

1. PM Modi's 7 Guiding Principles for Economic Self-Reliance

- 1. Use public transport or metros instead of individual vehicles.
- 2. Avoid foreign travel for a year and promote domestic tourism.
- 3. Halt non-essential gold purchases for a year to protect foreign exchange reserves.
- 4. Reduce consumption of edible oil.
- 5. Transition to natural farming by reducing imported chemical fertilizers.
- 6. Embrace 'Vocal for Local' by buying Made-in-India products.
- 7. Adopt work-from-home in offices to reduce petrol usage.

2. Annapurna Bhandar Scheme Launched — West Bengal

- Previously, West Bengal ran the 'Lakshmi Bhandar' scheme, offering ₹1,500/month to general category and ₹1,700/month to SC/ST category women.
- The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government replaced it after coming to power.
- Scheme: Annapurna Bhandar Scheme launched by CM Suwendu Adhikari (West Bengal).
- Benefit: Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of ₹3,000 per month to eligible women.
- Additional benefit: Free travel on state-run buses starting June 1st.

3. West Bengal Cabinet Decisions — May 11, 2026

- India–Bangladesh border (total length: 4,096.7 km) currently 79% fenced (3,240–3,243 km).
- Five states bordering Bangladesh: West Bengal (WB), Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Assam.
- Cabinet approved transfer of 600 acres of land to the Border Security Force (BSF) to complete India–Bangladesh border fencing within 45 days.
- State to implement: Ayushman Bharat scheme, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and a 5-year age relaxation for candidates who missed earlier recruitments.

4. CM Meri Rasoi Yojana Launched — Punjab

- Scheme: CM Meri Rasoi Yojana, launched by CM Bhagwant Singh Mann from Bhalwan village, Sangrur.
- Beneficiaries: 40 lakh families holding Blue Ration Cards / NFSA cards.
- Nutritional kits provided quarterly, assembled by MARKFED.
- Kit contents: 2 kg moong chana dal, 2 kg sugar, 1 kg iodized salt, 200g turmeric, 1 kg mustard oil.

5. Unified Bharat eCharge (UBC) Launched — UPI for EV Charging

- Part of the PM E-Drive Scheme (budget: ₹10,900 crore, launched 2024) to boost Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure.
- Platform: Unified Bharat eCharge (UBC) — described as 'UPI for EV charging'.
- Launched by Heavy Industries Minister HD Kumaraswamy.
- National target: 4,874 EV chargers with a budget of ₹503.86 crore.

6. DigiLocker Integration — Five States Felicitated by NeGD

- DigiLocker was launched on July 1, 2015 (Static Fact).
- The National eGovernance Division (NeGD) promotes digital governance across India.
- Five states felicitated for integrating state services with DigiLocker: Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Nagaland, and Rajasthan.

7. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Phase 4 Launched — 25th Jubilee

- In Phase 3, Rajasthan ranked 2nd nationally (3,218 km) behind Madhya Pradesh (MP).
- Phase 4 launched by Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan from Bherunda, Sehore, MP.
- Target: 62,500 km of new roads for 25,000 unconnected habitations by 2028–29.
- Budget: ₹70,125 crore.
- Phase 4 Performance Awards:
 - Madhya Pradesh: 1st for highest road length (90,766 km).
 - Bihar: 1st in habitations connected.
 - Gujarat: 1st in green technology.
 - Assam: Winner for North-Eastern / Hilly States category.

8. SEBI Administrative Usage of Depositories' IPF Income

- SEBI released a consultation paper proposing to allow depositories (NSDL and CDSL) to utilize up to **5% of the annual interest or income** generated from their IPF investment corpus.
- Investor Protection Fund (IPF) Limits by Exchange
National Stock Exchange (NSE): ₹35 Lakhs per investor per claim. The NSE hiked this ceiling from the previous ₹25 Lakhs limit for defaults.
Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE): ₹15 Lakhs per client. Your claim of ₹25 Lakhs is incorrect for BSE, which maintains a lower ceiling than NSE.
Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX): ₹25 Lakhs per client.

9. Custom Duty Hiked on Gold, Silver & Platinum — May 13, 2026

- India ranks 2nd in global gold consumption. Import of precious metals leads to significant dollar outflow, weakening the rupee.
- Previous import duty on gold and silver: 6%.
- Effective May 13, 2026, import duty on gold and silver hiked from 6% to 15% (Basic: 10% + Tax: 5%).
- Platinum import duty revised to 15.4%.
- Gold/silver findings attract a 5% duty.
- India's forex (foreign exchange) reserves: \$690 billion (As on 1st May 2026)

10. Indian Rupee at Record All-Time Low — May 2026

- Due to West Asia conflicts, the USD/INR exchange rate crossed 95 on May 4–5, 2026.
- Hit a record all-time high of 95.80 on May 13, 2026.

11. Public Sector Banks Record Profit — FY 2025–26 (4th Consecutive Year)

- Record aggregate net profit: ₹1.98 lakh crore for FY 2025–26.
- Aggregate total profit: ₹3.21 lakh crore.
- Total Business: ₹283.3 lakh crore (12.8% growth).
- Gross Advances: ₹127 lakh crore (15.7% growth).
- Gross Non-Performing Asset (NPA) ratio: Fell to 1.93%.
- Net NPA ratio: Dropped to 0.39%.
- Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR): 16.6% (vs mandated 9%).
- Cost-to-income ratio: Improved to 49.67%.

12. RBI Cancels Licences of Sarvodaya Cooperative Bank & Sarvodaya Small Finance Bank

- Effective May 12, 2026, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled licences of:
 - Sarvodaya Cooperative Bank (Mumbai-based).
 - Sarvodaya Small Finance Bank (Mumbai-based).
- Reason: Inadequate capital and insufficient earning capacity.
- Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) will provide up to ₹5 lakh insurance per depositor.

13. RBI — New Framework for Digital Outward Remittances

- Removes the prior approval requirement for Authorised Dealer (AD) Category-I banks to tie up with non-bank entities for processing digital outward remittances.

14. AU Small Finance Bank Launches Four New Credit Cards

- AU Small Finance Bank launched 4 new credit cards named: Ananta, Lakshya, Tejas, and Prathma.

15. Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMIP) — \$1.5 Billion Pool Launched

- 60% of India's trade flows through the West Asia / Strait of Hormuz region.
- Pool: Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMIP) launched by the Department of Financial Services.
- Pool size: \$1.5 Billion to secure Indian shipping.
- Backed by a Sovereign Guarantee of \$1.4 Billion (₹12,980 Crore).
- Coverage: Hull/Machinery, Cargo, Protection & Indemnity (P&I), and War Risks.

- New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL) issued the first policies to Hoggar Offshore and Vedanta Sterlite.

16. GST Tribunal Renamed as National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (NAAAR)

- The Finance Ministry renamed the GST Tribunal (Principal Bench, New Delhi) to National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (NAAAR).
- Operational from: April 1, 2026.
- Jurisdiction: Handles GST disputes up to ₹20 Lakhs.
- Cases up to ₹1 Crore: Handled by NAAAR / High Court.
- Cases above ₹1 Crore: Directly to High Court.
- Cases above ₹2 Crore: Directly to the Supreme Court.
- Members serve for 4 years or up to age 70.

17. GDP Data Release Date Changed — National Statistics Office (NSO)

- The National Statistics Office (NSO) moved the annual release date for full financial year and Q4 GDP data to June 7th (previously: end of May).

18. Retail Inflation (CPI) — April 2026 Data

- Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation rose to 3.48% in April 2026.
- Remains within RBI's target band of 2%–6%.

19. Global Economic Projections — Moody's, ADB, and IFAD (India)

- Moody's projected India's GDP growth at 6% for both 2026 and 2027.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) committed \$5 billion to India in 2025 (\$4.238 billion in sovereign lending).
- Government and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) launched an 8-year Country Strategic Opportunities Program (2026–2033) for rural economies.

20. Supreme Court Digital Initiatives — 'One Case One Data' & 'SuSahay' AI Chatbot

- Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant launched two digital initiatives:
- 'One Case One Data': Unifies judicial administration from taluka to apex court into a single database.
- 'SuSahay': An Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC), integrated into the Supreme Court website for litigants.

21. Delhi's First Anti-Narcotic Task Force Approved

- Approved by Delhi LG T.S. Sadhu (Taranjit Singh Sandhu).
- Goal: Drug-free Delhi by 2027.
- Operation Vishwas recently destroyed 1,700 kg of narcotics worth ₹72 crore.
- 22. CBI Director Praveen Sood Gets 1-Year Extension

23. India's First Integrated CCUS Field Laboratory Launched at IIT Bombay

- Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage (CCUS) field laboratory launched at IIT Bombay.
- Inaugurated by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

24. I4C & RBI Innovation Hub MoU — AI-Based Detection of Mule Accounts

- Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- Objective: Boost AI-based detection of 'mule accounts' involved in money laundering.

25. Uber Sets Up First Indian Data Center — Partnership with Adani Group

26. India's First Semi-High Speed Double-Line Rail — Ahmedabad to Dholera

- Cabinet approved India's first semi-high speed double-line rail project.
- Route: Ahmedabad (Sarkhej) to Dholera — 134 km.
- Cost: ₹667 crore.
- Speed: 160–200 km/h.
- Target completion: 2030–31.

27. BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting — New Delhi, May 14–15, 2026

- India holds BRICS Chairship for the 4th time in 2026.
- Venue: Bharat Mandapam and Seva Teerth, New Delhi.
- Dates: May 14–15, 2026.
- Chaired by External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar.
- Theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability".
- The 18th BRICS Summit will be held in India in September 2026.

28. Kimberley Process Intersessional Meeting 2026 — Mumbai

- Kimberley Process (KP): International initiative to prevent trade in conflict/blood diamonds.
- India took the KP Chair from UAE on January 1, 2026.
- Meeting held May 11–14, 2026 at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai.
- Chaired by India's Suchindra Mishra.
- Theme: "Three Cs: Credibility, Compliance, and Consumer Confidence".

29. 10th Indian Ocean Dialogue — New Delhi, May 7–8, 2026

- 10th Indian Ocean Dialogue hosted in New Delhi on May 7–8, 2026.
- Theme: "Indian Ocean region in a transforming world".
- India chairs the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) for 2025–2027.

30. PM Modi's Five-Nation Visit — May 15–20, 2026

- PM Modi visits 5 countries from May 15–20, 2026:
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) — India's 3rd largest trade partner.
- Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Italy.

31. 'Shunya to Anant' Exhibition Inaugurated at UN Headquarters

- EAM S. Jaishankar inaugurated the 'Shunya to Anant' (Zero to Infinity) exhibition at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters.

32. Somnath Temple — 75th Anniversary Maha Puja Celebration

- PM Modi performed Maha Puja at the 'Somnath Amrit Parv Celebration' in Gir Somnath, Gujarat.
- Marks 75 years since the temple's restoration in 1951.

33. Gujarat Highlights — Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Semiconductors

- Tamil Nadu overtook Gujarat as India's top marine fish producer.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launched barrier-less tolling on National Highway (NH) 48 (Surat–Bharuch stretch).
- A ₹1,570 crore ship repair facility and the Fast Patrol Vessel 'Achal' were established in Vadinar, Gujarat.
- Semiconductor plants approved in:
 - Dholera — by Crystal Matrix.
 - Surat — by Suchi Semicon.
 - Ahmedabad to host the World Yogasana Championship.

34. Odisha — Bhima Mandali Caves and Bhimagudi (Nakdool Forest, Salpur)

- Odisha highlighted the Bhima Mandali caves and Bhimagudi located in the Nakdool forest, Salpur.

35. State Leadership Changes — Puducherry & Assam

- Puducherry: N. Rangasamy (All India NR Congress) took oath as Chief Minister.
- Assam: Himanta Biswa Sarma took oath for his second consecutive term as Chief Minister.

36. Nationwide Big Cat Conservation Initiative — Ahead of IBCA Summit

- India has 3,167 tigers across 58 tiger reserves.
- Madhya Pradesh (MP) has the highest number of tigers in India.
- Initiative unveiled ahead of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit.
- Big cats showcased by state:
 - Asiatic Lion — Gir, Gujarat.
 - Cheetah — Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
 - Snow Leopard — Gangtok, Sikkim.

Tiger — Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

37. Chess Record — Faustino Oro Becomes 2nd Youngest Grandmaster in History

- Faustino Oro, 12-year-old Argentine chess prodigy (nicknamed "Messi of Chess"), became the second youngest grandmaster in history.

38. Key Appointments — May 2026

- Kuljit Kaur Marhas — ISRO scientist became the first Indian woman (and 3rd Indian scientist overall) elected to the Meteoritical Society for 2026.
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Leadership for 2026–27:
 - President: R Mukundan.
 - President Designate: Suchitra Ella.
 - Vice President: Shashwat Goenka.
- Dr. Harvansh Chawla appointed Chairman of BRISEC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) (recognized by NITI Aayog).
- Obituary: Tutu Bose, former President of Mohun Bagan football club, passed away.

39. Important Days — May 2026

- World Thalassaemia Day — May 8.
Theme: "Hidden No More: Finding the Undiagnosed".
- International Nurses Day — May 12.
Observed to honor Florence Nightingale's birth anniversary.
Theme: "Our Nurses, Our Future, Empowered Nurses Save Lives".