

1. Cabinet Approves Hike in Sugarcane Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for 2026-27

- The Sugarcane Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) is the minimum price that sugar mills must pay to farmers for sugarcane.
- It is governed by the Sugarcane Control Order, 1966 under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), 1955.
- The FRP is determined by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi, approved an increase in the FRP for sugarcane to ₹365 per quintal for the 2026-27 season
- Implementation Date: Effective from October 1, 2026.
- Growth Metrics: Represents a 2.81% increase over the previous FRP of ₹355 per quintal for the 2025-26 season.
- Basic recovery rate is set at 10.25%.

2. Union Cabinet Approves 'Mission for Cotton Productivity'

- The mission aims to boost cotton productivity through a full value chain approach under the 5F Vision
- 5F Vision Framework: Farm → Fibre → Factory → Fashion → Foreign, emphasising full value chain integration.
- The Union Cabinet approved the 'Mission for Cotton Productivity' with a total budget outlay of ₹5,659.22 crore.
- Period: 2026-27 to 2030-31 (five years).
- Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) and Ministry of Textiles (MoT).

3. Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 — Overview and Progress

- Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 1, 2021.
- The mission runs for a five-year period until 2026.
- Budget Allocation: Approximately ₹1.41 lakh crore.
- Core Vision: To create garbage-free cities.

4. Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 — MoUs Signed by Mizoram and Ladakh

- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to all rural households.
- The overall mission target has been extended to 2028.
- Budget Allocation for this year: ₹67,670 crore to achieve universal household tap connections.
- Mizoram and Ladakh signed reform-linked Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 (JJM 2.0).
- Focus: Deliver sustainable, community-led drinking water services via Gram Panchayats.

5. Amaravati Declared Sole Capital of Andhra Pradesh

- Amaravati is located along the Krishna River in the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.

6. Bihar Cabinet Approves \$500 Million World Bank Loan for Urban Infrastructure

7. Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority Wins Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

- The Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar is India's highest civilian honour in the field of disaster management.
- The Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA) won the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar.

8. India to Host First International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit

- The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) was launched by PM Narendra Modi in 2023 with a budget of ₹150 crore for five years.
- It comprises 25 member countries working to protect seven big cat species.
- India will host the first international summit for the IBCA on June 1–2 in New Delhi.
- Seven Big Cat Species Protected by IBCA: Lion, Tiger, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma.

- India's Tiger Population: 3,682 tigers as per latest data.
- State-wise Tiger Population (Top 2):
 - Madhya Pradesh — 785 tigers (highest)
 - Karnataka — 563 tigers
- India has the world's largest tiger population among all countries.

9. India Pharma 2026 Event and 'Naiu AI' Chatbot Mascot

- India Pharma 2026 was held in New Delhi on April 13 and 14, 2026.
- The mascot for the 'Naiu AI' chatbot launched at the event is named Dishika.

10. FICCI and Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) Office Sign Agreement to Boost R&D

- The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA), led by Ajay Kumar Sood, signed an agreement with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).
- Objective: To boost India's research and innovation ecosystem.
- India currently spends only 0.6% to 0.7% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) — significantly lower than global peers.
- Comparative Data:
 - South Korea: 4.91% of GDP on GERD
 - United States of America (USA): 3.48% of GDP on GERD

11. Department of Financial Services Approves Viability Plan 2.0 for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)

- Currently there are 28 RRBs in India.
- Phase 1 (Viability Plan 1.0) ran from FY22–FY25.
- The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, approved Viability Plan 2.0 for all 28 RRBs.
- Purpose: Monitor performance and strengthen governance across all RRBs.
- Timeline: Extended for 3 years — FY2025-26 (FY26) to FY2027-28 (FY28).
- Framework: Evaluates 30 performance parameters under 4 pillars:
 - Operational Excellence
 - Asset Quality
 - Profitability
 - Growth
- Key Metrics Evaluated:
 - Capital to Risk-weighted Asset Ratio (CRAR)
 - Credit-Deposit Ratio
 - Digital Adoption
 - Non-Performing Assets (NPA) levels
 - Recovery Performance
 - Profitability Ratios
 - Government of India (GoI) Scheme Implementation
- DFS operates under the Ministry of Finance.
- Phase 1 covered FY22 to FY25; Phase 2 covers FY26 to FY28.

12. SEBI Sets Up AI Task Force 'Cyber-suraksha.ai' for Cybersecurity in Financial Markets

- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- SEBI was established in 1992 and is a statutory body.

13. RBI Issues New Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 2026 Regulations for Authorized Persons

- The Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) governs foreign exchange transactions in India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is the nodal authority for FEMA regulations.
- Effective April 30, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued new FEMA 2026 Regulations regarding 'Authorized Persons' handling foreign exchange and dollar settlements.
- Requirement: RBI authorization is mandatory for all authorized persons.
- FEMA replaced the earlier Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA).

14. S&P Global Lowers India's GDP Growth Forecast for FY2026-27; CRISIL Report Released

- S&P Global Market Intelligence and CRISIL Ratings Limited (a subsidiary of S&P Global) released a joint report titled 'India Forward: Emerging Perspectives'.
- India's GDP for FY26 was recorded at 7.6%, with the average for FY23–FY26 at 7.3%.
- S&P Global lowered India's FY27 GDP growth forecast from 7.1% to 6.6% due to the ongoing West Asia conflict.
- Retail Inflation: Projected to rise to 5.1% in FY27 (up from 2% in FY26) due to disruption in energy supplies.
- Current Account Deficit (CAD): Expected to expand from 0.8% of GDP in FY26 to 2.2% in FY27.
- Debt-to-GDP Ratio: 57.5% in FY27 compared to 56.1% in FY26; government target is 49–51% by FY31.
- Services Sector Projection: Expected to expand its share to approximately 55% of India's GDP by 2030.
- CRISIL (Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited) is a leading credit rating agency in India.

15. RBI Approves Kotak Mahindra Bank's Stake Acquisition in AU Small Finance Bank and Federal Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved Kotak Mahindra Bank's proposal to acquire up to a 9.99% stake each in:
 - AU Small Finance Bank
 - Federal Bank

16. Jio Payments Bank Partners with EasyPay to Expand Rural and Semi-Urban Banking

- Payments Banks can accept deposits (up to ₹2 lakh) but cannot lend.

17. Skyroot Aerospace Becomes India's First Space-Tech Unicorn

- A Unicorn is a privately held startup with a valuation of \$1 billion or more.
- Skyroot Aerospace Private Limited is a Hyderabad-based private space-tech company.
- Skyroot Aerospace reached unicorn status with a valuation of \$1.1 billion (nearly double its 2023 valuation of ~\$550 million).
- Ranking: It is the 4th unicorn in India in 2026, following KreditBee, Neysa, and Juspay.

18. Health Minister JP Nadda Launches 'Swasth Bharat Portal'

- Health Minister JP Nadda and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) launched the Swasth Bharat Portal.
- Portal URL: swasthbharat.mohfw.gov.in
- Launch Location: Chandigarh, at the 10th National Summit on Innovation & Inclusivity.

19. IIT Madras Launches First US-Based Centre of Excellence in Menlo Park, California

20. Mission Mausam — IITM Pune Establishes India's First Urban Testbed and Aerosol Observatory in Chennai

- Mission Mausam was launched by PM Narendra Modi to create a climate-smart nation with advanced weather forecasting.
- Budget: ₹2,000 crore outlay for Phase 1 (2024–2026).
- IITM Pune (Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune) established India's first urban testbed and aerosol observatory in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- This falls under Mission Mausam.

21. India Conducts Maiden Test of Nuclear-Capable Agni ICBM (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile)

- An Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) has a range of more than 5,500 km, capable of striking targets across continents.
- India's Agni missile series is developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- India conducted a maiden test of a nuclear-capable Agni series Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) off the Odisha coast.
- Testing Agency: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Testing Site: Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Abdul Kalam Island (formerly Wheeler Island), Odisha.
- Airspace Warning: A Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) was issued for the Bay of Bengal from May 6 to May 9, 2026.

22. India's First Green Methanol Plant Set Up at Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), Kandla, Gujarat

23. India and European Union (EU) Launch €15.2 Million Circular Economy Initiative under Trade and Technology Council (TTC)

- The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 27 nations.
- The Trade and Technology Council (TTC) is a bilateral platform for India-EU cooperation on trade and technology.
- Lithium is a key material for EV batteries and is listed as a critical mineral by many countries.

24. India and Vietnam Upgrade Strategic Partnership — 13 Agreements Signed

- During Vietnamese President To Lam's visit to India, both countries signed 13 agreements.

• Key Targets and Agreements:

- Bilateral trade target: \$25 billion by 2030
- Agreement between the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the State Bank of Vietnam
- Cooperation in Healthcare, Fintech, Indo-Pacific, and Rare Earth Minerals

25. India and Algeria Hold Inaugural Joint Commission Meeting on Defence

- Algeria Capital: Algiers. Algeria is located in North Africa.

26. India and Japan Sign Agreement on Quantum Technology and Health Research

- Japan Capital: Tokyo. Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY).

27. Meghalaya Signs Pact with Starlink for Satellite Internet in Remote Areas

- Starlink is a satellite internet constellation operated by SpaceX (owned by Elon Musk).
- Meghalaya Capital: Shillong. Chief Minister: Conrad Sangma.

28. World Migration Report 2026 — India Top Recipient of Remittances at \$137.67 Billion

- The World Migration Report 2026 was released by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- India is the top country for inward remittances, receiving \$137.67 billion in 2024.
- Countries ranked after India: Mexico and the Philippines.
- Largest Source of Outward Remittances: The USA, sending over \$100 billion.
- IOM (International Organization for Migration) is an intergovernmental organisation and part of the United Nations (UN) system.
- IOM Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.

29. NITI Aayog Releases School Education System in India Policy Report 2026

- Released on May 6, 2026 by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Nidhi Chhibber.

- Coverage: Temporal analysis spanning a decade — 2014-15 to 2024-25.

• Key Educational Statistics:

- India has the world's largest school system with 14.71 lakh schools, 1.01 crore teachers, and 24.69 crore students.
- Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at higher secondary stage: 58.4%.
- Government school enrolment declined from 71% (2005) to 49.24% (2024-25).
- Dropout rates surged from 0.3% in primary to 11.5% in secondary education.
- Zero-Enrolment Schools: 7,993 schools reported zero enrolment — highest in West Bengal and Telangana.

- NITI Aayog replaced the Planning Commission in 2015.

30. NITI Aayog Launches Central Prabhari Officer (CPO) Portal for Aspirational Districts

31. Canada's Cape Breton University (CBU) Signs 3 MoUs with Indian Institutions

• Partner Institutions:

- BML Munjal University
- National Education Forum (NEF)
- Lok Jagruti Kendra University of Gujarat

- Canada Capital: Ottawa. Currency: Canadian Dollar (CAD).

32. Important Days — May 5, 6, and 8 (2026)

- May 5 is observed as African World Heritage Day.
- May 5 is also World Asthma Day — observed on the first Tuesday of May every year.

- 2026 Theme: "Access to anti-inflammatory inhalers for everyone with asthma is still an urgent need".
- May 6 is observed as International No Diet Day.
- May 8 is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
- It honours humanitarian volunteers on the birthday of Henry Dunant — founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the first Nobel Peace Prize recipient.
- 2026 Theme: "United in Humanity."

33. Shashi Shekhar Vempati Appointed as New CBFC Chairperson

- Shashi Shekhar Vempati has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).
- He succeeds Praseon Joshi (who stepped down to chair Prasar Bharati).

34. IPL 2026 Final to be Hosted at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad on May 31

- Narendra Modi Stadium is the world's largest cricket stadium by capacity (over 1.32 lakh).
- Previously known as Sardar Patel Stadium, renamed in 2020.

35. International Olympic Committee (IOC) Lifts Ban on Belarus Athletes; Russia Ban Continues

- Upcoming Olympic Schedule:
 - 2026 Winter Olympics: Italy
 - 2028 Summer Olympics: USA
 - 2030 Winter Olympics: France
 - 2032 Summer Olympics: Australia
- IOC Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland. President: **Kirsty Coventry** (Zimbabwe). She is the first woman and the first African to lead the organization.
- The Olympic motto is 'Citius, Altius, Fortius' (Faster, Higher, Stronger).

36. Obituaries — Ted Turner (CNN Founder) and Amanpreet Singh Gill (Cricketer)

- Robert Edward Turner III, popularly known as Ted Turner, passed away at the age of 87.
- He was the founder of CNN (Cable News Network), the world's first 24-hour television news channel.
- Amanpreet Singh Gill, a 36-year-old former Punjab fast bowler, passed away.
- He had played for the India Under-19 (U-19) team and the Kings XI Punjab squad in the IPL.