

### 1. Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB–G RAM G) Act, 2025 replaced MGNREGA with Enhanced Rural Employment Guarantee

- The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) 2005 was a 100% centrally funded scheme providing 100 days of wage employment per year.
- The Government replaced it with the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (VBG-RAM) Act 2025, effective July 1, 2026.
- Employment Days: Increased from 100 days to 125 days guaranteed wage employment per financial year.
- Budget: Government allocated ₹95,692.31 crore (~₹95,600 crore) for FY 2026-27.
- Funding Ratio: Shared between Centre and States in 60:40 ratio (unlike MGNREGA which was 100% centrally funded); applicable for standard states.
- Wage Payments: Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) within 3 to 15 days; delay attracts 0.05% penalty/compensation.
- Unemployment Allowance: If employment not provided — 1/4th of wage rate for first 30 days, half wage rate thereafter.
- Spending: Minimum 60% of spending must go to wages; contractors and machines discouraged.
- Seasonal Pause: Work halted for 60 days during peak agricultural seasons.
- Existing MGNREGA cards remain valid until new Gramin Rojgar Cards are issued.

### 2. SEHAT Mission: Bridging Agriculture, Nutrition, and Public Health

- Jointly driven by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Full form: Science Excellence for Health through Agricultural Transformation (SEHAT).
- Promotes chemical-free, high-quality farming through nutrient-rich and biofortified crops (e.g., wheat varieties that help control diabetes).

### 3. PM Modi's Key Visits, Inaugurations, and Economic Warning Address

- Telangana: Inaugurated the PM Mega Textile Park in Warangal.
- Karnataka: Attended the 45th celebration of Art of Living Foundation and Sri Sri Ravi Shankar's 70th birth anniversary in Bengaluru.
- Gujarat Visit (May 10–11):
- Participated in Somnath Amrit Mahotsav at Somnath Temple — To mark the milestone, PM Modi released a special commemorative ₹75 coin (composed of 40 grams of pure silver) and a commemorative postage stamp. The reverse side of the coin features an image of the temple inscribed with "1000 Years of India's Unwavering Faith and Devotion".
- Inaugurated the ₹150 crore Sardar Dham hostel in Vadodara; launched Sardar Dham Education Support Yojana; laid foundation for a girls' hostel; conferred first Sardar Gaurav Ratna Award.
- Economic Warning (Hyderabad Rally): Warned of global supply chain crisis due to West Asia conflict; crude oil prices rose to ~\$120/barrel.
- Urged citizens to use public transport, adopt work-from-home, and hold off on gold purchases for one year.
- Urged reduction in non-essential forex outflows: gold imports, petroleum products, edible oils, foreign travel, and chemical fertilisers.
- India's Current Account Deficit (CAD): \$13.2 billion (1.3% of GDP) in Q3 FY26.
- RBI Gold Reserves (March 2026): ~880 tonnes (16% of forex reserves).
- Rupee hit an all-time low of ₹95.50 per USD in May 2026.
- Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) limit: \$250,000 per person per year; 20% Tax Collected at Source (TCS) on foreign remittances above ₹7 lakh.

### 4. Infrastructure & Transport: Barrier-Less Tolls, New Rail Corridor, and Metro Card

- Barrier-Less Toll System:

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) barrier-less toll system at Mundka-Bakkarwala toll plaza, New Delhi.
- Uses FASTag, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), and AI cameras — vehicles pay without stopping.
- Ahmedabad–Dholera Semi High-Speed Rail Corridor:
  - Approved by Union Cabinet; project cost: ₹20,667 crore.
  - Route: Ahmedabad (Sarkhej) – Dholera; length: ~134 km broad-gauge double line.
  - Design speed: 220 kmph; Operational speed: 200 kmph; Target completion: 2030-31.
  - Railway Minister: Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- DMRC–Airtel Payments Bank Partnership:
  - Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) partnered with Airtel Payments Bank (HQ: Gurugram; MD/CEO: Anubrata Biswas).
  - Launched EVM-chip based 'RuPay on-the-go' National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) — open-loop card for metro, buses, and transit in multiple cities.

### 5. Supreme Court Judicial Reforms: AI Chatbot, Unique Case ID, and Modernization Blueprint

- Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant announced 'One Case One Data' — assigns a unique ID to every case, integrating multi-level information from all courts into a single system.
- Launched 'Su-Sahayak' (Su-Sahai) — an AI-assisted chatbot developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) on the Supreme Court website to help litigants access court services.

### 6. Four New Labour Codes: Consolidation of 29 Existing Labour Laws

- The Central Government consolidated 29 existing labour laws into 4 new Labour Codes.
- The four codes: (1) Code on Wages 2019, (2) Industrial Relations Code 2020, (3) Code on Social Security 2020, (4) Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH) Code 2020.
- Working Hours: Maximum 48 hours per week; daily flexibility up to 12 hours; overtime at twice the normal rate.
- Worker Benefits: Mandatory appointment letters for all workers; free annual health checkups for workers aged 40 and above.
- Equal pay and opportunities for women; at least one weekly rest day guaranteed.
- Women working night shifts (7 PM to 6 AM) must provide written consent.
- Aadhaar-linked registration mandatory for unorganized workers aged 16+.
- Electronic single licenses for contractors working across multiple states (45-day approval/disapproval window).
- A National Social Security Board will be constituted for gig and platform workers.

### 7. PMGSY Phase 4 Launch and Rural Connectivity Boost in Madhya Pradesh

- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Phase 4 launched by Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Sehore, Madhya Pradesh, marking the scheme's silver jubilee (25 years).

### 8. Bhima Bhoi Eco-Heritage Site Inaugurated in Sambalpur, Odisha

- Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the Bhima Bhoi eco-heritage site in Sambalpur, Odisha (funding: ₹8.3 crore).
- Launched Panchayati Raj Samiksha portal for transparency.

### 9. Union Cabinet (chaired by PM Modi) approved a ₹37,500 crore Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects.

### 10. CCEA Approves MSP Hike for 14 Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2026-27

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved hikes in Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 14 Kharif crops for 2026-27 marketing season.
- Estimated farmer payout: ~₹2.60 lakh crore.
- Paddy (Common Grade): ₹2,441/quintal (+₹72).
- Sunflower Seed: Highest absolute hike of +₹622.
- Other increases: Cotton (+₹557), Nigerseed (+₹515), Sesamum (+₹500).

### 11. Mission for Cotton Productivity Approved with ₹5,659 Crore Outlay (2026-31)

- Union Cabinet approved the Mission for Cotton Productivity with an outlay of ₹5,659.22 crore for 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- Aims to increase cotton production to 498 lakh bales and boost lint productivity from 450 kg/hectare to 750 kg/hectare.

### 12. PMEGP Exceeds 5-Year Targets: 43,706 Enterprises, 36.33 Lakh Jobs Created

- Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) exceeded targets for FY21-22 to FY25-26 cycle.
- Implemented by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
- Established 43,706 micro-enterprises in non-farm sector (target: 42,000).
- Generated 36.33 lakh jobs; utilized budget of ₹13,554 crore.

### 13. DigiHaat Swadeshi Marketplace and 'Made in India' Brand Scheme Launched

- ONDC-owned, government-backed e-commerce platform DigiHaat launched a 'Swadeshi' marketplace to promote authentic 'Made in Bharat' products.

### 14. India Post Records ₹15,296 Crore Revenue with 11,000 New Post Offices in Four Years

### 15. NEET-UG 2026 Fully Cancelled by NTA After Confirmed Paper Leak

- National Testing Agency (NTA), under Ministry of Education, fully cancelled NEET-UG 2026 after a confirmed paper leak — marking its first-ever complete cancellation.
- NTA also conducts: JEE Main, UGC-NET, CUET, and CMAT.

### 16. RBI Master Direction: Currency Distribution, Currency Chests, Note Categories & Penalties

- Static: Coins of 25 paise and below ceased to be legal tender from June 30, 2011.
- Note Categories:
  - Soiled Notes: Dirty/minor damage but single piece — 100% exchange value.
  - Mutilated Notes: Part missing — return value depends on missing area size.
  - Imperfect Notes: Washed, burnt, or heavily written on.
- Incentives for Currency Chests (North East / J&K / Ladakh / Hilly Regions):
  - 100% capital expenditure reimbursement up to ₹50 lakh; 50% reimbursement on monthly revenue expenditures for first 5 years.
- Operational: ₹2/packet for exchanging soiled notes (₹50 or below); ₹2/piece for mutilated notes; ₹65/coin bag distributed.
- Penalties:
  - Refusing to exchange coins/notes: ₹10,000; escalates to ₹5 lakh for repeated violations.
  - Dispensing fake notes from ATM or failing to impound at branch: ₹10,000.
  - ATM out of cash for more than 10 hours in a month: ₹10,000.
  - Insufficient change (up to ₹50 denomination): ₹50 per note.
- Operational Rules: Minimum chest transaction ₹50,000 (in multiples of ₹10,000); transactions reported to Currency Management Portal by 7:00 PM daily; failure attracts Bank Rate + 2% penalty.

### 17. RBI Revises Capital Adequacy Norms: Quarterly Profits Included in CET1 Capital

- RBI allowed commercial banks, small finance banks, and payment banks to include quarterly profits in Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital for computing Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR).
- Exclusions: Local Area Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) not covered.
- Minimum CRAR requirement: 9%.

### 18. SEBI Allows Delayed Stock Market Data for Educational Institutions; GARUDA Mechanism Proposed

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allows educational institutions to use stock market data with a 30-day delay from July 1, 2026 (changed from 1 day, then revised to 3 months in Jan 2025).

- Exception: National Institute of Securities Markets (NISM) allows a 1-day lag for training labs.
- GARUDA Mechanism: Green Channel Alternative Investment Fund Rollout Upon Document Acknowledgement (GARUDA) proposed to reduce Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) scheme launch time from 30 days to 10 working days.

### 19. India's GDP Projections, Retail Inflation, and Employment Data (2026)

- GDP Projections:
- State Bank of India (SBI): Q4 FY26 GDP at 7.2%; FY26 growth at 7.5%; FY27 at 6.6%.
- CRISIL: India's GDP growth for FY27 projected at 6.6%.
- Moody's: Lowered India's GDP growth forecast for Calendar Year 2026 to 6%.
- Retail Inflation (CPI): Rose to 3.48% in April 2026 — fourth consecutive month of rising inflation (new base year: 2024).
- CRISIL expects retail inflation to hit 5.1% due to energy/crude oil prices.
- Unemployment — Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Jan–Mar 2026: Released by National Statistical Office (NSO) / Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- Urban Unemployment Rate (15+): 6.6% in Q4 FY26 (down from 6.7% in Q3 FY26).
- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): Dropped to 55.5% (from 55.8%).
- CPI basket: 358 items (308 goods + 50 services); RBI inflation target:  $4\% \pm 2\%$ , extended until March 2031.

### 20. Customs Duty on Gold, Silver, and Platinum Hiked to 15% (Effective May 13, 2026)

- Customs Duty on Gold and Silver raised from 6% to 15%; on Platinum from 6.4% to 15.4%; effective May 13, 2026.
- Gold is India's 2nd largest import after crude oil, causing significant forex outflow.
- India imported 721 tonnes of gold in FY26; import bill rose ~25% to ₹71.97 billion.
- Gold supply: Switzerland (~40%), followed by UAE and South Africa.
- India is the 2nd largest gold consumer globally after China.

### 21. PSBs Report 4th Consecutive Year of Profit: ₹1.98 Lakh Crore Net Profit in FY26

- Public Sector Banks (PSBs) recorded total net profit of ₹1.98 lakh crore in FY 2025-26 — 4th consecutive profitable year.
- Gross NPAs: Historic low of 1.93%; Net NPAs: 0.39%; Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR): >90%.
- Capital Adequacy Ratio (CRAR): Maintained at 16.6% (above 12% requirement).
- Top Performers: State Bank of India (SBI) — ₹78,000 crore (~40% of total); Bank of Baroda — ₹20,000 crore; Punjab National Bank (PNB) — ₹16,900 crore.

### 22. Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMIP) Launched with ₹12,980 Crore Corpus

- Department of Financial Services unveiled the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMIP) — corpus ₹12,980 crore (\$1.4 billion).
- Provides affordable insurance for Indian trade ships navigating geopolitical tensions.
- 23. I4C and RBIH Partner to Combat Cyber Fraud and Detect Mule Accounts Using AI
- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) and Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) partnered to detect cyber frauds and identify hidden 'mule accounts'.

### 24. Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) plans to raise ₹9,500 crore in FY 2026-27 through domestic and overseas borrowing.

### 25. Chief Minister Appointments: Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry

- Assam:
  - Himanta Biswa Sarma sworn in as 15th Chief Minister of Assam for his second consecutive term — first non-Congress leader to achieve this.
  - NDA secured 102 out of 126 assembly seats; Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath.
- Tamil Nadu:

- C. Joseph Vijay (representing TVK party) sworn in as 9th unique (13th overall) Chief Minister by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar.
- Puducherry:
  - N. Rangasamy appointed Chief Minister of Puducherry for a record fifth term by President Droupadi Murmu; Puducherry LG: K. Kailashnathan.
- Assam Capital: Dispur; National Parks: Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri; Festivals: Rongali Bihu, 114th Suwari Festival (Boko).

### **26. State Government Schemes: AP Deep Tech Skilling, WB Annapurna Bhandar, Punjab Meri Rasoi, Gujarat BESS**

- Andhra Pradesh (Deep Tech Skilling Initiative):
- CM N. Chandrababu Naidu announced a state-wide initiative partnering with IBM SkillBuild and Amaravati Quantum Valley.
- Target: Train 2 lakh people by 2026-27 and 10 lakh over five years in AI, data analytics, and quantum computing.
- West Bengal (Annapurna Bhandar Scheme):
- CM Suwendu Adhikari launched Annapurna Bhandar Scheme (replacing Lakshmi Bhandar).
- From June 1, 2026: Eligible women receive ₹3,000 monthly aid and free state-run bus services.
- Punjab (Meri Rasoi Yojana):
- CM Bhagwant Mann launched in Sangrur; provides free food kits (dal, sugar, salt, turmeric, mustard oil) every 3 months to 40 lakh economically weaker families.
- Gujarat (Battery Energy Storage System):
- Gujarat launched a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with 870 MW total capacity to support renewable power grid stability.

### **27. Indian Army Inducts Indigenous Drones: ULGPM and Agnika VTOL-1**

- Indian Army inducted two indigenous drones (emergency procurement) manufactured by DRDO and Adani Defence and Aerospace, Hyderabad.
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launched Precision Guided Munition (ULGPM / UPGM): Smart loitering munition capable of bypassing jammed environments.
- Agnika VTOL-1 / Agnika-V: Vertical Takeoff and Landing (VTOL) First-Person View (FPV) Kamikaze/Suicide drone built for precision urban warfare strikes.

### **28. Indian Coast Guard Commissions ICGS Achal — 5th Adamyia-Class Fast Patrol Vessel**

- Indian Coast Guard commissioned ICGS Achal at Goa Shipyard Limited.
- It is the 5th of eight new-generation Adamyia-class Fast Patrol Vessels.
- Stationed in Gujarat for coastal surveillance, anti-smuggling, and search & rescue operations.

### **29. India and Oman finalised a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).**

- Oman Capital: Muscat; Currency: Omani Rial; Member of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) (HQ: Riyadh).

### **30. India partnered with International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to launch an 8-year Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) from 2026 to 2033 to boost rural incomes.**

### **31. India will host the BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, chaired by S. Jaishankar.**

- India assumed BRICS Presidency on January 1, 2026 for the 18th Summit.
- Theme: 'BRICS' — Building, Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, Sustainability.

### **32. India hosted the Kimberley Process (KP) Inter-sessional Meeting 2026 in Mumbai to promote responsible diamond trading and prevent 'conflict diamonds'.**

- 2026 KP Chair: Suchindra Mishra.
- Theme: 'Credibility, Compliance, Consumer Confidence'.

### **33. Key Appointments: SAIL CMD, Ambassadors, BRICS CCI Chair, FICCI Secretary General**

- SAIL CMD: Dr. Ashok Kumar Panda (A.K. Panda) assumed charge as CMD of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), replacing Amarendu Prakash / K.K. Singh.
- Ambassadors: Prashant Pise appointed Ambassador to Oman (succeeding Godavarthi Venkata Srinivas). Dinesh Trivedi appointed High Commissioner to Bangladesh (rare political appointment), succeeding Pranay Verma (who becomes Ambassador to Belgium and EU).
- BRICS CCI: Legal expert Dr. Harvansh Chawla appointed Chairman of BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI).
- FICCI: Anant Swarup appointed new Secretary General of FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry).

### 34. National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026: 15 Nursing Professionals Honored

- President Droupadi Murmu presented National Florence Nightingale Awards to 15 nursing professionals at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Award instituted in 1973; includes a certificate, medal, and ₹1 lakh cash prize.

### 35. Sports Milestones: India U-17 Football, Archery World Cup Gold, La Liga Title

- U-17 Women's Football: India qualified for AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup China 2026 by defeating Lebanon 4-0; first victory/goal in this tournament in over 20 years; first knockout stage appearance since 2004. Coach: Pamela Conti.
- Archery World Cup 2026, Shanghai: Indian Women's recurve team (Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat, Kumkum Mohod) won Gold against China; Sahil Jadhav won Bronze in men's individual compound; Turkey topped tally with 6 medals.
- La Liga: FC Barcelona secured the 2025-26 La Liga title after defeating Real Madrid.

### 36. Books Released by Amit Shah: Two Works by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta on Judiciary

- Home Minister Amit Shah released two books authored by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta on the judicial system:
  - (1) 'The Bench, The Bar, The Bizarre'
  - (2) 'The Lawful, The Awful'

### 37. Iconic Australian tennis player Mal Anderson passed away at age 91.

- Made history in 1957 as the first unseeded player to win the US Open Men's Singles title.

### 38. Important Days Observed — May 10–17, 2026

- May 10 — World Lupus Day: Raises awareness for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Theme: 'Make Lupus Visible'.
- May 11 — 28th National Technology Day: Commemorates the 1998 Pokhran nuclear tests. Theme: 'Responsible Innovation for Inclusive Growth'.
- May 11–17 — Mental Health Awareness Week 2026. Theme: 'Action'.
- May 12 — International Day of Plant Health. Theme: 'Plant Biosecurity for Food Security and Nutrition'.