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# CURRENT MONTHLY AFFAIRS BOOSTER

## APRIL 2026



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**Jyakrishnan Ramachandran**





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Apr-2026

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## Important Personalities

- Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of HOEC from April 1, 2026? **Baroruchi Mishra.**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO of NITI Aayog? **Nidhi Chhibber (IAS).**
- Who has been appointed President of Jio Platforms Limited to lead its global expansion? **Dan Bailey.**
- Who is the current President of Somalia? **Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.**
- Who is the leader of the Rastriya Swatantra Party? **Balendra Shah.**
- Who has been appointed as the next General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOC-in-C) of the Indian Army's Western Command? **Pushendra Pal Singh**
- Who has been appointed as the Interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank? **Ketan Merchant.**
- Who is the Chairman of the Board of IndiGo? — **Vikram Singh Mehta**
- Who was sworn in as the 22nd Governor of West Bengal in 2026? **R. N. Ravi**
- Who became the first woman Chief Superintendent of an operational nuclear power plant in India? **R. M. Nachammai**
- Who has been appointed as the Whole-Time Member of SEBI for a three-year term? **Kompella Venkata Ramana Murty**
- Who is the current Chairman of SEBI? **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**
- Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of HDFC ERGO? **Parthanil Ghosh.**
- Who is the Chairman of HDFC ERGO's Board? **Keki M. Mistry.**
- Who has assumed charge as Member of NCSC? **Dr. Partha Biswas**
- Who was sworn in as the President of Chile? **José Antonio Kast**
- Who did José Antonio Kast succeed as President of Chile in 2026? **Gabriel Boric**
- Who has been re-elected Chairman of ATMA in 2026? **Arun Mammen**
- Who has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to China in 2026? **Vikram Doraiswami**
- Who has been appointed as Director (Personnel) at NMDC Limited? **Krishna Kumar Thakur**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) in 2026? **Puneet Gupta**
- Who has been appointed as Managing Director (APAC) of OpenAI in 2026? **Kiran Mani**
- Who recently stepped down as President and CEO of the World Economic Forum amid scrutiny over past interactions with Jeffrey Epstein? **Børge Brende**
- Who resigned as CEO of IndiGo in March 2026? — **Pieter Elbers**
- Who announced that he will step down as the CEO of Adobe? **Shantanu Narayen.**
- Who resigned as head of the US National Counterterrorism Center in 2026? **Joe Kent**
- Who resigned as Chairman of HDFC Bank in 2026 citing ethical differences? **Atanu Chakraborty**
- Which Supreme Leader of Iran was killed during the 2026 U.S.–Israel strikes on Iran? **Ali Khamenei.**
- Which veteran journalist, former editor of The Hindustan Times and The Indian Express, passed away at the age of 88 in New Delhi? **H. K. Dua**
- Which Indian Army soldier and Vir Chakra awardee passed away in Kerala in March 2026? **K. G. George**
- In which war did K.G. George display gallantry for which he received the Vir Chakra? **Indo-Pakistani War of 1965**
- Who was the veteran Tamil filmmaker who passed away in March 2026? **Thakkali Srinivasan**
- Who was Biren Singh Engti? **A veteran Congress leader and former Union Minister from Assam.**
- Who was the former General Secretary of the All India Football Federation who passed away in March 2026? **Kushal Das**
- Which veteran Bollywood actress known for films like Hero and Satta Pe Satta passed away in March 2026? **Madhu Malhotra.**
- Which legendary American actor and martial artist passed away in March 2026 at the age of 86? **Chuck Norris**

## National & International News

- The Maoist insurgency in India is also known by what name? **Left Wing Extremism (LWE).**
- What type of flight services are provided under NSOP in India? **Non-scheduled, on-demand charter and private jet flights.**
- Which company's semiconductor ATMP facility will be inaugurated in Gujarat? **Micron Technology.**
- The Western Command headquarters of the Indian Army is located at which place? **Chandimandir**
- Which party won the 2026 Nepal general elections with a historic majority? **Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP).**
- Which state introduced the Population Management Policy to encourage higher birth rates? **Andhra Pradesh**
- Which major political process linked to population distribution is expected to resume in India? **Delimitation of Parliamentary Constituencies in India.**
- Which law was invoked by the Government of India in 2026 to ensure uninterrupted LPG supply? **Essential Commodities Act, 1955.**
- Which state passed the Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2026 to speed up disposal of pending cases? **Maharashtra.**
- Which is the world's largest single-site refining hub operated by Reliance Industries? — **Jamnagar Refinery Complex**
- Who is the Chief Election Commissioner against whom the Opposition plans to move an impeachment motion? **Gyanesh Kumar.**
- Which constitutional article deals with the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner? **Article 324(5).**
- The removal procedure of the CEC is similar to the removal of which authority? **A judge of the Supreme Court.**
- How many Lok Sabha members are required to initiate a removal motion against the CEC? **100 members.**
- Which Act governs the appointment and service conditions of the CEC and Election Commissioners? **Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023.**
- What are the constitutional grounds for removing the Chief Election Commissioner? **Proved misbehaviour or incapacity.**
- Who was the previous Governor of West Bengal before R. N. Ravi? **C. V. Ananda Bose**
- Which court allowed India's first individual case of passive euthanasia in 2026? **Supreme Court of India**
- Who was the patient for whom passive euthanasia was allowed by the Supreme Court? **Harish Rana**

## 01 March

### Zero Discrimination Day

INCEPTION: 2015  
EDITION: 12th  
1ST CELEBRATED: 2014 (By UN)  
**2026 THEME:**  
Save lives: Decriminalise



#### Importance

In 2014, the UN first celebrated this day to spread the idea of Zero Discrimination after UNAIDS launched its Zero Discrimination Campaign on World AIDS Day in December 2015. A day which is universal in nature and does not confine itself to HIV or health related themes and aims to highlight issues related to discrimination.

#### Motto

To promote equality before the law and in practice throughout all of the member countries of the UN.

#### Organisation Involved

UN & UNAIDS

#### Note

• Discrimination and gender inequality remain a huge barrier for women and girls with a serious impact on the AIDS response.

- The Pink Mobility Card provides free travel for women on buses operated by which organisation? **Delhi Transport Corporation.**
- The Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth ₹5,083 crore to procure helicopters for which force? **Indian Coast Guard.**
- What are the names of the mascots unveiled for Census 2027? **Pragati and Vikas.**
- Which organisation developed the digital platforms for Census 2027? **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).**
- Which state proposed banning social media for children below 16 years in its 2026–27 budget? **Karnataka**

- In which year did the Supreme Court legally recognize passive euthanasia in India? **2018**
- Which famous euthanasia case in India involved a nurse who remained in a vegetative state for 42 years? **Aruna Shanbaug**
- In which state is the Kaiga Nuclear Power Station located? **Karnataka**
- Which committee approved the appointment of K. V. Ramana Murthy as SEBI Whole-Time Member? **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)**
- Who launched Bharat Tex 2026? **Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh**
- What is Bharat Tex 2026? **A major textile trade fair and exhibition in India**
- Which Indian authority regulates food safety and nutrition standards? **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**
- Which law governs NBFC regulation in India? **RBI Act, 1934**
- The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026 aims to amend which Act? **Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019**
- Which organisation facilitated the export of GI-tagged Joha rice from Assam to Europe in 2026? **APEDA**
- GI-tagged Joha rice exported to the UK and Italy originates from which Indian state? **Assam**
- Whose detention under the National Security Act was revoked by the Centre in March 2026? **Sonam Wangchuk.**
- Street vendors registered under which act will be deemed registered under FSSAI? **Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.**
- What is the main objective of the Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026? **To prevent forced or fraudulent religious conversions**
- What is the maximum punishment under the Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026? **7-10 years imprisonment**
- Where was the Gajapati inscription recently discovered? **Guntur, Andhra Pradesh**
- Which body's approval is now mandatory for delay in DGP appointment? **Supreme Court of India**
- Appropriation Bill is related to which purpose? **Withdrawal of money from Consolidated Fund of India**
- Under which Article is the Appropriation Bill provided? **Article 114**
- The Consolidated Fund of India is mentioned in which Article? **Article 266**
- Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board was established under which Act? **PNGRB Act, 2006**
- The term 'imbalance charges', sometimes seen in news, is related to \_\_\_\_: **Natural gas sector**
- Which system is used for direct transfer of insurance claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)? **PFMS**

## 01 March

### World Civil Defence Day



#### Importance

To commemorate the establishment of ICDO Constitution which came into force as an intergovernmental organization in 1972.

#### Motto

To bring attention of the world public to the vital importance of Civil Protection and pay tribute to the efforts and sacrifices of the national services responsible for the fight against disasters.

#### ICDO

FORMERLY: ASSOCIATION OF GENEVA ZONES

- ICDO was created in 1951 in Paris by French Surgeon-General George Saint-Paul.
- The organization was recognized by the French Parliament in June 1955 and in 1972 it achieved status of intergovernmental organization.
- Today 50 countries are the members of ICDO.

#### Note

1st March has been chosen to mark the 'CONSTITUENT' status to the organisation.

- Asia's largest tulip garden is located in which city? **Srinagar**
- What percentage of seats must be free under the new aviation guidelines? **60%**
- The Supreme Court's ruling on maternity leave for adoptive mothers was based on violation of which Fundamental Rights under the Indian Constitution? **Articles 14 (Right to Equality) and 21 (Right to Life and Dignity).**
- In the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026, which key provision related to gender identity has been proposed to be removed? **The right to self-identification of gender.**
- Which landmark Supreme Court judgment recognized transgender persons as the third gender and upheld their right to self-identify their gender in India? **NALSA v. Union of India (2014).**

- Which Act has been enacted by the Government of India in 2025 to regulate the online gaming sector by prohibiting online money gaming and ensuring consumer protection? **Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025**
- Under which Act can the Government of India block non-compliant online gaming platforms and websites involved in prohibited activities? **Information Technology Act, 2000**
- Which state assembly passed a bill in 2026 to curb honour killings and promote freedom of choice in marriage? **Karnataka**
- Gujarat became which state to pass the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill after Uttarakhand? **Second**
- As per the Supreme Court ruling (2026), SC status is available only to followers of which religions? **Hinduism, Sikhism, and Buddhism**
- What did the U.S. third-country deportation policy allow? **It allowed deporting migrants to a country other than their home nation.**
- Which U.S. administration introduced the third-country deportation policy? **The Donald Trump administration.**
- On which island is Japan planning to deploy surface-to-air missiles? **Yonaguni Island.**
- What type of missiles does Japan plan to deploy near Taiwan? **Surface-to-air missiles.**
- Which country has objected to Japan's missile deployment plan? **China.**
- Which U.S. government department is in conflict with Anthropoc? **United States Department of Defense.**
- Venezuela is globally significant mainly due to its vast reserves of which resource? **Oil.**
- The Durand Line forms the border between which two countries? **Afghanistan and Pakistan.**
- In which year was the Durand Line agreement signed? **1893.**
- Why is the Durand Line strategically sensitive? **Due to cross-border militancy and difficult mountainous terrain.**
- The Durand Line separates Afghanistan from which former political entity? **British India.**
- India has agreed to grant MFN status to which organisation under the recent trade deal? **European Union.**
- For how many years will India and the EU grant each other MFN status? **Five years.**
- The Strait of Hormuz, which has gained global attention due to rising tensions linked to the Iran-Israel conflict, connects the Persian Gulf with which water body? **Gulf of Oman.**
- Which rule of international law restricts the use of force by states? **Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter prohibits the use of force against another state's sovereignty.**
- Which U.S. law allows Congress to limit the president's military actions abroad? **The War Powers Resolution of 1973.**

### 03 March

### World Wildlife Day

INCEPTION: 2015  
EDITION: 15th  
**2026 THEME:**  
Medicinal and Aromatic Plants:  
Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods



#### Importance

To mark the day of signature of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1975.

#### Motto

To celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora and recognized the important role of CITES in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the survival of species.

#### Note

The year 2020, known as a "biodiversity super year", will host several major global events that place biodiversity at the forefront of the global sustainable development agenda.

- Which bill has been introduced in the US to protect the OPT programme for international students? **Keep Innovators in America Act**
- Which state passed the Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026 to regulate religious conversions? **Chhattisgarh**
- What additional allocation of commercial LPG has the Government of India approved for States/UTs? **20%**
- What is the name of the initiative proposed to boost India's biopharmaceutical sector? **Biopharma SHAKTI Initiative**
- What is the total outlay of the Biopharma SHAKTI initiative? **₹10,000 crore**
- The CAPF (General Administration) Bill, 2026 aims to formalise deputation of officers from which service into senior positions of Central Armed Police Forces? **Indian Police Service (IPS)**
- The push to accelerate ethanol blending in India amid the Iran conflict is primarily aimed at reducing dependence on what? **Crude oil imports**

- What is Operation True Promise-4? **A military retaliation operation launched by Iran against Israel and the United States in 2026.**
- Operation True Promise-4 was launched in response to strikes by which two countries on Iran? **United States and Israel.**
- Which country conducted Operation True Promise-4 as part of its retaliation strategy? **Iran.**
- Which global forum related to circular economy will India and Finland co-host in India? **World Circular Economy Forum.**
- Which country recently approved constitutional changes extending the terms of the president and lawmakers? **Somalia.**
- By how many years were the terms of Somalia's president and lawmakers extended? **Five years.**
- What group controls much of northwestern Yemen? **The Houthi movement.**
- Which country is considered the main regional ally of the Houthis? **Iran.**
- Since when have the Houthis been attacking US and Israeli targets? **Since the Gaza war began in October 2023.**
- Which important maritime route did the Houthis target between 2023 and 2025? **The Red Sea shipping corridor.**
- Which party emerged as the biggest winner in the 2026 Nepal elections? **Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP).**
- Which former Prime Minister faced defeat in the Nepal election? **K. P. Sharma Oli.**
- Which movement influenced the 2026 Nepal elections? **The 2025 Gen-Z youth protest movement.**
- What is the value of the US maritime reinsurance plan announced during the Gulf crisis? **\$20 billion.**
- Which US agency announced the maritime reinsurance programme to protect shipping? **US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).**
- The State of the World's Migratory Species Report is prepared under which international treaty? **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)**
- The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) was established in which year? **1979**
- Which strait connects the Persian Gulf with global shipping routes? — **Strait of Hormuz**
- Which canal links the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea? — **Suez Canal**
- Which alternative route is used if the Suez Canal is blocked? — **Cape of Good Hope**
- Why is the Strait of Hormuz important for global energy markets? — **Major oil export chokepoint**
- Why is the Suez Canal significant for global trade and energy transport? — **Shortest route between Europe and Asia**
- Which strategic maritime chokepoint affects global oil supply near West Asia? — **Strait of Hormuz**
- Which country is positioned as the gateway for the Indo-CIS pharmaceutical corridor? **Uzbekistan.**
- Which event will serve as the commercial execution platform for the Indo-CIS corridor? **Pharma Eurasia 2026.**
- Where will Pharma Eurasia 2026 be held? **Tashkent, Uzbekistan.**
- Which strategic waterway connects the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman? **Strait of Hormuz**
- Which country recently passed the "Law on Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress"? **China.**
- Strait of Hormuz connects which two water bodies? **Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman**
- The recent US-Japan nuclear deal involves investment in which type of reactors? **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)**
- Which country attempted a missile strike on Diego Garcia in 2026? **Iran**
- Diego Garcia is a joint military base of which two countries? **United States and United Kingdom**
- Which country became the first EU nation to introduce fuel rationing in 2026? **Slovenia**
- The United States Army recently launched a digital marketplace for which systems? **Drones / UAS**
- Vietnam recently signed an agreement with which country to build its first nuclear power plant? **Russia**
- Which maritime chokepoint disruption affected India's LPG and LNG supplies during the West Asia conflict? **Strait of Hormuz**
- Trump's 15-point peace plan for Iran focuses mainly on restricting which programme? **Nuclear programme**

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts.”

Winston Churchill

## Important Projects & Schemes

- Which state government launched the Lakhpati Bitya Yojana in 2026? **Delhi Government.**
- Under the Lakhpati Bitya Yojana, the maturity amount for beneficiary girls may reach approximately how much? **About ₹1 lakh.**
- Which minister announced the nationwide ASMITA women's athletics league? **Raksha Khadse.**
- Under which initiative is the ASMITA programme implemented? **Khelo India.**
- Which organisation launched the SHINE initiative to empower women employees? **Indian Railways.**
- What does SHINE stand for in the initiative launched by Indian Railways? **Support for Her in Network and Empowerment.**
- The SHINE initiative mainly focuses on empowering which group in Indian Railways? **Women employees.**
- Which state government launched Project GANGA to expand rural broadband connectivity? **Uttar Pradesh.**
- Dhvani Spandana initiative is related to which sector? **Public transportation accessibility**
- Which group of people mainly benefits from Dhvani Spandana? **Visually impaired persons**
- Under which scheme has the Centre set new conditions for states to receive funds for rural drinking water projects? **Jal Jeevan Mission.**
- What does SATHEE (an initiative of Ministry of Education) stand for? **Self-Assessment, Test and Help for Entrance Exams**
- SATHEE platform was developed in collaboration with which institute? **IIT Kanpur**
- What is the total outlay of the BHAVYA scheme? **₹33,660 crore.**
- What type of industrial parks are planned under BHAVYA? **Plug-and-play industrial parks.**
- What is the name of the scheme launched to support exporters affected by the Middle East conflict? **RELIEF Scheme**

04 March

### National Safety Day

INCEPTION: 1972  
EDITION: 54th  
BY: National safety Council 1966  
**2026 THEME:**  
Nurture young minds - Develop safety culture

#### Importance

To mark the establishment of National safety Council in 1966.

#### Motto

It is observed to highlight the importance of Safety in all spheres of life so as to prevent mishaps and accidents resulting out of neglect or lack of awareness.

#### What is SHE culture?

To take Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) movement to different parts of the country.



08 March

### International Women's Day

INCEPTION: 1910  
EDITION: 51st  
1ST CELEBRATED: 1911  
**2026 THEME:**  
Give To Gain

#### Importance

A proposal by German revolutionary Clara Zetkin at the 1910 International Socialist Women's Conference to honor the day annually in memory of working women.

#### Motto

To highlight the achievements recognised by women without regard to divisions.

#### Note

- The UN began celebrating International Women's Day in the International Women's Year, 1975.
- This day aimed to help nations worldwide eliminate discrimination against women. It also focused on helping women gain full and equal participation in global development.



## Banking & Economy

- Which regulatory body mandated disclosure of registered name and number on social media for market-related posts? **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).**
- Which Finnish company has played a major role in developing telecom networks in India? **Nokia.**
- What is the estimated investment for upgrading schools under the KPS model? **₹3,900 crore**
- Which bank launched a \$500 million syndicated social term loan for women empowerment in 2026? **State Bank of India.**
- Which bank is the most valuable banking brand in the world in 2026? **Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.**
- Which company is the parent company of IndiGo? — **InterGlobe Aviation**

10 March

### CISF Raising Day

EDITION: 57th



The CISF provides security cover to 500 industrial units, government infrastructure projects and facilities and establishments located all over India.

#### Importance

To mark the establishment of CISF on 10 March 1969.

#### Governing Body

Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### Parent Agency

Central Armed Police Forces.

#### Note

CISF was subsequently made an armed force of the Republic of India by another Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1985.

- Which Indian company may invest in a new oil refinery project in Texas, USA? — **Reliance Industries**
- Axis Max Life Insurance is a joint venture between which two companies? **Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank**
- Whole-Time Members of SEBI mainly perform which functions? **Policy making, investigations, regulatory enforcement, and implementation of capital market regulations**
- What sectors will SBI-MUFG collaboration focus on? **Mergers & Acquisitions, Aviation, and Real Estate**
- Which institution cancelled the Certificate of Registration of 36 NBFCs in 2026? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
- Which authority regulates NBFCs in India? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- Which organisation launched the Digital Payment Awareness Programme in India? **Reserve Bank of India**
- Goldman Sachs reduced India's 2026 GDP growth forecast to what level due to energy shock? **5.9%**
- Which two organisations signed an MoU to develop a comprehensive strategy for India's cultural and creative economy in February 2026? **The Ministry of Culture and FICCI.**
- Which Indian state government signed MoUs worth ₹90,000 crore with Japanese companies? **Uttar Pradesh.**
- How many MoUs were signed between India and Israel during PM Narendra Modi's visit? **16 MoUs.**
- Which authority signed an agreement with Google to display authorised Aadhaar centres on Google Maps? **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).**
- The Indian Army signed an MoU with which department to strengthen wildlife conservation in
- Which rules were amended to include crypto assets and CBDC in financial reporting in 2026? **Income Tax Rules**
- Which digital currency issued by a central bank has been included in the reporting framework? **Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)**
- Which international tax transparency standards guide India's reporting obligations for financial accounts? **FATCA and CRS**
- Which global framework focuses specifically on reporting crypto-asset transactions? **Crypto-Asset Reporting Framework (CARF)**

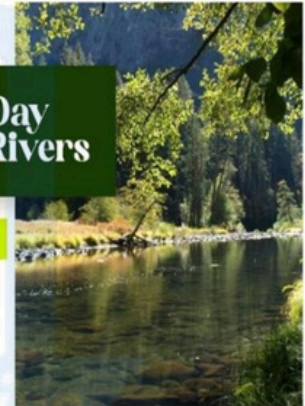
### Ladakh? **Forest, Ecology and Environment Department of Ladakh.**

- The Indian Army unit that signed the wildlife conservation MoU with Ladakh is which Corps? **Fire and Fury Corps (14 Corps).**
- Through which platform will UNICEF India provide technical expertise for nutrition initiatives? **IMPAct4Nutrition (I4N) platform.**
- Which Canadian company signed a long-term uranium supply deal with India? **Cameco**
- Which country's company Kazatomprom also signed a uranium supply agreement with India? **Kazakhstan**
- Which two companies signed an MoU to develop satellite systems for VLEO? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Bellatrix Aerospace.**
- Which two space agencies signed an agreement for Earth observation cooperation in 2026? — **ISRO and ESA**
- Which organizations collaborated to establish the Indo-CIS pharma-nutra corridor? **Uzbekistan Ministry of Health, Nutrify Today, and Pharma Eurasia.**
- Which Indian company received a contract to manufacture components for Rafale fighter aircraft control systems? **Hical Technologies**
- Which company awarded the contract to Hical Technologies for Rafale components? **Dassault Aviation**
- Which two organizations signed an MoU to strengthen India-Canada business cooperation? **ASSOCHAM and Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC)**
- Which Indian bank partnered with MUFG Bank for M&A and cross-border financing? **State Bank of India (SBI)**
- Which company partnered with the WHO Foundation to prevent childhood obesity in India? **Novo Nordisk**
- What is the main aim of the Novo Nordisk-WHO Foundation partnership? **Prevent childhood obesity in India through school-based health programmes**
- Which countries are involved in the northern power transmission joint venture? **India and Sri Lanka**

- Which two organisations signed an MoU to enhance satellite-based defence applications in 2026? **Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff and Space Applications Centre**
- With Which country, India agreed to prioritize peace and stability in the region during a recent conversation in 2026? **India and Oman**
- Which countries agreed to ensure security of the Strait of Hormuz in 2026? **UK, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, and Japan**
- Which two countries signed an MoU on postal cooperation in March 2026? **India and Bhutan**
- Which two countries unveiled a nuclear energy deal focusing on SMRs in 2026? **United States and Japan**
- What does IFD stand for in the WTO context? **Investment Facilitation for Development**

## 14 March

### International Day of Action for Rivers



EDITION: 29th  
**2026 THEME:**  
 Our Rivers, our Future

**Importance**  
 The International Day of Action for Rivers is a day to celebrate victories such as dam removal and river restoration.

**Motto**  
 To educate one another about the threats facing our rivers, and learn about better water and energy solutions.

**Background**  
 The International Day of Action Against Dams and For Rivers, Water and Life was adopted by the participants of the first International Meeting of People Affected by Dams, March 1997 in Curitiba Brazil.

## Awards & Recognitions

- Which country awarded the Speaker of the Knesset Medal to PM Modi? **Israel.**
- Which Indian economist received the University of Chicago's Alumni Award for Professional Achievement? **Krishnamurthy V. Subramanian.**
- Who won the Best Actress award at the Telangana Gaddar Film Awards for the film The Girlfriend? **Rashmika Mandanna.**
- Rashmika Mandanna won the Telangana Gaddar Award for Best Actress for which film? **The Girlfriend.**
- Which initiative won the Water Transversality Global Award 2026? **Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems.**
- Which organisation won a National Award for the Dhvani Spandana innovation? **Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC)**
- Which film won Best Picture at the 98th Academy Awards? **One Battle After Another.**
- Who won the Best Actor award at the 2026 Oscars? **Michael B. Jordan.**
- Which film had the highest number of nominations at the 98th Academy Awards? **Sinners (16 nominations).**
- Which new category was introduced at the 98th Academy Awards? **Best Casting.**
- Who was named the winner of the 2025 Jnanpith Award? **Vairamuthu.**
- Who won the Polly Umrigar Award for Best International Cricketer (Men) at the 2026 BCCI Naman Awards? **Shubman Gill.**
- Which Indian woman cricketer won the Best International Cricketer (Women) award at the 2026 BCCI Naman Awards? **Smriti Mandhana.**
- How many languages are covered under Sahitya Akademi Awards? **24**
- Who won the 2025 Sahitya Akademi Award in English? **Navtej Sarna**
- Who won Best Director Award at NYSAF 2026 for film 'CHYIMI'? **Partha Sarathi Mahanta**
- Who won the Mark Lynton History Prize 2026? **William Dalrymple**
- For which book did William Dalrymple receive the Mark Lynton History Prize 2026? **The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World**
- Which Indian actress received the Women Empowerment Award at the UK Parliament in 2026? **Rituparna Sengupta**
- Who won the Stockholm Water Prize 2026 for contributions to water management? **Kaveh Madani**

### 15 March

## World Consumer Rights Day



**2026 THEME:**  
Safe Products, Confident Consumers

**Importance**  
This day was inspired by U.S. President John F. Kennedy, who sent a special message to the US Congress on 15th March 1962, to address the issue of consumer rights.

**Motto**  
To raise global awareness about consumer rights and needs.

**Fact**

- Ralph Nader is considered the father of the modern day consumer movement.
- Which is stated as the right to be fully informed about the performance and quality of all goods and services.
- The right to free choice of goods and services.

- Which award did R. M. Nachammai receive for topping the NPCIL engineer trainees batch? **Vikram Sarabhai Award**

## Sports

- Which team did India defeat in the T20 World Cup 2026 final? **New Zealand.**
- Who was the Player of the Match in the T20 World Cup 2026 final? **Jasprit Bumrah.**
- Who was the Player of the Tournament in the T20 World Cup 2026? **Sanju Samson.**
- Who won the All England Open 2026 men's singles title? **Lin Chun-Yi.**
- Which Indian player finished runner-up in the All England Open 2026? **Lakshya Sen.**
- Who won the 2026 Australian Grand Prix? **George Russell**
- Which American team debuted in F1 in 2026? **Cadillac Formula One Team**
- Which German manufacturer entered F1 as a works team? **Audi F1 Team.**
- Which city hosted the 7th Senior National Para Badminton Championship 2026? — **Hyderabad**
- Who won the gold medal in men's javelin throw at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026? **Sumit Antil**
- Where was the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 held? **New Delhi**
- Who became India's 94th Chess Grandmaster and the first from North-East India? **Mayank Chakraborty**
- Which organisation imposed a lifetime ban on video analyst Raja Reddy for spot-fixing in the Ranji Trophy? **BCCI**
- How many medals did India win at the World Boxing Futures Cup 2026? **5**
- How many medals did India win at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026? **208**
- FIFA partnered with which platform for the 2026 World Cup? **YouTube**
- Which countries will host the 2026 FIFA World Cup? **USA, Canada, and Mexico**
- Who won the Women's Singles title at the Indian Open Squash 2026? **Anahat Singh**
- Who won the Men's Singles title at the JSW Indian Open 2026? **Abhay Singh**
- Who were named the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for February 2026? **Sahibzada Farhan and Arundhati Reddy**
- Who won the gold medal in Women's Javelin Throw (F12 category) at the 24th National Para Athletics Championships 2026? **Kipa Mero**

### 20 March

#### International Day of Happiness

INCEPTION: 2012  
EDITION: 14th  
1ST CELEBRATED: 2015  
FOUNDER: Jayme Illien



##### Importance

To mark the adoption of Happiness Resolution by UNGA on 20 Mar 2012.

##### Motto

To spread the belief that the happiness, wellbeing, and freedom of all life on earth is the ultimate purpose of every human being, nation, and society.

##### Facts Behind

The initiative to declare a day of happiness came from Bhutan – a country whose citizens are considered to be some of the happiest people in the world.

### 21 March

#### International Day of Forests

EDITION: 14th  
2026 THEME:

##### Forests and Economies

It has been celebrated around the world for 30 years to remind people of the importance of forests and the many benefits we gain from them.



##### Importance

To mark the adoption of resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on November 28, 2012.

##### Motto

To raise awareness of the importance of forests to people and their vital role in poverty eradication, environmental sustainability and food security.

##### Note

World Forestry Day established by the States Member of Conference of the Agriculture and Food organization with the help of the voting for creating it.

## Science & Technology

- Which Indian agency developed the voluntary framework for space cyber security? **The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) under MeitY.**
- What is the name of the AI model developed by Anthropic? **Claude.**
- Which Iranian medium-range ballistic missile has a range of about 1,000–2,000 km? **Shahab-3.**
- Which short-range missile of Iran has a range of about 500 km? **Fateh-313.**
- Which DRDO laboratory led the development of VSHORADS? **Research Centre Imarat.**
- What type of missile system is VSHORADS? **Man-Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS).**
- The Ghatak, being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, is a type of which aerial platform? **Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV).**
- Which organisation signed a pact with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to boost sustainable development in Aspirational Districts and Blocks? **NITI Aayog.**
- What does VLEO stand for? **Very Low Earth Orbit.**
- What is the altitude range of Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO)? **100 km to 450 km above Earth.**
- Why is VLEO gaining attention in the space industry? **Because Low Earth Orbit (LEO) is becoming crowded with satellites.**
- Which country approved the world's first commercial iPS stem-cell therapies for Parkinson's and heart failure? **Japan.**
- What is the name of the Parkinson's disease stem-cell therapy approved in Japan? **Amchepry.**
- Which Israeli air-launched ballistic missile was used in the 2026 Tehran strike? **Blue Sparrow**
- Which company developed the Blue Sparrow missile? **Rafael Advanced Defense Systems**
- Which missile defence system uses Sparrow missiles as practice targets? **Arrow missile defense system**
- Which precision combat missile evolved from Blue Sparrow technology? **ROCKS missile**
- Which ESA mission aims to study vegetation fluorescence? — **FLEX (Fluorescence Explorer)**
- Which European solar mission launched by ISRO studies the Sun's corona? — **Proba-3 mission**
- What are the two satellites in the Proba-3 mission? — **Coronagraph and Occulter**
- Which organisation developed the Air Droppable Container ADC-150? — **DRDO**
- From which aircraft was the ADC-150 tested? — **Boeing P-8I Poseidon**
- Which NASA mission intentionally collided with an asteroid to test planetary defense technology? **Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART).**
- Which asteroid was targeted by NASA's DART spacecraft in 2022? **Dimorphos.**
- Dimorphos is a moonlet asteroid orbiting which larger asteroid? **Didymos.**
- Which European Space Agency mission will study the aftermath of the DART collision? **Hera mission.**
- Which organisation successfully tested the CE20 cryogenic engine at 22-tonne thrust in 2026? **Indian Space Research Organisation.**
- What is NavIC, developed by ISRO? **India's indigenous satellite navigation system.**
- How many satellites were originally planned in the NavIC constellation? **Seven.**
- From where was Gujarat's first sounding rocket launched? **Dholera (Gujarat)**

### 23 March

### World Meteorological Day

INCEPTION: 1961  
EDITION: 66th  
**2026 THEME:**  
Observing Today, Protecting Tomorrow



#### Importance

To mark the establishment of World Meteorological Organization on 25 March 1950.

#### Note

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an intergovernmental organization with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and is a member of the United Nations Development Group.

## Miscellaneous

- What was the theme of MILAN 2026? **“Camaraderie, Cooperation, Collaboration.”**
- What does IFR stand for in aviation terminology? **Instrument Flight Rules.**
- Which disease is targeted by India’s nationwide HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccination drive? **Cervical cancer.**
- What is Operation Epic Fury? **It refers to the joint military strikes carried out by the United States and Israel against Iran in February 2026.**
- On which occasion was the nationwide ASMITA athletics league announced? **International Women’s Day (March 8).**
- Which militant group remains a major security threat in Somalia? **Al-Shabaab.**
- Which report states that nearly half of the world’s migratory species populations are declining? **State of the World’s Migratory Species Report**
- Which two countries conduct the joint military exercise Freedom Shield? **United States and South Korea.**
- Vir Chakra is the \_\_\_\_\_ highest wartime gallantry award in India. **Third**
- Which countries participate in the joint military Exercise Lamitiye? **India and Seychelles.**
- Which report revealed that several Indian tech entrepreneurs are richer than Shah Rukh Khan in 2026? **Hurun Global Rich List.**
- Which organisation released the report stating that India is the world’s second-largest arms importer? **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.**
- What is Dhvani Spandana? **An assistive audio system for visually impaired bus passengers**
- Freedom Shield is a joint military exercise conducted between which two countries? **United States and South Korea**
- Who became one of the youngest self-made billionaires in 2026? **Surya Midha**
- Exercise Sea Dragon is related to which type of warfare? **Anti-submarine warfare (ASW)**
- Sea Dragon exercise is hosted by which country? **United States**
- Fiscal Health Index 2026 is released by which organization? **NITI Aayog**
- Which state topped Fiscal Health Index 2026? **Odisha**
- Who topped the Hurun Global Rich List 2026? **Elon Musk**
- Which country has the highest number of billionaires as per Hurun Global Rich List 2026? **United States**
- Which modern warfare concept was highlighted in recent Exercise ‘Amogh Jwala’? **Multi-domain warfare**
- Which Indian educator has been included in the Forbes World’s Billionaires List 2026? **Alakh Pandey**
- Which country is the happiest in the world in 2026? **Finland**
- Finland tops the World Happiness Report 2026, and India ranks? **116th globally**
- Which country ranked first in the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2026? **Pakistan**
- What was the percentage increase in terrorism-related deaths in Pakistan as per GTI 2026? **6%**
- Which organization publishes the Global Terrorism Index (GTI)? **Institute for Economics and Peace**
- Through which pass is India–China border trade set to resume in 2026 after six years? **Lipulekh Pass**
- INS Trikand participated in which exercise during its Seychelles visit? **Exercise Lamitiye 2026**
- Exercise Lamitiye is conducted between India and which country? **Seychelles**
- Which country was ranked as the world’s most polluted nation in 2025 according to the IQAir report? **Pakistan**
- Which country ranked among the top 10 happiest nations in the World Happiness Report 2026 despite ongoing conflict? **Israel**

**“Dream as big as  
you can dream,  
and anything is possible.”**

—MICHAEL PHELPS

### Important Days of the Month

Day	Observed/Celebrated As	Motto/Importance
01- Apr	Utkal Diwas/Odisha day	To embark the formation of the state(Odisha) as a separate state out of Bihar and Odisha province on 1 April 1936
02- Apr	World Autism Awareness Day	To put a spotlight on the hurdles that people with autism face every day.
04- Apr	International Day for Mine Awareness	To spread awareness about the threat caused by landmines to the safety, health and lives of civilian populations
05- Apr	National Maritime day	Propelling Indian Maritime to Net Zero
07- Apr	World Health day	Together for health. Stand with science
10- Apr	World Homeopathy day	Harmony Through Homeopathy – Healing Beyond Borders
11- Apr	National Safe Motherhood Day	Diagnosis: First step to care
17- Apr	World Haemophilia Day	Access for all: Women and girls bleed too
18- Apr	International Day for Monuments and Sites	Emergency Response for Living Heritage in contexts of Conflicts and Disasters.
19- Apr	World Liver Day	To spread awareness about liver related disease
21- Apr	Civil Service Day	To commemorate the day when 1st Home Minister of Independent India addressed the Administrative Services Officers in 1947.
22- Apr	Earth Day	Our Power, Our Planet
23- Apr	World Book & Copyright Day	To pay a worldwide tribute to books and authors and to encourage people to discover the pleasure of reading.
24- Apr	National Panchayati Day	On this day the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 came into force
25- Apr	World Malaria Day	United Against Malaria
26- Apr	World Intellectual Property Day	IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate
28- Apr	World Day for Safety and Health at work	To honour the memory of victims of occupational accidents and diseases
29- Apr	International Dance Day	To mark the birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), the creator of modern ballet.
30- Apr	Ayushman Bharat Diwas	To mark the rollout of India's most affordable medical Scheme, i.e. Ayushman Bharat Programme.

## Let's Recap

- Name the Veteran journalist and broadcaster widely known as the “voice of India”, who passed away recently? **Mark Tully**
- Which international organisation announced an emergency assistance package for Vietnam? **UNESCO.**
- Name the Former President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), who passed away recently? **Inderjit Singh Bindra**

24 March

### World Tuberculosis (TB) Day

**2026 THEME:**  
Yes! We Can End TB



World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world.

#### Importance

This day marks the day in 1882 when Dr Robert Koch announced that he had discovered the bacterium that causes TB, which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing this disease.

#### Motto

To raise public awareness about the devastating health, social and economic consequences of TB, and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic.

#### Facts Behind

Each day, over 4000 people lose their lives to TB and close to 30,000 people fall ill with this preventable and curable disease.

#### About TB

TB is an infectious bacterial disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which most commonly affects the lungs. It is transmitted from person to person via droplets from the throat and lungs of people with the disease.

- Amendment Ordinance, 2026? **Article 213 of the Indian Constitution**
- Who became the first woman to lead the Church of England in 2026? **Dame Sarah Mullally.**
- What is the estimated potential growth rate of the Indian economy according to the Survey? **Around 7%**
- 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 is the name of the new pension scheme announced by Kerala? **Assured Pension Scheme**
- Which country did Michael Nobbs represent as a player? **Australia**
- Which earlier regulations were to be replaced by the 2026 UGC rules? **UGC Equity Regulations, 2012**
- Why were the UGC Equity Regulations 2026 challenged? **Due to vague definitions and fear of misuse**
- Which company's rocket was used to launch NEONSAT-1A by South Korea? **Rocket Lab**
- What new index did the Economic Survey 2025–26 highlight for the first time? **Power Gap Index**
- Which fighter jet is India exploring joint production of with Russia? **Su-57E**
- Who was suspended by TTFI recently? **Kamlesh Mehta**
- Why is thorium important for India? **India has large thorium reserves but limited uranium**
- What are the three core “kartavyas” highlighted in Budget 2026–27? **(1) Accelerating economic growth, (2) Capacity building & prosperity, (3) Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas.**
- What is the aim of the second kartavya in Budget 2026–27? **To build people's capacities and ensure inclusive prosperity.**
- By how much was customs duty on goods imported for personal use reduced? **From 20% to 10%.**
- How many additional rare diseases were added to the duty-free import list for medicines? **Seven rare diseases.**
- Which footwear-related item was newly included for duty-free import benefits? **Shoe uppers.**
- By approximately how much did capex increase in FY27 compared to FY26? **Around 8–9%.**
- Which two countries launched the Drug Policy Executive Working Group in 2026? **India and USA**
- 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”.**
- Under which constitutional article did the Uttarakhand Governor promulgate the UCC

- Which digital public infrastructure will be integrated with Bharat Vistar? **AgriStack.**
- Bharat Vistar primarily uses which emerging technology? **Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
- By approximately what percentage did the defence budget increase in 2026–27 over the previous year? **Around 15 %.**
- Defence pensions in the FY27 budget are approximately how much? **About ₹1.71 lakh crore**
- Which scheme aims at skill development in the textile sector? **Samarth 2.0.**
- What is the standard deduction under the new tax regime in FY 2026–27? **₹75,000 for salaried taxpayers.**
- What is the maximum tax rate under the new income tax regime? **30% for income above ₹24 lakh.**
- Name the four states selected for Rare Earth Corridors. **Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.**
- What was the total allocation for education in Budget 2026–27? **₹1,39,285.95 crore.**
- What initiative was announced to improve gender equity in higher education? **One girls' hostel in every district.**
- Which new institute will be set up in eastern India as per Budget 2026–27? **National Institute of Design (NID).**
- Which two wetlands were added to India's Ramsar Sites list in January 2026? **Patna Bird Sanctuary (Uttar Pradesh) and Chhari-Dhand (Gujarat).**
- 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.**
- Which country does Australian Open 2026 champion Carlos Alcaraz represent? **Spain.**
- Which team won the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) 2026 championship title? **Haryana Thunders.**
- After how many years are South Korea and Japan resuming bilateral naval SAREX? **After nine years.**
- Who hosted the 68th Annual Grammy Awards? **Comedian Trevor Noah.**
- Who became the first Latin artist to win Album of the Year at the Grammys? **Bad Bunny.**
- Who won Song of the Year at the 68th Grammy Awards? **Billie Eilish.**
- Who was named Best New Artist at the 68th Grammys? **Olivia Dean.**
- What was the main objective of Keir Starmer's China visit? **To strengthen trade and investment ties between the UK and China**
- Which country reduced reciprocal tariffs on India from 50% to 18%? **USA**
- Which new rules has the Government of India notified for air travellers? **Baggage Rules, 2026 and Customs Baggage (Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2026.**
- 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.**

### 27 March

## World Theatre Day

INCEPTION: 1961  
EDITION: 67th  
1ST CELEBRATED:  
1962 ("Theatre of Nations" season in Paris).

#### Importance

This day is a celebration for those who can see the value and importance of the art form "theatre".

#### Motto

To generate awareness about the importance of theatre arts, how they played an important role in the field of entertainment and the changes that theatre brings in the life.

#### By

International Theatre Institute (ITI).

#### Facts Behind

The first World Theatre Day Message was written by Jean Cocteau in 1962.



- What type of company is Yantra India Limited? **A Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU).**
- Which two states are involved in the Pennaiyar river water dispute? **Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.**
- What does "blue economy" refer to in India–Norway cooperation? **Sustainable use of ocean and marine resources.**
- Which trade agreement is expected to boost India–Norway economic ties? **India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).**

- What is Project Vault? **A strategic reserve for critical minerals in the US.**
- How much funding is allocated for Project Vault? **About \$12 billion.**
- Which company commissioned the 198 MW wind power project in Tamil Nadu? **Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL)**
- What is the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)? **A banned militant group operating mainly in Pakistan's Balochistan province.**
- What is the main objective of the Adani–Leonardo partnership? **To build a complete helicopter manufacturing ecosystem in India.**
- What is Afghanistan's global rank in landmine and unexploded ordnance casualties? **Third most affected country in the world.**
- What is the literacy rate of Pakistan as per the FAFEN report? **About 63 percent of people aged 10 years and above are literate in Pakistan.**
- Which country has the highest literacy rate in South Asia, according to the FAFEN review? **Maldives**
- 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.**
- Will Artemis II land astronauts on the Moon? **No, it will send astronauts around the Moon and back to Earth without landing.**
- 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.**
- Which Indian mountaineer from Arunachal Pradesh summited Mount Aconcagua recently? **Kabak Yano.**
- Which port authority won the First Prize at the Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025? **Paradip Port Authority.**
- Which constitutional provision was used to revoke President's Rule in Manipur? **Clause (2) of Article 356 of the Constitution of India.**
- Which country recently joined the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies (BCIC)? **India.**
- 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.**

2nd Thursday of March

## World Kidney Day

INCEPTION: 2006  
EDITION: 21st  
**2026 THEME:**  
Kidney Health For All - Caring for People, Protecting the Planet

**Motto**  
To raise awareness of the importance of our kidneys to our overall health and to reduce the frequency and impact of kidney disease and its associated health problems worldwide.

**Note**  
World Kidney Day is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF).

**Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme**  
ROLLED OUT IN 2016

**Motto:**  
To provide important life-saving procedure close to the community and also for reducing impoverishment on account of out of pocket expenditure for patients.



- Who won the Crafoord Prize in Geosciences 2026? **Indian-origin climate scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan.**
- Why is the Crafoord Prize significant? **It is considered the "Nobel of Geosciences".**
- What major discovery did Ramanathan make at NASA in 1975? **That chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) trap heat far more than CO<sub>2</sub>.**
- Which edition of Exercise KHANJAR is being held in 2026? **13th edition.**
- Which state government announced to preserve the heritage of the Darrang kings? **Assam Government.**
- In which weight category did Mirabai Chanu compete when she broke three records at the 2026 National Weightlifting Championships? **Women's 48kg category.**
- Who became the first female member from Iran elected to the International Olympic Committee (IOC)? **Soraya Aghaei Hajiagha.**
- Under which Act is the India's first cooperative-led ride-hailing platform Bharat Taxi cooperative registered? **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.**
- 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.**
- What was the main objective of the New START treaty? **To limit deployed nuclear warheads and their delivery systems.**
- 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.**
- Which international organisation published the Global Water Bankruptcy report? **The United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).**
- Who kept the repo rate unchanged in February 2026? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- Which body decides the repo rate in India? **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).**
- By when were Tejas Mk1A jets expected with full capability? **By March 2026.**
- Who won the WPL 2026 title? **Royal Challengers Bengaluru.**
- Who won the Orange Cap in WPL 2026? **Smriti Mandhana.**
- Who administers the Women’s Premier League? **BCCI.**
- What is the current GDP base year before revision? **2011–12.**
- What is the current CPI base year before revision? **2012.**
- Which institution uses CPI data for monetary policy decisions? **Reserve Bank of India.**
- Who is stepping down as Toyota’s CEO? **Koji Sato.**
- How many countries are members of the GCC? **6**
- What does India mainly import from GCC countries? **Crude oil and gas.**
- What maximum stake can Blackstone acquire in Federal Bank? **9.99%.**
- Which country does Rouble Nagi belong to? **India.**
- What is the cash prize for the Global Teacher Prize? **\$1 million.**
- Which section of the Hindu Succession Act gives women full ownership of property? **Section 14(1).**
- Which authority released India’s first Disaster Victim Identification guidelines? **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).**
- Which organisation’s standards inspired India’s DVI framework? **INTERPOL.**
- Which Agni missile was recently test-fired by India from Odisha? **Agni-III intermediate-range ballistic missile.**
- Which team did India defeat in the Under-19 World Cup final? **England.**
- Which country decided to remove the additional 25% duty on Indian goods? **United States of America.**
- From which date will the new risk-based deposit insurance premium system start in India? **April 1, 2026.**
- How much insurance premium did banks earlier pay per ₹100 of deposits? **12 paise per ₹100 of deposits.**
- What is the full form of DICGC? **Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.**
- What does REIT stand for? **Real Estate Investment Trust.**
- In which House of Parliament were Private Members’ Legislative Bills recently discussed? **Rajya Sabha.**
- Which country’s President signed an executive order to impose tariffs on nations trading with Iran? **The United States (US) President.**
- Which port became the first in India to implement an advanced anti-drone security system? **V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority.**
- What is the approximate coverage range of the anti-drone protection system? **Up to about 5 kilometres with 360-degree coverage.**
- Which two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation on national security, law enforcement, and cybersecurity in February 2026? **India and Canada.**
- Who became Japan’s first woman Prime Minister after the snap election? **Sanae Takaichi.**
- Which organisation signed an MoU with Bharat Taxi to introduce regulated cab services at airports? **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**
- Which Indian shooters won gold with a world record at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026? **Arjun Babuta and Elavenil Valarivan.**
- India defeated which country in the final of the SAFF U-19 Women’s Championship? **Bangladesh.**
- What tariff rate will Bangladeshi goods face in the US under the pact? **19% tariff.**
- How many MoUs were signed between India and Seychelles during the state visit of Seychelles President Patrick Herminie to New Delhi? **7**
- Starlink is owned by which company? **SpaceX.**
- What is India’s self-reliance defence plan called? **Aatmanirbhar Bharat.**
- Which Indian shooters won gold in the women’s 25m pistol team event at the Asian Rifle/Pistol

- Championship? **Esha Singh, Manu Bhaker, and Rhythm Sangwan.**
- Which company received approval to market Imfinzi in India? **AstraZeneca.**
  - Imfinzi is the brand name of which drug? **Durvalumab.**
  - Recently, Diego De Giorgi resigned from the post of CFO of which bank? **Standard Chartered.**
  - What does “GM” in GM crops stand for? **Genetically Modified.**
  - Which is the only GM crop commercially cultivated in India so far? **Bt cotton.**
  - Which key food staples remain protected from trade concessions in the deal between India & US? **Rice and wheat.**
  - BIOFACH 2026 was held in which country? **Germany.**
  - India signed a Social Security Agreement in 2026 with which country? **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.**
  - Which two organisations signed an MoU to enable mutual fund distribution through post offices? **Department of Posts and National Stock Exchange (NSE).**
  - Which organization publishes the Index of Economic Freedom? **The Heritage Foundation**
  - What is the projected GDP growth rate of India for 2026 as per the latest report? **6.9%**
  - The AI Impact Summit 2026 will focus on which key theme? **Democratisation of Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
  - Praveen Iyer was also a co-founder of which airline? **Akasa Air.**
  - Under which law does the concept of joint family and coparcenary exist in India? **Hindu inheritance law.**
  - When do inheritance rights arise under Muslim law? **Only after the death of the property owner.**
  - What does EXILE Act aim to end? **H-1B programme.**
  - H-1B visa allows hiring of whom? **Foreign professionals.**
  - 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.**
  - 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.**
  - What malpractice is the RBI aiming to prevent through the proposed ban on third-party incentives? **Mis-selling of financial products.**
  - Which American actor, best known for his role in Dawson’s Creek, died at age 48 in 2026? **James Van Der Beek.**
  - Who became the new commander of CTF-154 from the Indian Navy? **Commodore Milind M. Mokashi.**
  - What is the main role of CTF-154? **Maritime security training and capacity building.**
  - Which country’s parliament approved a new cabinet led by Albin Kurti? **Kosovo.**
  - In which year did Kosovo declare independence from Serbia? **2008.**
  - Who has been appointed as New Zealand’s Resident Defence Advisor to India? — **Commodore Andy Dowling.**
  - Which Russian entity backed the Mali lithium project? **Rosatom.**
  - Sarla Maheshwari, who passed away in 2026, was associated with which public broadcaster? **Doordarshan.**
  - What is the name of the new complex that will house the PMO under the Central Vista project? **Seva Teerth.**
  - Indian-language inscriptions were recently found in which historic Egyptian site? **Valley of the Kings.**
  - Rapid growth of which payment system has increased the urgency of cyber fraud safeguards in India? **Unified Payments Interface.**
  - 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**
  - Which new scheme provides cashless treatment up to ₹1.5 lakh for road accident victims? **PM RAHAT Scheme**
  - Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand? **Puneet Agrawal**
  - What is the total size of the BIRAC–RDI Fund announced by the government? **The fund size is ₹2,000 crore.**
  - Which team won the Nagesh Trophy in 2026? **Karnataka.**
  - What type of tournament is the Nagesh Trophy? **A national T20 cricket tournament for visually impaired players.**
  - Which party secured victory in the 2026 Barbados election? **The Barbados Labour Party.**
  - Where is the Tulbul Navigation Project located? **At the outlet of Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir.**

- When did construction of the Tulbul project originally begin? **In 1984.**
- In which state will India's first underwater road-cum-rail tunnel be constructed? **Assam.**
- What does RAHAT stand for in PM RAHAT Scheme? **Road Accident Victim Hospitalisation and Assured Treatment.**
- What is the total central assistance approved under the Urban Challenge Fund? **₹1 lakh crore.**
- 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.**
- Which Indian para-badminton player won his fourth consecutive SL3 gold at the BWF Para World Championships? **Pramod Bhagat.**
- Which authority imposed a ₹5 lakh penalty on Snapdeal for selling non-BIS compliant toys? **Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)**
- Who won the 2026 FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship? **Magnus Carlsen**
- What is India's rank in the 2026 Henley Passport Index? **75th**
- Which two countries did India lose visa-free access to in 2026? **Iran and Bolivia**
- Which government organisation is implementing the AMCA programme? **Defence Research and Development Organisation**
- India and which country exchanged 21 agreements in defence, energy and critical minerals? **France.**
- Name an American civil rights activist, Baptist minister, and political leader, who passed away recently? **Jesse Jackson**
- Which Olympic medalist was honoured with the Bhavya Bharat Bhushan Award 2026? **Saina Nehwal.**
- Who announced the launch of SAHI and BODH initiatives? **Jagat Prakash Nadda.**
- Who has been reappointed as the Prime Minister of Japan after the election? **Sanae Takaichi.**
- 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 government scheme promotes residential rooftop solar in India? **PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.**
- 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.**
- Which country topped the CPI 2025 as the least corrupt? **Denmark.**
- 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).**
- 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).**
- Which startup partnered with NVIDIA to build India's first electric air taxi? **The ePlane Company**
- Which organisation hosts the MILAN naval exercise? **Indian Navy**
- Who will inaugurate MILAN 2026 naval exercise? **Rajnath Singh**
- What mistake from the nuclear past should India avoid in AI? **Strategic confusion**
- What date fixes the religious status of worship places under the Places of Worship Act, 1991? **15 August 1947**
- Which university faced controversy at the AI summit? **Galgotias University**
- What is the main focus of Pax Silica? **Secure supply chains**
- Which two countries reaffirmed green tech cooperation under the India-EU Free Trade Agreement Framework? **India and Sweden**
- Which country cancelled the cherry blossom festival near Mount Fuji? **Japan**
- Which two countries signed the DigiLocker implementation agreement? **India and Kenya**
- Which constituency did Ricky Syngkon represent? **Shillong**
- Which country approved a new amnesty bill? **Venezuela**
- Which Swiss drugmaker is exiting its India-listed unit in a \$159 million deal? **Novartis AG.**
- Under which law are cheque bounce offences criminalised? **Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.**
- What was essential to prove rape under the pre-2013 IPC law? **Proof of penetration.**
- India recently reaffirmed defence production ties with which country? **Finland**

- The AI data centre project in Dholera was signed between Gujarat government and which company? **Larsen & Toubro Vyoma**
- Under which law were Trump's earlier tariffs imposed? **They were imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 1977.**
- What is the maximum tariff allowed under Section 122 of the Trade Act, 1974? **Up to 15% for a maximum of 150 days.**
- India recently strengthened telecom and digital partnership with which country? **Brazil**
- India recently agreed to deepen cooperation in advanced technologies with which country? **Liechtenstein**
- Which group proposed the idea of a third category in the UNSC? **Uniting for Consensus**
- Who has been appointed as the new head of Xbox and Microsoft Gaming? **Asha Sharma.**
- The newly launched Td vaccine replaces which earlier vaccine? **Tetanus Toxoid (TT) Vaccine.**
- Which country won its 17th gold medal at the 2026 Winter Olympics? **Norway.**
- Which Brazilian footballer has announced his retirement by the end of 2026? **Neymar**
- 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"**
- The "Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai" campaign is associated with which digital platform? **Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH).**
- Stefanos Sakellaridis, who won the men's singles title at the Delhi Open 2026, belongs to which country? **Greece.**
- Who won the Best Director award at BAFTA 2026? **Paul Thomas Anderson.**
- Which film won the Outstanding British Film award at BAFTA 2026? **Hamnet.**
- Which Indian Manipuri film won the Best Children's & Family Film award at BAFTA 2026? **Boong.**
- Which ministry unveiled the PRAHAAR counter-terrorism strategy? **The Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- What agreement did India and France amend recently? **The India-France Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC).**
- Whose bust did Rajagopalachari's replace at Rashtrapati Bhavan? **The bust of Sir Edwin Lutyens**
- Which technology platform is used to develop PhonePe's AI natural language search? **Microsoft Foundry**
- Which temple is setting up a modern food testing laboratory using e-nose and e-tongue technology? **Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.**
- Who proposed the "Hexagon of Alliances" framework? **Benjamin Netanyahu.**
- Teacher App 2.0 was recently launched by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in collaboration with which telecom company? **Bharti Airtel.**
- El Mencho was the leader of which cartel? **Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG).**
- India signed a Joint Statement to launch FTA negotiations with which regional grouping? **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).**
- Exercise Dharma Guardian is conducted between India and which country? **Japan.**
- Which edition of Exercise Vajra Prahar began in February 2026? **16th edition.**
- Where is the 16th edition of Exercise Vajra Prahar being held in India? **Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.**
- 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).**



## Quick Bytes

- Andhra Pradesh launches Project HANUMAN addressing rising human wildlife conflict through rapid response teams early warning systems and wildlife monitoring
- India and Canada announce Strategic Energy Partnership revive CEPA negotiations expanding cooperation in uranium supply clean energy technology and trade
- Jio Platforms appoints telecom veteran Dan Bailey as President to lead global expansion strategy and international telecom technology partnerships
- Saba Shawl becomes first Kashmiri woman appointed head of Central Jail Srinagar marking milestone for women leadership in security services
- B P Singh assumes charge as Director General of Naval Armament strengthening operational readiness of Indian Navy weapon systems
- Global internet rankings show Google YouTube dominating traffic while ChatGPT enters top five highlighting rise of artificial intelligence platforms
- Veteran Congress leader K P Unnikrishnan former Union minister and six time Lok Sabha MP passes away at eighty nine
- Ashmolean Museum returns sixteenth century Saint Thirumankai Alvar bronze idol to India strengthening cultural diplomacy heritage restitution and temple traditions
- World Obesity Atlas reports India surpasses United States in childhood obesity highlighting rising health risks and urgent need policy action
- Scotland legalizes water cremation becoming first United Kingdom nation approving alkaline hydrolysis as environmentally friendly alternative to traditional cremation
- India signs ₹5083 crore defence deals for ALH MkIII helicopters and VL-Shtil missiles strengthening maritime surveillance naval air defence
- Indian women's cricket team nominated for Laureus World Team of the Year after historic ICC Women's World Cup triumph
- Strait of Hormuz gains global strategic attention amid rising Iran-Israel tensions as instability threatens one of the world's most critical energy routes
- DRDO accelerates development of Ghatak stealth combat drone programme to strengthen India's future air combat capabilities and autonomous strike missions
- Jio Platforms appoints Dan Bailey as President to lead international expansion strategy and strengthen global digital and telecom business initiatives
- United States launches military strikes on Iran under Donald Trump amid nuclear programme concerns and escalating geopolitical tensions
- President Droupadi Murmu launches Pink National Common Mobility Card in Delhi enabling free bus travel for women beneficiaries
- Union Minister Amit Shah launched digital tools and mascots Pragati Vikas marking India's first fully digital Census 2027 initiative milestone
- United Nations report reveals women globally possess only sixty four percent legal rights compared men highlighting persistent inequality discrimination worldwide
- SEBI deployed AI system Sudarshan removing over one lakh misleading finfluencer posts strengthening monitoring financial content across digital platforms effectively
- ACC reappointed Dr Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi as DCGI extending tenure ensuring continuity in India's drug regulation system under CDSCO
- CCI approved Central Bank India stake increase in Generali insurance ventures strengthening bancassurance integration expanding insurance distribution capabilities nationwide
- Motilal Oswal Home Finance raises USD 100 million from ADB via NCDs to boost women-led affordable housing and green buildings
- BEL partners with Bellatrix Aerospace to develop advanced satellite systems for Very Low Earth Orbit enabling improved imaging and communication capabilities
- Ladakh launches Holistic Homestay Support Framework to boost rural tourism, employment, and sustainable community-based hospitality enterprises across remote regions
- Indonesia announces social media ban for minors under 16 aiming to curb cyber risks, addiction, and harmful online exposure among youth
- Japan approves first iPS stem-cell therapies for Parkinson's and heart failure, marking breakthrough in regenerative medicine and clinical innovation

- Shrishti Sharma sets world record in 50m limbo skating with 7.46 seconds, significantly improving her previous global performance benchmark
- Smriti Mandhana becomes first Indian cricketer featured in Barbie Dream Team, recognizing her influence and achievements in global women's cricket
- Thiruvananthapuram deploys AI-powered G-SPIDER robot to eliminate manual scavenging and ensure safe, automated cleaning of hazardous urban canals
- Maharashtra celebrates Women's Day with Guinness record Lezim dance participation of over nine thousand women in Dombivli promoting empowerment
- India becomes second largest arms importer globally between 2021 and 2025 accounting for eight point two percent share as per SIPRI
- RBI approves Ketan Merchant as interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank following leadership crisis ensuring operational continuity in banking sector
- Rashmika Mandanna wins Best Actress award at Telangana Gaddar Awards for outstanding performance in Telugu film The Girlfriend
- Indian Armed Forces participate in Exercise Lamitiye 2026 in Seychelles enhancing tri services coordination and strengthening bilateral defence cooperation
- George Russell wins Australian Grand Prix 2026 marking first victory of season under new Formula One regulations
- Vir Chakra awardee KG George passes away at ninety five remembered for bravery during Indo Pakistan War nineteen sixty five
- Shah Rukh Khan enters Hurun Global Rich List 2026 with one point three billion dollar net worth becoming billionaire celebrity
- India clinches historic third T20 World Cup title defeating New Zealand by 96 runs becoming first team to win consecutive editions
- Veteran Hollywood actor Corey Parker passes away at 60 after cancer battle in Memphis marking end of notable acting career
- Telugu megastar Chiranjeevi honoured with prestigious NTR National Film Award for outstanding lifelong contribution to Indian cinema industry
- RM Nachammai becomes first woman Chief Superintendent of operational nuclear power plant in India marking milestone in gender representation
- Sabrina Wittmann becomes Germany's first female head coach of professional men's football team with FC Ingolstadt historic appointment
- Vir Chakra awardee and 1965 war hero Lance Havildar KG George passes away at 95 remembered for bravery
- Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth appointed as Vice Chief of Army Staff effective April 1 2026 strengthening top military leadership
- Indian Railways launches SHINE app enabling women to report harassment confidentially ensuring faster grievance redressal and workplace safety
- Uttar Pradesh launches Project GANGA to provide high speed internet to 20 lakh rural households boosting digital connectivity
- Mizoram Assembly passes resolution to include Mizo language in Eighth Schedule promoting cultural recognition without affecting tribal rights
- Maharashtra Assembly passes revenue and stamp amendment bills improving governance unlocking land for development and administrative efficiency
- BCCI announces ₹131 crore reward for Team India after T20 World Cup victory recognising players staff and selectors
- Government invokes Essential Commodities Act to ensure stable LPG and gas supply prioritizing households transport and fertilizer amid geopolitical tensions
- Supreme Court withdrawal of life support Harish Rana reinforcing framework for passive euthanasia and dignity in end of life decisions
- Nagauri Pan Methi receives farmers variety registration granting legal rights protecting biodiversity enhancing income opportunities and preventing biopiracy in Rajasthan
- IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers resigns Rahul Bhatia assumes interim leadership operational disruptions aims to restore stability and improve airline performance
- Dr Partha Biswas assumes charge as Member of National Commission for Scheduled Castes bringing academic expertise in governance policy and inclusion
- NITI Aayog releases Fiscal Health Index 2026 ranking states on financial strength with Odisha leading among major states and Arunachal Pradesh topping special category
- India becomes largest exporter of cotton products to United States in 2025 surpassing China due to competitive textile sector and integrated supply chain

- WHO Foundation partners Novo Nordisk to tackle childhood obesity in India through school based programs promoting healthy lifestyle awareness and early prevention
- Chhattisgarh cabinet approves Freedom of Religion Bill 2026 to curb illegal conversions while safeguarding constitutional rights and regulating religious practices
- Parthanal Ghosh appointed MD and CEO of HDFC ERGO strengthening leadership as insurance sector expands with digital adoption and innovation
- DRDO and Indian Navy test indigenous ADC 150 from P8I aircraft enhancing maritime logistics and emergency supply capabilities at sea
- Forbes 2026 list shows India billionaire count rising to 229 with Mukesh Ambani richest followed by Gautam Adani and Savitri Jindal
- Shailesh Kumar wins gold in high jump at World Para Athletics Grand Prix marking strong comeback after injury and focusing future events
- Iran withdraws from FIFA World Cup 2026 citing geopolitical tensions leaving FIFA to decide replacement in tournament lineup
- Veteran Tamil filmmaker Thakkali Srinivasan passes away at seventy two.
- ISRO and AIIMS sign agreement to advance space medicine research supporting human space missions and developing healthcare innovations for extreme environments
- Gujarat Titans appoint Vijay Dahiya as assistant coach strengthening support staff ahead of IPL 2026 season with experienced coaching leadership
- Meta acquires Moltbook platform enhancing development of autonomous AI agents and strengthening competition in artificial intelligence ecosystem
- Assam exports GI-tagged Joha rice to United Kingdom and Italy marking entry into premium global agricultural markets
- India to establish world's first autonomous maritime shipbuilding centre boosting unmanned vessel development and coastal technological capabilities
- R Vairamuthu receives 2025 Jnanpith Award becoming third Tamil writer after Akilan and Jayakanthan to earn India's highest literary honour
- Government launches Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat campaign to eliminate child marriage through awareness community mobilisation and institutional strengthening
- India tops World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 medal tally with record 208 medals dominating global competition
- Goa approves Advocate Protection Bill 2026 ensuring safety and legal safeguards for lawyers
- NASA targets April 1 2026 for Artemis II mission marking first crewed lunar flyby in 50 years
- Prof Yashwant Gupta receives MP Birla Memorial Award 2025 for contributions to radio astronomy
- Arpita Patra summits Ojos del Salado becoming second Indian woman to scale world's highest volcano
- Kurumba artist Kitna awarded posthumous Padma Shri for preserving tribal painting tradition
- KSRTC wins PSU National Award for Dhvani Spandana aiding visually impaired passengers
- Sagar Defence lays foundation for world first autonomous maritime shipbuilding centre in Andhra Pradesh integrating robotics artificial intelligence advanced manufacturing technologies
- Reserve Bank of India imposes Rs 2.7 lakh penalty on Manappuram Finance for violating key managerial personnel compensation regulatory guidelines
- Film One Battle After Another wins six Oscars at 98th Academy Awards emerging biggest winner across major categories Hollywood ceremony
- New plant species *Osbeckia zubeengargiana* discovered in Manas National Park Assam named after singer Zubeen Garg enhancing biodiversity research
- Mayank Chakraborty becomes India 94th Grandmaster first from Northeast achieving milestone at international chess tournament Sweden
- Former Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed announces retirement ending illustrious international cricket career spanning nearly two decades with significant achievements
- India emerges as global leader in coconut production with over 30 percent share, supporting millions of farmers and strengthening rural economy initiatives
- Supreme Court removes age limit on maternity leave for adoptive mothers, ensuring equal rights, child welfare, and promoting inclusive parenting policies
- Gujarat receives Uniform Civil Code draft report proposing common personal laws, ensuring gender equality, legal uniformity, and reforming marriage inheritance systems
- Punjab passes Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur University Bill 2026 to establish advanced institution focusing

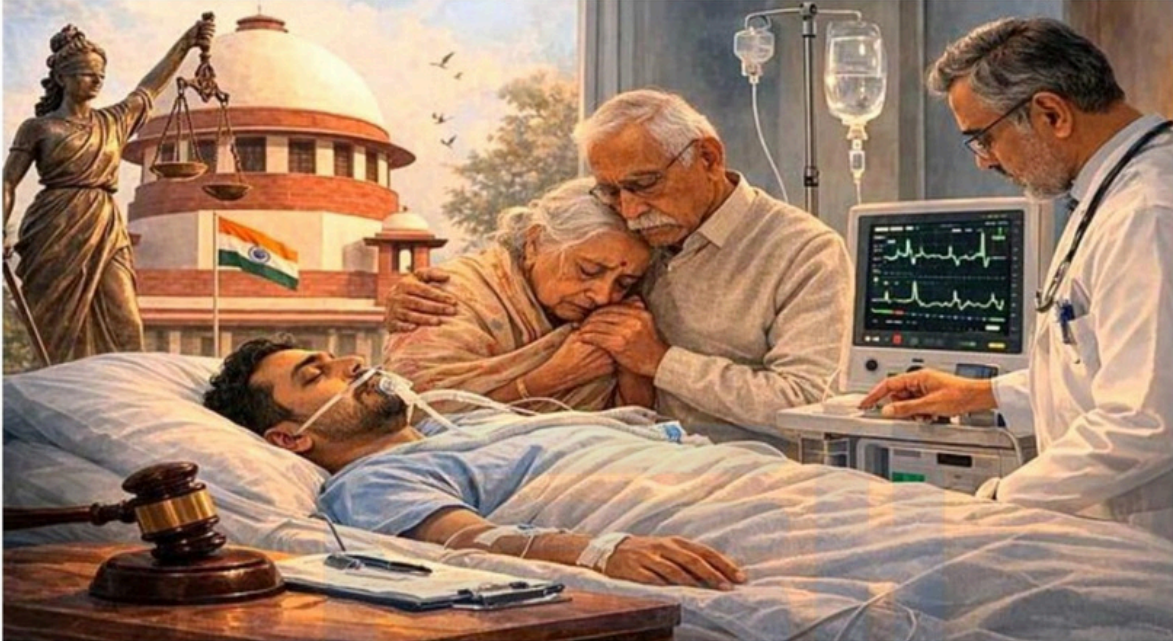
- on defense, aerospace, cybersecurity, and innovation sectors
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs launches RISA brand promoting tribal artisans globally enhancing income preserving heritage through design innovation training infrastructure and eco friendly packaging
- Bhumika Shrestha becomes Nepal first transgender woman MP marking inclusivity milestone strengthening representation rights and political participation for marginalized communities
- India Indonesia collaborate to restore Prambanan Temple using traditional methods and AI ensuring heritage preservation cultural ties and structural authenticity
- United States waives Jones Act temporarily amid Iran conflict easing fuel transport allowing foreign ships reducing supply bottlenecks and stabilizing energy markets
- Kim Jong Un secures overwhelming victory in North Korea elections consolidating power with near total voter turnout and complete legislative control
- Finland tops World Happiness Report 2026 again highlighting strong social support trust institutions while India ranks lower despite growth
- William Dalrymple wins Mark Lynton History Prize 2026 for book highlighting ancient India global influence reshaping historical perspectives worldwide
- Government launches RELIEF scheme 2026 supporting exporters amid West Asia crisis offering risk coverage aid ensuring trade continuity and resilience
- Geological Survey of India declares Kalinjar Fort geo heritage site highlighting ancient rock formations revealing Earth history boosting tourism research development
- Tamil Nadu becomes top textile exporter surpassing Gujarat achieving strong growth driven by policy support infrastructure skilled workforce boosting India global trade position
- World Anti Doping Agency delays rule decision ensuring FIFA World Cup 2026 unaffected amid funding dispute concerns involving United States government participation
- Hurun Global Rich List 2026 records 150 self made women billionaires led by China United States highlighting growth in AI healthcare sectors
- Vikram Doraiswami appointed India ambassador to China bringing extensive diplomatic experience aiming to rebuild bilateral relations after tensions and enhance strategic engagement
- Telangana launches Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme offering ₹5 lakh coverage to 1.15 crore families ensuring social security welfare inclusivity
- Krishna Kumar Thakur assumes charge as Director Personnel at NMDC strengthening human resource reforms employee engagement and organizational productivity
- Actress Rituparna Sengupta honoured with Women Empowerment Award at UK Parliament recognizing contribution to arts culture global representation achievements
- Government notifies National Highways Fee Rules 2026 introducing digital enforcement e notices improving toll compliance and transparent collection systems
- India Bhutan sign postal cooperation agreement enhancing logistics connectivity digital remittance services technology sharing and institutional capacity building
- National Dental Commission constituted replacing Dental Council of India to reform dental education, improve standards and regulate profession under new 2023 Act
- Indian mountaineer Anmish Varma sets Guinness World Record for fastest ascent of Seven Volcanic Summits completing expedition within ninety two days
- Union Cabinet approved proposal to officially rename Kerala as Keralam during its first meeting held at newly inaugurated Seva Teerth office complex.
- Ministry of Home Affairs released India's new national counter-terrorism policy PRAHAAR outlining proactive framework to tackle evolving terror threats nationwide.
- India and France signed protocol to amend 1992 Double Taxation Avoidance Convention to modernise tax provisions and align them with global standards.
- India and Gulf Cooperation Council issued joint statement advancing negotiations toward comprehensive Free Trade Agreement to deepen economic integration.
- Indian Army and United States Army began 16th edition of Joint Special Forces Exercise Vajra Prahar at Bakloh Himachal Pradesh.
- Indian Army conducted Exercise Agni Varsha at Pokhran Field Firing Ranges Rajasthan to demonstrate operational readiness and battlefield combat capabilities.

- Legendary Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar designated United Nations Global Champion for Road Safety to promote global awareness on road safety.
- Professor B Ravindran of IIT Madras appointed to United Nations Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence representing India.
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched SUJVIKA AI driven biotech product data portal marking Department of Biotechnology 40th foundation day.
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas mandated petrol containing maximum twenty percent ethanol and minimum ninety-five Research Octane Number nationwide from April 2026.
- India and Japan began seventh edition of joint military exercise Dharma Guardian at Chaubattia Uttarakhand to enhance defence cooperation and interoperability.
- World Bank Group released report Women, Business and the Law 2026 highlighting only half of global laws ensuring women's economic equality are effectively enforced.
- Indian Railway Finance Corporation signed loan agreement with Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and MUFG Bank raising four hundred million dollars external borrowing.
- NSE International Exchange launched platform NSE IX Global Access enabling Indian retail investors and NRIs to trade equities debt and ETFs globally.
- Mangaluru International Airport won Airports Service Quality Customer Experience Award for best airport arrivals category second consecutive year.
- Appointments Committee of Cabinet chaired by Narendra Modi gave additional charge of NITI Aayog CEO to IAS officer Nidhi Chhibber.
- Indian Army defended team championship title at Khelo India Winter Games 2026 winning nine gold medals across Gulmarg and Leh competitions.
- Jatinder Mehra Essar Group Vice Chairman and veteran steel industry leader passed away at eighty six in New Delhi.
- Soundala village in Maharashtra declares itself caste free through unanimous gram sabha resolution promoting social equality harmony inclusive rural governance
- Rajasthan government announces Mount Abu will officially be known as Aburaj reflecting cultural heritage identity decision in state assembly
- Indian Navy commissions INS Anjadip at Chennai strengthening maritime security coastal patrol capability under leadership of naval chief
- India successfully conducts three consecutive flight trials of indigenous VSHORADS missile strengthening very short range air defence capability
- Mumbai Cricket Association approves naming stand at Wankhede Stadium after former India captain and coach Ravi Shastri
- Jammu and Kashmir cricket team creates history winning Ranji Trophy in maiden final appearance defeating opponents impressively
- Eminent Indian sociologist T K Oommen passes away at age eighty eight remembered for contributions to sociology academia

**"Don't be distracted by criticism. Remember--the only taste of success some people get is to take a bite out of you."**

## Trending Topic of the Month

### Withdrawing Life-Supporting Care in India: Procedure and Key Issues



#### Introduction

The debate over withdrawing life-supporting medical care has gained attention after the Supreme Court of India allowed passive euthanasia in an individual case for the first time. The decision involved a patient who had been in a persistent vegetative state for more than a decade, with no realistic chance of recovery. This ruling highlights the legal framework governing passive euthanasia and end-of-life decisions in India, along with the challenges families and doctors face when trying to withdraw life-sustaining treatment.

#### What is Withdrawing Life-Supporting Care?

Withdrawing life-supporting care refers to the removal or withholding of medical treatment that artificially keeps a person alive, allowing the patient to die naturally. This practice is commonly referred to as passive euthanasia.

Life-sustaining treatments that may be withdrawn include:

ventilator support, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), dialysis, chemotherapy or radiotherapy & artificial nutrition or hydration.

Passive euthanasia differs from active euthanasia, where a medical professional intentionally administers a drug or injection to cause death. Active euthanasia remains illegal in India.

#### Legal Basis in India

India does not have a dedicated law on euthanasia, but the legal framework has evolved through Supreme Court judgments.

#### Key milestones include:

1. Aruna Shanbaug case (2011): The Court allowed passive euthanasia under strict conditions.
2. Common Cause case (2018): The Court recognised the right to die with dignity as part of Article 21 (Right to Life) and allowed people to make a “living will” refusing life-prolonging treatment.
3. Modification in 2023: The Supreme Court simplified procedures to make the implementation of passive euthanasia easier.

These rulings together form the current framework for end-of-life decisions in India.

## Procedure for Withdrawing Life Support

- The process generally involves several safeguards to ensure that the decision is ethical and medically justified.
- Living Will or Advance Directive: A person can record their wishes in a living will stating that life-support treatment should be withdrawn if they become terminally ill or incapable of making decisions.
- Consent of Family or Surrogate: If there is no living will, family members or legal guardians can request withdrawal of treatment.
- Medical Board Review: A hospital must constitute a primary medical board of experts to examine the patient and determine whether recovery is possible.
- Second Medical Opinion: A secondary medical board reviews the decision to ensure there is no error or misuse.
- Implementation with Palliative Care: If both boards agree, life support may be withdrawn while ensuring the patient receives palliative and comfort care.



## Major Challenges and Hurdles

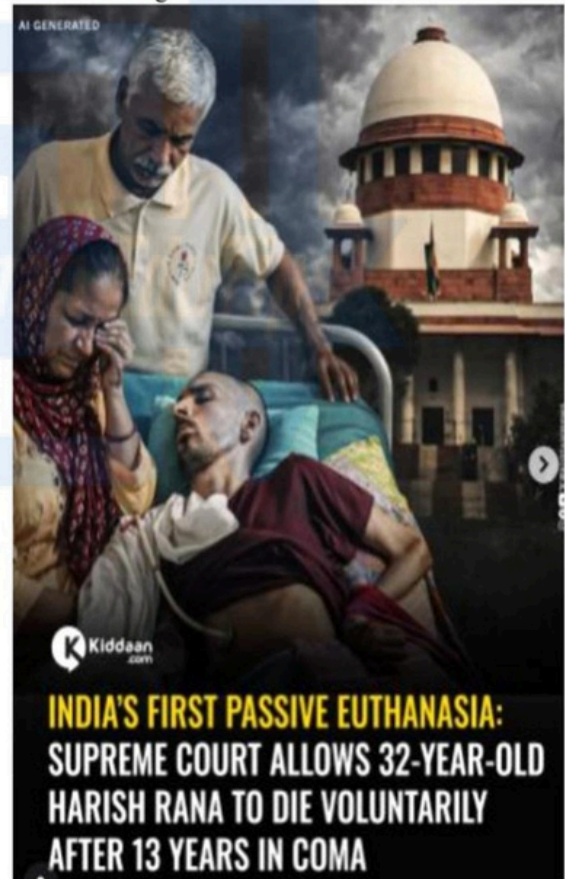
Despite legal guidelines, withdrawing life-supporting care remains difficult in practice.

1. Lack of a Clear Law: India still relies mainly on court guidelines rather than a comprehensive statute, creating legal uncertainty.
2. Complex Procedures: Multiple approvals and medical boards can delay decisions, prolonging suffering for patients and families.
3. Low Awareness: Many people are unaware of the concept of living wills or advance directives, limiting their practical use.

4. Ethical and Cultural Concerns: Religious and cultural beliefs often view euthanasia as morally wrong, making families hesitant to consider withdrawing treatment.
5. Fear of Legal Liability: Doctors may worry about legal consequences if life support is withdrawn, which can discourage them from following the procedure.

## Conclusion

The Supreme Court's evolving jurisprudence has recognised the right to die with dignity as part of the right to life. While passive euthanasia and withdrawal of life-support are legally permitted under strict safeguards, the process remains complex due to procedural, ethical, and legal challenges. Experts increasingly argue that a clear legislation on end-of-life care is necessary to make the system more humane, transparent, and accessible for patients and families facing difficult medical decisions.



## Infographics

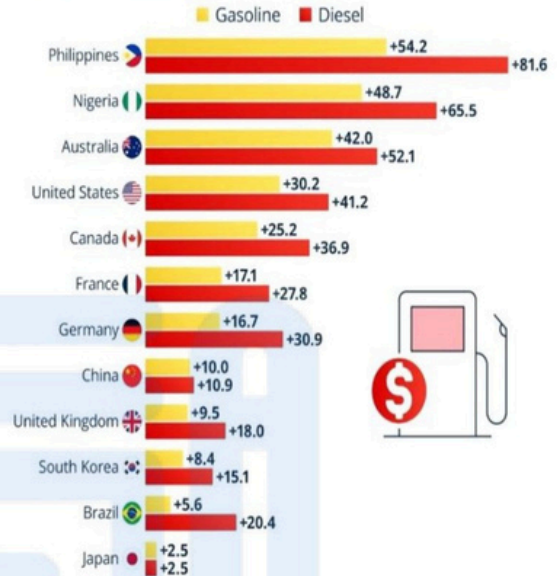
### How Long Would Countries' Oil Stocks Last?

Strategic oil stocks of net importers by how many days of average supplemented consumption they would cover\*



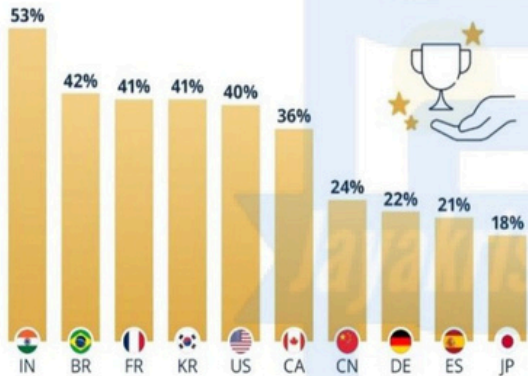
### Iran War: How Fuel Prices Shifted Worldwide

Fuel price changes in selected countries between February 23 and March 23, 2026 (in percent)



### Where Success Comes First

Share of respondents who consider being successful one of the three most important aspects in life



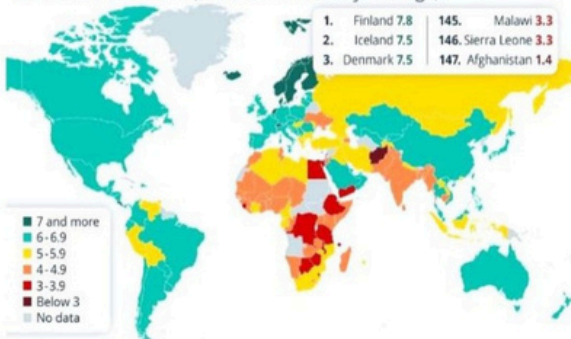
### Which Countries Face the Broadest International Sanctions?

Countries/regimes facing sanctions imposed by selected countries/international organizations (as of March 2026)\*

	Yes	No	U.S.	EU	UK	Canada	Japan	UN Security Council
North Korea	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Iran	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Myanmar	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Afghanistan**	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Russia	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Belarus	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Syria	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Venezuela	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Cuba	✓		✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

### Where People Are (Un)Happiest With Their Lives

Self-assessed life quality of respondents across countries on a scale of 1 to 10 (2023-2025 country average)\*



\* Countries like China, India and Brazil have no formal country-based sanctions regimes, but implement UN sanctions. U.S. sanctions on Syria have been mostly lifted in 2025.  
\*\* In many cases, Taliban/individuals are the targets of sanctions, not the state (regime not recognized).  
Sources: EU, OFAC, UN and respective governments

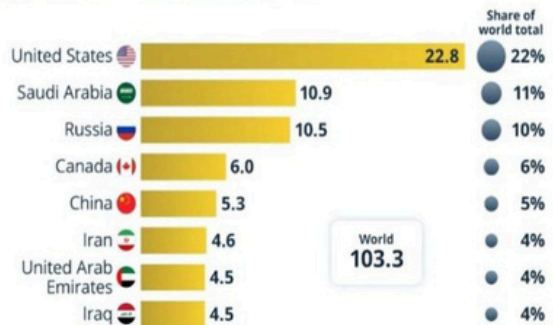
## Major Elections Around the World in 2026

Countries where a presidential, general or legislative/parliamentary election is/was held in 2026



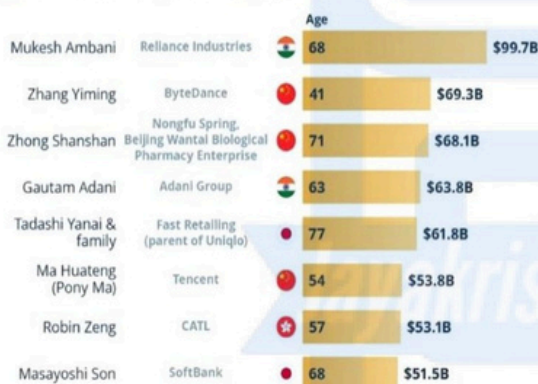
## The World's Largest Oil Producers

Production of petroleum and other liquids in 2024 (in million barrels per day)\*



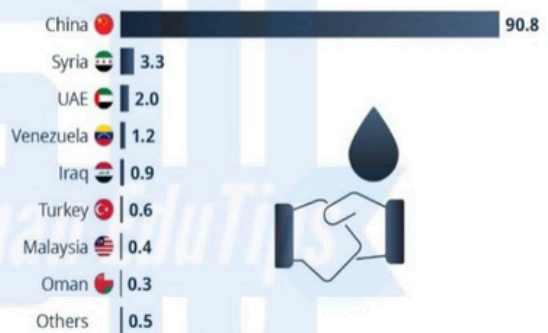
## Asia's Richest Billionaires

Net worth of the richest people in Asia\*



## China is the Biggest Buyer of Iranian Oil

Estimated share of Iranian oil exports in 2024 by receiving country (in percent)



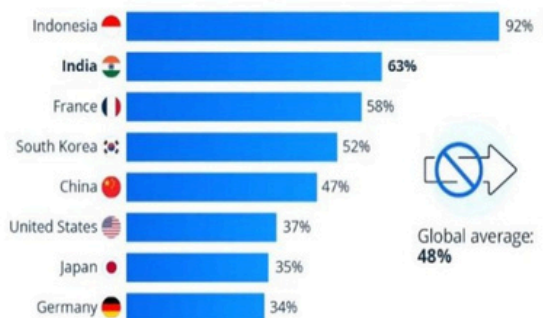
## The World's Richest People in 2026

Net worth of the world's richest people\*



## Support for Trade Barriers High in India

Share of respondents who think there should be more trade barriers to limit foreign imports in their country





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