

1. 80th Independence Day of India Celebrated at Red Fort

- The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was originally launched in 2022 to mark the 75th Independence anniversary and was continued in 2026.
- Jawaharlal Nehru holds the record for hoisting the national flag 17 times.
- PM Modi's 13th time hoisting the national flag — placed him third in Indian history, only behind Jawaharlal Nehru (17 times), Indira Gandhi (16 times).

2. PM Modi Launches "Saptadhara" (Seven Streams of Strength) Framework

- The Seven Focus Sectors:
 1. Manufacturing / Earth Dhara
 2. Agriculture / Krishi Dhara
 3. Technology / Gyan Dhara
 4. Gati Shakti
 5. Defence / Raksha Dhara
 6. Green Economy / Urja Dhara
 7. Soft Power / Sanskriti Dhara
- Target: 100 GW new energy capacity by 2047 and net-zero by 2070 under Urja Dhara.

3. Key Targets & Declarations from PM's Red Fort Address 2026

- Deep Sea Exploration: PM Modi approved ₹84,084 crore to fund offshore oil and gas exploration in India's deep sea waters under the "Samudra Manthan" initiative.
- Nuclear Power Expansion: The government's sanctioned roadmap is to scale nuclear power from current levels to 22,480 MW by 2031–32, with a long-term goal of 100 GW (1,00,000 MW) by 2047

4. National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) — Record Honey Production

- Annual honey production Annual honey production rose from 80,530 metric tonnes (MT) in FY 2014–15 to 1,51,690 MT in FY 2025–26
- During FY 2023-24, India exported 1.07 lakh metric tonnes of honey valued at approximately \$177.55 million, making India the world's second-largest honey exporter.
- NBHM is a Central Sector Scheme — 100% funded by the Central Government with zero State contribution.
- Budget: Overall budget of ₹500 crore for the period FY 2020-21 to FY 2025-26.

5. The Union Cabinet approved a new Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme with a budget of ₹62,500 crore.

- Term: 5 years, from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31.

6. Census 2027

- Census 2027 will be India's 16th Census.
- Budget: ₹11,718 crore.
- Executing Authority: Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.
- The Central Government officially notified 40 questions for the Census 2027 population enumeration phase.
- Caste enumeration is being conducted for the first time since 1931.

7. Modified UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme Extended

- Validity Extension: Extended for 10 years, until FY 2035-36 (FY36).
- Total Budget: ₹28,840 crore.

8. TReDS Platform Made Mandatory for CPSEs to Settle MSME Invoices

- TReDS (Trade Receivables Discounting System) has been regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) since 2017.
- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) made it mandatory for all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to settle invoices of MSME suppliers through RBI-authorised TReDS platforms.
- Regulator: RBI (since 2017); Threshold: ₹250 crore (reduced from ₹500 crore in 2024).

9. EPFO Launches "Vishwas 2026" One-Time Settlement Scheme for Employers

- Timeline: Open for 6 months — June 29, 2026 to November 29, 2026.

- Reduced penalty rates (for defaults occurring before June 14, 2024):

- o Delay up to 2 months: 0.25% per month.
- o Delay of more than 2 months: 0.5% per month.
- o Delay of more than 4 months: 1% per month.

10. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Profile:

- Established in 2008, under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, headquartered in New Delhi.
- Chairperson: Punya Salila Srivastava; CEO: **Rajit** Punhani

11. National Handloom Day Initiatives — "Srijan" and IIHT Sutra Conclave

- National Handloom Day is observed annually on August 7 since 2015.
- "Srijan: Voices from the Loom": Organised in New Delhi under the Ministry of Textiles (Union Minister: Giriraj Singh), involving 100 women handloom weavers, to highlight creativity, assist in moving businesses online, and empower them economically.
- IIHT Sutra Conclave: India's first National Conclave on Handloom Technology, organised in New Delhi by the Ministry of Textiles.
- o Theme: "IIHTs: Weaving the Future of the Indian Handloom Sector: Educate, Innovate, and Transform".

12. SEBI has allowed Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) to offer regulated securities/bonds issued in GIFT City IFSC.

13. UPI Performance Metrics (July 2026)

- Monthly transactions (July 2026): Total UPI volume stood at 23.66 billion transactions, with a total transaction value of ₹29.88 lakh crore.
- UPI market share (July 2026):
 - o PhonePe: 10.86 billion transactions; 45.89% market share by volume (also stated as "over 45%") and 48.33% by value.
 - o Google Pay: Second, with 32.33% market share by volume (also stated as "over 32%").
 - o Paytm: Third, with 8.05% market share by volume (also stated as "about 8%").
 - o Navi and Super.money ranked 4th and 5th by transaction volume respectively.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has set a market share cap of 30% for TPAPs (Third-Party Application Provider), scheduled to take effect on December 31, 2026.

14. UPI Features, Transaction Limits

- Offline POS UPI Limit: Up to ₹2,000.
- UPI Lite X (offline): Transactions up to ₹500; UPI Lite (online): up to ₹1,000 without a PIN.
- UPI 123Pay (feature phones): ₹10,000 per transaction and ₹1 lakh per day.
- UPI Circle (Secondary Users): Accounts can designate up to 5 secondary users, with limits of ₹5,000 per transaction and ₹15,000 per month.
- UPI One World: A specialised application designed for foreign tourists to make cashless payments in India.
- Greece launched UPI, becoming the 10th country globally and 2nd in Europe (after France) to do so.
- Cambodia was the 9th country.

15. Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)

- The Standing Committee on Finance, headed by B. Mahtab, recommended that MDR (Merchant Discount Rate) apply only to high-value Person-to-Merchant (P2M) transactions exceeding ₹2,000, leaving smaller transactions free.
- For card transactions on POS devices, MDR is charged for amounts exceeding ₹5,000.
- MDR Financials: The government allocated ₹2,000 crore for FY27 to compensate banks/PSP operators for zero-MDR. Total estimated cost of managing the MDR structure is ₹3,000 crore.
- MDR Division: 40% to the issuing bank, 40% to the PSP (e.g., Paytm/PhonePe), and 20% to the infrastructure/network provider

16. IDFC First Bank: S&P assigned a 'BBB-' long-term and 'A-3' short-term rating — the lowest investment grade

- IDFC First Bank: Headquartered in Mumbai; MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan; popular premium credit card named Ashva.
- 17. RBL Bank (Ratnakar Bank Limited): Moody's assigned a similar 'Baa2' rating, equivalent to BBB.**
- 18. S&P GDP Forecast: S&P estimated India's GDP growth at 6.6% for the current fiscal year.**
- 19. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of ₹59.20 lakh on IndusInd Bank.**
- Violations: Concerning payment of interest on current account deposits and guidelines related to the securitisation of standard assets.
- 20. IndusInd Bank launched the "EazyDiner IndusInd Bank Platinum RuPay Credit Card"**
- 21. Manappuram Finance appointed Ashish Singh as its next MD and CEO for a 5-year tenure starting January 1, 2027**
- 22. The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) granted an investment banking licence to Nexent Capital IFSC.**
- 23. Wholesale Price Index (WPI) Inflation Eases to 9.78% in July 2026**
- Base Year: 2022-23; Basket: 957 items (expanded from the historical 697 items)
- 24. India Launches "SHANTI" Campaign for UNSC Non-Permanent Seat (2028-29)**
- India has already served as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) eight times, with its last tenure during the 2021-2022 term.
 - The SHANTI Acronym:
 - o S — Securing
 - o H — Holistic
 - o A — Advancement through
 - o N — Norms
 - o T — Trust and
 - o I — Integrity
- 25. IN-SPACe: Established in 2020; headquartered in Bopal, Ahmedabad (Gujarat); Chairperson: Pawan Kumar Goenka**
- 26. Skyroot Aerospace — Mission Aagman**
- Skyroot Aerospace is a Hyderabad-based startup in the private space launch sector.
 - Mission Aagman: On July 18, 2026, Skyroot Aerospace launched India's first private orbital rocket launch via the Vikram-1 rocket into a 450 km Low Earth Orbit (LEO) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota.
- 27. L&T to Build India's Largest Nvidia B300 AI Factory in Chennai**
- 28. "Seafarer First" Maritime Emergency Response System Launched**
- Launched by the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal.
 - Objective: A first-response programme designed to protect Indian seafarers — deck officers, engineers and crew members — during West Asia maritime security crises.
- 29. Greenfield Shipbuilding Cluster at Porbandar & Ship Repair Facility at Vadinar (Gujarat)**
- 30. India Optel Limited (IOL) launched its indigenously manufactured "Garud" high-resolution binoculars for the domestic civilian market.**
- 31. Gaj Gaurav Awards Conferred on World Elephant Day (August 12)**
- Key numbers: 33 elephant reserves | 150 elephant corridors | Project Elephant – 1992.
 - The Gaj Gaurav Awards were conferred by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) during World Elephant Day celebrations in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
 - The award honoured the Jaldapara forest staff (West Bengal) for outstanding elephant conservation and rescue operations.
- 32. Centre Identifies 25 of 58 Tiger Reserves for Priority Conservation**
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav
 - Zero-Tiger Reserves: Kawal (Telangana), Buxa (West Bengal), Dampa (Mizoram) and Kamlang (Arunachal Pradesh).

- Recent Tiger Reserves List:

- o 58th — Madhav Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh)
- o 57th — Ratapani Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh)
- o 56th — Guru Ghasidas–Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh)
- o 55th — Dholpur-Karauli (Rajasthan)
- o 54th — Veerangana Durgavati (Madhya Pradesh)

Ranipur (Uttar Pradesh), Ramgarh Vishdhari (Rajasthan) and Srivilliputhur Megamalai (Tamil Nadu).

33. Borjuli Wild Rice Site (Assam) Declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site

- Located in the Sonitpur District of Assam

34. Mizoram University Museum Notified as India's 21st Designated Repository

35. The Andhra Pradesh government partnered with CSIR-NGRI (National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad) for Lithium and Gallium Exploration

36. Andhra Pradesh Launches "Pillale Sampada" Initiative

- Launched by CM N. Chandrababu Naidu under the slogan "Children are Wealth."

37. Telangana Becomes First State to Implement Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) for Rural Roads

38. Karnataka Approves "Sandhya Kiran" Cashless Health Scheme for Pensioners

- Offers ₹5 lakh cashless healthcare cover to state pensioners below 70 years of age and their families.

39. Rajasthan Approves UCC Bill, Tree Protection Bill and Leave Reforms

- Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill 2026: Approved draft bill establishing uniform civil laws for marriage, divorce, inheritance, maintenance and live-in relationships across all religions; tribal communities are strictly excluded.
- Uttarakhand was the first state to pass the UCC, while Goa historically maintained it.

40. The 18th BRICS Summit is scheduled for September 12–13, 2026, in New Delhi, hosted by India

41. 7th BRICS ICT Track Summit: Held from August 17 to August 21, 2026, in Pune; organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the theme "Innovate, Cooperate, Transform for a Resilient Future";

42. BRICS Meetings

- 10th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting: Hosted in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- 13th BRICS Education Ministers Meeting: Hosted in Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- BRICS Wave Bazar: Held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- BRICS Trade Ministers Meeting: Held in Jaipur, Rajasthan — with cultural working group meetings also held in Jaipur and Varanasi.
- BRICS Energy Ministers Meeting: Held in Gurugram, Haryana.
- 12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting: A two-day conference from August 17 to August 18, 2026, in New Delhi
- Venue mapping for revision: ICT – Pune | Competition – Udaipur | Industry & Trade – Jaipur | Education – Bhubaneswar | Wave Bazar – Mumbai | Energy – Gurugram | Environment – New Delhi

43. Global Weather Disturbances — Hurricane Lala Strikes Hawaii

- Hurricane Lala, a Category 1 Hurricane with winds exceeding 120 km/h, struck the Big Island of Hawaii, USA, in August 2026.

44. Typhoon Dolphin — recently struck the eastern coast of China

45. Renowned NASA Astronaut Michael (Mike) Fincke retired.

46. M.S. Swaminathan Environment Protection Award 2026

- The award was presented in Chennai to two female environmentalists:
 - o P. Pechiyammal — honoured for marine conservation (clearing plastics, waste and invasive weed species from the ocean).
 - o Govindhammal — honoured for contributions to sustainable farming and agriculture.
- Static Fact: Dr. Swaminathan's birth anniversary on August 7 has been declared "Sustainable Agriculture Day" by the state of Maharashtra.

47. India's Historic 600th Test Cricket Match commenced on August 15, 2026, against Sri Lanka at the Galle International Cricket Stadium, Sri Lanka.

- India became the first Asian nation and only the third team globally — after England and Australia — to play 600 Test matches.

48. Tanzid Hasan became the first Bangladesh batsman to score a century on Australian soil.

49. 22-year-old Ariha Pangambam won Gold in the Senior Women's Individual Event at the Aerobic Gymnastics Asian Championship in Tagaytay City, Philippines.

- She is the first-ever Indian gymnast to secure gold in this senior category.
- Coach: Yumnam Ranjan Singh.

50. Ashmita Chaliha clinched her maiden BWF World Tour title at the Korea Masters — a Super 300 tournament

- She is the fourth Indian woman to win a BWF World Tour singles title in 2026, , Devika Sihag and Tanvi Sharma.

51. World Badminton Championships 2026: Officially commenced in New Delhi on August 17, running to August 23, 2026.

- o India hosts the tournament after 17 years (last hosted in 2009), at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.
- o The official mascot is "Peacko".

52. Magnus Carlsen Wins Esports World Cup 2026 Chess Title

53. Iga Swiatek Wins Canadian Open

54. "India at War": A newly featured book authored by Colonel D.P.K. Pillay.

55. "The Triumph of the Indian Republic": The autobiography of former Indian President Ram Nath Kovind, officially released by PM Narendra Modi

56. Major General Sunil Kumar Razdan: Passed away

57. Bengali Filmmaker Raja (Raja Sen): Passed away

- o A three-time National Film Award-winning director.
- o His debut feature film "Damu" won the National Film Award for Best Children's Film.