agreements

- ❑ On March 2, 2026, the Ministry of Defence signed a contract with M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt. Ltd., Thane (an MSME shipyard), for the construction of 4 x 500 ton self-propelled fuel barges for the Indian Navy.
- ❑ The Ministry of Defence signed two defence contracts worth Rs 5,083 crore.
 - **ALH Mk-III (MR)**: On March 3, 2026, the Ministry of Defence signed a contract worth Rs 2,901 crore with HAL, Bengaluru, for the procurement of 6 Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH Mk-III - Maritime Role) for the Indian Coast Guard.
 - **VL-SHTIL Missiles**: The Ministry of Defence signed a contract worth Rs 2,182 crore with Russia's Rosoboronexport for the procurement of Vertical Launch SHTIL surface-to-air missiles to enhance the air defence capabilities of Indian Navy warships.

- ❑ The **Delhi government** and **IIT Madras** have signed an agreement for a 6-month pilot project to tackle air pollution in Delhi by testing a **titanium dioxide (TiO₂)-based 'smog-eating' photocatalytic coating** on roads and buildings to reduce harmful gases (such as NOx).
- ❑ The Ministry of Defence signed contracts with JSC Rosoboronexport of Russia for **Tunguska Air Defence Missile System** for the Indian Army worth Rs 445 crore and with Boeing India Defence Private Limited, a wholly-owned Indian subsidiary of Boeing, for depot level inspection of P8I long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft, with 100% indigenous content for the Indian Navy worth Rs 413 crore.

Institutions from Northeast India and Japan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to form an Academic and Research Consortium at

- ❑ **Nodal institutions: IIT Guwahati & Gifu University, Japan.**
- ❑ **Institutions Included: 22 leading institutions from Northeast India**



International Tournaments

Prague International Chess Festival 2026

- ❑ **Masters Winner:** GM Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan)
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Aravindh Chithambaram (Jointly)
- ❑ **Challengers section:** India's Divya Deshmukh defeated Stepan Hrbek (Czech) to secure third place
- ❑ **Venue:** Prague International Chess Festival, Czech Republic

13th World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026

- ❑ **Host:** New Delhi (March 8-13, 2026)
- ❑ **Participation:** 257 athletes from 8 countries competed (India, Russia, Nepal, Bhutan, Hong Kong China, Serbia, Bosnia, and Egypt)
- ❑ **Indian Contingent:** 219 athletes
- ❑ **Medal Tally:**

Place	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	India	75	69	64	208
2	Russia	15	14	6	35
3	Bosnia	1	2	0	3

Asia Cup Archery 2027

- ❑ Delhi (India) will host the 2nd leg of the tournament
- ❑ **1st leg:** Bangkok, Thailand
- ❑ **World Archery Asia president:** Kazi Rajib Uddin Ahmed Chapol (Bangladesh)

14th Winter Paralympics

- ❑ **Host:** Milan and Cortina, Italy (6th-15th March 2026)

- ❑ **Participation:** 665 athletes from 55 countries

- ❑ **Events:** In 6 sports for 79 medals

- ❑ **Motto:** IT's Your Vibe

- ❑ **Mascot:** Milo

- ❑ **Medal Tally:**

Place	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	15	13	16	44
2	USA	13	5	6	24
3	Russia	8	1	3	12

- ❑ **Note:**

- First Paralympics were organized in 1976 hence it was their 50 years anniversary
- Host Italy ended at 4th place
- Brazil and Latvia won their first paralympic medals
- No Indian athlete participated

10th ICC Men's T20 Cricket World Cup 2026

- ❑ **Winner:** India (3rd time) (Captain: Surya Kumar Yadav)
- ❑ **Runner-Up:** New Zealand (Captain: Mitchell Santner)
- ❑ India won by 96 runs
- ❑ **Player of the match:** Jasprit Bumrah
- ❑ **Player of the tournament:** Sanju Samson
- ❑ **Venue:** Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad
- ❑ **Host countries:** India and Sri Lanka
- ❑ **Most Runs:** Sahibzada Farhan (383 runs)

- ❑ **Most Wickets:** Jasprit Bumrah and Varun Chakaravarthy (14 wickets)
- ❑ BCCI announced award of Rs 131 Cr for Men's t20 Cricket World Cup winning team
- ❑ **11th Edition Host:** Australia and New Zealand
- ❑ **12th Edition Host:** England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland

BNP (Banque Nationale de Paris) Paribas Open or Indian Wells 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Indian Wells Tennis Garden, California, United States
- ❑ ATP Masters 1000 and WTA 1000 event
- ❑ **Court:** Outdoor hardcourts
- ❑ **Time:** In march (Annually)
- ❑ Often referred to as the "fifth Grand Slam"

Event Category	Winner(s)	Runner Up(s)
Men's Singles	Jannik Sinner (Italy)	Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
Women's Singles	Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)	Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)
Men's Doubles	Guido Andreozzi & Manuel Guinard	Arthur Rinderknech & Valentin Vacherot
Women's Doubles	Kateřina Siniaková & Taylor Townsend	Anna Danilina & Aleksandra Krunic
Mixed Doubles	Belinda Bencic & Flavio Cobolli	Lloyd Glasspool & Gabriela Dabrowski

Indo-Malaysia Ball Badminton Test Series:

- ❑ **Venue:** Selangor, Malaysia
- ❑ Indian men's and women's teams won gold medals
- ❑ **3 players from Rajasthan:**
 - o Hemlata Bakolia
 - o Ganesh Sharma
 - o Chirag Solanki

1. Kazkhashan
2. India
3. ANI (Individual Neutral Athlete)

- ❑ **India's Performance:** India won total 10 medals- 2 G, 4 S, 4 B (most medals)

o Medal Winners:

- ◆ **Compound Men:** Uday Kamboj (G), Prathamesh Javkar (S), Rajat Chauhan (B)

- ◆ **Compound Women:** Tejal Salve (B)

- ◆ **Recurve Women:** Riddhi (S)

- ◆ **Compound Team (Women):** Silver

- ◆ **Compound Team (Men):** Bronze

- ◆ **Compound Mixed Team:** Gold (Chikitha Taniparthy and Rajat Chauhan)

- ◆ **Recurve Men Team:** Silver

- ◆ **Recurve Women Team:** Bronze

Note: Rajat Chauhan (DSP in Rajasthan Police) performed exceptionally good and won 1 Gold and 2 Bronze medals.

JSW Indian Open Women's Singles (Squash)

- ❑ **Winner:** Anahat Singh
- ❑ **Runner-Up:** Hana Moataz (Egypt)
- ❑ **Venue:** CCI Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai, India
- ❑ It is PSA (Professional Squash Association) Copper-level event

2026 Asia Archery World Cup Ranking Tournament (Stage I)

- ❑ **Venue:** Bangkok, Thailand (21-28 March 2026)
- ❑ Featured 194 archers from 19 countries
- ❑ **Medal Standings-**

National and Regional Tournaments

91st Edition of Ranji Trophy

- ❑ **Winner:** Jammu and Kashmir (1st title in 67 years since debut)
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Karnataka
- ❑ **Venue:** Hubballi, Karnataka
- ❑ **Result:** J&K won via first-innings lead
- ❑ **Player of the Tournament:** Auqib Nabi (J&K)
- ❑ **Most runs:** Ravichandran Smaran (Karnataka)
- ❑ **Most Wickets:** Auqib Nabi (J&K)
- ❑ **Total Participants:** 38 teams (32 in the Elite category and 6 in the Plate category)
- ❑ **Most successful Team:** Mumbai (42 times)

20th All India Hanuman Singh Women's Handball Championship

- ❑ **Winner:** LPU-Phagwara
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Northern Railway
- ❑ **Rajasthan:** 3rd Place
- ❑ **Venue:** SMS Stadium, Jaipur
- ❑ **Best Player of the Tournament:** Bhavna Sharma (awarded with the Hanuman Singh Trophy and Rs. 5,100)
- ❑ **Best Goalkeeper:** Pooja Jat (Rajasthan) - Awarded Rs. 2,100
- ❑ **Best Left Wing:** Rukmani Bithu (Rajasthan) - Awarded Rs. 2,100
- ❑ **Indian Women's Handball Team Coach:** Manisha Rathore (Honoured)

47th All India Power Powerlifting and Bodybuilding Competition

- ❑ **Organized by:** Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam in Kota (March 13-15, 2026)

❑ Powerlifting Competition

- **First Place:** The powerlifting team of Rajasthan's power corporations won the team championship with 6 medals
- **Second Place:** Madhya Pradesh, **Third Place:** Maharashtra
- **Rajasthan:** Won 2 gold, 1 silver, and 3 bronze in the team championship.
 - ◆ **2 gold:** Harish Meena and Ajit Singh
 - ◆ **1 silver:** Roop Singh Yadav
 - ◆ **3 bronze:** Rameshwar Teli, Naresh Goyal, Shakir Hussain

❑ Bodybuilding Competition

- First place - Maharashtra, second place - Haryana, third place - Punjab

Padmini Devi International Shield (Polo)

- ❑ **Winner:** Jaipur Polo Team
- ❑ **Runner-up:** France

Jaipur Polo Season 2026

- ❑ Jaipur team won the "Gold Vase Cup", "Shree Cement Cup", and "RCP Cup"

Indian Open Polo Championship 2026

- ❑ **Winners:** Jaipur Optimus Achievers
- ❑ **Runner-up:** Jindal Panthers
- ❑ **Venue:** Jaipur Polo Ground, New Delhi

46th Sub-Junior National Boys and Girls Volleyball Championship

- ❑ **Venue:** West Bengal
- ❑ **Boys Category**
 - Winner: Rajasthan
 - Runner-up: Uttarakhand
- ❑ **Girls Category**
 - Winner: Rajasthan
 - Runner-up: Haryana

National Deaf Athletics Championship

- ❑ 2 events within it:

- ❑ 10th National Deaf Sub-Junior, Junior Sports Championship
- ❑ 27th National Deaf Senior Sports Championship
- ❑ **Venue:** Gujarat University Sports Ground, Ahmedabad
- ❑ **Disciplines:** Athletics and Swimming
- ❑ **Organizer:** All India Sports Council of the Deaf
- ❑ Rajasthan players won **26 medals- 6 Gold, 12 Silver, 8 Bronze**
- ❑ **6 Gold medals:**

Name	Event
Sandeep Kumar	Hammer Throw
Deven Soni	1500 meter
Virendra Singh	20 Km Walk
Aneesh	Javelin Throw
Vivek Kumar	10,000 meter
Annu Yadav	Shot Put

National Para Fencing Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** SMS stadium indoor hall (24-27 March)
- ❑ **Medal Standings**
 1. Odisha (10 gold medals)
 2. Haryana (8 gold medals)
- ❑ Rajasthan's **Komal Gurjar-** won 2 Bronze medals in individual and team competitions

1st Junior & Senior National Beach Wushu Championship 2026

- ❑ **Venue:** Blue flag beach, Kovalam, Chennai (20-23 March 2026)
- ❑ **Rajasthan's Players**
 1. **Kishan Kachhawa-** Silver medal- Taijiquan event
 2. **Riddhi Parekh-** Bronze medal- Taijijian event
 3. **Riddhi Parekh and Abhigya Sharma-** Bronze medal- Taijiquan pair event
- ❑ **Coach- Rajesh Kumar Tailor**

Awards and Honours

Sunder Kanti Joshi Award (Rajasthan)

- ❑ **Objective:** To promote women's cricket in Rajasthan
- ❑ **Organizer:** Radha Niwas Cricket Club
- ❑ **Winners:**

Name and District	Category	Prize
Dimple Kanwar (Sikar)	Senior	₹ 21000
Tanika Sharma (Dausa)	Junior	₹ 15000
Rochelle Yadav (Ajmer)	Sub-Junior	₹ 11000

- ❑ Asha Shrivastav won the Lifetime Achievement Award. She has represented Rajasthan at the national level.

Government Initiatives

ASMITA: Special Edition of A National wide Women's Athletics League

- ❑ **Implemented By:** Union Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry + MY Bharat + Khelo India Centres (KICs)+ SAI ecosystem + NCOEs + State & District Sports Associations + District Youth Officers (DYOs)
- ❑ **Full Form:** "Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action"
- ❑ **Objective:** Empower female athletes across the country by providing them a competitive platform at the grassroots level
- ❑ Aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to promote and strengthen a strong sports culture in the coming years
- ❑ Competitions will be organised for girls in three age categories including Under 13, 13 to 18 years and 18 years and above. The Athletics events will include 100 metres, 200 metres and 400 metres races.
- ❑ **Date:** 8th March (To commemorate women's day)
- ❑ **Started:** In 2021; More than 2600 such leagues have been conducted across 34 sports disciplines in over 550 districts and 700 cities in the country.
- ❑ **Participants (Till Now):** 3,00,000

"MY Bharat Yuva Kargil" Sports Event

- ❑ **Venue:** Kargil (Ladakh)
- ❑ **Objective:**
 - To encourage women's participation in sports and promote the message of women's empowerment through sports
 - To mark International Women's Day in Kargil
- ❑ **Organizers:** District Youth Services and Sports Office, Kargil under Government of India's ASMITA initiative
- ❑ **Chief Guest:** Ishtiyaq Ahmad Kacho (Additional Superintendent of Police Kargil)
- ❑ **Guest of Honour:** Dr. Rinchen Dolkar (Scientist at Agriculture University Ladakh)

1st Khelo India Tribal Games to be Conducted

- ❑ **Date:** 25 March-6 April
- ❑ **Host:** 3 cities in Chhattisgarh - Raipur, Jagdalpur and Sarguja
- ❑ **7 Medal Sports:** athletics, football, hockey, weightlifting, archery, swimming and wrestling
- ❑ **2 demonstration sports:** mallakhamb and Kabaddi
- ❑ **Managed by:** MoYA&S, SAI, Indian Olympic Association, National Sports Federations, Chhattisgarh state organising committee
- ❑ **Mascot:** Morveer ("Mor"- mine and "Veer"- valour in Chattisgarhi)- Represents the spirit, pride and identity of India's tribal communities



- ❑ **Participant:** 6,000 participants, including 2,300 athletes

Cycling League of India logo Unveiled

- ❑ **World's first** professional franchise based road cycling league will be conducted
- ❑ Builds on the momentum created by recent professional cycling events like Pune Grand Tour, Fit India Sundays on Cycle (started in 2024) etc.
- ❑ **Teams: 8 teams, 10 membered each-** Will include 2 international riders, bringing global expertise and competitiveness, along with 2 junior cyclists aimed at nurturing emerging Indian talent and ensuring long term sustainability of the sport.

Sports and Fitness for All: Rajasthan Government

- ❑ Over 7 million athletes will participate in 46,000 villages
- ❑ **8 sports at the rural level:** Kabaddi, football, volleyball, wrestling, tug-of-war, kho-kho, satoliya, athletics
- ❑ **8 sports at the urban level:** Kabaddi, football, volleyball, basketball, judo, tug-of-war, satoliya, athletics
- ❑ **2 additional sports at the district level:** archery and shooting
- ❑ **12 sports at the state level:** Kabaddi, football, archery, shooting, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, judo, tug-of-war, kho-kho, satoliya, athletics

One Liners

- ❑ What is India's target for export of sports goods by 2036? **US\$8.1 billion**
- ❑ Where and when will "Fit India Carnival 2.0" be held?
JLN Stadium, Delhi (8-10th March)
- ❑ With which country India has marked 100 years of sporting ties in 2026?
New Zealand (1st- 1926 Indian Army hockey tour to New Zealand)
- ❑ Where will the World Indoor Athletics Championship, 2028 be held?

- Kalinga Stadium Complex, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) in India**
- ❑ Where has the National Indoor Athletics Championship, 2028 been held?
Kalinga Stadium Complex, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) in India
- ❑ Who bought Royal Challengers Bangalore-IPL & WPL teams?
A consortium led by Aditya Birla Group bought it from United Spirits Limited for Rs.16,706 Crore
- ❑ Who bought Rajasthan Royals IPL team?
A consortium led by Kal Somani bought it for Rs. 15300 Crore
- ❑ What is the budget of "Khelo India Tribal Games 2026"?
Rs. 32 Crore
- ❑ Who will host "International half Marathon"?
Jammu
- ❑ Where will "Rajasthan Junior State level Wushu Championship be held"?
Dr. Karni Singh Stadium, Bikaner
- ❑ Which country won gold in Asian Lacrosse Games 2026 held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1-5 Feb)
India (both the men's and women's events)

Famous personalities

Ajeet Singh Rathore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Became president of the Rajasthan Basketball Association
Dileep Singh (DSP in Rajasthan Police)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Won Silver medal in "Indian Police Tennis Competition"
Manini Kaushik (shooting), Divyakriti Singh (equestrian), Sachin (kabaddi), Ravi Bishnoi (cricket)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed to the post of DSP in the police department under the out-of-turn policy
Aryan Yadav (Jaipur)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gold medal in boxing at the All India Inter-University Games held at Kurukshetra University
Lucky Agarwal and Nikita Charya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> won silver (Deaf category) and bronze (Senior women category) respectively in the 10m Air Pistol event at the India Open Shooting Championship held in Bhopal
Naresh Kumar, Jaipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Won a bronze medal in the shot put event at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 in New Delhi
Krishna Nagar, Aryan Sharma, Koshika Deora, Cheshtha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Won two golds, one gold and one bronze each respectively, at the 7th Senior National Para-Badminton Championship
Gurjant Singh (Punjab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arjun awardee (2021) announced his retirement Played 130 matches for India as a "forward" in Indian men's hockey team. He scored 33 goals in his career. Was part of the bronze medal-winning teams at both Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024. He has the record of fastest goal by an Indian- 13 seconds

Kipa Mero (Arunachal Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold Medal in 24th National Para Athletics Championships 2026 held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha in in Women's Javelin Throw F12 event • Throw: 23.76 meter- new national record
Shubman Gill (Punjab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Named "BCCI cricketer of the year"
Mayank Chakraborty (Assam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Became 94th Grandmaster of India at the 8th Grand Master Tournament held in Stockholm, Sweden • First-ever Grandmaster from Assam and the North East region
Kushal Das	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former General Secretary of All India Football Federation from 2010 to 2022 • Recently Passed Away
Naib Subedar Gulvir Singh (UP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won Bronze medal at "New York City Half Marathon" • Completed the 21.0975 km distance in less than 60 minutes
Lokesh Satyanathan (Karnataka)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • won gold at the NCAA Indoor Championships in the United States with a record jump of 8.21m
Anant Rana (Jamshedpur, Jharkhand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed "Full Ironman New Zealand" triathlon in 11h 50m (made history) held in Taupo • 3.8 km swimming, 180 km cycling and 42 km marathon run were included
Cameron McEvoy (Australia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olympic and world champion swimmer sets new 50m freestyle world record 20.88 seconds beating 20.91 second record of César Cielo (Brazil)
Armand Duplantis (Sweden)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Became 1st male athlete to win "World Indoor Pole Vault" title for the 4th time consecutively.
Cameron Young (American Golfer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won "The Players Championship 2026" held in Florida.
Lionel Messi (Argentina)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd men footballer to score 900 goals • 1st: Critiano Ronaldo
Kimi Antonelli (Italy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Became the second-youngest driver to win an F1 race at the Chinese Grand Prix • Age: 19 years, 6 months, 18 days • Youngest driver ever to win F1: Max Verstappen



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Important Days

Date	Day	Theme/ Details
3 March	World Wildlife Day	Theme: Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods
4 March	National Safety Day	Theme: Engage, Educate and Empower people to Enhance Safety
8 March	International Women's Day	Theme by UN: Rights, Justice, Action For All Women and Girls
12 March	World Kidney Day	Theme: Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet
13 March	World Sleep Day	Theme: Sleep Well, Live Better
15 March	World Consumer Rights Day	Theme: Safe Products, Confident Consumers
20 March	International Day of Happiness	Theme: Caring and Sharing
20 March	World Oral Health Day	Theme: A Happy Mouth is a Happy Life
20 March	World Sparrow Day	Theme: Save Sparrows, Save the Environment and I Love Sparrows
21 March	International Nowruz Day	Theme: Peace, solidarity, renewal, and cultural diversity
21 March	World Poetry Day	UNESCO first declared March 21 as World Poetry Day in 1999, during its 30th General Conference in Paris
21 March	World Puppetry Day	It has been celebrated by the UNIMA NGO (Union Internationale de la Marionnette - International Puppetry Association) since 2003
21 March	International day of Forests	Theme: Forests and Economies
22 March	World Water Day	Theme: Gender and Water
23 March	World Meteorological Day	Theme: Observing Today, Protecting Tomorrow.
23 March	Shaheed Diwas 2026	To commemorate the martyrdom of Bhagat singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev
24 March	World TB Day	Theme: "Yes! We Can End TB: Led by countries, powered by people"
27 March	World Theater Day	

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Important Books

Book	Author	Details
The first time I Saw Him	Laura Dave	Known for suspense and emotional depth
Gender Your Guide	Lee Airton	About the Gender Spectrum
Boom Town	Sam Anderson	About Oklahoma City of USA
There is always this year	Haneef Abdur Raheem	Based on Basketball
Sansadiya sanskriti ka utkarsh: Navacharon ke 2 varsh	Vasudev Devnani	On the innovations, reforms and strengthening of parliamentary traditions undertaken in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly in the last 2 years
Stree Ki Divyata	Gulab Kothari	-
Criminal Law Judgements, 2024-25	Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma	Summary of 350 important decisions of the Supreme Court and Rajasthan High Court
Mera Pyar Mujhe Lauta Do: Sajjan Ki Dastaan	Rajendra Bodha	Biography of Jodhpur-born Indian cinema actor Sajjan Lal Purohit
The Sense of Wonder	Matthew Salesses	On sports, racial identity, and pop culture
Keeper of Lost Children	Sadeqa Johnson	A novel about children born to German mothers and African-American military fathers during World War II
Bharkhama	Dr. Jitendra Kumar Soni	About rural life and its struggles, and cultural values have even been made into a film.
An Accidental Lawyer	K.K. Venugopal and Suhasini Sen	-
Karuna: The Power of Compassion	Kailash satyarthi	He is a Nobel laureate. The book was launched by CJI J Suryakant and Kiran Bedi.
Hara Parbati Katha	Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay	Bengali Novel, Honored with Saraswati Samman 2025.
Unlikely paradise	Sanjay Raut	-

Topper's Talk

Payal Dadhich



Rank - 34
(RAS-2023)

- Father - Mr. Subhash Chandra Sharma
Mother - Mrs. Sunita Sharma
10th - St. Stephen Senior Secondary School, Kishangarh (86%)
12th - Government Girls' Senior Secondary School, Kishangarh (82%)
Graduation - Sophia Girls' College, Ajmer (81%)

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

Payal Dadhich: Thank you very much.

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

Payal Dadhich: I have been associated with the field of education right from the very beginning. Both my mother and father are government teachers. Observing my keen interest in studies since childhood, they encouraged me to pursue my ambitions. Additionally, my younger brother has always boosted my morale. By supporting me in every decision I made in life and by placing their trust in me, my parents—along with my life partner—helped shape me into a strong and resilient individual. In my life partner, I found a friend who has always stood by my side. My family and all my other well-wishers provided me with the right guidance, constantly inspiring me never to give up; this is the reason I was able to achieve this success.

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

Payal Dadhich: To begin with, I started my preparation in 2019, which was a combined (foundation) preparation covering both the Preliminary and Main examinations. This effort earned me Rank 660 in the RAS-2021 examination, and in my second attempt—RAS-2023—I secured Rank 34. This entire journey spanned a period of 6 to 7 years; however, during this time, I also cleared other competitive examinations and took up a position as a teacher.

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

Payal Dadhich: Since I had enrolled in the Foundation course at SBA, my primary focus remained on my "class notes." As time progressed and in accordance with the syllabus, I continued to add relevant value to these notes, but they remained the fundamental basis of my preparation. Furthermore, I strengthened my conceptual understanding of the subjects by consulting authentic textbooks and consistently practiced writing test papers to refine my answer-writing skills.

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?

Payal Dadhich: It was when I observed the significant contribution that administrative officers make to society that I decided to aspire to become an RAS officer. I shared this with my parents and my grandfather, and from that very moment, this dream ceased to be solely mine; it became a dream shared by all of us. This collective ownership is what continued to inspire me the most.

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

Payal Dadhich: Monthly magazines played a significant role across all three stages of the RAS examination. For the Preliminary examination, I studied magazines covering a period of 9 to 10 months. Furthermore, for the Main examination, I derived immense benefit from both the monthly magazines and the 'Main Exam Magnifier' series;

collectively, these resources proved invaluable during the Interview stage as well. In addition to covering a wide spectrum of potential questions, these magazines incorporate concise and substantive news analysis.

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?

Payal Dadhich: Yes, it is certainly possible to achieve success through self-study. However, I decided to join a coaching institute with the specific objectives of saving time and providing a structured direction to my efforts.

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

Payal Dadhich: In my opinion, a coaching institute should align its curriculum with the specific pattern prescribed by the RPSC (Rajasthan Public Service Commission) and, crucially, serve to motivate the student at every step of their journey. I enrolled in the offline **Foundation Batch (PCM-1) at Springboard Academy.**

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

Payal Dadhich: My medium of instruction was Hindi. However, I firmly believe that one's choice of language medium does not, in itself, determine success. It serves merely as a vehicle—a medium—through which you convey your personality and thoughts to others.

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

Payal Dadhich: Writing style plays a pivotal role in the Main Examination. From the very inception of my preparation, I consistently attempted mock test papers; to further enhance my writing speed, I would sometimes attempt two full tests in a single day. Additionally, I dedicated 30 minutes every day specifically to writing practice.

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

Payal Dadhich: I did not create separate short notes myself; instead, I used to underline key points in my regular notes and would read only those sections during revision. This served the same purpose as having short notes.

Question: Please describe the role of mock interviews, and what was your experience like during your actual interview at the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC)?

Payal Dadhich: Mock interviews serve as a preparatory exercise to ensure a strong performance during the final interview at the RPSC. With their assistance, I was able to secure 56 marks in the RAS-2023 examination.

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

Payal Dadhich: Teachers are the individuals who illuminate a student's life. My parents were my first teachers in life, and subsequently, all the teachers I encountered at the school level encouraged and supported me. Furthermore, all the faculty members at Springboard Academy made an immense contribution to my success.

Question: What role did your friends play during your preparation phase?

Payal Dadhich: During the RAS-2021 cycle, I did not have a wide social circle; however, during RAS-2023, I found a true friend who helped me identify my shortcomings and stood by me in every aspect of my life. A true friend acts as a pillar of trust—someone who never lets you break.

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

Payal Dadhich: A "Plan B" is indeed an alternative; however, rather than viewing it merely as a backup option, you should perceive it as an ally that supports you in achieving your primary resolve. I, too, completed my B.Ed. and worked as a teacher, yet my ultimate goal remained becoming an RAS officer.

Question: As an officer, what changes would you strive to bring about?

Payal Dadhich: As an officer, I will ensure that the benefits of all government welfare schemes reach the very last person in society.

Question: What is the mantra behind your success?

Payal Dadhich: The 3 Ps—Patience, Practice, and Prayer.

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

Payal Dadhich: I kept myself away from all distractions—such as WhatsApp, etc.—and devoted my entire time to my studies and to self-improvement. Furthermore, whenever I felt stressed, I spent time with my family.

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

Payal Dadhich: Thank you very much.