

1. RBI Introduces Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (IOS) 2026

- An Ombudsman (known as "Lokpal") is an officer or committee appointed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to resolve customer complaints regarding banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), and digital payments.
- The RBI introduced the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (IOS) 2026, effective from 1st July 2026.
- Complaint process and timelines:
 - o The customer must first lodge a complaint directly with the respective bank or regulated entity.
 - o The bank gets a 30-day timeline to resolve the issue.
 - o If unresolved within 30 days, or if resolution is unsatisfactory, the customer has 90 days to appeal to the Integrated Ombudsman.
- Compensation limits increased:
 - o Maximum compensation for financial loss due to banking service delays raised from ₹20 lakh to ₹30 lakh.
 - o Maximum compensation for mental harassment raised from ₹1 lakh to ₹3 lakh.
- Dispute limit: Under the 2026 guidelines, there continues to be no limit on the dispute amount that can be brought to the Ombudsman (even cases exceeding ₹1 crore are accepted).
- Coverage: Banks, NBFCs, Non-bank Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) like PhonePe, Google Pay, Amazon Pay, and Credit Information Companies.

2. FIU-IND Wins Runner-up at Best Egmont Case Award 2026

- The Financial Intelligence Unit of India (FIU-IND) was established in 2004 under the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue).
- It is the national agency tasked with fighting money laundering and terror financing.
- Headquarters: New Delhi; current Head: **Mr. Amit Mohan Govil**

3. ADB and IMF Revise India's Growth Projections

- Asian Development Bank (ADB):
 - o Downgraded India's FY27 GDP growth prediction from 6.9% to 6.6%.
 - o Upgraded India's inflation prediction from 4.5% to 5.2%.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF):
 - o Downgraded India's growth projection FY27 to 6.4% (down from its April projection of 6.5%).

4. Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) — Digital Rupee (e-Rupi)

- The e-Rupi wallet requires no minimum balance, but the maximum holding balance is limited to ₹1 lakh.
- Per-Transaction Cap: Limited to ₹10,000 per transfer
- Daily Outward Cap: Limited to a cumulative ₹50,000 or ₹1,00,000 in a 24-hour window, depending on the specific bank's risk policy.

5. Dilip Asbe, MD & CEO of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has been inducted into the Global Supervisory Board of SWIFT.

- SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication) is a global, secure messaging network that banks use to send secure international transfer messages (acting like a secure WhatsApp for banks).

6. Visa launched the Visa Payment Passkey in India, with IDFC First Bank as its first banking partner.

7. US Federal Reserve Chairman Kevin Warsh announced a 5-member monetary policy task force to analyze central banking approaches.

- The task force includes three prominent Indian economists: former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, Raj Chetty, and Asha Sharma.
- Raghuram Rajan has been appointed to co-lead the Federal Reserve Task Force on Balance Sheet.

8. NSE Launches India's First Animal-Friendly Index — Nifty 500 Ahimsa

- The National Stock Exchange (NSE) launched India's first animal-friendly stock market index, named Nifty 500 Ahimsa.
- Base date: 1st April 2016; Base value: \$10.

9. Mr. Baldev Prakash (former MD & CEO of Jammu & Kashmir Bank) has been appointed as the MD & CEO of SBI Capital Securities (a subsidiary of SBI)

10. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) received the prestigious World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prize 2026 for its flagship "Samridh Gram" initiative.

11. CPWD Launches "Sankalp" Initiative on Foundation Day

- The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) was established in 1854.
- On 12th July, CPWD celebrated its Foundation Day.
- CPWD is currently headed by Satinder Pal Singh.
- Sankalp Full Form:

- **S** - Speed
- **A** - Accessibility
- **N** - Nekneeyat (Good intentions)
- **K** - Kartavyanishtha (Dedication to duty)
- **A** - Adoption of technology
- **L** - Lokhit (Public welfare)
- **P** - Pardarshita (Transparency)

12. EPFO Auto-Settlement Limit Raised to ₹5 Lakh

13. NABARD facilitated the Geographical Indication (GI) registration of 28 new products, bringing the total number of NABARD-supported GI products to 176.

- Newly registered products include:
- **ihar:** Nalanda Bawan Buti Saree (and Fabrics)
- **Jharkhand:** Kuchai Silk Saree and Fabrics
- **Assam:** Ba Shilp / Bash Shilp (Bamboo Craft)
- **Himachal Pradesh:** Himachal Wood Carving Craft
- **Madhya Pradesh:** Khajuraho Metal Craft

14. Navi Mumbai International Airport Designated as Port of Drug Import

- This addition brings the total number of designated drug import entry points in India (covering airports, seaports, road, and rail points) to 42.

15. PM Modi's Visit to Indonesia — Prambanan Temple Complex

- The Prambanan Temple was built in the 9th century during the Sanjay Dynasty and is dedicated to the Hindu Trimurti (Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma).
- A UNESCO World Heritage Site that originally consisted of 240 temples; its tallest structure is a 47-metre-high central Shiva temple tower.
- PM Narendra Modi, alongside Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, visited the Prambanan Temple Complex in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- Official Gift: PM Modi presented Assam's "Manohari Gold Tea" to the Indonesian President, Prabowo Subianto (referred to as "Prabhu Subiyanto" in the transcript).
- Indonesia Profile: Capital — Jakarta; President — Prabowo Subianto; Currency — Indonesian Rupiah

16. India and Kyrgyzstan signed an MoU for joint academic, cultural, and comparative research on their respective national epics: Mahabharat (India) and Manas (Kyrgyzstan).

- Kyrgyzstan Profile: Capital — Bishkek; Currency — Kyrgyzstan Som.

17. India–Australia Sign PACTS Agreement

- Full Form: **Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains** (PACTS).

18. India–New Zealand Strategic Roadmap and Bilateral Trade Target

- Both countries set a bilateral trade target in goods and services of ₹35,000 crore (approx. \$7 billion USD) by 2030.
- PM Narendra Modi's official visit to New Zealand was the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister in nearly 40 years.
- New Zealand Profile: Capital — Wellington; Currency — Dollar.

19. Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) 111th Foundation Day

- About ZSI: Established on 1st July 1916 in Kolkata; operates under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; headquartered in Kolkata with 16 regional centers.

20. ZSI inaugurated the 3rd three-day Animal Taxonomy Summit in Kolkata, West Bengal (the 4th edition of the National Scientific Summit), running from 30th June to 2nd July, inaugurated by Union Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav

- Kerala led the nation with 98 new animal species discovered, followed by West Bengal, Karnataka, and Arunachal Pradesh

21. The Borjuli site in Sonitpur, Assam was notified as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

- Assam's other BHS: Majuli Biodiversity Heritage Site, Hajong Tortoise Lake Biodiversity Heritage Site (Dima Hasao), and regions protecting the endangered Black Softshell Turtle.
- Assam State Details: Capital — Dispur; CM — Himanta Biswa Sarma; Governor — Lakshman Prasad Acharya.

22. Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Human-Wildlife Conflict Established in Coimbatore at the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts.

23. Defense Acquisition Council (DAC) Clears ₹52,000 Crore Capital Acquisitions

- The Defense Acquisition Council (DAC) was established in 2001 after the Kargil War.

24. Indian Air Force Ranked 3rd in Global Air Power Rankings

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is ranked 3rd globally in the Global Air Power Rankings by the World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft.
- Top positions: US Air Force — 1st; Russian Air Force — 2nd.

25. Indian Railways approved ₹206 crore to deploy the Kavach automatic train protection system.

- What is Kavach? An indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system designed to prevent head-on collisions and Signal Passed at Danger (SPAD) incidents by automatically applying brakes in emergencies or during heavy fog.

26. Uttar Pradesh Launches " Mukhyamantri Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Suvidha Yojana " Scheme for Teachers

- The Uttar Pradesh Government launched the "Guru Dakshina" scheme to provide free, cashless medical treatment and health insurance to government school teachers.
- UP Profile: CM — Yogi Adityanath; Governor — Anandiben Patel; Capital — Lucknow; major national park — Dudhwa National Park.

27. Pink Saheli Smart Card: From 1st August 2026, the card will be mandatory for women to avail free travel in Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and Cluster buses.

28. The Tamil Nadu government reconstituted its school curriculum design committee and appointed Dr. Mylswamy Annadurai (popularly known as the "Moon Man of India") as Chairperson, replacing Dr. Sultan Ahmed Ismail.

29. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the "Pillale Sampada" (Children are Wealth) initiative on World Population Day (11th July).

30. Odisha Observes "Namaste Day" for Sanitation Workers

- NAMASTE stands for National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem — a joint initiative of the Ministry of Social Justice and the Ministry of Housing.
- Odisha is observing "Namaste Day" on 14th July 2026 across all urban local bodies to honor sanitation workers and waste pickers.

31. India Sweeps Gold at 56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO)

- This is only the second time India has won 5 golds at the IPhO (the first was in 2018).
- The 56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) was hosted in Bucaramanga, Colombia.

32. ICC Hall of Fame Inductions — Sourav Ganguly, Anjum Chopra, Kevin Pietersen

- ICC Profile: The International Cricket Council (ICC) was established in 1909 (referred to as "199" in Guidely's transcript); headquartered in Dubai, UAE; current Chairperson: Mr. Jay Shah.
- Inductees:

- o Former India men's captain Sourav Ganguly ("Dada") — inducted as the 12th Indian cricketer (according to Guidely) or the 10th Indian male player (according to Ashish).
- o Former Indian women's captain Anjum Chopra — inducted as the 3rd Indian female player (following Diana Edulji and Neetu David).
- o Former England captain Kevin Pietersen.

33. Legendary Indian tennis player Leander Paes was appointed as the Player Ambassador of the Asian Tennis Federation.

- Honours: Arjuna Award (1990), Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (1996), Padma Shri (2001), Padma Bhushan (2014); inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2024.

34. Indian Grandmaster Iniyam P won 6th La Plagne Open Chess Tournament held in La Plagne, France.

- FIDE (International Chess Federation) Profile: Headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland.

35. Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) Season 7 in Goa

- This is the first time Goa is hosting a UTT season.

36. 5th Global Passport Index — India Ranked 125th

- Top performers: Sweden topped the index with 96/100 points, followed by Switzerland and Finland.
- India's rank: 125th (down from 124th in 2025). Indian passport holders have visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 26 countries.
- India's sub-indices: Quality of Life ranking improved 11 spots to 118th (from 129th); Investment ranking improved 3 spots to 94th.

37. Prominent Obituaries

- S. Janaki (Janaki Amma): Legendary playback singer, popularly called the "Nightingale of South India" and Karnataka's "Gana Kogile", passed away. She holds the record for singing the highest number of songs in Kannada.
- Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani: Former Amir of Qatar (served from 1995 to 2013) passed away.
- Antonio Rattin (Antonio Retin): Argentinian football legend who represented his nation in the 1962 and 1966 FIFA World Cups passed away.
- Girish Bharadwaj: Known as the "Bridge Man of India", this legendary social worker passed away recently. Awarded the Padma Shri in 2017.
- K. Bhagyaraj: Known as the "King of Screenplay", this veteran Tamil filmmaker and actor passed away. Won a Filmfare Award for Mundhanai Mudichu and the SIIMA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.
- R. Chezhian: National Award-winning cinematographer passed away.

38. Important Days

- Kashmir Martyrs' Day / Kashmir Shaheed Diwas (13th July)
- Malala Day (12th July): Observed globally to celebrate activist Malala Yousafzai's birthday.

39. Upcoming FIFA World Cups schedule:

- o 2026: Hosted by Canada, USA, and Mexico.
- o 2030: Hosted by Morocco, Spain, and Portugal.
- o 2034: Hosted by Saudi Arabia