

1. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Celebrates 10th Foundation Day

- GeM is the digital portal for transparent online government procurement of goods and services.
- Cumulative procurement has crossed ₹20 lakh crore.
- A new 5-digit helpline shortcode — 14550 — has been introduced.

2. Indrajal Ranger — India's Only Approved Anti-Drone Patrol Vehicle

3. India's SEZ Exports Grow 11.8% to ₹16.36 Lakh Crore in 2025-26

- SEZ Definition: a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is a specifically designated geographical area that acts as a business-friendly zone, providing favourable regulatory and economic environments to encourage investments and export-oriented activities.
- Top Exporting States from SEZs:
 - Gujarat (Highest): ₹4,05,595 crore
 - Karnataka: ₹2,69,004 crore
 - Maharashtra: ₹2,43,422.50 crore
 - Tamil Nadu: ₹2,12,288 crore

4. MoSPI to Replace WPI with Producer Price Index (PPI) as GDP Deflator

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) announced that the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is being replaced by the Producer Price Index (PPI) as the deflator for GDP data where applicable.
- Base Year Revision: the GDP base year is being updated from 2011-12 to 2022-23.

5. Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) Post 10.3% Loan Growth in FY26

- Loan Growth: registered 10.3% loan growth, reaching ₹5.78 lakh crore (up from ₹5.24 lakh crore in FY25).
- Priority Sector Lending: RRBs achieved 91.7% against the statutory target of 75% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC).

6. Exim Bank Designated Implementing Agency for Interest Subvention Scheme

- Exim Bank Profile: the Export-Import (Exim) Bank was established in September 1981, is wholly owned by the government, and is headquartered in Mumbai.

7. Public sector banks proposed that the RBI introduce a 2% sub-target for Climate Transition Finance within the overall 40% PSL framework

- Bank-wise PSL Targets:
 - Public, Private and Foreign banks (20+ branches): 40% of ANBC.
 - Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs): 60%.
 - Regional Rural Banks (RRBs): 75%.
- Renewable Energy Limits under PSL:
 - Wind / small hydro: capped at ₹75 crore.
 - Solar photo-voltaic: ₹35 crore.
 - Overall project cap: ₹100 crore.
 - Solar rooftop installations: up to ₹2 crore.
- Electric Vehicles: ₹2 lakh is the proposed limit for personal electric two-wheelers, ₹20 lakh for personal four-wheelers, ₹25 crore for charging and battery-swapping infrastructure, and ₹50 crore for commercial EV fleet operators

8. Razorpay Launches "Vulcan" — India's First AI-Powered Payments Foundation Model

9. India Replaces Indonesia as Asia's Least Preferred Stock Market - BofA's August 2026 fund manager survey.

10. Developing and BRICS Nations Oppose EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

- What is CBAM? A carbon border tax introduced as part of the European Union's "Fit for 55" package to reduce greenhouse emissions by 55% by 2030.
- The EU is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.
- Impact and Sectors: CBAM levies a carbon tax on carbon-intensive imports across six major sectors:
 - Iron & Steel
 - Aluminium

- Cement
- Fertilizers
- Electricity
- Hydrogen

11. 18th BRICS Heads of State Summit is scheduled for 12–13 September 2026 in New Delhi, India

- Theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"
- Member nations: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, and Indonesia.
- Visakhapatnam hosted two separate meetings, the BRICS Youth Ministers' Meeting on 22 August and the BRICS Sports Ministers' Meeting on 23 August

12. India to Host 5th Coast Guard Global Summit in February 2027

- Indian Coast Guard Profile:
 - Formed on 18 August 1978.
 - Motto: "Vayam Rakshamah" ("We Protect").
 - Headquartered in New Delhi.
 - Led by DG Paramesh Sivamani.
 - Coast Guard Day is celebrated on 1 February.

13. Maharashtra Declares Snake Bite a "Notifiable Disease"

14. Lancet Report on India's Healthcare Workforce Density

- India Stats — per 10,000 population:
 - 10.5 Doctors
 - 10.8 Nurses
 - 8.1 pharmacists and pharmaceutical assistants

15. Himalayan Plant named after Nirmal Purja: a newly discovered Himalayan plant species has been named "Impatiens nimspurjae" to honour the late Nepal-born mountaineer Nirmal "Nimsdai" Purja

16. Sadbhavana Diwas / Goodwill Day is observed on 20 August, commemorating the birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi

17. World Humanitarian Day (19 August): organised by the UN, with the 2026 campaign slogan #ActForHumanity.

18. World Photography Day (19 August): 2026 Theme: "HOME". Commemorates the daguerreotype process developed by Louis Daguerre in 1837.

19. National Renewable Energy Day / Akshay Urja Diwas (20 August): organised by the MNRE to promote transition to renewable energy.