

### 1. Prime Minister Launches Karmayogi Sādhana Saptah 2026

- The event was organized to celebrate the **5-year milestone** of the **Karmayogi mission**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** virtually launched the week-long "**Karmayogi Sādhana Saptah**" initiative for civil servants.
- The event was held at the **Dr. Ambedkar International Center** in **New Delhi**.
- The core mission is built on three pillars: **technology, tradition, and tangible outcomes**.
- The acronym **SADHANA** stands for **Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement**.

### 2. Government Updates Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) Statistics

- The **Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI)** scheme was originally launched by the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** in **2020**.
- The scheme operates through **Public Data Offices (PDOs)** that provide Wi-Fi access without paying any government license fees.
- These operations are overseen by **Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOAs)**.
- As of **February 28**, there are **4,09,403 PDOs** active across the country.

### 3. President Launches Lakhpati Bitiya Yojana in Delhi

- The newly introduced initiative replaces the older **Ladli Scheme**.
- **Lakhpati Bitiya Yojana** launched on **2 March 2026 (fully implemented from 1 April 2026)**
- **Launch and Goal:** Launched on March 2, 2026, by President Murmu to boost girl education, prevent dropouts, and provide financial security from birth to higher education.
- **Financial Structure:** The scheme provides ₹61,000 in phased investments, which matures to over ₹1 lakh (approximately ₹1.20 lakh) upon maturity, replacing the older Ladli Scheme.
- **Eligibility Criteria:** The girl must be born or live in Delhi for at least 3 years, attend a government school, and the family income must not exceed ₹1,20,000 per annum.
- **Limitations:** The benefits are restricted to a maximum of two girls per family.
- A budget allocation of ₹128 crore was proposed for the scheme.
- The launch session included a review of related constitutional provisions, specifically **Article 21A** (Right to Education) and **Article 45** (Early childhood care).

### 4. Government Mandates E20 Fuel at All Petrol Pumps

- The Indian government has officially mandated the use of **E20 fuel** at all petrol pumps starting **April 1, 2026**.
- **E20 fuel** is defined as a blend comprising **20% ethanol** (derived from crops) and **80% petrol**.
- The new mandated fuel requires a minimum **Research Octane Number (RON)** of **95**.

### 5. Tripura District Wins Panchayat Puraskar 2025

- Under the **Nanaji Deshmukh Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025**, the **Sepahijala District Panchayat** was awarded the top honor.
- The winning district is located in the state of **Tripura**.

### 6. Tea Board Introduces "Tea Mark" Quality Scheme

- The **Tea Board of India**, which is based in **Kolkata**, introduced the voluntary "**Tea Mark**" **Quality Certification Scheme**.

### 7. India Emerges as Global Leader Under Nagoya Protocol

- The **Nagoya Protocol** is an international agreement on **Access and Benefit Sharing**, ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.
- India has become the global leader under the **Nagoya Protocol**.

### 8. CBDT Launches AI Assistant Kar Saathi and Kar Shaki Website

- The launch coincides with the nationwide awareness campaign called "**PRARAMBH 2026**", which stands for **Policy Reform and Responsible Action for Mission Viksit Bharat**.
- Under the '**Prarambh**' program, the government successfully reduced complex tax rules from **510** to **333**, and reduced tax forms from **399** to **190**.
- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** launched a new unified website named "**Kar Shaki**".

- Additionally, the board launched a 24/7 AI-powered tax assistance platform and chatbot named "**Kar Sathi**".

### **9. DoT Mandates Telecom SIM-Binding on OTT Platforms**

- The **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** extended the final deadline to implement SIM-binding for **Over-The-Top (OTT)** applications (such as **WhatsApp** and **Telegram**) to **December 31, 2026**.

### **10. Government Expands SAMPANN Digital Pension Platform**

- The platform was originally launched in **2018** and is managed by the **Telecom Department** specifically for its pensioners.

- **SAMPANN** stands for **System for Accounting and Management of Pension**.

- The **Government of India** signed an agreement to extend the digital pension platform **SAMPANN** to new entities.

- The platform will now be extended to the **Goa State Government** and the **Cochin Port Authority**.

### **11. UIDAI Integrates Aadhaar Centers with Map My India**

- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** partnered with the digital mapping company **Map My India**.

### **12. NCERT Granted Deemed-to-be-University Status**

- The **Ministry of Education** officially granted "**Deemed-to-be-University**" status to the **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**.

### **13. Cipla Establishes India's First Lung Diagnostic Center**

- India's **First Lung Diagnostic Wellness Center** was officially established.

- The facility was launched by the pharmaceutical company **Cipla**.

- The center is located in **New Delhi**.

### **14. Indian Navy Commissions and Receives Multiple Naval Ships**

- **INS Taragiri**: Commissioned by Defense Minister **Rajnath Singh** in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**. It is fourth stealth frigate built under **Project 17A** by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders**.

- **INS Aridhaman**: Commissioned by **Rajnath Singh** in **Visakhapatnam**. It is India's third indigenous **nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN)**. It features **8 vertical launch tubes** and carries **3,500 km range K-4 missiles** alongside **K-15 missiles**.

- **INS Malvan**: Delivered by **Cochin Shipyard Limited** to the Indian Navy. It is the second of eight **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts (ASW SWC)**, named after a coastal town in **Maharashtra** honoring **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's** maritime heritage.

- **INS Sunayna**: Flagged off from **Mumbai** for the '**IOS SAGAR**' mission (**Security and Growth for All in the Region**). The mission visits ports like **Colombo, Jakarta, Singapore, and Malé**.

### **15. India Achieves Record High in Defense Exports**

- India's defense exports witnessed a massive surge of **62%**.

- The exports reached an all-time high monetary value of **Rs 38,424 crore**.

### **16. ISRO Launches Mission Mitra for Astronaut Testing**

- The testing is a crucial preparatory phase for India's upcoming manned spaceflight, the **Gaganyaan Mission**, which is targeted for **2027**.

- **ISRO** is conducting **MITRA** in **Leh, Ladakh** from **2 to 9 April 2026**.

- **MITRA** stands for **Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment**.

### **17. NASA Launches Artemis II Lunar Mission**

- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** launched the **Artemis II Mission** on **April 1, 2026**.

- It is a **10-day** lunar flyby mission featuring a crew of **four astronauts** (which notably includes one **Canadian**) aboard the **Orion spacecraft**.

### **18. RBI Updates Forex Exchange Rules for Resident Indians at Airports**

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** now permits resident Indians to exchange domestic currency for foreign exchange directly at duty-free areas and departure halls of international airports.

- **Airport Exchange**: Residents can exchange **INR** at forex counters in the **Duty-Free Area/Security Hold Area** of international airport departures.

- **Purpose:** Enables travelers to change unspent INR or obtain foreign currency immediately before flying.
- **General Limits:** Under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS), resident individuals can freely buy/remittance foreign exchange up to \$250,000 per financial year (April–March) for permissible transactions.
- **Cash Limit:** While the LRS permits larger amounts (via bank accounts), travellers can carry up to \$3,000 in physical cash under normal rules

### 19. IRDAI Designates Three Companies as Systemically Important Insurers

- The insurance regulator **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**, headquartered in **Hyderabad**, designated three entities as **Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs)** for the **Financial Year (FY) 26**.
- The designated companies are the **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)**, **General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re)**, and **New India Assurance Co. Ltd (NIACL)**.

### 20. RBI Approves Emirates NBD Stake Acquisition in RBL Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** officially approved **Emirates NBD** to acquire a significant stake in **RBL Bank**.
- The approval permits an acquisition of up to a **74% stake** in the bank.

### 21. IRENA Reports India as 3rd Largest Global Renewable Energy Market

- The data was published in a global report by the **International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)**, which was formed in **2009** and is headquartered in **Abu Dhabi**.
- India has officially emerged as the **3rd largest** renewable energy market globally.
- India currently trails only behind **China** and the **United States of America (USA)** in the rankings.
- In **2025**, India's total renewable capacity reached **250.5 Gigawatts (GW)**, having added **45 GW** recently.

### 22. FAO Reports Rise in Global Food Price Index

- The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, headquartered in **Rome**, reported a surge in food prices.
- The FAO Food Price Index rose by **2.4%** in the month of March.
- The index reached a value of **128.5** (calculated against the base year **2014-2016**).

### 23. Myanmar Parliament Elects Min Aung Hlaing as President

### 24. CMS COP15 Held in Brazil Adds 40 Species to Protected List

- The **15th Conference of Parties (COP15)** to the **Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)** was held.
- The convention, also known as the **Bonn Convention** (administered by the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**), took place in **Campo Grande, Brazil**.
- The conference added **40 species** to its protected list.

### 25. India and Australia Launch Agri Maitri Initiative

### 26. Global Trade and Telecom Conferences Conclude

- The **14th World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference** was held in **Yaoundé, Cameroon**.
- Furthermore, the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Telecom Development Conference** was held in **Baku, Azerbaijan**.

### 27. Dr. Srinivasa Rao Wins MS Swaminathan Award

- Static Note: **MS Swaminathan** is renowned as the Father of India's Green Revolution, whereas **Verghese Kurien** is recognized as the Father of the White Revolution.

**Dr. Srinivasa Rao**, who serves as the Director of the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)**, was selected for the **MS Swaminathan Award 2024-25**.

- He was selected specifically for his vital contributions to climate-resilient farming.
- The award includes a gold medal and a **Rs 2 lakh** cash prize.

### 28. President Honors Uttarakhand and Odisha Police with Police Color

- The **Uttarakhand** and **Odisha** state police forces were honored with the prestigious **President's Police Color ("Nishan")**.

### 29. Key Corporate and Civic Appointments Announced

- Static Note: Globally, **China** is the largest steel producer, followed sequentially by **India**.

• **Krishna Kumar Singh** took additional/acting charge as the **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of the **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** for a three-month period, succeeding **Amarendu Prakash** who resigned.

• **Ashwini Bhide**, widely nicknamed the "**Metro Woman**", was appointed as the Municipal Commissioner of the **Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC)**.

• **Bura Vamsi Rama Mohan** was appointed as the new CMD of **Power Grid**, successfully succeeding **Dr. Ravindra Kumar Tyagi**.

### **30. Karnataka Wins Inaugural Khelo India Tribal Games**

• The inaugural event of the **Khelo India Tribal Games** successfully concluded.

• The games were held in the state of **Chhattisgarh**, specifically spread across the cities of **Raipur, Jagdalpur, and Surguja**.

• The state of **Karnataka** won the overall championship by securing a total of **38 medals**, which included **23 Gold** medals.

### **31. South African Cricketer Rassie van der Dussen Retires**

### **32. Important Days and Festivals Observed in April**

• **April 4** is observed as the **International Day for Mine Awareness**, originally established by the **United Nations (UN)** in **2005**. The **2026** theme is "**Invest in peace, invest in mine action**".

• **April 2** is marked as **International Children's Book Day**, which observes the birth anniversary of Danish author **Hans Christian Andersen**. The **2026** theme is "**Plant stories and the world will bloom**".

• **April 2** is also universally observed as **World Autism Awareness Day**.

• **Bohag Bihu**, recognized as the Assamese New Year, was joyously celebrated in **Assam**.