

1. BANKING & ECONOMY

1.1 RBI Policy Rates and Projections (February 2026)

- **Background:** The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) met from February 4–6, 2026, to review liquidity and inflation.
- **Key Decisions:** Repo Rate kept unchanged at 5.25% with a "Neutral" stance.
- **Other Rates:** Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) adjusted to 5.00%; Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) and Bank Rate at 5.50%; Fixed Reverse Repo Rate at 3.35%.
- **Reserve Ratios:** Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) at 3% and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) at 18%.
- **Forecasts:** Real GDP growth for FY26 projected at 7.6% and CPI inflation at 2.1%.

1.2 RBI Extends Capital Market Exposure (CME) Framework

- **Announcement:** Under Governor Dr. Sanjay Malhotra, the RBI extended the revised CME framework until July 1, 2026.
- **Limits:** Loans against eligible securities are capped at ₹1 crore per individual and ₹25 lakh for IPOs and ESOPs.
- **Significance:** Ensures stable funding for market instruments while managing individual risk exposure.

1.3 Implementation of New Income Tax Rules 2026

- **Effective Date:** April 1, 2026.
- **Developments:** The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) reduced total tax rules from 511 to 333.
- **Changes:** A single tax year replaced the dual "previous year" and "assessment year" structure.
- **Mandates:** PAN is now mandatory for property deals exceeding ₹20 lakh and annual cash transactions exceeding ₹10 lakh.
- **Motor Vehicles:** PAN required for purchases exceeding ₹5 lakh (now includes premium two-wheelers).
- PAN is strictly mandatory for opening demat accounts and investments above ₹50,000 in mutual funds or bonds

1.4 Record GST Collection for March 2026

- **Stats:** Net GST collection grew 8.2% to ₹1.78 trillion, while gross revenue hit ₹2 trillion.
- **FY26 Total:** Total collection for the financial year reached ₹22 lakh crore, an 8.3% growth over the previous year.
- **Context:** These are the highest collections since the "GST 2.0" reforms which removed the 12% and 28% slabs.

1.5 Small Savings Schemes Rates Unchanged (Q1 FY27)

- **Announcement:** The Ministry of Finance retained unchanged rates for the 8th consecutive quarter.
- **Key Rates:** Public Provident Fund (PPF) at 7.1%, Sukanya Samriddhi (SSY) at 8.2%, and National Savings Certificate (NSC) at 7.7%.
- **Others:** Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) at 7.5% with a 115-month maturity.

1.6 RBI Updates Ways and Means Advances (WMA) Limits

- **New Limit:** The WMA limit for the Central Government for the first half of FY 2026-27 was set at ₹2.5 lakh crore.
- **State Limits:** The limit for State Governments and UTs was increased to ₹61,800 crore.
- **Mechanism:** Used to bridge temporary cash flow mismatches; must be repaid within 90 days.

1.7 IRDAI Designates Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs)

- **Designated Entities:** Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), General Insurance Corporation (GIC Re), and New India Assurance Company.
- **Significance:** These firms are classified as "Too Big to Fail," requiring enhanced regulatory supervision.

1.8 Banking Penalties and Compliance Actions

- **Airtel Payments Bank:** Fined ₹31.8 lakh for disclosure lapses in financial statements.
- **Union Bank of India:** Fined ₹95.40 lakh for delayed crediting.
- **Central Bank of India:** Fined ₹63.6 lakh for KYC and inclusion issues.
- **Northern Arc Capital:** Fined ₹2.70 lakh for non-compliance with KYC directions.

1.9 UPI Transaction Milestones (March 2026)

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- **Record:** NPCI recorded **22.64 billion** total transactions valued at **₹29.53 lakh crore**.
- **Average:** Daily average transactions hit **730 million**, worth **₹95,243 crore**.
- **Market Share:** PhonePe became the first app to cross **10 billion** monthly transactions.

1.10 Major Banking Acquisitions and Mergers

- **RBL Bank:** RBI approved Dubai-based **Emirates NBD** to acquire up to a **74% stake** for **₹26,853 crore**.
- **Manappuram Finance:** RBI authorized **Bain Capital** to acquire a **41.7% stake** at **₹236 per share**.
- **Allianz Jio Reinsurance:** Commenced operations in **Mumbai** as a **50-50 JV** between **Allianz Group** and **Jio Financial Services**.

1.11 CBDT Launches 'Kar Sathi' AI Assistant

- **Project:** Part of the "**PRARAMBH 2026**" (Policy Reform and Responsible Action for Mission Viksit Bharat) campaign.
- **Features:** A 24/7 AI-powered chatbot and a new unified website "**Kar Shaki**" to simplify tax compliance.
- **Context:** Government reduced tax rules from **510** to **333** and forms from **399** to **190**.

1.12 RBI's Mission Saksham for UCBs

- **Objective:** To train **1.4 lakh** banking participants to boost the operational efficiency of the **Urban Cooperative Bank (UCB)** sector.
- **Format:** Delivered via physical and e-learning platforms.

1.13 SEBI Deploys 'Sudarshan' AI Tool

- **Function:** An in-house AI tool to track and delete misleading financial posts by unregistered influencers.
- **Impact:** Successfully identified and removed over **1.2 lakh** misleading posts across social media.

1.14 India-Japan Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA)

- **Renewal:** RBI and **Bank of Japan** renewed the BSA for **\$75 Billion**, effective **February 28, 2026**.
- **Purpose:** To enable the exchange of local currencies for US dollars to support financial stability.

1.15 State Bank of India (SBI) Market Cap Milestone

- **Achievement:** SBI crossed the **₹10 lakh crore** market capitalization milestone.
- **Target:** The bank aims to increase its balance sheet to equal **25%** of India's GDP by **2030**.

1.16 Bank of Baroda (BoB) Business Milestone

- **Record:** BoB crossed the **₹30 lakh crore** global business mark for the first time in **FY26**.
- **Growth:** Recorded a **13.93%** Year-on-Year growth.

1.17 SEBI Penalizes 18 Companies for Manipulation

- **Action:** SEBI penalized 18 companies for share manipulation, fake volume generation, and circular trading.

1.18 Exim Bank Secures \$1 Billion via Bonds

- **Details:** Secured funds through US dollar-denominated bonds, marking India's first overseas bond issuance in **2026**.

1.19 RBI Cancels License of Shirpur Merchant Co-operative Bank

- **Action:** Canceled the banking license of the Maharashtra-based bank.
- **Insurance:** Depositors are insured for claims up to **₹5 lakh** through **DICGC**.

1.20 First Unicorn of FY 2026-27: KreditBee

- **Status:** The digital lending platform became the first unicorn of the new fiscal year after securing **\$280 million** in funding.

2. GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

2.1 Census 2027: India's First Digital Census

- **Announcement:** Scheduled to commence on **April 1, 2026**, using mobile apps and self-enumeration portals.
- **Phases:** Phase 1 (House listing) from **April–September 2026**; Phase 2 (Enumeration) in **February 2027**.
- **Mascots:** **Pragati** (female) and **Vikas** (male).
- **Budget:** Allocated **₹11,718 crore**.
- **Brand Ambassador:** Sand artist **Sudarsan Pattnaik**.

2.2 PM E-DRIVE Scheme Extensions

- **Objective:** Replaced the **FAME** program to promote electric mobility.

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- **Extensions:** Incentives for e-2Ws extended to **July 31, 2026**; e-3Ws extended to **March 31, 2028**.
- **Budget:** ₹1,772 crore earmarked specifically for electric two-wheelers.

2.3 PM KUSUM Scheme Extension

- **Update:** The deadline for the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan** was extended to **March 31, 2027**.
- **Target:** Aims to add **34,800 MW** of solar capacity in the agricultural sector.

2.4 White Revolution 2.0 Launched

- **Objective:** Targets the creation of **1.2 lakh** new or existing dairy cooperative societies over five years.
- **Target:** A procurement goal of **1,007 lakh kg/day** of milk by **2028-29**.

2.5 Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0

- **Approval:** Cabinet approved a corpus of **₹10,000 crore** on **February 14, 2026**.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Managed by the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

2.6 National Monetization Pipeline (NMP) 2.0

- **Timeline:** A 5-year roadmap from **FY 2026 to FY 2030**.
- **Target:** Monetization potential of **₹16.72 Lakh Crore**.
- **Sector Focus:** The **Highways sector** carries the highest share at **26%** (**₹4.42 lakh crore**).

2.7 Mission Karmayogi: Sadhana Saptah 2026

- **Event:** Launched by PM Modi to celebrate the **5-year milestone** of the mission for civil servants.
- **Acronym:** **SADHANA** stands for "Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement".

2.8 National PNG Drive 2.0 Extended

- **Status:** Extended until **June 30, 2026**.
- **Theme:** "**Har PNG Har CNG**".
- **Success:** Gasified over **3.1 lakh** connections by March 2026.

2.9 E20 Fuel Mandate

- **Rule:** The government mandated **E20 fuel** (20% ethanol, 80% petrol) at all petrol pumps starting **April 1, 2026**.
- **Requirement:** Mandated fuel must have a minimum **RON of 95**.

2.10 Jan Aushadhi Saptaha 2026

- **Observance:** March 1–7, concluding with the **8th Jan Aushadhi Diwas**.
- **Target:** Government aims to establish **25,000 Kendras** by **2027**.

2.11 Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Revised Norms

- **Validity:** Extended to **6 years**.
- **Limits:** Collateral-free limit increased from **₹1.6 lakh to ₹2 lakh**.
- **Automatic Increase:** Permits an automatic **15% annual increase** in the credit limit.

2.12 White Revolution 2.0 Women Focus

- **Insight:** The scheme acknowledges that women make up nearly **70%** of the dairy sector workforce.

2.13 Urban Challenge Fund (UCF)

- **Outlay:** **₹1 lakh crore** central assistance to drive urban transformation.
- **Investment Goal:** Aims to mobilize **₹4 lakh crore** in total investments by **FY 2030-31**.

2.14 Revamped Export Promotion Mission (EPM)

- **Outlay:** **₹25,060 crore** for the period **2025-26 to 2030-31**.
- **Sub-schemes:** **Niryat Protsahan** (₹10,401 cr) and **Niryat Disha** (₹14,659 cr).

2.15 'PRAHAAR' National Counter-Terrorism Policy

- **Nodal Agency:** Execution relies on the **Multi-Agency Centre (MAC)** and **Intelligence Bureau (IB)**.

2.16 Vibrant Villages Program Phase 2

- **Launch:** Inaugurated from **Nathanur village, Assam**.
- **Budget:** **₹6,839 crore** until **FY 2028-29**.
- **Scope:** Targets **1,954** border villages.

2.17 PRARAMBH 2026 Program

- **Acronym:** Stands for "Policy Reform and Responsible Action for Mission Viksit Bharat".
- **Action:** Streamlined over **170** complex tax rules.

2.18 PM-AASHA Expansion

- **Update:** Enhanced operations to scale up grain procurement in **Chhattisgarh** and pulses in **Bihar**.

2.19 Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Growth

- **Stats:** Crossed **9 crore** total subscribers by April 21, 2026.
- **Record:** Added **1.35 crore** new subscribers in **FY 2025-26** alone.

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2.20 SAMPANN Digital Pension Platform Expansion

- **Update:** Extended to the **Goa State Government** and the **Cochin Port Authority**.

3. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

3.1 India-USA Trade Deal: \$500 Billion Purchase Commitment

- **Key Terms:** USA reduces reciprocal tariffs from **25% to 18%**.
- **Commitment:** India will purchase **\$500 billion** in US products (energy, tech, agriculture).
- **Condition:** India will stop purchasing crude oil from **Russia**.

3.2 India and Canada 10-Year Uranium Agreement

- **Details:** Signed a supply agreement spanning **2027 to 2035** during PM **Mark Carney's** visit.
- **Value:** **\$2.6 billion** deal to assist India's **100 GW** nuclear capacity target.

3.3 India and EU Grant Most Favored Nation (MFN) Status

- **Agreement:** Mutually granted MFN status for **five years** under a new Free Trade Agreement.
- **Impact:** Slashes tariffs on **96.6%** of EU exports to India and **99.5%** of Indian exports to the EU.

3.4 India Ranks First in Nagoya Protocol Compliance

- **Stat:** India issued **3,561** out of the **6,311** total Internationally Recognized Certificates of Compliance globally (~**56%**).

3.5 G7 Summit Schedule

- **Venues:** **Canada (2025)**, **France (2026)**, and **USA (2027)**.

3.6 21st G20 Leaders' Summit 2026

- **Venue:** **Miami, United States**, scheduled for **December 14-15, 2026**.
- **Troika:** **South Africa (2025)**, **USA (2026)**, and **UK (2027)**.

3.7 Indonesia and Spain Ban Social Media for Minors

- **Indonesia:** Banned usage for children under **16** to protect **70 million** minors.

- **Spain:** Became the first European nation to implement a similar ban for children under **16**.

3.8 India and Brazil Elevated Trade Target

- **Goal:** Agreed to reach **\$30 Billion** in bilateral trade by **2030**.

3.9 India Regains IONS Chairmanship

- **Leadership:** India regained the chair of the **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)** for **2026–2028**.
- **Leader:** Admiral **Dinesh K. Tripathi** assumed the role.

3.10 BRICS Summit 2026 Hosted by India

- **Theme:** "**BRICS: Building Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, Sustainability**".

3.11 India and Israel Payment Linkage

- **Agreement:** Signed a pact to link India's **UPI** system with Israel's domestic payment infrastructure.

3.12 WHO: Denmark HIV Elimination Milestone

- **Achievement:** First EU country to completely eliminate mother-to-child transmission of **HIV** and **Syphilis**.

3.13 Romania Joins International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- **Status:** Ratified the agreement to become the **118th member** of the **ISA**.

3.14 Argentina Withdraws from WHO

- **Action:** Officially withdrew under the **Vienna Convention** with a one-year notice period.

3.15 FATF Grey List Updates

- **Additions:** **Kuwait** and **Papua New Guinea** were added to the 'Grey List'.
- **Current Count:** **22** monitored nations; **Black List** remains strictly **Iran** and **North Korea**.

3.16 Nepal General Elections Result

- **Winner:** 35-year-old rapper-turned-politician **Balendra (Balen) Shah** set to become Prime Minister.

3.17 Chile Leprosy Elimination

- **Achievement:** First country in the Americas to officially eliminate leprosy.

3.18 India and Maldives Currency Swap

- **Support:** India approved a **₹3000 crore** (30 billion) swap facility for the Maldives under the **SAARC** framework.

3.19 India and UK Social Security Agreement

- **Coverage:** Signed an agreement to cover **temporary employees**.

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3.20 Rebuilding Ukraine Cost Estimate

- **Stat:** The **World Bank** and **UN** estimate the cost has risen to **\$588 billion** over the next decade.

4. REPORTS & INDEXES

4.1 GDP Growth Forecasts for India (FY27)

- **ASSOCHAM:** 7.0%.
- **OECD:** 6.1%.
- **S&P Global:** 7.1%.
- **World Bank:** 6.6%.
- **IMF:** 6.4%.
- **Moody's:** 6.0%.

4.2 Henley Passport Index 2026

- **India Rank:** 75th (visa-free access to 56 countries).
- **Top Rank:** Singapore.
- **Bottom Rank:** Afghanistan.

4.3 World Happiness Report 2026

- **India Rank:** 116th out of 147 countries (Score: 4.536).
- **Top Rank:** Finland.
- **Bottom Rank:** Afghanistan.

4.4 Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024

- **Large States:** Maharashtra (1st), Tamil Nadu (2nd), Gujarat (3rd).
- **Small/NE States:** Uttarakhand (1st), J&K (2nd), Nagaland (3rd).

4.5 NITI Aayog Fiscal Health Index 2026

- **Major States:** Odisha (1st), followed by Goa and Jharkhand.
- **Himalayan/NE States:** Arunachal Pradesh (1st).

4.6 India's Global Ranking in AI

- **Stanford AI Vibrancy Index:** India ranked 3rd globally in competitiveness.
- **AI R&D:** India secured the 2nd position globally, behind Singapore.

4.7 Skytrax World Airport Awards 2026

- **World's Best:** Singapore's Changi Airport.
- **India's Best:** Delhi IGI (28th globally).
- **Others in Top 100:** Bengaluru Kempegowda (41st), Hyderabad Rajiv Gandhi (43rd), Goa मनोहर (64th), Mumbai CSMIA (66th).

4.8 UN Women Report on Access to Justice

- **Findings:** Women hold only 64% of the legal rights that men do.
- **Entrenched Gaps:** Equal pay gaps persist in 44% of nations.

4.9 World Obesity Atlas 2026

- **Projection:** India will have 41 million overweight/obese children by 2025.
- **Global Rank:** India has the second-highest number of obese children, after China.

4.10 Knight Frank Wealth Report 2026

- **India Rank:** 6th largest economy globally (slipped from 4th).
- **Stats:** India has 19,877 UHNWIs and 207 billionaires.

4.11 Hurun Global Rich List 2026

- **Richest Man:** Elon Musk (\$792 billion).
- **India Status:** Ranked 3rd globally with 308 billionaires.

4.12 Bloomberg Billionaires Index: Asian Leader

- **Change:** Gautam Adani (\$92.6 billion) surpassed Mukesh Ambani to become Asia's richest person.

4.13 India's Energy Statistics 2026 (NSO)

- **Renewable Capacity:** Reported total capacity of 4,743,000 MW.

4.14 Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) March 2026

- **Unemployment:** Hit a 5-month high of 5.1% in March (up from 4.9% in Feb).
- **Youth Unemployment:** Decreased to 9.9% for the 15-29 age group.

4.15 UNESCO GEM Report 2026

- **Findings:** 273 million youth globally were out of school in 2024 (1 in 6 excluded).

4.16 SIPRI Report 2025

- **Military Spending:** India became the 5th largest global military spender, spending \$92.1 billion (3.2% of global total).

4.17 IRENA Renewable Energy Market Ranking

- **Status:** India emerged as the 3rd largest global renewable energy market, trailing China and the USA.

4.18 Network Readiness Index

- **India Rank:** Rose to the 45th rank.

4.19 DPIIT NIRYAT Data February 2026

- **Merchandise Exports:** Slightly contracted by 0.81% Year-on-Year.
- **Destinations:** US remained the largest destination; China surpassed Netherlands for 3rd place.

4.20 Index of Industrial Production (IIP) Growth

- **Stats:** Output growth registered at 4.8% in January 2026.

5. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & DEFENCE

5.1 Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) Criticality

- **Milestone:** India achieved "criticality" in a **500 MW PFBR at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.**
- **Global Rank:** India is only the **second country** (after Russia) to achieve this feat.
- **Developer:** **BHAVINI** (Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited).

5.2 India's First Hydrogen-Powered Train

- **Trial:** Successfully tested on the **20 km Jind-Sonipat** route in **Haryana.**
- **Specs:** Developed by **ICF Chennai**; reached speeds of **70 km/hr.**
- **Context:** India joins Germany, Sweden, Japan, and China in this technology.

5.3 DRDO and IAF "Vayu Baan" Drone

- **Innovation:** India's first helicopter-launched drone system with a **50+ km** standoff strike range.
- **Capabilities:** Includes Kamikaze and ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance).

5.4 ISRO Mission MITRA for Gaganyaan

- **Testing:** Conducted in **Leh, Ladakh**, to assess astronaut response traits.
- **Acronym:** **MITRA** stands for "Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment".

5.5 NASA Artemis II Lunar Mission

- **Launch:** **April 1, 2026.**
- **Record:** The crew traveled **4.07 lakh km** away from Earth, breaking the Apollo 13 record.

5.6 India's Defense Exports Hit Record High

- **Value:** Reached an all-time high of **₹38,424 crore** in **FY 2025-26.**
- **Growth:** Represented a massive **62%** Year-on-Year surge.

5.7 Indigenous Air Droppable Container (ADC-150)

- **Trial:** **DRDO** and the **Indian Navy** tested the 150 kg payload container off the Goa coast.

5.8 INS Aridhaman Commissioned

- **Type:** India's third indigenous nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (**SSBN**).
- **Payload:** Carries **3,500 km** range **K-4** missiles and **K-15** missiles.

5.9 Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK'

- **Edition:** 7th edition of the **India-Uzbekistan** joint exercise.
- **Venue:** **Gurumsaray Training Area, Uzbekistan.**

5.10 Agnikul Cosmos 3D-Printed Booster Engine

- **Record:** Successfully tested "**Agnite**", the world's first fully 3D-printed booster engine, in **Chennai.**

5.11 INS Taragiri Commissioned

- **Identity:** Fourth stealth frigate built under **Project 17A** by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders.**

5.12 Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS)

- **Test:** Indigenous system successfully test-fired by **DRDO** from **Chandipur, Odisha.**
- **Specs:** Can intercept threats at an **8 km** range and **4.5 km** altitude.

5.13 Joint Exercise 'Lamitiye'

- **Partners:** Conducted between **India** and **Seychelles.**

5.14 DEFENCE FORCES VISION 2047

- **Release:** Blueprint emphasizing **cyber preparedness** and strategic reformation released by **Rajnath Singh.**

5.15 Exercise MILAN 2026

- **Venue:** Hosted by the **Indian Navy** in **Visakhapatnam** with 74 countries.
- **Theme:** "**Camaraderie, Cooperation, Collaboration**".

5.16 Exercise Dharma Guardian

- **Venue:** 7th edition held at the Foreign Training Node in **Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.**
- **Participants:** Indian Army (**Ladakh Scouts**) and Japan Ground Self-Defense Force.

5.17 Exercise Vajra Prahar

- **Venue:** 16th iteration took place in **Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.**
- **Participants:** Special forces of **India** and the **US (Green Berets).**

5.18 Param Shakti Supercomputer

- **Location:** Hosted at **IIT Madras**, inaugurated by **MeitY.**

5.19 'Pragya' Private Tokamak Device

- **Achievement:** India's first privately developed smallest Tokamak device created by **ProNus Fusion.**

5.20 Apollo 13 Distance Record Broken

- **Mission:** NASA's **Artemis II** crew aboard **Orion** reached **252,757 miles** from Earth.

6. APPOINTMENTS

6.1 C.P. Radhakrishnan elected as Vice President of India

- **Context:** Replaced Jagdeep Dhankhar following his resignation.

6.2 TV Somanathan appointed Cabinet Secretary

- **Context:** Succeeded Rajiv Gauba; also chairs the asset monetization committee.

6.3 Gyanesh Kumar appointed Chief Election Commissioner

- **Identity:** 26th CEC of India, succeeding Rajiv Kumar.

6.4 Lt. Gen. Dhiraj Seth appointed Vice Chief of Army Staff

- **Effective Date:** April 1, 2026, succeeding Lt. Gen. Pushendra Pal Singh.

6.5 Vikram K. Doraiswami appointed India's Ambassador to China

- **Context:** Replaced Pradeep Kumar Rawat.

6.6 Uday Suresh Kotak appointed Chairman of GIFT City

- **Context:** Replaced Hasmukh Adhia.

6.7 Willie Walsh appointed CEO of IndiGo

- **Effective Date:** August 3, replacing Pieter Elbers.

6.8 Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi reappointed as DCGI

- **Tenure:** Extended for one year as the Drugs Controller General of India.

6.9 Kota Ravi appointed CMD of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

- **Context:** Succeeded Dr. D.K. Sunil.

6.10 Samrat Choudhary sworn in as Chief Minister of Bihar

- **Context:** Followed the resignation of Nitish Kumar.

6.11 Yumnam Khemchand Singh sworn in as 13th CM of Manipur

- **Context:** Replaced N. Biren Singh following revocation of President's Rule.

6.12 Vinay Muralidhar Tonse appointed MD & CEO of Yes Bank

- **Tenure:** 3 years, effective from April 2026, replacing Prashant Kumar.

6.13 R. Vijay Anandh appointed MD & CEO of City Union Bank

- **Tenure:** 3 years, effective from May 1, 2026, succeeding Dr. N. Kamakodi.

6.14 Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti appointed Chairperson of NCBC

- **Context:** National Commission for Backward Classes.

6.15 Paschal Donohoe appointed World Bank MD

- **Role:** Managing Director and Chief Knowledge Officer.

6.16 John Ternus named next Apple CEO

- **Context:** To succeed Tim Cook (retiring Sep 2026).

6.17 Ashwini Bhide appointed Municipal Commissioner of BMC

- **Identity:** First female commissioner of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation.

6.18 Tarique Rahman sworn in as Prime Minister of Bangladesh

- **Context:** Following the exit of Sheikh Hasina and interim government.

6.19 Uchral Nyam-Osor appointed Prime Minister of Mongolia

- **Identity:** Former hip-hop artist.

6.20 Jishnu Dev Varma appointed Governor of Maharashtra

- **Context:** Replaced Acharya Devvrat.

7. AWARDS & HONOURS

7.1 Padma Awards 2026 Announced

- **Total:** 131 awards: 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, 113 Padma Shri.
- **Padma Vibhushan Winners:** Dharmendra Singh Deol (Art, posthumous), N. Rajam (Art), K.T. Thomas (Public Affairs), V.S. Achuthanandan (Public Affairs, posthumous), P. Narayanan (Literature).

7.2 68th Grammy Awards 2025

- **The Dalai Lama:** Won his first Grammy for Best Audio Book ("Meditations").
- **Steven Spielberg:** Won Best Music Film; achieved EGOT status.

7.3 98th Academy Awards (Oscars)

- **Best Picture:** "One Battle After Another" by Paul Thomas Anderson.
- **Best Actor/Actress:** Michael Jordan ("Sinner") and Jessie Buckley ("Hamnet").

7.4 35th Saraswati Samman 2025

- **Winner:** Author Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay for his work "Hara Parvati Katha".

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- **Prize:** ₹15 lakh awarded by the **KK Birla Foundation**.
- 7.5 20th Ramnath Goenka Journalism Awards**
- **Recognition:** Honored **25 outstanding journalists** across **18 categories**.
- 7.6 Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla awarded Ashok Chakra**
- **Identity:** India's highest peacetime gallantry award; Shukla hails from **UP**.
- 7.7 Stockholm Water Prize 2026**
- **Winner:** Professor **Kaveh Madani** (Iranian scientist); youngest laureate in 35 years.
- 7.8 Dr. Srinivasa Rao wins MS Swaminathan Award 2024-25**
- **Recognition:** For vital contributions to **climate-resilient farming**.
- 7.9 Sunil Bharti Mittal: GSMA Lifetime Achievement Award**
- **Venue:** Conferred at the **Mobile World Congress** in Barcelona.
- 7.10 Honorary Knighthood (KBE) for N. Chandrasekaran**
- **Status:** Conferred by the **UK Government** on the **Tata Group Chairman**.
- 7.11 Sheetal Devi: World Archery Para Archer of the Year 2025**
- **Identity:** 19-year-old armless archer from **J&K**.
- 7.12 MS Dhoni: Brand Ambassador for BHIM App**
- **Update:** Named for the **NPCI-backed app**.
- 7.13 Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025**
- **First Prize:** **Paradip Port Authority (PPA)**.
- 7.14 FIFA World Cup 2026 PIXEL Credit Card**
- **Launch:** **Visa** and **HDFC Bank** launched a limited-edition card with "Spend and Win" rewards.
- 7.15 TIME 100 Most Influential People 2026**
- **Indians:** **Sundar Pichai** (Google CEO), **Ranbir Kapoor** (Actor), and **Vikas Khanna** (Chef).
- 7.16 President's Police Color ("Nishan")**
- **Recipients:** **Uttarakhand** and **Odisha** state police forces.
- 7.17 22nd Upendra Nath Brahma Soldier of Humanity Award**
- **Winner:** **Gyalyum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck**, the **Queen Mother of Bhutan**.
- 7.18 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences**
- **Winner:** **Veerabhadran Ramanathan**.

7.19 Laureus World Sports Awards 2026 Shortlist

- **Stat:** **Indian Women's National Cricket Team** became the first women's cricket team shortlisted for **World Team of the Year**.

7.20 FICCI FLO Women-Led Industrial Park

- **Venue:** 50-acre park inaugurated in **Chickballapur, Karnataka**.

8. SPORTS

8.1 Women's Premier League (WPL) 4th Season

- **Champion:** **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** won their second title by defeating **Delhi Capitals**.

8.2 79th Santosh Trophy (Football)

- **Winner:** **Services** team beat **Kerala** to claim their 8th title.

8.3 Cricket: R. Ashwin Joins US Major League Cricket (MLC)

- **Record:** First Indian international cricketer to sign for a US-based team (**San Francisco Unicorns**).

8.4 Cricket: Virat Kohli IPL Record

- **Stat:** First batter in IPL history to surpass **4,000 runs** during run-chases.

8.5 Ranji Trophy Maiden Title

- **Winner:** **Jammu & Kashmir** clinched their first title after **67 years**, defeating **Karnataka**.

8.6 Chess: Aaryan Varshney becomes India's 92nd Grandmaster

- **Update:** Domestic chess development title.

8.7 Chess: Arav Dengla becomes India's 93rd Grandmaster

- **Achievement:** 17-year-old from **Mumbai** reached the milestone.

8.8 22nd World Indoor Athletics Championship 2028

- **Host:** **Bhubaneswar, India** will host the event at **Kalinga Stadium**.

8.9 SAFF U19 Women's Championship

- **Winner:** **India** defeated **Bangladesh** in **Nepal** to win.

8.10 2026 FIFA World Cup Co-hosts

- **Venues:** **USA, Canada, and Mexico**.

9. IMPORTANT DAYS & THEMES (APRIL 2026)

9.1 Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Foundation Day

- **Date:** **April 1** (91st Foundation Day).

9.2 World Autism Awareness Day

Nandyal Banking Coaching Center - February 2026 to April 2026 -At glance

- **Date:** April 2.
- **Theme:** "Autism and Humanity: Every Life Has Value".

9.3 World Health Day

- **Date:** April 7.

9.4 World Malaria Day

- **Date:** April 25.
- **Theme:** "Driven to end malaria, Now we can, Now we must".

9.5 World Intellectual Property Day

- **Date:** April 26.
- **Theme:** "IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate".

9.6 National Panchayat Day

- **Date:** April 24.

9.7 World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development

- **Date:** March 4.
- **Theme:** "Smart engineering for sustainable future through innovation and digitalization".

9.8 International Day for Mine Awareness

- **Date:** April 4.
- **Theme:** "Invest in peace, invest in mine action".

9.9 National Science Day

- **Date:** February 28.
- **Theme:** "Women in Science: Catalyzing a Viksit Bharat".

9.10 World Wildlife Day

- **Date:** March 3.
- **Theme:** "Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health Heritage and Livelihoods".

10. OBITUARIES

10.1 Chandrikapersad Santokhi

- **Identity:** Former President of Suriname (2020-2025) and Pravasi Bharatiya Samman recipient.

10.2 Vijaypat Singhania

- **Identity:** Former chairman of the Raymond Group and Padma Bhushan awardee.

10.3 Sarojini Naidu (77th Death Anniversary)

- **Identity:** "Nightingale of India" and first Indian woman President of INC.

10.4 Sarla Maheshwari

- **Identity:** Veteran Doordarshan news anchor.

10.5 Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

- **Identity:** Supreme Leader of Iran (in power since 1989); killed in US-Israel strike.

10.6 Utsav Charan Das

- **Identity:** Padma Shri Odia folk artist, famous for pioneering "Chaiti Ghoda Nach".

10.7 H.K. Dua

- **Identity:** Distinguished Padma Bhushan journalist and former Rajya Sabha MP.

10.8 Vijay Kumar

- **Identity:** Veteran Indian Golfer and four-time Order of Merit champion.

11. BOOKS & AUTHORS

11.1 "Tides of Time: Bharat's History through Murals in Parliament"

- **Author:** Sudha Murty.

11.2 "The Sage Who Reimagined Hinduism"

- **Author:** Shashi Tharoor.

11.3 "Mahatma: A Great Communicator"

- **Author:** Dr. Dhiraj Kakadia.

11.4 "Quantum Physics: 100 Magical Years"

- **Author:** V.P.N. Nampoori.

11.5 "Wings of Valour"

- **Author:** Swapnil Pandey.

12. STATE CURRENT AFFAIRS

12.1 Andhra Pradesh: Amaravati declared sole capital

- **Legislation:** Lok Sabha passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Amendment Bill 2026.
- **Effect:** Retrospective effect from June 2, 2024.

12.2 Gujarat: Uniform Civil Code (UCC) 2026

- **Approval:** Gujarat Assembly passed the UCC, becoming the second state after Uttarakhand to do so.
- **Rule:** Live-in relationships require mandatory registration.

12.3 Kerala: First Comprehensive Graphene Policy

- **Action:** Cabinet approved the policy to establish a ₹200 crore Graphene Industrial Park in Palakkad.

12.4 Sikkim: Pakyong Airport Renamed

- **New Name:** Trilochan Pokhrel Airport, after the state's first freedom fighter.

12.5 Maharashtra: First Musical Path

Nandyla Banking Coaching Center - February 2026 to April 2026 -At glance

- **Innovation:** Mumbai's coastal road became India's first musical path, playing "Jai Ho".

12.6 Uttar Pradesh: Varanasi Municipal Corporation World Record

- **Achievement:** Planted over 2.5 lakh saplings in under an hour.

12.7 Ladakh: First Petroglyph Conservation Park

- **Inauguration:** Successfully opened in Leh to preserve rock images.

12.8 Tamil Nadu: First Dark Sky Park

- **Venue:** Established at Ariyur Shola Reserve Forest in Kolli Hills.

12.9 Tripura: Top Panchayat Honors

- **Award:** Sepahijala District Panchayat won the Nanaji Deshmukh Panchayat Puraskar 2025.

12.10 Haryana: Hydrogen-Powered Train Trial Route

- **Venue:** Trial conducted on the Jind-Sonipat route.