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Contact Info: +91 9074564415

Mail: mail@jayakrishnanramachandran.inWebsite: www.jayakrishnanramachandran.in**Disclaimer**

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Jyakrishnan Ramachandran





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Mar-2026

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Business News, Financial News, Economy News, Politics News, India News, Breaking News, Indian Economy, International News, Sports News, and many more topics covered.....



Important Personalities

- Who became the first woman to lead the Church of England in 2026? **Dame Sarah Mullally.**
- Who assumed charge as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of the Eastern Air Command in February 2026? **Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia.**
- Who became Chief Minister of Manipur after the revocation of President's Rule? **Yumnam Khemchand Singh.**
- Who became the first female member from Iran elected to the International Olympic Committee (IOC)? **Soraya Aghaei Hajiagha.**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Toyota? **Kenta Kon.**
- Who became Japan's first woman Prime Minister after the snap election? **Sanae Takaichi.**
- Diego De Giorgi is set to join which global investment firm after leaving Standard Chartered? **Apollo Global Management.**
- Who will take over as the new Chief Commercial Officer of Akasa Air? **Anand Srinivasan.**
- Who became the new commander of CTF-154 from the Indian Navy? **Commodore Milind M. Mokashi.**
- Which country's parliament approved a new cabinet led by Albin Kurti? **Kosovo.**
- Who is the Prime Minister leading the newly approved government in Kosovo? **Albin Kurti.**
- Who has been appointed as New Zealand's Resident Defence Advisor to India? — **Commodore Andy Dowling.**
- Which party won the 2026 general election in Bangladesh? **The Bangladesh Nationalist Party.**
- Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand? **Puneet Agrawal**
- Who won the 2026 general election in Barbados? **Mia Mottley.**
- Which party secured victory in the 2026 Barbados election? **The Barbados Labour Party.**
- Who has been reappointed as the Prime Minister of Japan after the election? **Sanae Takaichi.**
- Who has been appointed as the new head of Xbox and Microsoft Gaming? **Asha Sharma.**
- Which company appointed Asha Sharma to lead its gaming division? **Microsoft.**
- Who has been appointed as the first woman Director (Commercial) of PSPCL? **Harsharan Kaur Trehan.**
- Who was re-elected as General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea in 2026? **Kim Jong Un.**
- Who has been appointed as MD & CEO designate of the Mahindra–Manulife life insurance JV? **Suresh Agarwal.**
- Who has become the youngest Prime Minister of the Netherlands? **Rob Jetten**
- Name the Veteran journalist and broadcaster widely known as the "voice of India", who passed away recently? **Mark Tully**
- Name the Former President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), who passed away recently? **Inderjit Singh Bindra**
- Who was Michael Nobbs? **Former India men's hockey coach and Australian hockey great**
- Which Canadian-American actor and comedian recently passed away? **Catherine O'Hara.**
- Which American actor, best known for his role in Dawson's Creek, died at age 48 in 2026? **James Van Der Beek.**
- Sarla Maheshwari, who passed away in 2026, was associated with which public broadcaster? **Doordarshan.**
- Who was popularly known as the "Royal Photographer" of the UAE who passed away in February 2026? **Ramesh Shukla.**
- Frederick Wiseman, who recently passed away, received which prestigious award in 2016 for his lifetime contribution to cinema? **Honorary Academy Award (Oscar).**
- Name an American civil rights activist, Baptist minister, and political leader, who passed away recently? **Jesse Jackson**
- Name the former Union Railway Minister and Rajya Sabha MP Mukul Roy, who passed away recently, was popularly known by what title in West Bengal politics? **"Chanakya of Bengal politics"**
- What was the real name of the Mexican drug lord known as El Mencho? **Nemesio Oseguera Cervantes.**
- Who recently stepped down as President of the Olympic Council of Asia? **Randhir Singh.**
- Who was suspended by TTFI recently? **Kamlesh Mehta**
- Which senior Chinese military leader was purged recently? **General Zhang Youxia.**
- Who is stepping down as Toyota's CEO? **Koji Sato.**

National & International News

- Which body notified the 2026 regulations to curb caste bias in Indian higher education? **UGC**
- Which Act governs data privacy aligned with the new Aadhaar app? **Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act.**
- Under which constitutional article did the Uttarakhand Governor promulgate the UCC Amendment Ordinance, 2026? **Article 213 of the Indian Constitution**
- What was the main objective of the UGC Equity Regulations 2026? **To address discrimination in higher education institutions**
- Why were the UGC Equity Regulations 2026 challenged? **Due to vague definitions and fear of misuse**
- Which two wetlands were added to India's Ramsar Sites list in January 2026? **Patna Bird Sanctuary (Uttar Pradesh) and Chhari-Dhand (Gujarat).**



01 Feb

EDITION: 49th

Indian Coast Guard Day

Importance

To mark the inception of Interim Indian Coast guard on 1 February 1977 to prevent sea-borne smuggling of goods.

This day is an opportune moment to reaffirm their resolute commitment and selfless service for safeguarding maritime interests of our nation. The ICG in its present shape was formally inaugurated on 18th August 1978.

Fact

India's 7516.60 kilometer coastline encompasses various states and some of the busiest trade routes kilometer coastline.

Note

- There are 9 Indian states and 4 Union Territories situated on the coast.
- These include Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal.

- Which pension system will be replaced in Kerala? **National Pension System (NPS)**
- What is the name of the new pension scheme announced by Kerala? **Assured Pension Scheme**
- Which body notified the UGC Promotion of Equity Regulations 2026? **University Grants Commission (UGC)**
- Which earlier regulations were to be replaced by the 2026 UGC rules? **UGC Equity Regulations, 2012**
- Which new rules has the Government of India notified for air travellers? **Baggage Rules, 2026 and Customs Baggage (Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2026.**
- What is the main aim of the Baggage Rules, 2026? **To simplify and speed up customs baggage clearance.**
- Recently which company was granted Miniratna Category-I status by the Defence Ministry? **Yantra India Limited (YIL).**
- What type of company is Yantra India Limited? **A Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU).**
- What did the Supreme Court direct regarding the Pennaiyar river dispute? **It directed the Centre to set up a tribunal within one month.**
- Which two states are involved in the Pennaiyar river water dispute? **Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.**
- From which state does the Pennaiyar river originate? **Karnataka.**
- Which company commissioned the 198 MW wind power project in Tamil Nadu? **Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL)**
- What is the total capacity of the commissioned wind project by Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL) in Tamil Nadu? **198 megawatts (MW).**
- What is the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)? **A banned militant group operating mainly in Pakistan's Balochistan province.**
- Which state government announced to preserve the heritage of the Darrang kings? **Assam Government.**
- Which Indian mountaineer from Arunachal Pradesh summited Mount Aconcagua recently? **Kabak Yano.**

- What is the name of the national container shipping line proposed by the Government of India? **Bharat Container Shipping Line (BCSL).**
- Paradip Port Authority, recently won the First Prize at the Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025, is located in which Indian state? **Odisha.**
- Which constitutional provision was used to revoke President's Rule in Manipur? **Clause (2) of Article 356 of the Constitution of India.**
- Under which Act is the India's first cooperative-led ride-hailing platform Bharat Taxi cooperative registered? **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.**
- Which organisation operates 'Bharat Taxi' — India's First Cooperative Ride-Hailing Service? **Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited.**
- Which court delivered the ruling on a granddaughter's property rights? **Delhi High Court.**
- Which section of the Hindu Succession Act gives women full ownership of property? **Section 14(1).**
- Which section of the Hindu Succession Act allows restriction on ownership through gift or will? **Section 14(2).**
- Which authority released India's first Disaster Victim Identification guidelines? **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).**
- In which situations are DVI guidelines mainly used? **Mass fatality disasters.**
- What registry is suggested for faster dental identification? **National Dental Data Registry.**
- In which House of Parliament were Private Members' Legislative Bills recently discussed? **Rajya Sabha.**
- What is a Private Member's Bill? **A bill introduced by an MP who is not a minister.**
- Which port became the first in India to implement an advanced anti-drone security system? **V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority.**
- In which state is V.O. Chidambaranar Port located? **Tamil Nadu.**
- Which export promotion body welcomed the India-US Interim Trade Agreement? **Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL).**
- Which Indian regulator granted approval for Imfinzi? **CDSO.**
- ADB recently approved a loan of USD 182 million for flood and riverbank erosion management in which Indian state? **Assam**
- Which company received CDSO approval for Durvalumab in India? **AstraZeneca Pharma India Ltd.**
- Under which law does the concept of joint family and coparcenary exist in India? **Hindu inheritance law.**
- How is property ownership treated under Muslim personal law? **Property is individually owned and inheritance arises only after death.**

02 Feb



EDITION: 29th
INCEPTION: 1997

World Wetlands Day

2026 THEME
Wetlands and traditional knowledge:
Celebrating cultural heritage

Importance

To mark the date of the adoption of Ramsar Convention on wetland on February 02, 1971, in the city of Ramsar, Iran.

It aims at drawing attention to the relevance of promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in such an important ecosystem.

Fact

India currently has 85 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites), with a surface area of 1,056,871 hectares.

Note

Largest wetland of India is Sunderban as it covers an area of 4230 sq. km.

- When do inheritance rights arise under Muslim law? **Only after the death of the property owner.**
- The Industrial Relations Code, 2020 replaced which three pre-independence and post-independence labour laws? **Trade Unions Act, 1926; Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946; Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.**
- Under which section of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 are repeal and savings provisions mentioned? **Section 104.**
- According to the new guidelines by the Ministry of Home Affairs, when Vande Mataram and the National Anthem are performed together, which is to be rendered first? **Vande Mataram.**

- Where has India's first musical road been inaugurated? **Mumbai's Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Coastal Road.**
- Which body approved the ₹3.25 lakh crore deal for procurement of 114 Rafale fighter jets in 2026? **The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC).**
- What is the name of the new complex that will house the PMO under the Central Vista project? **Seva Teerth.**
- Which community recently banned pangolin hunting in Nagaland in 2026? **United Sangtam Likhum Pumji (USLP).**
- Which organization will manage the BIRAC-RDI Fund? **It will be managed by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council.**
- What is the Tulbul Navigation Project? **A proposed navigation lock-cum-control structure on the Jhelum River to maintain water depth for year-round boat movement.**
- Where is the Tulbul Navigation Project located? **At the outlet of Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir.**
- On which river is the Tulbul project planned? **The Jhelum River.**
- When did construction of the Tulbul project originally begin? **In 1984.**
- In which state was India's first CBDC(Central Bank Digital Currency)-based PDS pilot launched? **Gujarat.**
- In which state will India's first underwater road-cum-rail tunnel be constructed? **Assam.**
- Under which river will India's first underwater road-cum-rail tunnel be built? **The Brahmaputra River.**
- Recently Narendra Modi inaugurated the Brahmaputra bridge and Northeast's first highway Emergency Landing Facility in which state? **Assam**
- Which environmental law is relevant in protecting forest areas like the Aravallis? **Forest Conservation Act 1980 (now Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan Adhiniyam).**
- What is the main objective of RERA? **To regulate the real estate sector and protect the interests of homebuyers.**
- Did the Supreme Court immediately abolish RERA? **No, it only warned that continued failure could lead to reconsideration of its existence.**
- What is the name of the proposed museum to be set up in the historic North and South Block buildings of Parliament in New Delhi? **Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum**
- Which government organisation is implementing the AMCA programme? **Defence Research and Development Organisation**
- Which ministry launched Bharat-VISTAAR? **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.**
- Who announced the launch of SAHI and BODH initiatives? **Jagat Prakash Nadda.**
- From which year will CBSE implement the two-board exam system for Class 10? **2026**
- Where was the first-ever European Legal Gateway Office inaugurated? **New Delhi.**
- Which tribunal upheld the environmental clearance for the Great Nicobar Mega Project? **National Green Tribunal (NGT).**

04 Feb



World Cancer Day

2026 THEME : United by Unique

The theme seeks to counter the negative attitude and fatalistic belief that nothing can be done about cancer, and instead promotes how our personal actions can be powerful and impactful.

Importance

To mark the establishment of World Cancer Day on 4 February 2000 at the World Cancer Summit in Paris.

Motto

To raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment.

Organisatoin Involved

Union for International Cancer Control (UICC).

- What is AgriStack recently highlighted as in India's digital governance framework? **A unified digital public infrastructure for the agriculture sector.**
- What is the name of the newly inaugurated administrative complex housing the PMO? **Seva Teerth**
- Which upcoming TRAI mobile application will collect user feedback on call quality? **TRAI MyCall App**
- Which organisation announced the AI-ENGAGE awards to modernise agriculture? **National Science Foundation (NSF)**



- The Great Nicobar Mega Project is located in which Union Territory of India? **Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**
- What date fixes the religious status of worship places under the Places of Worship Act, 1991? **15 August 1947**
- What constitutional concern do petitioners raise against the Places of Worship Act, 1991? **Right to court**
- What is the main aim of the DigiLocker pilot project? **Digital document storage**
- Which constituency did Ricky Syngkon represent? **Shillong**
- In which state is the Shillong constituency located? **Meghalaya**
- Under which IPC section is rape defined? **Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code.**
- What was essential to prove rape under the pre-2013 IPC law? **Proof of penetration.**
- Which IPC section prescribes punishment for rape? **Section 376 IPC.**
- What is the name of the nationwide campaign launched to accelerate India's digital skilling movement? **"Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai".**
- The "Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai" campaign is associated with which digital platform? **Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH).**
- Which ministry unveiled the PRAHAAR counter-terrorism strategy? **The Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- Under which Act was the penalty on Vajirao & Reddy Institute imposed by CCPA for misleading advertisements? **The Consumer Protection Act, 2019.**
- Which temple is setting up a modern food testing laboratory using e-nose and e-tongue technology? **Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.**
- Teacher App 2.0 was recently launched by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in collaboration with which telecom company? **Bharti Airtel.**
- Which constitutional provision deals with alteration of state names? **Article 3 of the Constitution of India.**
- Under which Act was India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) notified? **The Energy Conservation Act, 2001 (amended in 2022).**
- Which country is the Partner Country at Gulfood 2026 for the first time? **India.**
- Which international organisation announced an emergency assistance package for Vietnam? **UNESCO.**
- What type of organisation is WIPO? **United Nations specialised agency**
- Which country reduced reciprocal tariffs on India from 50% to 18%? **USA**
- Which trade agreement is expected to boost India-Norway economic ties? **India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).**
- Norway is a member of which trade bloc? **European Free Trade Association (EFTA).**
- What is Project Vault? **A strategic reserve for critical minerals in the US.**
- How much funding is allocated for Project Vault? **About \$12 billion.**

06 Feb

International Day Of Zero Tolerance To Female Genital Mutilation

What is Female genital mutilation (FGM)?

It comprises all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons and is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights, the health and the integrity of girls and women.

Importance

On February 6, 2003, Stella Obasanjo, the First Lady of Nigeria and spokesperson for the Campaign Against Female Genital Mutilation, made the official declaration on "Zero Tolerance to FGM" in Africa.

Motto

To amplify and direct the efforts on the elimination of female genital mutilation.

Organisation Involved

UNGA

Note

In 2012, the UN General Assembly designated February 6th as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation.

EDITION: 23rd
INCEPTION: 2003

2026 THEME
Step up the Pace

- Which countries have designated the BLA as a terrorist organisation? **Pakistan, the US, the UK, China and the EU.**
- Which UN body highlighted Afghanistan's landmine casualty ranking? **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).**
- What major decision has the Spanish government announced regarding children and social media? **Spain has announced plans to ban access to social media for children below the age of 16.**

- What is the main goal of Spain's proposed digital safety reforms? **To create a safer online environment for children and teenagers.**
- Which country recently joined the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies (BCIC)? **India.**
- What major nuclear arms control agreement expired on 5 February 2026? **The New START treaty between the United States and Russia expired on 5 February 2026.**
- Which two countries were parties to the New START treaty? **The United States and Russia.**
- What was the main objective of the New START treaty? **To limit deployed nuclear warheads and their delivery systems.**
- Which country has been identified in a recent global report as facing the risk of "water bankruptcy"? **Pakistan.**
- How many countries are members of the GCC? **6**
- Name the GCC member countries? **Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Kuwait, Oman & Bahrain**
- Which organisation's standards inspired India's DVI framework? **INTERPOL.**
- Which country decided to remove the additional 25% duty on Indian goods? **United States of America.**
- Which country's President signed an executive order to impose tariffs on nations trading with Iran? **The United States (US) President.**
- Name any two countries that could be affected due to strong trade ties with Iran after US's Executive Order? **China and Turkey. (Others include UAE, Iraq, and India.)**
- BIOFACH 2026 was held in which country? **Germany.**
- Which country introduced the EXILE Act? **United States.**
- What does EXILE Act aim to end? **H-1B programme.**
- H-1B visa allows hiring of whom? **Foreign professionals.**
- H-1B jobs mainly belong to which sector? **Technology.**
- Which country's navy has taken command of Combined Task Force-154? **India.**
- How many nations are part of the Combined Maritime Forces? **Around 47 nations.**
- What is the main role of CTF-154? **Maritime security training and capacity building.**
- In which year did Kosovo declare independence from Serbia? **2008.**
- Which country appointed its first Resident Defence Advisor to India? — **New Zealand.**
- What is the name of Japan's national parliament that re-elected the Prime Minister? **The National Diet.**
- Which country cancelled the cherry blossom festival near Mount Fuji? **Japan**
- Near which iconic mountain is Arakurayama Sengen Park located? **Mount Fuji**
- Which country approved a new amnesty bill? **Venezuela**
- From which year does the Amnesty Bill apply in Venezuela? **1999 to recent years.**
- Which court struck down Donald Trump's earlier global tariffs? **The Supreme Court of the United States.**
- Under which law were Trump's earlier tariffs imposed? **They were imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 1977.**
- Which law did Trump use to impose new tariffs after the court setback? **Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974.**
- What is the maximum tariff allowed under Section 122 of the Trade Act, 1974? **Up to 15% for a maximum of 150 days.**
- India and Brazil are members of which multilateral grouping focused on emerging economies? **BRICS**
- What type of new membership category did India oppose in the UNSC? **A third category of membership**
- Which group proposed the idea of a third category in the UNSC? **Uniting for Consensus**
- Which countries are part of the G4 group seeking permanent UNSC seats? **India, Japan, Germany and Brazil**
- Who proposed the "Hexagon of Alliances" framework? **Benjamin Netanyahu.**
- The "Hexagon of Alliances" refers to cooperation among how many sides or groups? **Six.**
- El Mencho was the leader of which cartel? **Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG).**

Important Projects & Schemes

- Under which scheme was M. Anitha appointed as Director in the Department of Defence? **Central Staffing Scheme.**
- The Chief Minister Skill Development Scheme in Delhi primarily targets which sector? **Artisans and unorganised sector workers.**
- Which new scheme provides cashless treatment up to ₹1.5 lakh for road accident victims? **PM RAHAT Scheme**
- What does RAHAT stand for in PM RAHAT Scheme? **Road Accident Victim Hospitalisation and Assured Treatment.**
- What is the maximum financial coverage provided under PM RAHAT Scheme? **₹1.5 lakh per accident victim.**
- What is the total central assistance approved under the Urban Challenge Fund? **₹1 lakh crore.**
- 'Meri Rasoi Yojna' scheme to provide free quarterly food kits to 40 lakh families under NFSA, was launched by which state government? **Punjab**

Expenditure of Major Items (₹ crore)

Sl. No.	Major Item	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 RE	2026-27 BE
1	Pension	2,73,772	2,86,641	2,96,214
2	Defence	4,50,733	5,67,855	5,94,585
3	Fertiliser Subsidy	1,70,683	1,86,460	1,70,781
4	Food Subsidy	1,99,867	2,28,154	2,27,629
5	Petroleum Subsidy	14,479	15,121	12,085
6	Agriculture & Allied Activities	1,54,610	1,51,853	1,62,671
7	Commerce & Industry	44,446	52,324	70,296
8	Development of North East	3,371	4,479	6,812
9	Education	1,10,736	1,21,949	1,39,289
10	Energy	66,052	86,471	1,09,029
11	External Affairs	25,512	21,743	22,119
12	Finance	58,217	1,12,175	20,649
13	Health	88,353	94,625	1,04,599
14	Home Affairs (including UTs)	2,24,585	2,41,485	2,55,234
15	Interest	11,15,575	12,74,338	14,03,972
16	IT & Telecom	1,17,163	53,946	74,560
17	Rural Development	2,06,010	2,12,750	2,73,108
18	Scientific Departments	27,518	37,014	55,756
19	Social Welfare	45,804	50,053	62,362
20	Tax Administration	2,02,772	74,540	45,500
21	Transport	5,60,162	5,47,563	5,98,520
22	Urban Development	53,255	57,204	85,522
23	Others	4,39,193	4,86,100	5,56,021
	Grand Total	46,52,867	49,64,842	53,47,315

Banking & Economy

- What real GDP growth did the Economic Survey 2025-26 project for India? **7.4% for FY26.**
- What is the estimated potential growth rate of the Indian economy according to the Survey? **Around 7%**
- What are the three core “kartavyas” highlighted in Budget 2026–27? **(1) Accelerating economic growth, (2) Capacity building & prosperity, (3) Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas.**
- Which kartavya focuses on sustaining economic growth and competitiveness? **The first kartavya: Sustainable economic growth.**
- What is the aim of the second kartavya in Budget 2026–27? **To build people’s capacities and ensure inclusive prosperity.**
- How many cancer-related medicines were exempted from basic customs duty in Budget 2026–27? **17 medicines.**
- How many additional rare diseases were added to the duty-free import list for medicines? **Seven rare diseases.**
- Which export sector’s duty-free input limit was increased from 1% to 3% of export turnover? **Seafood processing sector.**
- Which footwear-related item was newly included for duty-free import benefits? **Shoe uppers.**
- What is the total capital expenditure allocation for FY27? **₹12.2 lakh crore.**
- By approximately how much did capex increase in FY27 compared to FY26? **Around 8–9%.**
- Which sector is the primary beneficiary of Bharat Vistar? **Agriculture sector.**
- Which digital public infrastructure will be integrated with Bharat Vistar? **AgriStack.**
- Data from which research body will support Bharat Vistar advisories? **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).**
- Bharat Vistar primarily uses which emerging technology? **Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
- What is the total defence budget allocation for FY 2026–27? **₹7.85 lakh crore.**
- By approximately what percentage did the defence budget increase in 2026–27 over the previous year? **Around 15 %.**
- How much has been earmarked for defence modernisation (capital outlay) in Budget 2026–27? **₹2.19 lakh crore.**
- Defence pensions in the FY27 budget are approximately how much? **About ₹1.71 lakh crore**
- Which sector received a five-part integrated support programme in Union Budget 2026–27? **Textile sector.**
- Which scheme aims at skill development in the textile sector? **Samarth 2.0.**
- Up to what income is tax-free under the new tax regime after considering Section 87A rebate? **₹12 lakh.**
- What is the standard deduction under the new tax regime in FY 2026–27? **₹75,000 for salaried taxpayers.**

10 Feb



INCEPTION: 2015

2026 THEME

Eliminate STH: Invest in a healthier future for children

National De-Worming Day

National Deworming Day is a groundbreaking initiative focused on reducing the threat of parasitic worm infections, a widespread health issue affecting over 241 million children in India alone.

Motto

The objective of National Deworming Day is to deworm all preschool and school-age children (enrolled and non-enrolled) between the ages of 1-19 years through the platform of schools and Anganwadi Centers in order to improve their overall health, nutritional status, access to education and quality of life.

Ministry Involved

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Note

- India has the highest burden of soil-transmitted helminths--parasitic worms--in the world.
- According to the 2012 report 'Children in India', published by MOSPI 48% of children under the age of five years are stunted and 19.8% are wasted.

- Which kartavya ensures inclusive development across families, regions, and sectors? **The third kartavya: Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas.**
- By how much was customs duty on goods imported for personal use reduced? **From 20% to 10%.**



- Can taxpayers switch between the old and new tax regimes? **Yes, taxpayers can choose annually between the two regimes.**
- What is the maximum tax rate under the new income tax regime? **30% for income above ₹24 lakh.**
- In how many states will the Rare Earth Corridors be established? **Four states.**
- Name the four states selected for Rare Earth Corridors. **Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.**
- Which sector received a 20-year tax holiday for foreign companies in Budget 2026–27? **Cloud and data centre services.**
- What was the total allocation for education in Budget 2026–27? **₹1,39,285.95 crore.**
- By what percentage did the education budget increase in 2026–27? **8.27%.**
- What initiative was announced to improve gender equity in higher education? **One girls' hostel in every district.**
- How many secondary schools will get AVGC labs for creative and digital skills? **15,000 schools.**
- Which new institute will be set up in eastern India as per Budget 2026–27? **National Institute of Design (NID).**
- Which type of economy is promoted through AVGC labs in schools? **The "Orange Economy" or creative and digital Economy**
- What was the main objective of Keir Starmer's China visit? **To strengthen trade and investment ties between the UK and China**
- Which Indian export sectors were badly affected by high US tariffs? **Textiles, seafood, and jewellery.**
- What does "blue economy" refer to in India–Norway cooperation? **Sustainable use of ocean and marine resources.**
- Why is Norway important for India's green goals? **Norway has expertise in renewable energy and clean technologies.**
- Which bank is providing the majority of Project Vault funding? **US Export-Import (EXIM) Bank.**
- Which company received a compounding order from the RBI under FEMA in 2026? **One97 Communications Ltd (Paytm).**
- Who kept the repo rate unchanged in February 2026? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- What is the current RBI repo rate? **5.25%.**
- Which body decides the repo rate in India? **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).**
- What policy stance has RBI maintained? **Neutral stance.**
- What economic indicators is India resetting the base year for? **GDP and CPI.**
- What is the current GDP base year before revision? **2011–12.**
- What is the proposed new GDP base year? **2022–23.**
- What is the current CPI base year before revision? **2012.**
- What is the proposed new CPI base year? **2024.**
- Which institution uses CPI data for monetary policy decisions? **Reserve Bank of India.**
- Which regulator approved Blackstone's stake in Federal Bank? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**

11 Feb



International Day
Of Women & Girls
In Science

Importance

On 22 December 2015, the UN General Assembly decided to establish an annual International Day to recognize the critical role women and girls play in science and technology & marks 11 Feb as the same.

Motto

To ensure full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls.

Note

- According to UNESCO data (2014 - 2016), only around 30 per cent of all female students select STEM-related fields in higher education.
- The International Day of Women and Girls in Science, is implemented by UNESCO and UN-Women in collaboration institutions and civil society partners.
- This Day is an opportunity to promote full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls.

2026 THEME

Investment in Women and
Girls in Science for Inclusive
Green Growth.

- What maximum stake can Blackstone acquire in Federal Bank? **9.99%.**
- From which date will the new risk-based deposit insurance premium system start in India? **April 1, 2026.**
- Which institution introduced the risk-based deposit insurance premium system? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- How much insurance premium did banks earlier pay per ₹100 of deposits? **12 paise per ₹100 of deposits.**

- Which types of banks may temporarily continue with the old flat premium system? **Payments banks and local area banks.**
- What is the full form of DICGC? **Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.**
- Which institution has proposed allowing banks to lend directly to REITs? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- What does REIT stand for? **Real Estate Investment Trust.**
- Which authority imposed a ₹5 lakh penalty on Snapdeal for selling non-BIS compliant toys? **Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)**
- Which organisation provided a \$197.67 million guarantee to support India's rooftop solar expansion? **The World Bank Group through its arm Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.**
- Which Indian bank's rooftop solar loan refinancing is supported by the World Bank guarantee? **State Bank of India.**

13 Feb



National Woman's Day

Importance

To mark the birth anniversary of India's first women governor Sarojini Naidu. This day has been selected to observe as a National Woman Day in recognition of the works done by her for upliftment and development of women in India. Her name and birth date was proposed to celebrate as the National Women's Day in India by members of Bhartiya Mahila Sangh and Akhil Bhartiya Mahila Sammelan.

Sarojini Naidu

(13 Feb 1879 to 2 Mar 1949)
The Nightingale of India

- She was a child prodigy, a poet and an activist during the independence of India
- From 1947 to 1949, she served as the first woman to become the governor of an Indian state of United Provinces of Agra and Oudh
- In 1925, she served as second woman to become President of the Indian National Congress and the first Indian woman to do so
- Naidu joined the Indian national movement after the partition of Bengal in 1905
- In 1928, the British Government awarded her with the medal Naidu Kaiser-i-Hind for her work during the plague epidemic in India.

- Through which routes could REITs earlier receive bank funding? **Through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) or capital-market instruments like bonds.**
- What is the projected GDP growth rate of India for 2026 as per the latest report? **6.9%**
- What malpractice is the RBI aiming to prevent through the proposed ban on third-party incentives? **Mis-selling of financial products.**
- Rapid growth of which payment system has increased the urgency of cyber fraud safeguards in India? **Unified Payments Interface.**
- What is the total size of the BIRAC-RDI Fund announced by the government? **The fund size is ₹2,000 crore.**
- Which government scheme promotes residential rooftop solar in India? **PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.**
- Which Swiss drugmaker is exiting its India-listed unit in a \$159 million deal? **Novartis AG.**
- Novartis AG is selling its stake in which Indian company? **Novartis India Limited.**
- Under which law are cheque bounce offences criminalised? **Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.**
- Which bank recently reported a ₹590 crore suspected fraud involving government accounts? **IDFC First Bank.**
- Which two countries launched the Drug Policy Executive Working Group in 2026? **India and USA**
- Which two countries agreed to resume naval search and rescue exercises after nine years? **South Korea and Japan.**
- After how many years are South Korea and Japan resuming bilateral naval SAREX? **After nine years.**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU recently regarding highway security? **Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL) and National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU).**
- What was the main aim of the MoU between IHMCL and NFSU? **To strengthen cyber security and data protection in national highway operations.**
- Which companies signed the MoU to build a helicopter ecosystem in India? **Adani Defence & Aerospace and Italy's Leonardo.**
- What is the main objective of the Adani-Leonardo partnership? **To build a complete helicopter manufacturing ecosystem in India.**
- India signed Terms of Reference for FTA talks with which bloc? **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).**
- What agreement was signed between the Centre, Nagaland government and ENPO? **A tripartite pact to create the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA).**

- With Which country, India signed 11 agreements to strengthen bilateral cooperation in February 2026? **Malaysia.**
- Which two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation on national security, law enforcement, and cybersecurity in February 2026? **India and Canada.**
- Which organisation signed an MoU with Bharat Taxi to introduce regulated cab services at airports? **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**
- What type of agreement was signed between the US and Bangladesh? **Reciprocal Trade Agreement.**
- What tariff rate will Bangladeshi goods face in the US under the pact? **19% tariff.**
- What special economic support did India announce for Seychelles? **\$175 million package.**
- How many MoUs were signed between India and Seychelles during the state visit of Seychelles President Patrick Herminie to New Delhi? **7**
- Which state signed a cooperation pact with Starlink? **Gujarat.**
- Which two countries agreed to grow their indigenous defence industries? **India and Greece.**
- Which major export market prefers non-GM agricultural products from India? **European Union.**
- Which key food staples remain protected from trade concessions in the deal between India & US? **Rice and wheat.**
- India signed a Social Security Agreement in 2026 with which country? **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.**
- Which institute signed an MoU with the General Insurance Council to enable cashless Ayurveda treatment? **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA).**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU to enable mutual fund distribution through post offices? **Department of Posts and National Stock Exchange (NSE).**
- Which two organisations signed a research collaboration agreement focusing on technologies for extreme environments, including high-altitude survival? **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).**
- Which country did India withdraw its lithium exploration project from? **Mali.**
- Recently, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) signed an MoU with which university to collaborate in the telecom and cybersecurity domain? **Rashtriya Raksha University**
- India and which country exchanged 21 agreements in defence, energy and critical minerals? **France.**
- Which two countries signed an updated Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement in criminal matters? **India and Nepal.**
- Which types of crimes are targeted under the India-Nepal Updated Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement pact? **Human trafficking, drug smuggling, organised crime, money laundering, and terrorism financing.**

13 Feb



INCEPTION:2012

2026 THEME

Radio and Artificial Intelligence

World Radio Day

Importance

To mark the inception of United Nations Radio in 1946.

Motto

To elaborate the role of radio as a way of educating people, providing information, and promoting freedom of expression across cultures.

Organisation Involved

UNESCO

Background

- In 2011, the Spanish Radio Academy proposed to UNESCO that there be a "World Radio Day".
- Radio is more than a century old now and has become entrenched in many cultures as a traditional means of social interaction and of education.
- It has also long played an important role in disaster relief and emergency response.

- Which organization signed an MoU with the World Food Programme to supply rice for global hunger relief in February 2026? **Food Corporation of India (FCI).**
- With which UN body did FCI sign the MoU for supplying 2 lakh metric tonnes of rice? **World Food Programme (WFP).**
- Five joint projects were finalised under which bilateral research programme between India and Australia? **Australia-India Strategic Research Fund (AISRF).**
- Which startup partnered with NVIDIA to build India's first electric air taxi? **The ePlane Company**



- Which Indian shipyard signed a deal to build LNG vessels for a French company, CMA CGM Group? **Cochin Shipyard Limited**
- With which country India signed the Pax Silica Declaration with? **USA**
- What is the main focus of Pax Silica? **Secure supply chains**
- Which sectors are covered under the Pax Silica declaration? — **AI and semiconductors**
- Which two countries reaffirmed green tech cooperation under the India-EU Free Trade Agreement Framework? **India and Sweden**
- Which two countries signed the DigiLocker implementation agreement? **India and Kenya**
- India recently reaffirmed defence production ties with which country? **Finland**
- Space technology collaboration was agreed between India and which European nation? **Finland**
- The AI data centre project in Dholera was signed between Gujarat government and which company? **Larsen & Toubro Vyoma**
- India recently strengthened telecom and digital partnership with which country? **Brazil**
- India recently agreed to deepen cooperation in advanced technologies with which country? **Liechtenstein**
- What agreement did India and France amend recently? **The India-France Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC).**
- India signed a Joint Statement to launch FTA negotiations with which regional grouping? **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).**
- Which two companies signed a multi-year deal to power next-generation AI infrastructure with 6 GW of GPUs? **Advanced Micro Devices and Meta Platforms.**
- What type of agreement is currently under negotiation between India and Israel to boost trade? **Free Trade Agreement (FTA).**

20 Feb



World Day Of Social Justice

Motto

To contribute to the efforts of the international community in poverty eradication, promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and justice for all.

Need

To promote efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion and unemployment. Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. It upholds the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. It advances social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.

Note

The United Nations General Assembly has decided to observe 20 February annually, approved on 26 November 2007 and starting in 2009, as the World Day of Social Justice.

21 Feb



International Mother Language Day

Importance

To mark the killing of four students on February 21, 1952, because they campaigned to officially use their mother language, Bengali, in Bangladesh.

Motto

To promote the awareness of language and cultural diversity all across the world.

Organisation Involved

UNESCO

Note

- In Bangladesh, 21st February marks the anniversary of the day when Bengalis fought for the recognition of Bangla language.
- SANSKRIT is one of the official languages of India, and is popularly known as a classical language of the country.
- Chinese is the single most spoken language in the world today with around 1.2 billion people who consider it their first language.

Awards & Recognitions

- How many Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak awards were conferred recently? **6 awards.**
- Which state won the first prize for Best Tableau (States/UTs) in Republic Day Parade 2026 Awards? **Maharashtra.**
- Which artist received the highest number of nominations at the 68th Grammys? **Kendrick Lamar (9)**
- Who became the first Latin artist to win Album of the Year at the Grammys? **Bad Bunny.**
- Which album won Album of the Year in 2026? **Debi Tirar Más Fotos.**
- Who won Song of the Year at the 68th Grammy Awards? **Billie Eilish.**
- Which song won Song of the Year in 2026? **Wildflower.**
- Who was named Best New Artist at the 68th Grammys? **Olivia Dean.**
- Which artist won multiple major awards including Record of the Year and Best Rap Album? **Kendrick Lamar.**
- Who won the Crafoord Prize in Geosciences 2026? **Indian-origin climate scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan.**
- Which institution awards the Crafoord Prize? **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.**
- Why is the Crafoord Prize significant? **It is considered the “Nobel of Geosciences”.**
- For what work was Ramanathan awarded the Crafoord Prize? **His pioneering research on climate change and super-pollutants.**
- Which port authority won the First Prize at the Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025? **Paradip Port Authority.**
- Who was conferred the 22nd Upendra Nath Brahma ‘Soldier of Humanity’ Award in 2025? **Bhutan’s Queen Mother Gyalum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck.**
- Who won the Global Teacher Prize 2026? **Rouble Nagi.**
- Which country does Rouble Nagi belong to? **India.**
- Where was the Global Teacher Prize 2026 awarded? **World Government Summit, Dubai.**
- What is the cash prize for the Global Teacher Prize? **\$1 million.**
- Which country was conferred ‘Country of the Year’ at BIOFACH 2026? **India.**
- Which foundation instituted the Bhavya Bharat Bhushan Awards? **The Isha Foundation.**
- Which film won the Best Film award at the BAFTA Film Awards 2026? **One Battle After Another.**
- Who won the Best Director award at BAFTA 2026? **Paul Thomas Anderson.**
- Who won the Best Leading Actor award at BAFTA 2026? **Robert Aramayo.**
- Which film won the Outstanding British Film award at BAFTA 2026? **Hamnet.**
- Which film won the Best Animated Film award at BAFTA 2026? **Zootropolis 2.**
- Which Indian Manipuri film won the Best Children’s & Family Film award at BAFTA 2026? **Boong.**

02 Feb



Central Excise Day

Importance

To mark the establishment of the Central Excise and Salt Act on 24th of February in the year 1944.

Motto

To encourage the equality among the officers of the Central Board of Excise and Customs Department as well as assist them to ensure better tax observance.

Why Celebrated?

The celebration of the day means to collect tax over the goods and by the people earning over the limit which has been decided according to the terms of Central Excise Act in the year 1944.

The tax payable rate has been set under Schedule I and II according to the Central Excise Tariff Act in the year 1985.

Note

- Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) is a part of the Department of Revenue under the Union Ministry of Finance.
- The CBEC deals with policy formulation concerning levy and collection of Customs and central excise duties and service tax.

Sports

- Which country did Michael Nobbs represent as a player? **Australia**
- Who became the first pair in 37 years to defend the Australian Open mixed doubles title? **Olivia Gadecki and John Peers**
- Who won the men's singles title at the Australian Open 2026? **Carlos Alcaraz.**
- Which country does Australian Open 2026 champion Carlos Alcaraz represent? **Spain.**
- Who won her maiden BWF Super 300 title at the Thailand Masters 2026? **Devika Sihag.**
- Which team won the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) 2026 championship title? **Haryana Thunders.**
- Which Indian shooter won gold in the women's 10m air pistol event at the Asian Rifle & Pistol Shooting Championships 2026 in New Delhi? **Esha Singh.**
- Which Indian shooters won team gold in women's 10m air pistol at the Asian Rifle & Pistol Shooting Championships 2026 in New Delhi? **Esha Singh, Manu Bhaker and Suruchi Singh.**
- Which Indian weightlifter broke three national records at the 2026 National Weightlifting Championships? **Mirabai Chanu.**
- In which weight category did Mirabai Chanu compete when she broke three records at the 2026 National Weightlifting Championships? **Women's 48kg category.**
- Who won the WPL 2026 title? **Royal Challengers Bengaluru.**
- Who was Player of the Match in the final? **Smriti Mandhana.**
- Who won the Orange Cap in WPL 2026? **Smriti Mandhana.**
- Who won the Purple Cap in WPL 2026? **Sophie Devine.**
- Who administers the Women's Premier League? **BCCI.**
- Which country won the ICC Under-19 ODI Cricket World Cup 2026? **India.**
- Which team did India defeat in the Under-19 World Cup final? **England.**
- Which state won the gold medal in the Women's category at the Para Throwball National Federation Cup 2026? **Jharkhand.**
- Which team won the 79th Santosh Trophy title in 2026? **Services.**
- Which Indian athlete won gold at the Asian Indoor Athletics Championships in China? **Tejaswin Shankar.**
- Which Indian shooters won gold with a world record at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026? **Arjun Babuta and Elavenil Valarivan.**
- Which country won the SAFF U-19 Women's Championship title? **India.**
- India defeated which country in the final of the SAFF U-19 Women's Championship? **Bangladesh.**
- Which medal did India win in the women's 25m pistol team event? **Gold medal.**
- Who won gold in the Junior Women's 50m Rifle Three-Position event at the Asian Championship 2026? **Prachi Gaiwad.**
- Which team won the Nagesh Trophy in 2026? **Karnataka.**
- Who organizes the Nagesh Trophy in India? **The Cricket Association for the Blind in India.**
- What type of tournament is the Nagesh Trophy? **A national T20 cricket tournament for visually impaired players.**
- Which Indian para-badminton player won his fourth consecutive SL3 gold at the BWF Para World Championships? **Pramod Bhagat.**
- Which athlete won his ninth Olympic gold medal in cross-country skiing at the 2026 Winter Olympics? **Johannes Høsflo Klæbo.**
- Who won the 2026 FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship? **Magnus Carlsen**
- The 2026 FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship was held in which country? **Germany**
- Which Olympic medalist was honoured with the Bhavya Bharat Bhushan Award 2026? **Saina Nehwal.**
- Who was named BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2025? **Smriti Mandhana.**
- Which country won its 17th gold medal at the 2026 Winter Olympics? **Norway.**
- Where were the 2026 Winter Olympics held? **Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.**
- Which Brazilian footballer has announced his retirement by the end of 2026? **Neymar**
- Who won the men's singles title at the Delhi Open 2026? **Stefanos Sakellaridis.**

Science & Technology

- What is the name of the humanoid robot deployed by Indian Railways at Visakhapatnam? **ASC ARJUN.**
- What is the name of the AI-designed lab-grown virus created by scientists at Stanford University and the Arc Institute in Palo Alto, California, USA? **Evo-Φ2147**
- What is the main purpose of NEONSAT-1A by South Korea? **Earth observation**
- Which company's rocket was used to launch NEONSAT-1A by South Korea? **Rocket Lab**
- Which fighter jet is India exploring joint production of with Russia? **Su-57E**
- What are the main capabilities of the Su-57? **Stealth, air superiority, and multirole combat**
- Which nuclear fuel is India focusing on for energy independence? **Thorium**
- Why is Project Vault being created? **To secure minerals needed for technology and industry and reduce dependence on foreign sources.**
- What major discovery did Ramanathan make at NASA in 1975? **That chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) trap heat far more than CO₂.**
- Why did NASA postpone the launch of the Artemis II mission to March 2026? **Due to a liquid hydrogen fuel leak detected during a wet dress rehearsal.**
- What is the main objective of the Artemis II mission? **To test the safety, performance, and life-support systems of the Orion spacecraft in deep space.**
- How many astronauts will be part of the Artemis II mission? **Four astronauts.**
- Will Artemis II land astronauts on the Moon? **No, it will send astronauts around the Moon and back to Earth without landing.**
- Which spacecraft and rocket will be tested during Artemis II? **The Orion spacecraft and the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket.**
- By when were Tejas Mk1A jets expected with full capability? **By March 2026.**
- What is Tejas Mk1A and total order size By IAF to HAL? **Upgraded LCA; about 180 jets.**
- Which Agni missile was recently test-fired by India from Odisha? **Agni-III intermediate-range ballistic missile.**
- What is the approximate coverage range of the anti-drone protection system? **Up to about 5 kilometres with 360-degree coverage.**
- Starlink is owned by which company? **SpaceX.**
- Which Indian shooters won gold in the women's 25m pistol team event at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship? **Esha Singh, Manu Baker, and Rhythm Sangwan.**
- Which company received approval to market Imfinzi in India? **AstraZeneca.**
- Imfinzi is the brand name of which drug? **Durvalumab.**
- Imfinzi is mainly used to treat which disease? **Cancer.**
- Which Indian scientist led India at the 1955 Geneva nuclear conference? **Homi J. Bhabha**
- What mistake from the nuclear past should India avoid in AI? **Strategic confusion**
- What combined approach is suggested for India's AI future? **Self-reliance + cooperation**
- Artemis II will be the first crewed lunar mission of NASA since which historic programme? **Apollo program**
- The newly launched Td vaccine replaces which earlier vaccine? **Tetanus Toxoid (TT) Vaccine.**
- The Td vaccine provides protection against which two diseases? **Tetanus and Diphtheria.**
- Which technology platform is used to develop PhonePe's AI natural language search? **Microsoft Foundry**
- What is the main purpose of deploying e-nose and e-tongue technology at Tirumala? **To ensure quality and detect adulteration in prasadam ingredients.**

**"A good education
can change anyone.
A good teacher can
change everything!"**

- Unknown

Miscellaneous

- Which official symbol's misuse by sports federations has been prohibited recently? **State Emblem of India.**
- What was Maharashtra's award-winning tableau theme in Republic Day Parade 2026? **"Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta".**
- What rank did India achieve in the Global Innovation Index 2025? **38th**
- Who hosted the 68th Annual Grammy Awards? **Comedian Trevor Noah.**
- Under which authority does IHMCL operate? **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).**
- Which two countries are participating in the joint military exercise KHANJAR? **India and Kyrgyzstan.**
- Which edition of Exercise KHANJAR is being held in 2026? **13th edition.**

27 Feb



INCEPTION: 2010

World NGO Day

Motto

To celebrate, commemorate and collaborate with the various NGOs around the world.

Founded by

Marcis Liors Skadmanis

Year 2010

1st time marked by the UN, EU leaders and international organizations
The term "non-governmental organization" was created in Article 71 of the Charter of the newly formed United Nations in 1945.
An NGO can be any kind of organization provided that it is independent from government influence and is not-for-profit.

Facts

World NGO Day was officially recognised and declared by the 12 member countries (Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Norway and Sweden).

- Who publishes the Global Innovation Index? **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**
- How many economies are covered in the Global Innovation Index 2025? **Around 139 economies**
- What new index did the Economic Survey 2025–26 highlight for the first time? **Power Gap Index**
- Which country developed the Power Gap Index? **Australia (Lowy Institute)**
- Why is thorium important for India? **India has large thorium reserves but limited uranium**
- What is the fissile material produced from thorium? **Uranium-233 (U-233)**
- Which organisation conducted the review highlighting Pakistan's literacy status? **The Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN)**
- Which country has the highest literacy rate in South Asia, according to the FAFEN review? **Maldives**
- What is meant by the term "water bankruptcy" in the context of global water resources? **It refers to a situation where water is used faster than it can be naturally replenished.**
- What is the title of the global report that highlights the issue of water bankruptcy? **Global Water Bankruptcy: Living Beyond Our Hydrological Means in the Post-Crisis Era.**
- Which international organisation published the Global Water Bankruptcy report? **The United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).**
- Which company became the first traditional retailer to reach a \$1 trillion market valuation? **Walmart.**
- What does India mainly import from GCC countries? **Crude oil and gas.**
- What is India's self-reliance defence plan called? **Aatmanirbhar Bharat.**
- What is Greece's defence reform plan named? **Agenda 2030.**
- What does "GM" in GM crops stand for? **Genetically Modified.**
- GM crops are produced using which technology? **Genetic engineering.**
- Which is the only GM crop commercially cultivated in India so far? **Bt cotton.**

- BIOFACH, where India was named 'Country of the Year' in 2026, is related to which sector? **Organic agriculture and organic products trade.**
- Which organization publishes the Index of Economic Freedom? **The Heritage Foundation**
- The AI Impact Summit 2026 will focus on which key theme? **Democratisation of Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
- EXILE stands for what? **Ending Exploitative Imported Labour Exemptions.**
- What is Exercise Vayu Shakti? **It is a major combat drill conducted by the Indian Air Force.**
- Which Russian entity backed the Mali lithium project? **Rosatom.**
- Indian-language inscriptions were recently found in which historic Egyptian site? **Valley of the Kings.**
- What does RERA stand for? **Real Estate Regulatory Authority.**
- What is India's rank in the 2026 Henley Passport Index? **75th**
- How many countries do Indian passport holders have visa-free access to in 2026? **56**
- Which two countries did India lose visa-free access to in 2026? **Iran and Bolivia**
- What does the launch of two major national initiatives — SAHI and BODH stand for? **Strategy for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare for India & Benchmarking Open Data Platform for Health AI.**
- Which organisation publishes the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)? **Transparency International.**
- Which country topped the CPI 2025 as the least corrupt? **Denmark.**
- Which organisation hosts the MILAN naval exercise? **Indian Navy**
- In which year was the MILAN naval exercise first conducted? **1995**
- Who will inaugurate MILAN 2026 naval exercise? **Rajnath Singh**
- Which university faced controversy at the AI summit? **Galgotias University**
- Who is the author of The Sage Who Reimagined Hinduism? **Shashi Tharoor**
- Whose bust did Rajagopalachari's replace at Rashtrapati Bhavan? **The bust of Sir Edwin Lutyens**
- Which edition of Exercise Dharma Guardian commenced in February 2026? **7th edition.**
- Exercise Dharma Guardian is conducted between India and which country? **Japan.**
- In which Indian state is the 7th edition of Exercise Dharma Guardian being held? **Uttarakhand.**
- Which edition of Exercise Vajra Prahar began in February 2026? **16th edition.**
- Exercise Vajra Prahar is conducted between India and which country? **United States.**
- Where is the 16th edition of Exercise Vajra Prahar being held in India? **Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.**

28 Feb

EDITION: 38th

National Science Day

2026 THEME
Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for Viksit Bharat

Recognizing the significance of the discovery in the field of Physics and the contribution of C.V. Raman.

Importance

To mark the discovery of the Raman scattering by the Indian physicist Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman on February 28 in 1928. The Raman Effect names inelastic scattering of a photon. For the first proof of that effect C.V.Raman got the Nobel Prize in 1930.

Awards won by C.V. Raman

- Fellow of the Royal Society (1924)
- Knight Bachelor (1929)
- Nobel Prize in Physics (1930)
- Bharat Ratna (1954)
- Lenin Peace Prize (1957)
- Fellow of the Royal Society (1924)

Note

The day is also observed to recall and celebrate the contribution of all the great scientists of India who made fundamental discoveries and advanced human knowledge.



Important Days of the Month

Day	Observed/Celebrated As	Motto/Importance
01-Mar	Zero Discrimination Day	Save lives: Decriminalise
03- Mar	World Wildlife Day	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods
04- Mar	National Safety Day	Nurture young minds - Develop safety culture
08- Mar	International Women's Day	Give To Gain
10- Mar	CISF Raising Day	To mark the establishment of CISF on 10 March 1969
14- Mar	International Day of Action for Rivers	Our Rivers, our Future
15- Mar	World Consumer Rights Day	Safe Products, Confident Consumers
18- Mar	Ordnance Factory Day	To mark the establishment of India's oldest Ordnance Factory at Cossipore of Kolkata on 18th March 1802.
20- Mar	International Day of Happiness	Mindful • Grateful • Kind
21- Mar	International Day of Forests	Forests and Economies
22- Mar	World Water Day	Water & Gender
23- Mar	World Meteorological Day	Observing Today, Protecting Tomorrow
24- Mar	World Tuberculosis (TB) Day	Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver
27- Mar	World Theatre Day	To generate awareness about the importance of theatre arts

Let's Recap

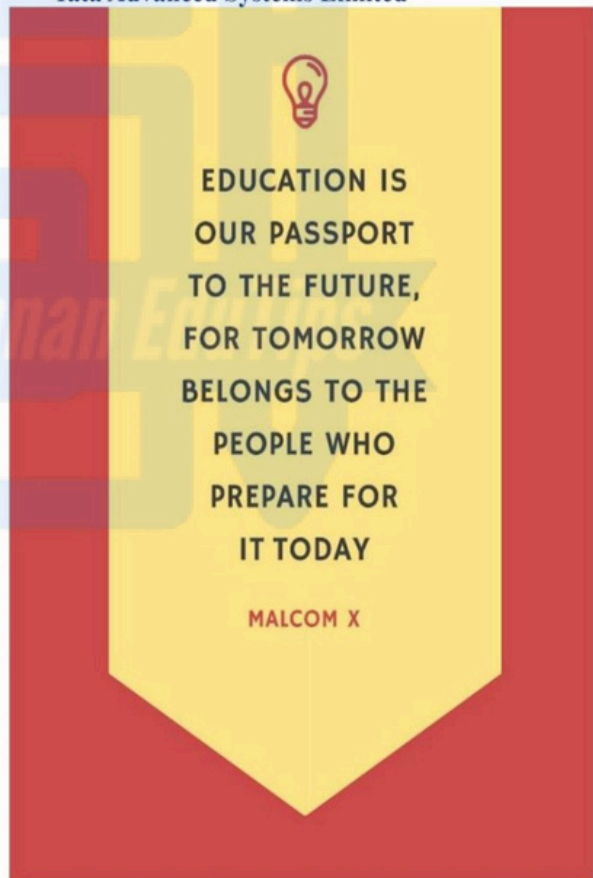
- Who became the first England bowler this century to take a five-wicket haul in a Men's Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground? **Josh Tongue.**
- Which two Southeast Asian countries recently signed a ceasefire agreement to end border clashes? **Thailand and Cambodia.**
- Which company has LIC partnered with to expand insurance access in rural India? **Sahaj Insurance Services Private Limited.**
- Which ministry announced major reforms for EPFO? **Ministry of Labour & Employment.**
- Which country has inaugurated the world's longest expressway tunnel? **China.**
- Which two institutions signed an MoU to strengthen cooperation in research, testing, evaluation and training in defence-related materials? **National Test House (NTH) and DRDO's Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE).**
- Who won the Women's Singles title at the 87th Senior National Badminton Championships held in Vijayawada? **Surya Charishma Tamiri.**
- Who was crowned national champion in the women's 50m rifle three positions event at the National Shooting Championships in Bhopal? **Tilottama Sen of Karnataka.**
- What are the two major shipbuilding schemes notified by the Government of India with a combined outlay of Rs 44,700 crore to boost domestic shipbuilding capacity? **Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme (SBFAS) and Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS).**
- Which country hosts the newly launched One Stop Centre for Women by the Indian Consulate to assist Indian women nationals in distress? **Canada.**
- Which traditional Indian medicine systems are included in the WHO International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) module? **Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani.**
- Which government body approved the project to protect sandbar-nesting birds in the Ganga basin? **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).**
- Doug Bracewell, who has retired from international cricket recently, played for which national cricket team? **New Zealand (Black Caps)**
- Which Indian female chess player won bronze at the 2025 FIDE World Rapid Championships? **Koneru Humpy.**
- Which former Prime Minister of Bangladesh recently passed away at the age of 80? **Khaleda Zia.**
- Which Indian and Nepali institutions will enhance collaboration under agriculture sector? **India's ICAR and Nepal's NARC.**
- Which government approved the Delhi Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill? **The Delhi Government.**
- What type of software is PathGennie developed by Ministry of Science and Technology? **Open-source software.**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU to reinforce quality assurance in National Highway projects? **NHAI and National Test House (NTH).**
- What is the maximum allowed dose of oral Nimesulide after the ban? **100 mg in immediate-release form.**
- Which AI-based grievance system is being launched by the Delhi Government? **Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System (IGMS).**
- Which country did India surpass to become the fourth-largest economy? **Japan.**
- Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of Hyundai Motor India Ltd from January 1, 2026? **Tarun Garg**
- Piprahwa relics are associated with which religious tradition? **Buddhism**
- Which ministry introduced the mascot 'Saankhyiki'? **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**
- Which telecom operator has launched VoWiFi services nationwide? **BSNL**
- The India-UAE joint exercise Desert Cyclone-II concluded in which city? **Abu Dhabi**
- Who won the women's 10m air rifle gold at the 68th National Shooting Championship? **Ameerah Arshad**
- Which three High Courts received new Chief Justices after Union Government approval in January 2026? **Kerala High Court, Patna High Court, and Meghalaya High Court**
- Who became the Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force on 1 January 2026? **Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor**
- Which country was still in the year 2018 when the world entered 2026? **Ethiopia**

- Which tennis player will become the oldest female to compete in the Australian Open main draw at the age of 45? **Venus Williams**
- To which global position did India rise in WHO pharmacovigilance contributions in 2025? **8th position**
- Who won the men's 10m air pistol gold at the 68th National Shooting Championship Competitions? **Army shooter Ajay Kumar.**
- Who has been appointed as the Interim President of Venezuela after Nicolás Maduro's capture in January 2026? **Delcy Rodríguez.**
- What recent in-flight safety rule did the DGCA issue regarding the use of power banks? **The use of power banks for charging devices during flights due to safety concerns related to lithium batteries.**
- What eligibility requirement was removed by the Government for deep-tech startups to avail DSIR recognition? **The mandatory three-year existence condition.**
- Which Union Minister inaugurated development projects worth ₹373 crore in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands? **Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah.**
- What major aquaculture facility was inaugurated in Ranga Reddy district, Telangana in January 2026? **The country's largest integrated inland rainbow trout farm.**
- Under which Act is the Payments Regulatory Board (PRB) constituted? **The Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.**
- What financial instruments will Delhi use to raise funds from the market under the new MoU with RBI? **State Development Loans (SDLs).**
- Who was named a former world billiards champion and passed away at 67 in January 2026? **Manoj Kothari.**
- Which company has partnered with Ikonz Studios to introduce India's first holographic advertising platform in cinemas? **PVR INOX.**
- Which country did India surpass to become the top rice producer? **China.**
- What paradoxical phenomenon did Indian scientists simulate using a supercomputer for the first time? **The Mpemba effect, where hot water can freeze faster than cold water.**
- Who was awarded the 2nd Professor (Dr.) S.R. Bhansali National Award for Excellence in Law in January 2026? **Prof. (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University.**
- Who became the longest-serving Chief Minister of Karnataka in January 2026 by breaking a decades-old record? **Siddaramaiah.**
- Which strategic maritime corridors are associated with India–Russia trade cooperation? **The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and the Chennai–Vladivostok maritime corridor.**
- Which bank launched the Zero-Forex Diamond Reserve Credit Card in January 2026? **IDFC FIRST Bank**
- What is the estimated GDP growth rate of India for the financial year 2025-26? **7.4 per cent.**
- Which Indian middle-distance runner announced his retirement in January 2026? **Jinson Johnson.**
- Which two departments signed an MoU to speed up testing of pesticide, seed and fertiliser samples in January 2026? **Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Department of Posts.**
- Who was appointed CEO of HSBC Private Bank effective January 2026? **Ida Liu.**
- Which Indian district hosts the country's first fully paperless District Court? **Kalpetta, Wayanad district, Kerala.**
- What is the name of the Aadhaar mascot launched by UIDAI in January 2026? **Udai, a resident-facing mascot to simplify Aadhaar communication.**
- Who announced his retirement from international cricket after the fifth Ashes Test in 2026? **Usman Khawaja, Australia's veteran Test batsman.**
- What major foreign policy move did the United States announce in January 2026? **Withdrawal from 66 international organisations and agencies as part of a retreat from global cooperation.**
- Which two organisations are collaborating to launch the Indian Natural Gas Futures product? **The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) and Indian Gas Exchange (IGX).**
- Which organisations jointly implement the National Supercomputing Mission? **Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) and Department of Science & Technology (DST).**
- Which company has set up the EV manufacturing facility in Lucknow? **Ashok Leyland.**
- What GDP growth rate does the UN project for India in 2027? **6.7%.**
- Recently 'Asha Van' was inaugurated in which state? **Gujarat.**
- Which mission was called off by ESA and NASA recently? **Mars Sample Return (MSR) mission.**

- Which sanctuary has been renamed as Kerala's first Butterfly Sanctuary? **Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary has been renamed as the Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary.**
- Former Indian player Davinder Singh Garcha, who passed away recently, was associated with which sport? **Hockey**
- With which country, India is strengthening collaboration in fisheries and aquaculture? **Israel.**
- Which Indian cricketer became the second-highest run-scorer in international cricket? **Virat Kohli**
- Which organisation successfully flight-tested the Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)? **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- Which key technology allows MPATGM to operate without continuous operator guidance? **Fire-and-forget technology**
- Which city will host the Women's FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 Qualifiers in India? **Hyderabad.**
- Who announced a 25% tariff on countries trading with Iran? **United States President Donald Trump.**
- How many international runs did Alyssa Healy score? **Over 7,000 runs.**
- What is Assam's first satellite called? **Lachit-1.**
- On which rocket was Lachit-1 launched? **ISRO's PSLV-C62 rocket**
- Who has been appointed as President of Nissan India? **Thierry Sabbagh.**
- Who has been appointed as President and Vice Chairman of Meta Platforms? **Dina Powell McCormick.**
- Which US agency is testing the suspected Havana Syndrome-linked device? **The US Defense Department (Pentagon).**
- Where was Havana Syndrome first reported? **In Havana, Cuba**
- Which OTT platform has partnered with the Government of India for a skilling initiative? **Netflix.**
- Where is India's first state-run BSL-4 lab being established? **Gandhinagar, Gujarat.**
- Which country designated the Egyptian, Lebanese and Jordanian branches of the Muslim Brotherhood as terrorist organisations? **United States of America.**
- Which veteran Bangladeshi singer and Awami League leader passed away in police custody? **Prolay Chaki.**
- Who won the Best Actress – Drama award at the 83rd Golden Globe Awards? **Jessie Buckley (Hamnet).**
- What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index 2026? **80th.**
- Which institution released the Export Preparedness Index 2024? **The Export Preparedness Index 2024 was released by NITI Aayog**
- Which systems of medicine are covered under AYUSH in Paripoorna Mediclaim Ayush Bima? **Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy.**
- Which Japanese bank has received in-principle approval from RBI to set up a wholly owned subsidiary in India? **Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC).**
- Under which legal provision will RBI grant the final banking licence to SMBC? **Section 22(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.**
- Which force guards India–China border? **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**
- Who has been appointed as the Director General of NIA? **Rakesh Aggarwal**
- Which bank won multiple awards at the IBA Banking Technology Awards? **Karnataka Bank**
- What is the main objective of the Japan–Philippines ACSA? **Tax-free logistical support during joint military operations.**
- Which new legislation does the government plan to introduce in the Budget Session of Parliament 2026? **The Seed Act 2026.**
- With which country, India signed a joint declaration to boost cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture? **Israel.**
- Who presented her Nobel Peace Prize medal to former US President Donald Trump at the White House? **Maria Corina Machado.**
- Which state will benefit from the World Bank's USD 286 million loan to improve healthcare access? **West Bengal.**
- Who has been named Goodwill Ambassador for the Pune Grand Tour 2026? **Mahendra Singh Dhoni.**
- Which two ministries signed the JDI on Telecommunications Cooperation between India and Germany? **Department of Telecommunications (India) & Federal Ministry for Digital Transformation**
- Which edition of the NAMO Book Festival was held in New Delhi in January 2026? **The first edition**

- Which tennis player won the 2026 ASB Classic men's singles title in Auckland? **Jakub Mensik (Czech Republic)**
- What is the full form of CRPC being set up under the RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme? **Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre.**
- Which state will host India's first green hydrogen and green ammonia complex? **Andhra Pradesh.**
- Which country does Greenland belong to? **Greenland is part of Denmark.**
- Which nations are part of the BRICS group? **Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa are BRICS members.**
- Why was Section 17A introduced in 2018? **It was introduced to protect officials from harassment and prevent policy paralysis.**
- What is the POCSO Act meant to do? **The POCSO Act is designed to protect children below 18 from sexual abuse and exploitation.**
- What historic milestone did Vidarbha achieve in the Vijay Hazare Trophy? **Vidarbha won the Vijay Hazare Trophy for the first time in their history.**
- Who won the women's singles title at the India Open 2026? **An Se Young**
- Who won the men's doubles title at the India Open 2026? **Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang**
- At which locations in Himachal Pradesh will the new MSME Technology Centres be set up? **Parwanoo (Solan district) and Pandoga (Una district).**
- Which organization won the SKOCH Award 2025 for Cell Broadcast Solution? **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).**
- What rank did India secure in RNI 2026? **16th position.**
- Who will receive the Padmapani Award at the 11th Ajanta-Ellora International Film Festival? **Legendary composer Ilaiyaraaja.**
- Why was Valentino famous worldwide? **He was known for elegant couture designs and defining Italian luxury fashion globally.**
- What is the name of the proposed honour-killing law in Karnataka? **The law is called 'Eva Nammava Eva Nammava Kanoonu, 2026'.**
- Why did Trump propose the Board of Peace? **It was proposed to guide Gaza's transition from conflict to stability after the Israel-Hamas war.**
- What is the National Committee for the Administration of Gaza (NCAG)? **It is a Palestinian-led body meant to run daily civil administration in Gaza.**
- What is the main role of the Gaza Executive Board? **It is meant to oversee governance, reconstruction, and service delivery in Gaza.**
- Who is María Corina Machado? **She is a Venezuelan opposition leader and the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.**
- Which rules were amended to strengthen user fee (toll) payment compliance on National Highways? **Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.**
- Which Indian state signed 19 MoUs worth ₹14.50 lakh crore at the World Economic Forum in Davos? **Maharashtra.**
- Which UAE company signed a 10-year LNG supply agreement with HPCL? **ADNOC Gas.**
- Why are global leaders engaging more with China? **Many countries are turning to China to stabilise trade ties amid uncertainty caused by U.S. policies.**
- Who is legally required to pay tariffs at the US border? **US importers are legally required to pay tariffs to customs authorities**
- Why does India want to set up a data embassy outside its borders? **To protect critical government data and ensure continuity during cyberattacks, disasters, or emergencies.**
- Which legal provision was discussed by the Madras High Court about women in live-in relationships? **The case involved Section 69 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which deals with cheating and exploitation.**
- The Republic Day tableau of 2026 will commemorate how many years of Vande Mataram? **150 years**
- What is the name of the world's largest nuclear power plant by capacity? **Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant**
- Which company signed a ₹270 crore sponsorship deal with BCCI ahead of IPL 2026? **Google's AI platform Gemini**
- Who has been appointed as the new Group CEO of Eternal? **Blinkit CEO Albinder Dhindsa**
- Which city is the second most congested in the world according to the TomTom Traffic Index 2025? **Bengaluru**
- Why is Greenland strategically important in the Arctic region? **Greenland is important because of its location between North America and Europe, making it vital for defence and surveillance.**
- What is the main role of the Pituffik Space Base? **It supports missile warning, space surveillance, and**

- early detection systems for North American defence.
- Which country controls Greenland politically? **Greenland is an autonomous territory under the sovereignty of Denmark.**
- Which film won the Best International Film award at PIFF? **“The Elysian Field”**
- Which actors received Best Acting awards at PIFF? **Girish Kulkarni and Rajshri Deshpande**
- Where is India’s first integrated private satellite manufacturing plant inaugurated recently? **Sanand, Gujarat.**
- Why was India previously unable to import oil from Venezuela? **India stopped buying Venezuelan oil due to U.S. sanctions imposed on Venezuela.**
- What is meant by the demerger of LIC? **It refers to splitting LIC into smaller independent entities instead of operating as one unified institution.**
- What economic role does LIC play beyond insurance? **LIC mobilises household savings and supports government borrowing and infrastructure financing.**
- Who is stepping down from IndusInd Bank's chairman? **Sunil Mehta**
- Which country has officially exited the World Health Organization? **The United States has officially exited the WHO.**
- MSDE signed the MoU on skills and technical education with which international organization? **World Economic Forum (WEF).**
- Who has been appointed as the Country Head – India of Guardian India Operations Pvt Ltd? **Karunakaran (Karun) Azhisur.**
- Which scheme was showcased in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj tableau at the 77th Republic Day Parade? **SVAMITVA Scheme.**
- In how many languages is the ECINET platform available? **22 Scheduled Indian languages and English.**
- What is the Board of Peace? **It is a proposed global group aimed at promoting peace and resolving conflicts.**
- Who has been appointed as the UK’s special envoy to the US? **Varun Chandra, the Prime Minister’s business adviser.**
- Where is the Dorjilung Hydropower Project located? **Bhutan.**
- What is an autonomous territory? **It is a region that governs itself to some extent while remaining part of a larger country.**
- Which country has Greenland and the Faroe Islands as autonomous regions? **Denmark.**
- Why is Bangladesh being replaced in the T20 World Cup 2026? **Bangladesh is being replaced because the Bangladesh Cricket Board did not confirm its participation and failed to meet ICC conditions.**
- Who was Ilyas Pasha? **Ilyas Pasha was a former India and East Bengal football defender.**
- Who will receive the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2025? **Mozambican rights activist Graça Machel**
- What is the main benefit of the Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojana? **It provides free cashless medical treatment up to ₹10 lakh per family per year.**
- What is the C295 aircraft? **It is a medium-lift military transport aircraft used by the Indian Air Force.**
- Who is manufacturing the C295 aircraft in India? **Tata Advanced Systems Limited**



Quick Bytes

- Patna Bird Sanctuary & Chhari-Dhand Designated as India's 97th & 98th Ramsar Sites
- SAIL Earns 'Great Place to Work' Certification for Third Consecutive Time
- Former CBSE Chairman and Padma Shri Father Thomas V.Kunnunkal Passed Away
- Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel Launches 'Mukhyamantri Gramoththan Yojana' to Upgrade Rural Infrastructure
- SBI Launches 'CHAKRA' to Invest Rs 100 Trillion in Sun Rise Sectors over Next 5 Years
- 68th Grammy Awards 2026: Dalai Lama, K-Pop Win First Grammys, Bad Bunny Wins Album of the Year
- Sunetra Pawar Becomes First Woman Deputy CM of Maharashtra
- Australian Open 2026: Carlos Alcaraz & Elena Rybakina Win Men's and Women's Singles Title
- Devika Sihag Claimed Maiden Super 300 Title at Thailand Masters 2026
- IHMCL Signs MoU with NFSU to Strengthen Cyber Security in National Highway Operations
- World Bank Approves USD 830 Million Loan for PM-SETU to Upgrade India's ITIs
- Tripura Gramin Bank launches India's First RRB Co-Branded RuPay Credit Card with PNB
- Union Minister Rajnath Singh Approves Miniratna Category-I Status for Yantra India
- Arunachal Pradesh Mountaineer Kabak Yano Summits Mount Aconcagua in Argentina
- Indian-Origin Climate Scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan Awarded 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences
- AP CM N. Chandrababu Naidu Launches 'Pilloo AI', Voice-Based Billing Platform
- 13th India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Military Exercise KHANJAR-XIII Commences in Assam
- NGEL and Assago Signs MoU to Develop India's First Indigenous Green Urea Plant in AP
- Walmart Becomes World's First Retail Company to Reach USD 1 Trillion Market Value
- Goldman Sachs Upgrades India's CY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.9%
- Bhutan Queen Mother Honoured with 22nd Upendra Nath Brahma 'Soldier of Humanity' Award 2025:
- RBI Approves Vinay Muralidhar Tonse as MD & CEO of YES Bank
- Travel Writer and Padma Shri Awardee Hugh Gantzer Passed Away
- India Joins BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies to Support Manufacturing and MSMEs
- India and GCC Sign Terms of Reference to Resume Free Trade Agreement Talks
- Alwar Becomes India's First District to Achieve 100% Insurance Coverage
- Adani Defence Partners Leonardo for Helicopter Manufacturing in India
- Paradip Port Authority Wins First Prize at Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025
- Yumnam Khemchand Singh Sworn In As Manipur CM after One Year of President's Rule
- Digantra Industries Signs Agreement with DSTA to Protect Satellites from Space Debris Collisions
- Padma Awardee Dr. Andre Beteille Passed Away
- India Pays USD 35.18 Million to UN Regular Budget 2026; Joins 'Honour Roll'
- GoI, Nagaland Government and ENPO Signed Agreement to Form FNTA
- Union Minister Amit Shah Launches India's First Cooperative-sector taxi service 'Bharat Taxi' in New Delhi
- Indian Teacher Rouble Nagi Wins Global Teacher Prize 2026
- Toyota Motors Appoints Kenta Kon as its New President and CEO
- RBI Approves Blackstone to Acquire 9.99% Stake in Federal Bank
- Royal Challengers Bengaluru Clinch 2nd WPL Title 2026 Against Delhi Capitals
- India-USA Agree on Framework for Interim Trade Agreement
- VOC Port Becomes 1st Port in India to Deploy Advanced 'Anti-Drone System'
- IOC Elects Soraya Aghaei Hajiagha as Iran's First Female IOC Member
- Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-3' Successfully Test-Fired in Odisha
- India Wins Sixth ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup Title 2026 by Defeating England
- Goa Becomes 2nd State in India to Publish State-level Bird Atlas

- World's First Doctor-Led AI-Powered Home Healthcare Ecosystem 'iLive Connect' Launched
- Japanese PM Sanae Takaichi's party secures 'landmark victory' in snap elections
- Anutin Charnvirakul Won Thailand's 2026 General Election
- India Clinches SAFF U-19 Women's Football Title Against Bangladesh in Nepal
- Rajasthan Becomes Largest Wool Producer in India
- Network Readiness Index 2025: USA Tops; India Ranks 45th
- Moody's Projects India's GDP Growth Rate at 6.4% in FY27, Fastest Among G-20 Nations
- RBI approves Vijay Anandh as new MD and CEO of City Union Bank w.e.f May 1
- Indian Cricketer Shikhar Dhawan Appointed as Brand Ambassador of Inaugural Delhi Khel Mahakumbh
- ISRO Identifies Mons Mouton-4 as Lander Site for Chandrayaan-4 Mission
- Aditya Pandya Becomes India's Youngest Male Analog Astronaut
- Services Defeat Kerala to Clinch 8th Santosh Trophy Title 2025-26 in Assam
- Gujarat Signs LoI with Starlink to Boost Digital Connectivity
- Indian Air Force & Thai Air Force Undertake Joint in-situ Air Exercise
- CPI 2025: India Ranks 91st Among 182 Countries; Denmark Retains Top Position
- Delhi Government Launches Lakshpati Bitiya Yojana for Financial Support to Girls
- India Signed Bilateral pact with UK to Boost Strategic & Economic Ties
- Agneevasthraa Signs MoU with Indian Army to Supply Defence Materials
- WIPO : India Ranks 7th in Global R&D Spending in 2024; China Tops
- Puducherry Doctors Dr. Haripriya Aravind & Dr. R. Venkatesh Win Chang-Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026
- Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan Launches 'Sthree Suraksha' Scheme for Women's Financial Security
- PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates Seva Teerth complex in New Delhi
- Indian Navy Assumes Command of Combined Task Force 154 in Bahrain
- MoD signs Rs 2,312 Crore Deal with HAL for 8 Dornier Aircraft Equipment for ICG
- Henley Passport Index – February 2026: Singapore Topped; India Climbs to 75th
- NIPL Signs Agreement with Malaysia's PayNet for Cross-Border QR Payments
- Bulgaria Appoints Andrey Gyurov as Acting PM
- CA Prasanna Kumar D Elected as the President of the ICAI
- RBI Approves Reappointment of Sanjay Agarwal as MD & CEO of AU SFB
- MoPNG Appoints Deepak Gupta as new CMD of GAIL
- India Dominates Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026 with Historic 94-Medal Haul
- Uday Kotak Appointed as Chairman of GIFT City Gujarat
- Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley Wins Historic Third Consecutive Election Victory
- Reliance Industries Secures U.S. License to Import Venezuelan Crude Oil
- Oil India Limited Receives FIPI Award 2025 for Outstanding Oil & Gas Production Performance
- Veteran Kannada Filmmaker Joe Simon Passes Away After Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- Union MoS Jitendra Singh Launches First Rs 2,000 Crore BIRAC-RDI Fund to Boost Biotech Sector
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah Launches CBDC Based PDS in Gujarat
- Barbados PM Mia Mottley Re-elected as PM of Barbados for Third Consecutive Time
- GalaxEye Partners with ISRO's NSIL to Sell its Satellite Imagery Solutions
- Kerala Approves India's First Comprehensive Graphene Policy
- PM Narendra Modi Approves Launch of 'PM RAHAT Scheme' for Road Accident Victims
- Modi & Macron Launch H125 Project – India Enters Elite Helicopter League
- Veteran Actress Pravina Deshpande Passed Away in Mumbai at 60
- Smriti Mandhana Named BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2025
- Magnus Carlsen Wins Inaugural FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship in Germany
- Oscar-Winning Actor Robert Duvall Passes Away
- Supreme Court Declares 'Menstrual Health' as a Fundamental Right under Article 21
- India's First National Biobank for LSDs Launched in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Tarique Rahman Sworn in as 11th PM of Bangladesh
- Oscar-Winning Filmmaker Frederick Wiseman Passed Away

- FCI Signs Landmark MoU with WFP to Supply 2 Lakh MT Rice Annually
- India Joins Trump's Gaza Peace Board as Observer Amid Global Diplomacy Push
- India Signs On to US-Led Pax Silica Partnership for Critical Minerals and Chip Security
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh Inaugurates 13th Edition of Exercise MILAN-2026
- IPC Lifts Ban: Russian and Belarusian Athletes to Compete at Milan-Cortina 2026
- Harmanpreet Kaur Creates History: Becomes Most-Capped Player in Women's Cricket
- India-UK Launches 'Offshore Wind Task Force' under Vision 2035
- India & Nepal Signs Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement on Criminal Matters
- Trump Slaps 10% Global Tariff on All Imports After Supreme Court Setback
- India Revises Base Year of Merchandise Trade Indices to 2022-23
- Microsoft has appointed Asha Sharma as the new CEO of Microsoft Gaming and head of Xbox in 2026, succeeding longtime chief Phil Spencer, who is retiring.
- Harsharan Kaur Trehan Becomes PSPCL's First Woman Director (Commercial)
- Made in India: Nadda Launches Indigenous Td Vaccine at Kasauli Centre
- Norway Breaks Winter Olympics Record! 17th Gold Seals Historic Milestone in Milan
- Legendary Bengali Author Shankar Passes Away at 92, Leaves Behind Timeless Literary Legacy
- India Launches 'Prahaar': New National Counter-Terrorism Policy Sets Zero-Tolerance Framework
- Punjab Launches 'Meri Rasoi' Scheme: Free Food Kits for 40 Lakh Poor Families Ahead of Budget Session
- 475 Year Old Vasai Cathedral Wins UNESCO Award: Community-Led Conservation Earns Global Recognition
- VP C. P. Radhakrishnan Unveils 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee: The Eternal Statesman' in New Delhi
- India-US Vajra Prahar 2026: Special Forces Gear Up for 16th Joint Exercise in Himachal
- Shashi Tharoor Conferred Honorary D.Litt by St Xavier's University, Kolkata
- Who Was Mukul Roy? 'Chanakya of Bengal Politics' Dies at 73 After Cardiac Arrest
- Sameer Kanodia Wins CEO of the Year for Second Straight Year
- Literary Icon Mani Shankar Mukhopadhyay Passes Away at 92
- UAE Launches Landmark Pediatric Gene Therapy Projects
- Bihar is officially Naxal-free after the last armed Maoist, Suresh Koda, surrendered in Munger.
- Maharashtra's Soundala Becomes First Caste-Free Village in India
- India Launches First Compliance-Based Carbon Credit Trading Scheme
- Union Cabinet Approves Renaming Kerala as Keralam
- Gujarat CM Releases "Vishwaguru Srila Prabhupada" Biography
- Delhi to Implement Rah-Veer Scheme for Road Accident Victims
- Jose Maria Balcazar Elected Interim President of Peru
- Rajan Bajaj Appointed MD & CEO of Slice Small Finance Bank
- Indian Army Successfully Tests Strela-10 VSHORADS at Pokhran
- India and GCC Formally Launch Free Trade Agreement Negotiations
- India and Israel commenced the first round of Free Trade Agreement negotiations in New Delhi
- Tech at the Temple: E-Nose and E-Tongue to Protect Tirumala Prasadam Quality
- Big Boost for Ex-Agniveers: 20% Delhi Police Constable Quota Approved by LG
- India Drops Most Favoured Nation Status in France In Tax Pact
- Netherlands Gets Youngest-Ever Prime Minister in Rob Jetten
- Nidhi Chhibber Takes Charge as NITI Aayog CEO After BVR Subrahmanyam's Term Ends
- BNHS Signs MoU with Jharkhand to Conserve Critically Endangered Vulture Species
- World Bank Approves Rs.5,700 crore for 'Jal Sanrakshit Haryana Project'
- Padma Awards 2026: President Approves 131 Padma Awards, includes 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan and 113 Padma Shri
- Veteran Indian Sports Administrator Randhir Singh Steps Down as President of OCA
- Veteran Journalist & Padma Awardee Mark Tully Passed Away
- Former BCCI president Inderjit Singh Bindra Passed Away
- MP Governor Mangubhai Patel Declares 2026 as 'Year of Agriculture'

- Indian Railways Deploys First Humanoid Robot 'ASC ARJUN' at Visakhapatnam Railway Station
- Indian Army Partners with IISc to Develop Indigenous AI Defence System
- President Droupadi Murmu Inaugurates Cultural & Literary Space 'Granth Kutir'
- USA Officially Withdraws from World Health Organization
- Dr Chandrakant Lahariya Becomes First Indian to Receive Wiley Research Heroes Award
- Sikkim Police Conferred with President's Police Colour Award 2026
- Arijit Basu Appointed as Part-time Chairman of IndusInd Bank
- COAS General Upendra Dwivedi Launches Book 'Red Lines Redrawn: Operation Sindoor and India's New Normal'
- PFRDA Constitutes SAARG Committee Headed by Narayan Ramachandran for NPS Review
- Adani Defence Signs MoU with Brazil's Embraer for Aircraft Manufacturing
- GAIL Partners with K LINE and J M Baxi to Acquire Equity Stake in LNG Ship-Ownning Company
- Microsoft Unveils Second-Generation 'Maia 200' In-House AI Chip
- Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar Passed Away
- Assam Launches Mukhya Mantrir Eti Koli Duti Paat Scheme for Tea Garden Workers
- GoI Notifies 'Coking Coal' as Critical Mineral to Reduce Import Dependence
- MoSPI Operationalises PAIMANA Portal for Central Sector Infrastructure Projects
- IA Partners with USA's Shield AI for Procurement of Autonomous V-BAT Drones
- Paysharp Secures PA-P License from RBI to Operate as Physical Payment Aggregator
- Kota Ravi Appointed as CMD of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.

Trending Topics of the Month

BUDGET 2026 HIGHLIGHTS

What Every Indian Needs to Know Right Now



On 1 February 2026, the Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, presented the Union Budget 2026-27 in Parliament. This Budget is the first to be prepared in Kartavya Bhawan and focuses on growth, citizens' aspirations, and inclusive development.

This section includes major government plans to strengthen industries, jobs, and infrastructure:

1. Main Goals (Kartavyas)

The Budget is inspired by three big goals:

1. Grow the economy faster by improving productivity and making India stronger in the face of global changes.
2. Support people's aspirations by building their capabilities and opportunities.
3. Ensure inclusive growth so that every family, region, community, and sector benefits.

2. Budget Numbers (Estimates)

- Total receipts (without borrowing): ₹36.5 lakh crore
- Total spending: ₹53.5 lakh crore
- Centre's net tax revenue: ₹28.7 lakh crore
- Gross market borrowing: ₹17.2 lakh crore
- Net market borrowing (after repayment): ₹11.7 lakh crore
- Fiscal deficit: 4.3% of GDP
- Debt-to-GDP ratio: 55.6% (lower than last year)

3. First Kartavya — Growth & Strategic Development

A. Strengthening Manufacturing

The Budget aims to scale up manufacturing in 7 strategic sectors:

- Biopharma SHAKTI: ₹10,000 crore over 5 years to make India a global biopharma hub. New National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs) and accredited clinical trial sites will be developed.
- India Semiconductor Mission 2.0: To make semiconductor equipment and technology in India.
- Electronics Components: Budget increased to ₹40,000 crore.
- Rare Earth Corridors: To boost mining and manufacturing in mineral-rich states.
- Chemical Parks: Three parks to support chemicals manufacturing.
- Capital Goods: New tool rooms and schemes to improve construction and infrastructure equipment production.
- Container Manufacturing: A dedicated ₹10,000 crore scheme over 5 years.

B. Textile Sector Plan

The Budget introduces an Integrated Textile Programme which includes:

- National Fibre Scheme for self-reliance in natural and new fibres.
- Textile Expansion & Employment Scheme to modernise clusters.
- Mega Textile Parks for technical textiles.
- Mahatma Gandhi Gram Swaraj initiative to support khadi, handloom, and handicrafts.

C. Legacy Industrial Clusters

A scheme to revive 200 old industrial clusters for better competitiveness.

D. Support for Small and Medium Businesses

- A ₹10,000 crore SME Growth Fund to nurture future champion companies.
- ₹2,000 crore added to the Self-Reliant India Fund for micro enterprises.
- Professional bodies will help train business advisors in smaller towns.

4. Infrastructure Push

The government significantly increased infrastructure spending:

- Public capital expenditure for FY 2026-27 set at ₹12.2 lakh crore.
- An Infrastructure Risk Guarantee Fund will support private developers.
- REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts) will help recycle government real estate assets.

New Connectivity Projects

- Dedicated Freight Corridor: From Dankuni (East) to Surat (West) for faster cargo movement.
- 20 New National Waterways to improve inland transport.
- Boat repair facilities at Varanasi and Patna.
- Coastal Cargo Promotion Scheme to increase shipping share from 6% to 12% by 2047.
- Support for seaplane manufacturing and operations to enhance connectivity and tourism.

5. Energy & City Development

₹20,000 crore allocated over 5 years for Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technology. ₹5,000 crore per city economic region over 5 years to develop urban areas with reform-linked financing. Seven High-Speed Rail corridors will be built to connect major cities.

6. Governance and Financial Reforms

- A High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat will review the banking sector.

- Restructuring of Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation for better efficiency.
- Foreign investment rules (FEMA) will be reviewed to make them easier and modern.
- Municipal bonds: ₹100 crore incentive for bonds above ₹1,000 crore by big cities.

7. Second Kartavya — People's Aspirations & Capacity Building

The Budget includes many measures to support people with skills, jobs, health, and services:

Health & Medical Services

- 100,000 new Allied Health Professionals will be added over 5 years.
- Five Regional Medical Hubs to promote medical tourism.
- Three new All India Institutes of Ayurveda will be established.

Education, Culture & Tourism

- Orange Economy support: AVGC labs in 15,000 schools and 500 colleges.
- Five University Townships near industrial zones.
- Girls' hostels will be built in every district.
- Tourism support includes upskilling guides and a National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid.
- 15 historical sites to be developed as cultural destinations.

Sports

A new Khelo India Mission will be launched to strengthen sports infrastructure and talent.

8. Third Kartavya — Inclusive Growth ("Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas")

A. Agriculture & Farmer Support

- Projects for 500 reservoirs and Amrit Sarovars for integrated agriculture support.
- Support for high-value crops like coconut, sandalwood, cocoa and cashew in coastal areas.
- Bharat-VISTAAR: a multilingual AI tool to help farmers access agri information and technology.

B. Empowering Persons with Disabilities

Divyangjan Kaushal Yojana will help persons with disabilities find jobs in IT, AVGC, hospitality, and F&B sectors.

C. Mental Health

NIMHANS-2 will be set up in North India, and existing institutes will be upgraded.

D. Regional Development

- East Coast Industrial Corridor with a strong node at Durgapur.
- Five tourism destinations in the Northeast and 4,000 e-buses for sustainable travel.
- Buddhist Circuit development in Northeast states.

9. Support for States

₹1.4 lakh crore provided as Finance Commission Grants to states for FY 2026-27, following the 16th Finance Commission recommendations.

10. Tax & Customs Proposals (Simplified)

Direct Taxes

- New Income Tax Act, 2025 will start from April 2026 for easier compliance.
- Changes to penalty rules aim to reduce litigation and make tax filing simpler.
- Interest received from motor accident claims will be exempt from income tax.
- TCS on overseas tour packages and remittances for education/medical will be lowered to 2%.
- Safe harbour rules for IT services expanded with a 15.5% margin and higher thresholds.
- Non-residents providing cloud services from India will get tax holiday till 2047.

- MAT (Minimum Alternate Tax) reduced to 14% and made final tax.

Indirect Taxes & Customs

- Customs duty simplification to support manufacturing of steel, energy and critical minerals.
- Many exemptions introduced (e.g., lithium-ion battery parts, aircraft parts).
- Duty rate on goods imported for personal use cut from 20% to 10%.
- Exemption on 17 medicines and duty-free imports for certain rare disease treatments.

Customs Facilitation

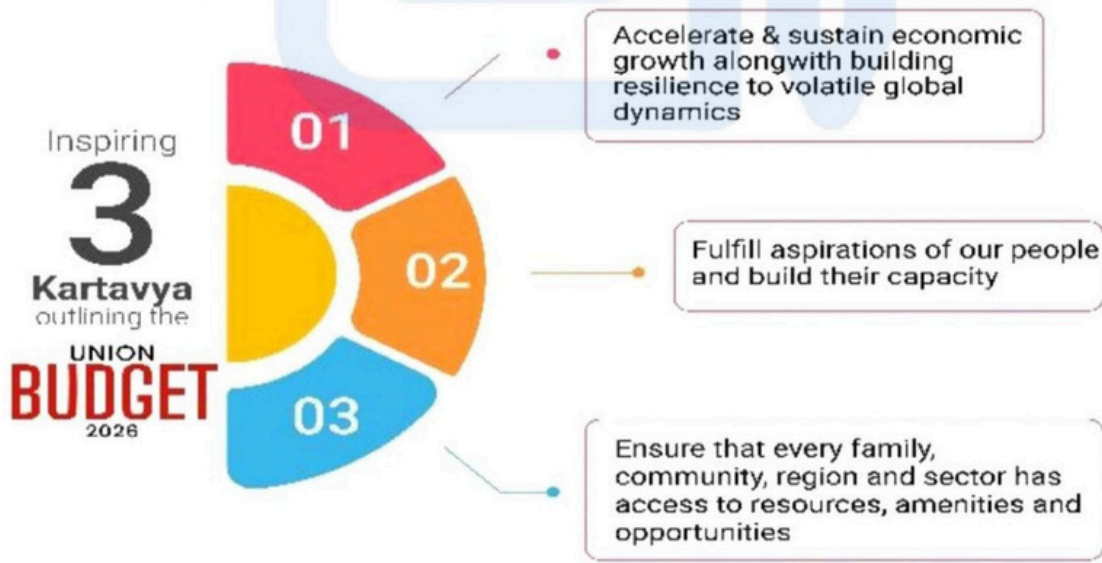
- Customs clearance will be faster and simpler through improved digital systems by April 2026.
- The Customs Integrated System (CIS) will be launched in 2 years for all trade processes.

Export Promotion

- Fish caught in Indian waters or high seas will be treated as export without duty.
- The ₹10 lakh cap on courier exports per consignment is removed to help small businesses reach global markets.

Ease of Travel & Taxpayer Relief

- International baggage rules will be updated to match modern travel needs.
- Honest taxpayers can settle disputes by paying an additional amount instead of penalties.



The Economic Survey

What Is the Economic Survey 2026?

The Economic Survey 2025-26 (commonly called Economic Survey 2026) is an annual analytical report of the Government of India that reviews the country's economic performance over the past year, assesses macroeconomic developments, and outlines future prospects and policy priorities. It sets the stage for the Union Budget 2026–27 by providing data-driven insights and forecasts on growth, inflation, sectoral performance, fiscal trends, and structural challenges.

Who drafts the Economic Survey each year?

The Survey is prepared by the Economic Division of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, under the guidance of the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA). A team of government economists and statisticians compiles and analyses economic data to prepare this authoritative document.

When is the Economic Survey released and how is it presented?

The Survey is traditionally presented in Parliament just before the Union Budget—in 2026 it was tabled on 29 January 2026 by the Union Finance Minister during the Budget Session. It is formally laid before the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament) as a pre-budget document to inform lawmakers, analysts, and the public about the economy's current state.

What is the significance of the Economic Survey 2026?



The Survey matters because it:

- **Reviews performance:** Assesses India's economic progress, challenges, and resilience over the past year.

- **Informs policymaking:** Provides evidence and projections that guide Budget formulation and policy decisions.
- **Signals direction:** Highlights structural reforms, risks, and strategic priorities.
- **Shapes public debate:** Offers insights for academics, investors, business leaders, and media on key economic trends.

In what way is the Economic Survey 2026 connected to the Union Budget 2026?

The Economic Survey acts as a diagnostic and analytical precursor to the Union Budget. Its assessment of economic growth, fiscal trends, inflation, and sectoral performance helps shape budget estimates, revenue targets, spending priorities, and reform measures in the Union Budget 2026–27. Policymakers use its projections and recommendations to align fiscal strategy with economic goals.

The Economic Landscape Through the Survey

1) State of the Economy

- India's economy grew 7.4% in FY26.
- Gross Value Added (GVA) increased by 7.3%.
- India remained the fastest-growing major economy for the 4th consecutive year.
- The services sector grew 9.3% in H1 FY26 and is estimated at 9.1% for the full year.

2) Fiscal Developments

- Central government revenue rose to 9.2% of GDP in FY25.
- Income tax filers increased from 6.9 crore (FY22) to 9.2 crore (FY25).
- GST collections touched ₹17.4 lakh crore (April–December 2025), growing 6.7% year-on-year.
- Effective capital expenditure increased to about 4% of GDP.
- General government debt reduced by 7.1 percentage points compared to 2020.

3) Monetary and Financial Sector

- Banks' Gross NPAs fell to 2.2%, while Net NPAs declined to 0.5%.
- 55.02 crore Jan Dhan accounts were opened, including 36.63 crore rural accounts.
- Demat accounts crossed 21.6 crore.
- India now has over 12 crore unique investors, with about 25% women investors.

4) External Sector

- India's share in global merchandise exports rose from 1% to 1.8%.
- Services exports reached a record USD 387.6 billion.
- India received USD 135.4 billion in remittances, the highest globally.
- Foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 701.4 billion, covering around 11 months of imports.

5) Inflation

Average domestic inflation remained low at 1.7% during April–December 2025.

6) Agriculture and Food

- Foodgrain production increased to 3,577.3 lakh metric tonnes, up by 254.3 LMT.
- Over ₹4.09 lakh crore was released to farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme.

7) Industry, Manufacturing & PLI

- Manufacturing GVA grew by 7.72% in Q1 FY26 and 9.13% in Q2 FY26.
- Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes attracted over ₹2.0 lakh crore in actual investment.
- The India Semiconductor Mission saw investments worth ₹1.60 lakh crore across 10 projects.

8) Infrastructure

- High-speed highway corridors expanded from 550 km to 5,364 km.
- About 3,500 km of railway lines were added.
- 99.1% of railway routes were electrified.
- India became the 3rd largest domestic aviation market with 164 operational airports.

9) Renewable Energy & Technology

- India ranked 3rd globally in renewable energy capacity and solar power.
- Through the SpaDeX mission, India became the 4th country to achieve autonomous satellite docking.

10) Education, Health & Human Development

- India now has 23 IITs, 21 IIMs, and 20 AIIMS, including 2 international IIT campuses.
- Maternal and child mortality rates recorded significant declines across the country.

11) Employment, Labour & Social Progress

- Over 31 crore workers registered on the e-Shram portal, of which 54% are women.
- The National Career Service portal listed more than 2.8 crore job vacancies.
- The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) fell sharply from 55.3% (2005-06) to 11.28% (2022-23).

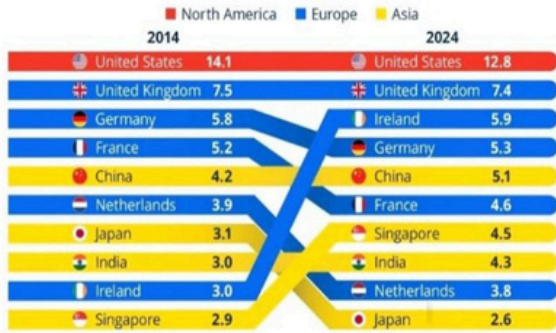
12) Strategic Vision – Disciplined Swadeshi

- Focus on reducing dependence in critical sectors through targeted indigenisation.
- Emphasis on building high-impact and cost-effective manufacturing capabilities.
- Long-term goal: move from self-reliance to strategic indispensability in global markets.

Infographics

The World's Top Services Exporters

Leading exporters of commercial services in 2014 and 2024 (in percent of global exports)



Milano Cortina: Which Countries Punched Above Their Weight?

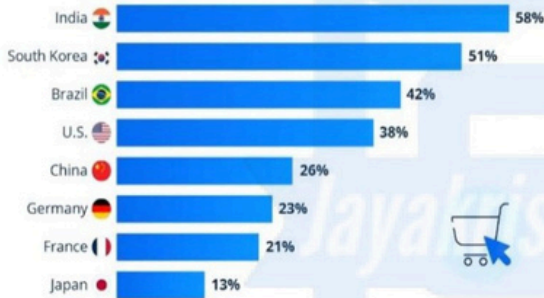
Number of medals won per million inhabitants at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics



Sources: IOC, UN Population Division

Where Are Online Grocery Delivery Services Popular?

Share of respondents who have booked an online grocery delivery in the past 12 months



Europeans Dominate at the Winter Olympics

Nations with most gold medals won at the Winter Olympics in 2018, 2022 and 2026

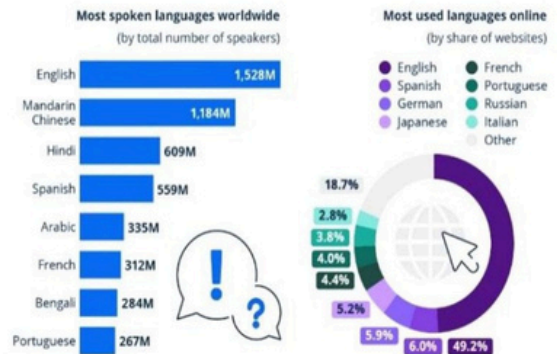


World's most connected airports 2025

Top 10 megahubs ranked by total flight connections and destinations served

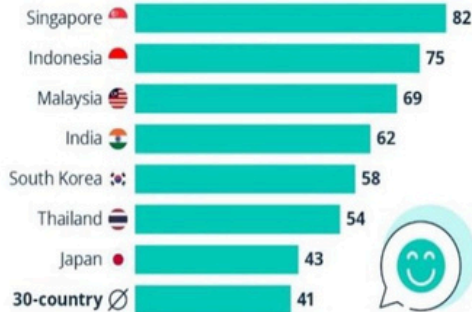


The Most Spoken Languages Online and Offline



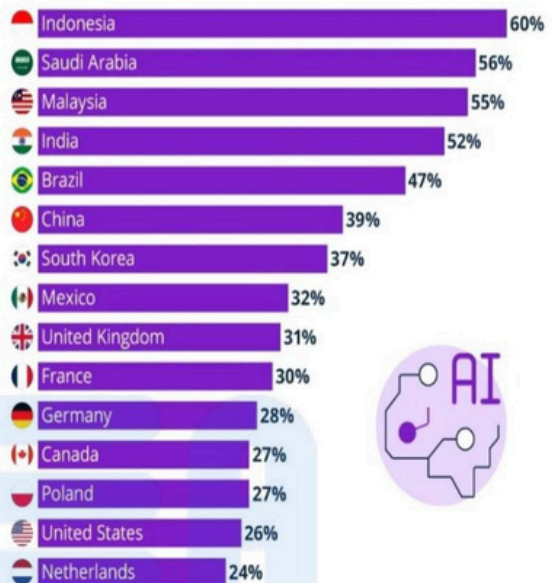
Asians More Optimistic Than Most for Countries' Future

Share of respondents who believe things in their country are headed in the right direction (in percent)



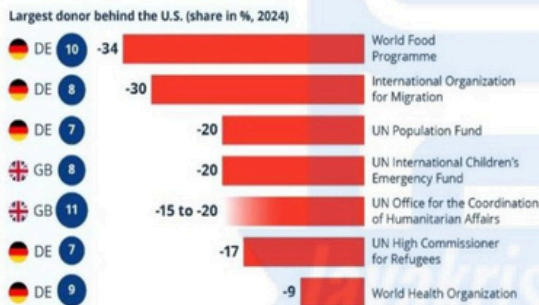
Where Has AI Adoption Taken Off?

Share of respondents who said they benefited from using AI applications in daily life



Aid at Risk: UN Budgets Hit by U.S. Pullout

Estimated/projected cuts in the following UN agencies' budgets due to the United States withdrawal (in percent)*



* WFP & IOM: for 2025 vs. 2024, UNFPA: for 2026-29 vs. 2022-25, UNICEF: for 2026 vs. 2024, OCHA & UNHCR: for 2026 vs. 2025, WHO: for 2026-27 vs. 2024-25
Sources: Respective agencies via Munich Security Report 2026

Global Worries, Local Priorities

Two most significant risks faced by the following countries according to the Munich Security Index 2026



Around 1,000 adults per country surveyed in November 2025
Score (0-100, 100=highest) based on five dimensions: overall, trajectory, severity, imminence, preparedness
Source: Munich Security Report 2026

China Now Operates the Second Largest Nuclear Submarine Fleet

Global operational fleet of nuclear-powered submarines





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-  www.jayakrishnanramachandran.in
-  mail@jayakrishnanramachandran.in

