

Weekly One Liners 02nd to 08th of March 2026

Top 10 Richest People in the World 2026

Top 10 Richest People in the World – March 2026

Rank	Person	Net Worth	Major Business
1	Elon Musk	\$841.4B	Tesla, SpaceX
2	Larry Page	\$250.5B	Google
3	Sergey Brin	\$231.2B	Google
4	Jeff Bezos	\$229.7B	Amazon
5	Mark Zuckerberg	\$228.9B	Meta (Facebook)
6	Larry Ellison	\$197.1B	Oracle
7	Jensen Huang	\$158.5B	Nvidia
8	Bernard Arnault & family	\$157.1B	LVMH
9	Rob Walton & family	\$145.9B	Walmart
10	Warren Buffett	\$144.1B	Berkshire Hathaway

Elon Musk's Massive Wealth Lead

Elon Musk's fortune increased by \$64 billion in just one month, strengthening his position as the world's richest individual.

Key sources of Musk's wealth include,

- Tesla
- SpaceX
- Artificial intelligence and technology ventures

If SpaceX goes public, analysts believe Musk could cross the \$1 trillion net worth milestone.

Key Changes in the 2026 Billionaire Rankings

Several notable changes have occurred in the Forbes rankings.

Rob Walton's Entry into the Top 10

Rob Walton and his family moved to 9th place with a net worth of \$145.9 billion, overtaking Zara founder Amancio Ortega.

Tech Billionaires Continue to Dominate

Many of the richest individuals are from the technology sector, including,

- Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin
- Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg
- Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang

The dominance of tech companies highlights the sector's massive influence on global wealth creation.

Countries Represented in the Top 10

The billionaire list is heavily dominated by the United States, reflecting the country's strong technology and investment sectors.

Country	Billionaires in Top 10
United States	8
France	1
Others	1

France is represented by luxury goods magnate Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH.

Top 10 Most Popular Websites of 2026

The Top 10 most popular websites of 2026 show how the internet continues to evolve at record speed. With over 6 billion internet users nearly 74% of the global population (DataReportal, early 2026) online traffic has surged dramatically. According to Semrush data (January 2026), Google.com leads with 94.8 billion visits & while YouTube holds second place. The biggest shift is the ChatGPT.com enters the top five with 5.5 billion visits, reflecting the explosive rise of AI-powered platforms.

Key Trends from Top 10 Websites 2026 Rankings

- Search engines and video platforms dominate traffic.
- Social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, X) remain strong.
- AI powered websites like ChatGPT are reshaping global traffic trends.
- High engagement metrics suggest deeper digital dependency in 2026.
- The rise of ChatGPT 5.5 billion visits signals a broader shift toward AI integration in daily life.

Top 10 Most Visited Websites 2026 – Global Traffic Rankings

1. Google – 94.8 Billion Visits

- Continues to dominate the Top 10 websites 2026 ranking.
- Records 94.8B visits in January 2026.
- **Average time per visit:** 22 minutes 07 seconds.
- **Pages per visit:** 5.61.
- Google remains the backbone of online search, shaping how billions access information daily.

2. YouTube – 49.7 Billion Visits

- Second most visited website globally.
- 49.7B visits recorded.
- Users spend 38 minutes 17 seconds per session.
- **Pages per visit:** 9.35.
- YouTube continues to dominate digital entertainment and educational content consumption.



3. Facebook – 9.5 Billion Visits

- Social media giant remains in top three.
- 9.5B visits globally.
- Average session: 23 minutes 23 seconds.
- Social networking remains a powerful traffic driver in 2026.

4. Instagram – 6.1 Billion Visits

- Ranks fourth among most visited websites 2026.
- 6.1B visits.
- Users spend around 18 minutes 33 seconds per visit.
- Visual content continues to drive strong engagement.

5. ChatGPT – 5.5 Billion Visits

- The biggest highlight of Top 10 websites 2026.
- 5.5B visits, ranking fifth globally.
- Surpassed Reddit and Wikipedia.
- **Average time per visit:** 18 minutes 13 seconds.
- ChatGPT’s rapid rise reflects how AI tools are becoming part of daily workflows, education, coding, and content creation.

Top 10 Websites 2026 – Key Data at a Glance

Rank	Website	Visits (Jan 2026)	Avg Time per Visit
1	Google.com	94.8B	22m 07s
2	YouTube.com	49.7B	38m 17s
3	Facebook.com	9.5B	23m 23s
4	Instagram.com	6.1B	18m 33s
5	ChatGPT.com	5.5B	18m 13s
6	Reddit.com	5.1B	19m 17s
7	Wikipedia.org	4.3B	14m 54s
9	X.com	3.8B	23m 03s
10	WhatsApp.com	2.7B	38m 21s

National Affairs

- India-Germany Climate Resilience Initiative:** India and Germany launched a EUR 20 million climate resilience programme under the International Climate Initiative to strengthen ecosystem-based adaptation in high-risk zones including the Himalayas, Western Ghats, North-East India, island regions, and Lower Gangetic floodplains through forest restoration, biodiversity corridors, and community-led natural resource management linked to India's National Adaptation Plan.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari Launches RAJMARG PRAVESH Version 2.0:** Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the upgraded RAJMARG PRAVESH portal (Version 2.0) on 25 February 2026 to simplify and digitalize the issuance of No Objection Certificates for fuel stations, wayside amenities, private properties, rest areas, connecting roads, water pipelines, gas pipelines, optical fibre cables, and electrical lines along National Highways.

- Union Minister JP Nadda Heads Reconstituted Hindi Advisory Committee:** Union Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda was named chairman of the newly reconstituted Hindi Advisory Committee for the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers with Vice-Chairman Anupriya Patel to review progressive use of Hindi in administrative work comprising 15 nominated members and 37 official members for a 3-year tenure.
- Census-2027 Digital Tools and Mascots Launched:** Union Minister Amit Shah soft-launched four digital tools (Houselisting Block Creator Web App, House Listing Officer Mobile App, Self-Enumeration Portal, Census Management and Monitoring System Portal) and mascots 'Pragati' (female) and 'Vikas' (male) for India's first fully digital Census-2027, developed by C-DAC under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- Janaushadhi Saptah 2026 Observed:** The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers observed 'Janaushadhi Saptah 2026' from 1-7 March 2026 with theme "Jan Aushadhi – affordable and trustworthy, good health with savings" to promote generic medicines under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, with over 18,000 PMBJKs operational and a target to expand to 25,000 by 31 March 2027.
- President Droupadi Murmu Dedicates Four Women-Centric Schemes in Delhi:** President Droupadi Murmu dedicated four major welfare schemes—Delhi Lakhpati Bitiya Scheme (₹61,000 government deposit maturing to ₹1.25 lakh), Saheli Pink Smart Card (free public transport), Free LPG Cylinder Scheme (₹853 per consumer), and Meri Poonji Mera Adhikaar (pending Ladli Scheme disbursement to 1.75 lakh beneficiaries)—during 'Sashakt Nari Samridh Delhi' programme in New Delhi.
- National Arogya Fair 2026 Held in Shegaon, Maharashtra:** The National Arogya Fair 2026, organized by the Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with the All India Ayurvedic Congress, was inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu at Shegaon in Buldhana district, Maharashtra, showcasing services across Allopathy, Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy systems with free healthcare services and recognition awards for six senior Vaidyas.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs Announces Three Flagship Festivals:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs announced three festivals—Tribes Art Fest (2-13 March at Travancore Palace, New Delhi), Living Roots Festival (13-15 March at Bikaner House, New Delhi), and Bharat Tribes Fest (18-30 March at Sunder Nursery, New Delhi)—to showcase tribal arts, music, culture, and commerce, strengthening livelihoods for tribal communities.

9. **BEE Celebrates 25th Foundation Day:** The Bureau of Energy Efficiency marked its 25th Foundation Day at India Habitat Centre with Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar unveiling the BEE@25 commemorative logo, launching the BEE Star Label Mobile Application (scanning QR codes on appliances for energy details), and introducing the Renewable Consumption Obligation Portal to strengthen compliance and transparency in renewable energy obligations.
10. **Central Warehousing Corporation Celebrates 70th Foundation Day:** The Central Warehousing Corporation celebrated its 70th Foundation Day at Bharat Mandapam with record financial performance—turnover of ₹2,776.88 crore in FY24-25 (up from ₹2,303.81 crore in FY23-24), Profit Before Tax of ₹711.60 crore, and dividend of ₹160.10 crore—with proposals for expansion, digital transformation, and aspirations toward Maharatna status.
11. **IAF Conducts Exercise Kalari Leap in Arabian Sea:** The Southern Air Command of the Indian Air Force successfully conducted Exercise Kalari Leap across the Lakshadweep and Minicoy archipelago in the Arabian Sea with coordinated operations involving the Armed Forces Special Operations Division, Indian Coast Guard, and IAF units demonstrating airborne insertions, heliborne drills, amphibious operations, anti-ship strikes, and search-and-rescue missions.
12. **IAF Conducts Exercise Vayushakti-26 at Pokhran Range:** The Indian Air Force successfully conducted Exercise Vayushakti-26 at Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer with President Droupadi Murmu as Chief Guest, featuring over 130 aircraft (Rafale, Su-30 MKI, Mirage-2000, MiG-29, Jaguar, Hawk, Mi-17, C-130J, C-295, C-17, ALH Dhruv, LCH Prachand) in a simulated live combat theatre demonstrating offensive air strikes, air defence operations, and special forces missions for the first time under a defined operational storyline.
13. **National Science Day 2026 Celebrated on 28 February:** India observed National Science Day on 28 February 2026 marking the 40th observance and 1928 discovery of the Raman Effect by Sir C. V. Raman with the theme "Women in Science: Catalysing Viksit Bharat" celebrated at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, featuring lectures by eminent scientists and a science-policy dialogue chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser.
14. **Government e-Marketplace (GeM) marked 7 years of the SWAYATT Initiative promoting inclusive public procurement.** Participation of **women entrepreneurs and startups** surged significantly, with orders rising sharply. Platforms like **Startup Runway** and **Womaniya** improved visibility and access to government buyers.
15. The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** ordered **BARC to suspend TRP ratings for TV news channels for four weeks from March 7, 2026**, aiming to reduce **sensational reporting** on the **Israel–Iran conflict** and prevent public panic.
16. The **Hurun Rich List 2026** shows **India with 308 billionaires**, becoming the **third-largest billionaire hub** after the **United States and China**. **Mukesh Ambani** remains richest, while **Roshni Nadar Malhotra** is the only woman in India's top ten.

States in the News

1. **Tamil Nadu Launches First Dark Sky Park at Kolli Hills:** Tamil Nadu's Forest Minister R S Rajakannappan inaugurated the State's first Dark Sky Park at Ariyur Shola Reserve Forest, Kolli Hills in Namakkal district with ₹1 crore investment, featuring three advanced telescopes and solar-powered infrastructure, minimal artificial light within 1.5 km radius, and operational period from 15 January to 15 June annually, positioning Tamil Nadu as an emerging astro-tourism destination.
2. **Soundala Village in Maharashtra Declares Itself 'Caste-Free':** Soundala village in Ahilyanagar district, Maharashtra, approximately 350 km from Mumbai, declared itself a "caste-free village" through a unanimous Gram Sabha resolution under Sarpanch Sharad Argade, prohibiting caste inquiries, banning caste-based discrimination, ensuring equal access to public spaces (temples, schools, crematoriums, water sources), with the motto "My caste is humanity," and implementing ₹500 fines for abusive language and ₹11,000 support for widow remarriage.
3. **West Bengal Approves ₹4,648 Crore ADB Projects for Education and ICDS:** The West Bengal State Cabinet, headed by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, approved two major ADB-funded development projects worth ₹4,648 crore following a 70:30 funding model (70% ADB, 30% State Government) to strengthen secondary education infrastructure through smart classrooms in 11 districts and upgrade approximately 50,000 Integrated Child Development Services centres in the state.
4. **West Bengal Signs MoU with GIZ and SMCG for Transboundary Rivers Masterplans:** The Government of West Bengal signed an MoU with German federal enterprise GIZ and the State Mission for Clean Ganga to develop basin-based masterplans for the Ichhamati and Jalangi rivers under the ₹200 crore 'Nodi Bandhan' programme announced in the 2025-26 State Budget, addressing environmental degradation, pollution, declining water flow, and transboundary river cooperation with Bangladesh through dredging, pollution abatement, groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, and irrigation strengthening within one year.

5. **Haryana Budget 2026-27 Presented with ₹2.23 Lakh Crore**
Outlay: Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini presented Haryana's Budget 2026-27 with total outlay of ₹2.23 lakh crore (10.28% increase from ₹2.028 lakh crore in FY26), capital expenditure of ₹28,205 crore (12.6% of total allocation), fiscal deficit of ₹40,293.17 crore (2.65% of GDP), and major allocations for Agriculture (₹8,319.77 crore), Education & Sports (₹23,603.69 crore), Health (₹14,007.28 crore), with announcements for Haryana Agri Discom, Green Climate Resilience Fund, Green Hydrogen Policy, AMRIT pharmacies in district hospitals, and upgraded Para Sports Stadium.
6. **Rajasthan Renames Three Towns:** The Rajasthan Government approved the renaming of three towns—Mount Abu as Aburaj, Kaman as Kamvan, and Jahazpur as Yagyapur—to reconnect modern administrative names with historical references rooted in regional heritage, with necessary updates to be implemented in administrative usage and official communication.
7. **Nagaland Signs MoU with IMD for Weather Forecasting:** The Department of Higher Education, Nagaland, signed a 20-year MoU with the India Meteorological Department under the Ministry of Earth Sciences to strengthen weather forecasting, atmospheric research, and capacity building through installation of an X-band Polarimetric Doppler Weather Radar at Dimapur Government College under the Mission Mausam scheme to enhance understanding of state-specific weather hazards and support disaster preparedness.
8. **Gujarat Launches STI Policy 2026-2031:** Gujarat unveiled its Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2026-2031 with a ₹1,000 crore innovation fund targeting 1 lakh research professionals and 1,000 intellectual property filings annually by 2031 through innovation clusters in Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot, Junagadh, and Kachchh to strengthen India's technology ecosystem and support deep-tech startups.
9. **Gujarat Receives ₹1,600 Crore Semiconductor Ecosystem Investment:** Gujarat's semiconductor ecosystem received investment proposals worth ₹1,600 crore from Japan, South Korea, and Malaysia, announced during the Gujarat Semiconnect Conference, including Japan's Horiba Group's Research and Development centre for semiconductor-grade mass flow controllers in Ahmedabad, Malaysia's Hotayi Electronic's ₹250 crore SSD and memory module production facility, Hi-Spec's ₹750 crore semiconductor-grade hydrofluoric acid manufacturing unit, and partnerships with Rohm Semiconductor and Kaynes Semicon for integrated circuit packaging and testing solutions.
10. **Maharashtra Launches Divyang Sahayak Portal:** The Government of Maharashtra launched India's first fully integrated online platform for disability welfare schemes—the Divyang Sahayak Portal—featuring online applications, real-time tracking, automatic approvals, artificial intelligence-based grievance redressal, integration with Unique Disability Identity and Aadhaar systems, with 11 modules covering unified scheme delivery, grievance redressal, institution information management, digital marketplace for persons with disabilities, and accessibility audit management.
11. **Chhattisgarh Presents ₹1.72 Lakh Crore Budget for FY26-27:** Finance Minister Om Prakash Chaudhary presented Chhattisgarh's Budget 2026-27 with total outlay of ₹1,72,000 crore (4.2% increase from ₹1,65,000 crore in FY25-26), revenue receipts of ₹1,43,000 crore, capital expenditure of ₹26,500 crore (15.4% of total), fiscal deficit of ₹20,400 crore (2.87% of GSDP), and sector allocations including 40% for social sector, 36% for economic development, 24% for administrative services, with major allocations for Public Health (₹8,050 crore), Women and Child Development (₹11,000 crore), Agriculture (₹13,507 crore).
12. **Telangana's SERP Partners with TBIS, T-Hub, WE Hub for Challenge Fund:** The Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), Telangana, in collaboration with Technology Business Incubator Society (TBIS) at BITS Pilani Hyderabad, Telangana Hub (T-Hub), and Women Entrepreneurs Hub (WE Hub), launched a ₹12.66 crore Challenge Fund to promote rural entrepreneurship targeting 300+ women and young entrepreneurs with institutional support, enterprise diagnostics, and customized growth roadmaps across all 33 districts of Telangana through manufacturing, food processing, handicrafts, and agri-allied services.
13. **UP Government Signs ₹200 Crore MoU with Germany's RAILONE GmbH:** The Government of Uttar Pradesh signed an MoU worth ₹200 crore with RAILONE GmbH, a Germany-based railway infrastructure company, to strengthen and modernize rail infrastructure in the state through technology transfer, adoption of global best practices, and technical collaboration in railway components for modern track technology and concrete sleeper manufacturing systems.
14. **Andhra Pradesh Launches Project HANUMAN:** Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan launched Project HANUMAN (Healing and Nurturing Units for Monitoring, Aid and Nursing of Wildlife) to address growing human-wildlife conflict in Andhra Pradesh through deployment of 100 GPS-enabled vehicles (93 Rapid Response and Rescue Vehicles, 7 Wildlife Ambulances), establishment of four Wildlife Rescue and Treatment Centres at Visakhapatnam, Rajamahendravaram, Tirupati, and Bailutly, and increased compensation for wildlife attack deaths from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh and injuries up to ₹2 lakh.

15. **Sikkim Police Receives President's Police Colour Award:** The Sikkim Police was conferred with the President's Police Colour Award, one of the highest distinctions for police forces in India, recognizing sustained excellence, professionalism, and dedication to duty in public service.
16. **Varanasi Sets Guinness World Record for Tree Planting:** Varanasi set a Guinness World Record by planting 2,51,446 saplings within one hour at Sujabad Domari area, surpassing China's 2018 record of 1,53,981 saplings, using the Miyawaki technique across 350 bighas to create an urban forest with 27 native species (sheesham, Arjun, teak, bamboo, mango, guava, papaya, ashwagandha, shatavari, giloy), supported by a 10.8 km pipeline network and 360 rain gun irrigation systems.
17. The **Karnataka government** proposed a **social media ban for children under 16** in the **Budget 2026-27** to reduce **digital addiction and harmful online content**. Similar age-based regulations are being examined nationally under the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act**.
18. The **Karnataka Budget 2026-27** announced **₹4.48 trillion spending**, focusing on **education, welfare, infrastructure, and technology**. Plans include **15,000 teaching posts, electric buses, Bengaluru Ring Road, and the BRAINz AI-Robotics innovation zone**.
19. The **Maharashtra Budget 2026-27** announced a **₹2 lakh farm loan waiver** under the **Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar Scheme**, benefiting millions of farmers. Plans include **metro expansion, 6,000 km highways, solar projects, and new Mumbai 3.0 and 4.0 zones**.

International Affairs

1. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Visit to Israel (26-27 February 2026):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Israel at the invitation of PM Benjamin Netanyahu, paying tribute to Holocaust victims at Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem, becoming the first Indian PM to address the Israeli Parliament (Knesset), receiving the Medal of the Knesset from Speaker Amir Ohana, and announcing the establishment of a Special Strategic Partnership for Peace, Innovation, and Prosperity covering cooperation in defence, security, cybersecurity, trade, and technology with bilateral agreements on geophysical exploration, maritime heritage, culture, digital payments, agriculture, AI, fisheries, financial regulation, labour mobility, education, arbitration, academia, and cybersecurity.
2. **India-European Union Most Favoured Nation Status Agreement:** The Government of India and the European Union agreed on 27 February 2026 to grant each other Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status for five years from the entry into force of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, with MFN status subject to a fourth-year Joint Committee

- review and automatic termination unless mutually extended, excluding benefits from Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements, GATS recognition and licensing, and sensitive agricultural products (soya, beef, sugar, rice, dairy), with the India-EU FTA finalized in January 2026 eliminating or reducing tariffs on 96.6% of traded goods by value, saving €4 billion for European companies and potentially doubling EU exports to India by 2032.
3. **Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's India Visit (27 February-2 March 2026):** Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney visited India from 27 February to 2 March 2026 at the invitation of PM Narendra Modi, marking his first official visit since his predecessor Justin Trudeau attended the 2018 G-20 summit, with delegation-level talks at Hyderabad House on 2 March launching negotiations for the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), setting a bilateral trade goal of USD 50 billion by 2030 across pharmaceuticals, iron and steel, seafood, cotton garments, electronics, chemicals, pulses, coal, fertilizers, paper, and crude petroleum, and signing multiple MoUs on AI, healthcare, agriculture, innovation, education, and culture.
4. **India-Japan Bilateral Swap Arrangement Renewed for USD 75 Billion:** The Reserve Bank of India and Bank of Japan signed the Third Amendment and Restatement Agreement of the Bilateral Swap Arrangement on 28 February 2026, maintaining the facility size at USD 75 billion as a two-way currency swap framework to strengthen financial cooperation and complement existing financial safety nets, with the renewed BSA becoming effective from 28 February 2026, representing the third restatement since the original agreement signed in October 2018 and the first restatement in 2022.
5. **Chile Becomes First Country in Americas to Eliminate Leprosy:** The World Health Organization, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization, officially verified that Chile has eliminated leprosy as a public health problem, becoming the first country in the Americas and the second globally after Jordan to achieve this recognition, making Chile the 61st country globally and the 6th in the Americas to eliminate at least one Neglected Tropical Disease under the WHO definition of prevalence rate below 1 case per 10,000 population.
6. **Scotland Legalizes Water Cremation:** Scotland became the first United Kingdom nation to legalize water cremation (Alkaline Hydrolysis), a green alternative to traditional cremation using alkaline solution heated to 150°C for 90 minutes to accelerate natural decomposition, reducing carbon emissions seven times compared to flame cremation, with 84% public support in 2023 consultation, marking the biggest funeral law reform since traditional cremation's introduction in 1902.

7. **Mobile World Congress 2026 in Barcelona:** The Mobile World Congress 2026, the world's largest event for the mobile and technology industry, was held from 2-5 March 2026 at Fira Barcelona Gran Via with the theme "The IQ Era" emphasizing integration of Artificial Intelligence with advanced connectivity for smarter networks, digital innovation, and societal transformation, with India's participation led by Union Minister Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia representing India at GSMA Ministerial Programme and Main Stage discussions, and Indian telecom innovators coordinated by the Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council with Department of Telecommunications support.
8. **Hurun Global Rich List 2026:** The Hurun Research Institute released the 15th edition of the Hurun Global Rich List 2026, with Elon Musk (USA) retaining the world's richest person status with USD 792 billion net worth (up 89%), followed by Jeff Bezos (USD 300 billion) and Larry Page (USD 271 billion), while Mukesh Ambani (RIL Chairman) emerged as India's and Asia's richest person with net worth of ₹9.8 lakh crore, with India ranking third globally with 308 billionaires (57 new entrants) after China and USA, and combined wealth of ₹112 lakh crore, with Roshni Nadar Malhotra being India's richest woman and first to enter overall top three.
9. **Indonesia will ban social media for children under 16 from March 28, 2026,** requiring platforms like **TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook** to enforce **age verification** to prevent **cyberbullying, fraud, pornography exposure, and addiction.**
10. **Balendra 'Balen' Shah,** leader of the **Rastriya Swatantra Party,** is set to become **Nepal's Prime Minister** after the **2026 parliamentary elections,** following the **Gen Z protests** that toppled **K. P. Sharma Oli's government.**
11. **Mattel** launched the **Barbie Dream Team 2026** honoring global women icons including **Serena Williams** and **Smriti Mandhana.** Mandhana became the **first Indian cricketer featured,** aiming to **inspire girls worldwide** and celebrate achievements across diverse fields.
2. **HCLTech and IIT Kanpur Partnership on Deep Tech Innovation:** HCL Technologies and Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur signed an MoU during the 'GCC 4.0: Co-Creating India's Innovation Powerhouse' summit in Hyderabad, Telangana, to translate Artificial Intelligence and intelligent systems research into enterprise-ready solutions for Global Capability Centers, combining HCLTech's GCC solutions with IIT Kanpur's research and startup ecosystem, providing researchers access to real-world challenges, research funding, and industry mentorship across AI, robotics, advanced engineering, and next-generation technologies.
3. **IIT Kharagpur and Telecommunication Engineering Centre 6G Partnership:** IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal, signed an MoU with the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to strengthen indigenous development of 6G, AI, and next-generation telecom technologies, focusing on 6G architecture, satellite and Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs), advanced antenna systems and Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) technologies, AI-enabled Electromagnetic Field monitoring, and telecom standardization.
4. **Nagaland Higher Education and India Meteorological Department Weather Partnership:** The Department of Higher Education, Nagaland, signed a 20-year MoU with the India Meteorological Department under the Ministry of Earth Sciences to strengthen weather forecasting, atmospheric research, and capacity building through installation of an X-band Polarimetric Doppler Weather Radar at Dimapur Government College under the Mission Mausam scheme, enhancing understanding of state-specific weather hazards and supporting disaster preparedness in the state.
5. **Pondicherry University and Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities:** Pondicherry University, Puducherry, signed an MoU with the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) to strengthen institutional ties in disability rights, accessibility, and inclusive education through joint research, internships, academic exchanges, capacity building, conferences, and structured academic engagement.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

1. **International Solar Alliance and IIT Delhi Framework for Action:** The International Solar Alliance and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi formalized a Framework for Action in New Delhi to strengthen cooperation in advancing renewable energy, capacity building, academic collaboration, and human resource development across ISA Member Countries, focusing on four core areas—Capacity (Solar Technology Application Resource-Centre trainer programmes, one-year Post Graduate Diploma based on Train-the-Trainers model), Academic (expanding beyond M.Tech to Master's in Public Policy and Ph.D. in Solar Energy leveraging INES France), Research (promoting solar energy research integrating AI, Machine Learning, Blockchain), and Knowledge (organizing joint workshops and outreach).
6. **Survey of India and Kerala Digital University Geospatial Collaboration:** The Survey of India under the Department of Science and Technology signed a five-year MoU with Kerala Digital University to advance excellence in geospatial data collection, processing, and analysis using Geoinformatics, AI, and Machine Learning, collaborating on Research and Development in mapping and spatial data sciences, training programmes, internships, knowledge exchange, and joint projects aligned with national geospatial priorities.

7. **Ministry of Culture and FICCI for Cultural and Creative Economy Strategy:** The Ministry of Culture signed an MoU with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry to formulate a comprehensive national strategy for India's Cultural and Creative Economy, developing a structured roadmap integrating culture with economic policy, expanding domestic and international market access, promoting entrepreneurship and innovation, and generating employment opportunities in cultural sectors covering visual and performing arts, traditional crafts, handlooms, film, television, digital media, music, publishing, design, fashion, cultural tourism, heritage conservation, museums, gaming, and animation.
8. **NITI Aayog and UNICEF Child Nutrition Partnership:** The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) signed a Statement of Intent with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) India to strengthen nutrition and health outcomes in Aspirational districts and blocks through improved maternal and child nutrition, strengthening Anganwadi infrastructure, improving nutrition literacy, enhancing uptake of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), capacity building of frontline workers, and mobilizing Corporate Social Responsibility investment into nutrition-focused initiatives through the IMPAct4Nutrition platform.
9. **NITI Aayog and Japan International Cooperation Agency SDGs Cooperation Phase II:** NITI Aayog and the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed the Record of Discussions for Phase II of the Japan-India Cooperative Actions towards Sustainable Development Goals to strengthen development interventions in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks, implementing under the Aspirational Districts Programme and Aspirational Blocks Programme with focus on evidence-based planning and strengthened monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.
10. **India Artificial Intelligence Mission and Business Sweden Cooperation:** The India Artificial Intelligence Mission under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology signed a Statement of Intent with Business Sweden at the India Artificial Intelligence Impact Summit 2026 to strengthen India-Sweden cooperation in AI and digital technologies, launching the Sweden-India Technology and AI Corridor as the primary platform connecting governments, industries, startups, investors, researchers, and academic institutions.
11. **Indian Army and Ladakh Forest Department Wildlife Conservation:** The Indian Army's Fire and Fury Corps (14 Corps) and the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department of Ladakh signed an MoU on 3 March 2026 on World Wildlife Day to preserve fragile high-altitude ecology and conserve iconic wildlife species including Snow Leopard, Himalayan Wolf, Bharal (Blue Sheep), Ibex, Himalayan Marmot, and Black-necked Crane through establishment of a joint Snow Leopard Conservation Cell under the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection (GSLEP) programme.
12. **BEL and Bellatrix Aerospace VLEO Satellite Partnership:** Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) signed an MoU with Bellatrix Aerospace Private Limited to design, develop, manufacture satellite systems and payloads for Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO) operations between 150-450 km altitude, developing integrated satellite solutions for strategic defence and civilian space missions, reflecting India's approach of combining public sector manufacturing capabilities with deep-tech startup innovation.
13. **NSE IX and Colombo Stock Exchange Dual Listing Agreement:** The National Stock Exchange Limited – International Exchange (NSE IX) at GIFT City signed an MoU with Colombo Stock Exchange to facilitate dual listings and promote cross-border capital market collaboration, enabling innovative financial products across jurisdictions, as evidenced by Sri Lanka's first Blue Bond (LKR 3 billion issuance by DFCC Bank) achieving dual listing on NSE IX at GIFT City.
14. **Sarvam and SBI Life Insurance AI Deployment Partnership:** Indian AI startup Sarvam entered into a strategic partnership with SBI Life Insurance Company Limited, a subsidiary of the State Bank of India, for deployment of AI tools across its nationwide insurance distribution network through Samvaad (conversational AI platform) and Arya (multi-agent orchestration layer), expected to reach 8 crore customers and support 3.5 lakh distributors across the country.

Books and Authors

1. **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya Releases "Mahatma: A Great Communicator":** Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Ministry of Labour & Employment and Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, released the book titled "Mahatma: A Great Communicator" authored by Dr Dhiraj Kakadia, Additional Director General of Akashvani, at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi, examining the life of Mahatma Gandhi with special emphasis on the impact of his exceptional communication skills during India's freedom struggle, published by Navajivan Trust in Hindi, English, and Gujarati languages.



2. **Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan Releases 16 Publications on Tamil Heritage:** Vice President Chandrapuram Ponnusami (C.P.) Radhakrishnan released 16 books published by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at Uparashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, including 14 Tamil titles covering Rameswaram, Ramanujar, Nadukal tradition, Arikaimedu, Bakthi Ilakkiyam, Iyarkai Velanmai, Pazhanthamizhan Isai Karuvigal, Tamizhaga Naattar Deivangal, Pudhiya Ariviyal Thozhilnutpangal, Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple, Thanjavur Peruvudayar Koil, Manimegalai, Mahavidwan Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai, and Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in English, Hindi, and Tamil.
3. **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Releases "Quantum Physics: One Hundred Magical Years":** Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh released the book titled "Quantum Physics: One Hundred Magical Years" authored by V. P. N. Nampoori during the inauguration of the Central Facility for Recombinant Cells and Sensors at BRIC-RGCB, Kerala, as part of National Science Day 2026 celebrations highlighting developments in quantum physics research and history.

Banking/Economy/Business News

1. **IIFL Home Finance Secures USD 300 Million ADB Loan:** IIFL Home Finance Limited secured a USD 300 million loan agreement from the Asian Development Bank on 27 February 2026, with USD 150 million from ADB and USD 150 million from parallel loans from Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (Japan), Emirates NBD Bank (UAE), Sampath Bank PLC (Sri Lanka), and Hatton National Bank PLC (Sri Lanka), to expand affordable housing finance access for lower-income borrowers, primarily targeting women, with at least 25% proceeds financing green-certified affordable homes.
2. **RBI Imposes ₹11.50 Lakh Penalty on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services:** The Reserve Bank of India imposed a monetary penalty of ₹11.50 lakh on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited (MMFSL) for regulatory non-compliances observed during its annual inspection with reference to FY25, under Section 58G(1)(b) read with Section 58B(5)(aa) of the RBI Act 1934, for breaching the Fair Practices Code by charging revised foreclosure fees without including required terms in loan agreements and for deficiencies in grievance redressal system with complaints not escalated to Internal Ombudsman within mandated timelines.
3. **Ministry of Statistics Releases New GDP Series with 7.6% FY26 Growth:** The National Statistics Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the new series of Annual and Quarterly GDP with new base year 2022-23, replacing the 2011-12 base, with Second Advanced Estimates for FY26 showing real GDP

growth of 7.6% at ₹322.58 lakh crore, nominal GDP of ₹345.47 lakh crore (8.6% growth), real GVA of ₹294.40 lakh crore (7.7% growth), and nominal GVA of ₹313.61 lakh crore (8.7% growth), along with quarterly estimates from Q1 FY23 to Q3 FY26.

4. **Bharti Airtel and Google Launch Secure RCS Messaging in India:** Bharti Airtel and Google partnered in February 2026 to provide a secure and interactive messaging experience combining Airtel's network intelligence with Google's Rich Communications Services (RCS) platform, employing AI-powered spam filters for real-time identity validation of business senders, implementing multi-tiered threat detection, and reducing digital fraud through malicious domain filtering, with access via Google Messages application on Android smartphones supporting high-quality media sharing and message reactions.
5. **Jio Finance Launches AI-Backed Mobile App 'Finsider':** Jio Finance Platform and Service Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Jio Financial Services Limited, launched the JioFinance app with 'Finsider' feature using Agentic Artificial Intelligence and Neural Networks for hyper-personalized financial services, featuring personalized recommendations based on agent-based AI, dynamic user interface adjustment reflecting user eligibility and financial intent, comprehensive marketplace offering loans, credit cards, insurance, UPI, Fixed Deposits, digital gold, investment products, Mutual Funds, tax planning, and digital savings accounts with automated features, and JioPoints rewards redeemable against offered benefits.
6. **CBI Signs Distribution Agreement with Canara Robeco AMC for Mutual Funds:** The Central Bank of India signed a Distribution Agreement with Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Limited on 7 February 2026 to offer a wide range of Mutual Fund products to customers, enabling distribution of diversified equity, debt, and hybrid schemes through the bank's branch network and digital channels, enhancing wealth creation avenues for retail and institutional clients, disclosed in compliance with SEBI Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements Regulations 2015.
7. **Gnani.ai and Razorpay Launch Agentic AI Payment Collections Platform:** On 27 February 2026, Indian AI firm Gnani.ai partnered with fintech company Razorpay to launch an agentic AI-powered collections platform enabling real-time completion of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments during live customer calls, integrating Gnani.ai's agentic AI systems with Razorpay's Model Context Protocol (MCP) server, enabling payment intent assessment, payment link generation, and status tracking within same call, supporting one-time and mandate-based recurring UPI payments, multiple Indian languages, and secure compliant transactions.

8. **Sri Lanka's First Blue Bond Dual Listed on NSE IX at GIFT City:** Sri Lanka's first-ever Blue Bond, a LKR 3 billion issuance by DFCC Bank Plc, achieved dual listing on the National Stock Exchange Limited – International Exchange (NSE IX) at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in February 2026, marking the first Blue Bond admitted for trading within India's International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), facilitated under an MoU between NSE IX and Colombo Stock Exchange to promote cross-border capital market collaboration and innovative sustainable finance instruments.
9. **RBI and Japan's BoJ Renew USD 75 Billion Bilateral Swap Arrangement:** The Reserve Bank of India and the Bank of Japan signed the Third Amendment and Restatement Agreement of the Bilateral Swap Arrangement on 28 February 2026 for up to USD 75 billion, effective from 28 February 2026, as a two-way currency swap framework to strengthen bilateral financial cooperation, with the renewed BSA representing the third restatement since the original October 2018 agreement and the first restatement in 2022, reaffirming long-term commitment to mutual financial assistance.
10. **Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya Chairs 239th CBT & EPF Meeting:** In March 2026, Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the 239th meeting of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), where the board recommended retaining the EPF interest rate at 8.25% for FY26, approved a one-time Amnesty Scheme for income tax-recognized trusts to resolve compliance issues, approved new social security schemes (EPF Scheme 2026, Employees Pension Scheme 2026, EDLI Scheme 2026), and approved a pilot project for auto-initiation of claim settlement in inoperative EPFO accounts.
11. **Ellinas Finance to Become First Overseas Firm Listed on NSE International Exchange:** Ellinas Finance, a Cyprus-based financial services firm, will become the first overseas company to list equity shares on the NSE International Exchange (NSE IX) at GIFT City, Gujarat, achieving dual listing alongside existing Cyprus Stock Exchange listing, strengthening India's goal of developing a global capital market hub and marking the first cross-border equity listing in GIFT IFSC, with the company offering lending services, private equity funding, investor services, and business financing.
12. **RBI Allows NUCFDC as Umbrella Organisation for Urban Co-operative Banks:** The Reserve Bank of India issued the NBFC–Miscellaneous Amendment Directions 2026 to support the National Urban Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation Ltd. (NUCFDC) functioning as the Umbrella Organisation (UO) for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs), enabling NUCFDC to make private placement of equity shares to more than 200 persons per financial year specifically targeting UCBs and the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC), with special provisions effective until 31 March 2029.
13. **SEBI Deploys AI System 'Sudarshan' to Remove Misleading Finfluencer Posts:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India deployed in-house AI system 'Sudarshan' to strengthen digital monitoring of financial content across online platforms, facilitating removal of more than 1.20 lakh misleading social media posts from unregistered financial influencers, enabling detection of violations through monitoring patterns indicating unregistered advisory activity and misleading claims, allowing faster identification of potential breaches of securities norms across audio, video, and text content.
14. **MOHFL Signs USD 100 Million NCD Deal with ADB:** Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (MOHFL) signed a USD 100 million debt financing agreement with the Asian Development Bank through Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) in March 2026 to expand affordable housing finance, with funds raised as Indian Rupee-equivalent debt primarily for affordable housing loans to women borrowers in underserved Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities and emerging towns, allocating around 10% for green-certified residential housing units.
15. **German DEG and Citi Provide USD 76 Million Funding to Shriram Finance:** German development finance institution DEG (Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH) and Citibank N.A. (Citi) jointly granted USD 76 million (~₹630 crore) co-financing lending facility to Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) in March 2026 through External Commercial Borrowings, with DEG extending USD 46 million (EUR 40 million) and Citi providing ₹260 crore, supporting financial inclusion and sustainable mobility through financing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), women borrowers, Electric Vehicles, and customers in underserved areas.
16. **SEBI Introduces Life Cycle Funds with Age-Based Investment Framework:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India introduced Life Cycle Funds as open-ended target-date funds with regulated equity and debt exposure limits based on investor age and time to maturity, following a glide path investment strategy across multiple asset classes (Equity, Debt, InvTs, ETCs, Gold ETFs, Silver ETFs), with minimum tenure of 5 years and maximum of 30 years in multiples of 5, allowing maximum 6 funds at any time, with exit load structure (3% within 1 year, 2% within 2 years, 1% within 3 years), and discontinuation of solution-oriented fund category.
17. **SEBI Introduces Major Mutual Fund Industry Reforms:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India introduced sweeping reforms in the ₹81 lakh crore Indian mutual fund industry to improve transparency, portfolio discipline, and investor protection through discontinuation of solution-oriented schemes (retirement, children's funds) affecting ₹60,000 crore, introduction of "true-to-label" investment norms ensuring strict adherence to stated objectives, allowing up to 35% investment in Gold, Silver, and InvTs, mandating minimum 25% multi-cap equity allocation in large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap stocks, and maintaining less than 50% portfolio overlap between sectoral/thematic and equity schemes.

18. **IRDAI Proposes Ind AS Adoption for All Insurers from April 1, 2026:** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) released an exposure draft proposing Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) implementation from 1 April 2026 for all categories of insurers (Life, General, Health, Reinsurers), aiming to enhance global comparability, introduce market-consistent measurement of liabilities, improve performance disclosures, strengthen governance and risk management practices, with parallel reporting in FY26 followed by retrospective implementation from FY27 and calibrated adoption during FY28-FY29.
19. **India INX GA Partners with HSBC IBU for Global Investment Access:** India INX Global Access IFSC Limited (India INX GA), subsidiary of India International Exchange (India INX), entered into strategic partnership with HSBC International Financial Services Centre Banking Unit (HSBC IBU) in March 2026 to expand structured access to global investment products for Indian investors through GIFT City, operating under referral model enabling HSBC IBU clients to utilize India INX GA platform for international portfolio diversification within regulated framework across 135+ exchanges in 33 countries within RBI's Liberalised Remittance Scheme limit of USD 250,000 per FY.
20. **Pine Labs to Launch Stablecoin-Backed Prepaid Card Across 9 Countries:** Pine Labs announced plans to launch a stablecoin-backed prepaid card across 9 countries in Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia by April 2026, enabling real-time conversion of stablecoins into local currencies at point of sale (POS), with the product not launching in India or China due to regulatory restrictions on virtual currency products, representing the first such initiative by a listed Indian fintech company amid stablecoin market growth exceeding \$310 billion.
21. **CBIC Launches Eligible Manufacturer Importers Scheme:** The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) introduced the Eligible Manufacturer Importers (EMI) scheme effective from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2028, allowing eligible importers to clear goods without immediate Customs duty payment, instead paying duties monthly under the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules 2016, based on compliance history, GST, Customs records, turnover, and financial standing, with expected upgrade to higher-tier AEO status during the scheme.
22. **CCI Approves SBI Mutual Fund's Stake Acquisition in RBL and Bandhan Bank:** The Reserve Bank of India approved SBI Mutual Fund, subsidiary of State Bank of India, to acquire up to 9.99% of paid-up share capital and voting rights in RBL Bank and Bandhan Bank, with one-year completion period from RBI approval date, requiring aggregate holdings not to exceed 9.99% at any time, subject to Banking Regulation Act 1949, RBI Commercial Banks Directions 2025, Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999, and SEBI regulations.
23. **Facebook Overseas Acquires 30% Stake in Reliance Enterprise Intelligence:** Facebook Overseas, wholly owned subsidiary of Meta Platforms Inc., acquired 30% equity stake (25.65 crore shares) in Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Limited (REIL), wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Intelligence Limited, for approximately ₹256.6 crore at average price of ₹10 per share, with REIL issued 85.32 crore total equity shares and Reliance Industries allotted 59.66 crore shares worth ₹596.6 crore, focusing on enterprise AI solutions and digital intelligence capabilities.
24. **Current Account Deficit Widens to 1.3% of GDP in Q3 FY26:** India's Current Account Deficit widened to \$13.2 billion (1.3% of GDP) in Q3 FY25-26 from \$11.3 billion (1.1% of GDP) in Q3 FY25, driven by merchandise trade deficit expansion to \$93.6 billion (vs. \$79.3 billion), with goods exports at \$111.7 billion and imports at \$205.3 billion, while remittances increased to \$36.9 billion, net services receipts rose to \$57.5 billion, FPI recorded marginal net outflow of \$0.2 billion (vs. \$11.4 billion outflow in Q3 FY25), and foreign exchange reserves declined by \$24.4 billion on BoP basis.
25. The **Reserve Bank of India** will purchase **₹1 lakh crore government bonds** through **Open Market Operations** in March 2026 to **inject liquidity**, stabilize **bond yields**, and support banks facing **year-end tax and GST outflows**.
26. India's **foreign exchange reserves** reached a **record \$728.49 billion** by February 27, 2026, driven by rising **gold reserves** and **foreign currency assets**, strengthening the country's **external stability and financial resilience**.

Appointments/Resignations

1. **Ayatollah Alireza Arafai Named Iran's Interim Supreme Leader:** On 1 March 2026, senior Iranian cleric Ayatollah Alireza Arafai was appointed as Iran's interim Supreme Leader following the death of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in a reported US-Israel airstrike, serving as Deputy Chairman of the Assembly of Experts (AoE) and member of the Guardian Council (GC) since 2019, with Article 111 of Iran's Constitution mandating a three-member Interim Leadership Council (comprising President Masoud Pezeshkian, Chief Justice Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei, and Ayatollah Alireza Arafai as jurist member) to exercise powers temporarily until the Assembly of Experts appoints a successor.
2. **Jio Platforms Appoints Dan Bailey as President for International Business:** Jio Platforms Limited appointed Dan Bailey as President to lead international business operations, with responsibility for expanding Jio's global footprint, driving international partnerships, and scaling digital services across global markets, reporting to Akash Ambani (Chairman of Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited) and joining the Executive Committee of Jio Platforms Limited, bringing over 35 years of experience in consulting and investment banking from Schroders/Citi, Morgan Stanley, HSBC, and recently serving as Chairman of Deutsche Bank's Technology, Media and Telecom (TMT) practice.

3. **ACC Reappoints Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi as DCGI:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the reappointment of Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi as Drugs Controller General (India) (DCGI) at the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) on a contract basis for a further period of 1 year effective from 1 March 2026 or until appointment of regular incumbent, representing his second tenure extension after initial appointment on 23 February 2023 and previous extension until February 2026.
4. **President Droupadi Murmu Appoints New Governors for 9 States and UTs:** On 6 March 2026, President Droupadi Murmu announced new appointments and transfers of Governors and Lieutenant Governors across 9 states and UTs, with Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain appointed as Governor of Bihar (succeeding Arif Mohammed Khan), Jishnu Dev Varma appointed as Governor of Maharashtra (from Telangana), Shiv Pratap Shukla appointed as Governor of Telangana (from Himachal Pradesh), Nand Kishore Yadav appointed as Governor of Nagaland, R.N. Ravi transferred as Governor of West Bengal (from Tamil Nadu), Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar holding additional charge of Tamil Nadu (from Kerala), Kavinder Gupta appointed as Governor of Himachal Pradesh (from Ladakh LG), Taranjit Singh Sandhu appointed as LG of NCT of Delhi, and Vinai Kumar Saxena transferred as LG of Ladakh (from Delhi LG).
5. **B.P. Singh Assumes Charge as Director General of Naval Armament:** B. P. Singh assumed charge as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA) at Naval Headquarters, New Delhi, belonging to the 1994 batch of the Indian Naval Armament Service (INAS) with over 30 years' experience in Naval Armament Organisation supporting Indian Navy operational capabilities, succeeding Shri Divakar Jayant who superannuated on 28 February 2026, with extensive expertise in conventional ammunition, guided weapon systems, procurement, storage, maintenance, safety management, logistics support, and life-cycle management of weapon systems.
6. **Borge Brende Steps Down as World Economic Forum President and CEO:** Børge Brende, President and CEO of the World Economic Forum, officially announced his resignation on March 1, 2026, with Alois Zwinggi appointed as Interim President and CEO following Brende's resignation, with Brende being a Norwegian politician and diplomat recognized for expertise in international relations, diplomacy, and multilateral economic and social policy, having served as Minister of Foreign Affairs (2013-2017), Minister of Trade and Industry (2004-2005), and Minister of Environment (2001-2004) in Norwegian government before leading WEF since 2017.
7. **Justice Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari Appointed as Chief Justice of Madras HC:** President Droupadi Murmu appointed Justice Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court under Article 217(1) of the Constitution of India in March 2026, succeeding Justice

Manindra Mohan Shrivastava who retired on 5 March 2026, with Dharmadhikari enrolled as advocate in 1992 and serving as Standing Counsel for Union of India, Income Tax Department, and RBI (2000-2015), previously serving as Judge of Kerala HC and Permanent Judge of Madhya Pradesh HC.

Defence News

1. **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal Inaugurates Three Inland Waterways Projects on NW-2:** On 26 February 2026, Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated three major inland waterways infrastructure projects on National Waterway-2 (NW-2) (River Brahmaputra) at Chowkidingee Playground in Dibrugarh, Assam, including Bogibeel Customs & Immigration Complex (modern tourist-cum-cargo terminal integrating customs, immigration, IWAI functions with arrival/departure halls, cargo storage, staff amenities, security systems), Dhubri Customs & Immigration Complex (enhancing regulatory oversight, export-import operations, positioning Dhubri as strategic gateway for IWT and cross-border trade with Bangladesh and Bhutan), and renovated IWAI Heritage Building at Dibrugarh (combining architectural restoration with upgraded operational infrastructure).
2. **IAF's SAC Conducts Joint Maritime Exercise 'Kalari Leap' in Arabian Sea:** In February 2026, the Southern Air Command (SAC) of the Indian Air Force successfully conducted 'Kalari Leap', a joint maritime exercise, across the Lakshadweep and Minicoy archipelago in the Arabian Sea focusing on validating joint operational planning, rapid force projection, and precision execution in complex maritime environments through coordinated operations with Armed Forces Special Operations Division (AFSOD) and Indian Coast Guard (ICG), involving airborne and air-landed insertions, heliborne and amphibious drills, anti-ship strikes, search-and-rescue missions, IAF deployment of AN-32 transport planes, Mi-17V5 helicopters, Su-30MKI fighter jets, and ICG contribution with ships, Gemini boats, and Dornier 228 aircraft.
3. **IAF Conducts Exercise Vayushakti-26 at Pokhran Range with Presidential Participation:** In February 2026, the Indian Air Force successfully conducted 'Exercise Vayushakti-26' at Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, with President Droupadi Murmu attending as Chief Guest accompanied by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister Kinjarapur Ram Mohan Naidu (MoCA), and other eminent dignitaries, featuring for the first time a defined operational storyline creating simulated live combat theatre seamlessly combining offensive air strikes, air defence operations, special forces missions, and humanitarian assistance, with over 130 aircraft participation (Rafale, Su-30 MKI, Mirage-2000, MiG-29, Jaguar, Hawk, Mi-17, C-130J, C-295, C-17, ALH Dhruv, LCH Prachand) in day-and-night operations demonstrating IAF's multi-domain integrated force capability.

4. **Ministry of Defence Signs ₹5,083 Crore Contracts for ALH Mk-III and VL-Shtil Missiles:** In March 2026, the Ministry of Defence signed defence procurement contracts worth ₹5,083 crore in presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, including ₹2,901 crore contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for acquisition of six Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Mk-III (Maritime Role) with operational role equipment, engineering support package, and performance-based logistics support for Indian Coast Guard (ICG), and ₹2,182 crore contract with JSC Rosoboronexport (Russian Federation) for Surface-to-Air Vertical Launch (VL) – Shtil missiles with associated missile holding frames for Indian Navy (IN).
5. **Indian Navy Signs Contract with Shoft Shipyard for Four Self-Propelled Fuel Barges:** In March 2026, the Indian Navy signed a contract with M/s Shoft Shipyard Private Limited, Thane, Maharashtra, for construction of four 500-tonne Self-Propelled Fuel Barges constructed according to Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) classification rules to support naval logistics operations by supplying fuel to Indian Naval Ships (INS) and submarines in harbours and anchorage areas, supporting the Government of India's initiatives like 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' for strengthening indigenous defence manufacturing.
6. **DRDO Conducts Flight Trials of VSHORADS Missile System at Chandipur:** On 27 February 2026, The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) under the Ministry of Defence successfully conducted three consecutive flight trials of the indigenously developed Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur off the coast of Odisha, with VSHORADS being a man-portable air defence missile system (MANPADS) designed to neutralize low-altitude aerial threats such as fighter aircraft, helicopters, UAVs, and drones, successfully intercepting and destroying targets simulating enemy aircraft under various threat conditions with flight data recorded using advanced telemetry systems, electro-optical tracking systems, and radars.
7. **Indian Navy Commissions INS Anjadip 'Dolphin Hunter' Anti-Submarine Vessel:** On 28 February 2026, the Indian Navy commissioned Indian Naval Ship (INS) Anjadip, the third of eight indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), nicknamed the 'Dolphin Hunter', at Chennai Port, Tamil Nadu, under the commissioning ceremony conducted by Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi (Chief of Naval Staff), built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata with over 80% indigenous content, with specifications of 77 metres length, 1,400 tonnes displacement, powered by high-speed water-jet propulsion system reaching speeds up to 25 knots for rapid response in littoral and shallow-water operations.
8. **Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth Inaugurates Restored Chungthang-Lachen Axis and Taram Chu Bridge:** On 3 March 2026, Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth inaugurated the restored 28-kilometre Chungthang-Lachen Axis and the 400-foot Bailey Suspension Taram Chu Bridge in North Sikkim, rebuilt by Border Roads Organisation after severe damage from Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (October 2023), Cyclone Remal (June 2024), and cloudbursts (May-June 2025), with restoration clearing 96 landslides, completing 8 km fresh formation cutting, creating multiple diversions to bypass unstable stretches, ensuring all-weather connectivity and supporting the 'Atmanirbhar Sikkim – Viksit Bharat Vision' of Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang.
9. **INS Sudarshini Makes Historic Arrival in Alexandria After Suez Transit:** INS Sudarshini arrived at Alexandria as part of transoceanic expedition Lokayan-26, marking an important milestone in maritime training and diplomacy after transiting through the Suez Canal (193-km strategic maritime gateway), with the traditionally constructed stitched ship using ancient Indian maritime techniques combined with coir rope and natural resins, representing revival of India's ancient maritime craftsmanship, conceptualized from 5th century CE depiction in Ajanta Caves, strengthening India–Egypt cultural and maritime relations.
10. **Operation Sankalp**, launched by the **Indian Navy in 2019**, safeguards **Indian merchant ships** in the **Gulf of Oman and Gulf of Aden** through naval patrols, surveillance aircraft, and special forces to ensure **maritime security**.
11. **Lt Gen Pushpendra Pal Singh** will become **General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Command**, succeeding **Lt Gen M. K. Katiyar**. A **Parachute Regiment officer**, he has served in operations including **Pawan, Meghdoot, Rakshak, and Orchid**.

Awards and Recognitions

1. **TIME Women of the Year 2026: Safeena Husain Among 16 Global Leaders:** In March 2026, Safeena Husain, founder of the Non-Profit Organisation Educate Girls, was featured on the TIME Women of the Year 2026 list alongside fellow Indian-origin leaders Reshma Kewalramani and Reshma Saujani, recognized for impactful contributions to education, biotechnology, and social advocacy toward a more equitable world, with the distinguished list including actor and singer Teyana Taylor, actor Lucy Liu, singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile, actor Sheryl Lee Ralph, filmmaker Chloé Zhao, and Olympic gold medallist Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, to be honoured at Women of the Year Leadership Forum and Gala on 10 March 2026 in Los Angeles, USA.

2. **Mangaluru International Airport Wins 2025 Airport Service Quality Award for Best Arrivals:** Mangaluru International Airport won the 2025 Airport Service Quality Award for Best Airport at Arrivals Globally, marking the second consecutive year (2024 and 2025) of recognition, with only six airports worldwide selected in this category, based entirely on real-time passenger feedback under the Airport Service Quality framework evaluating immigration services, baggage delivery, cleanliness, ambience, signage, and overall passenger comfort, with awards presentation scheduled at Airport Experience Summit 2026 in Istanbul from 31 August to 4 September 2026.
3. **KV Subramanian Becomes 1st Indian Economist to Win Chicago Alumni Award:** In March 2026, The University of Chicago honoured eminent Indian economist Dr. Krishnamurthy Venkata (K.V.) Subramanian with the Alumni Award for Professional Achievement, becoming the 1st Indian economist to receive this honour since establishment in 1941, joining distinguished recipients including Paul Samuelson, Gary Becker, Claudia Goldin, Carl Sagan, with Subramanian serving as Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) to GoI (2018-2021), later representing India as Executive Director (ED) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and currently Professor of Finance at Indian School of Business (ISB).
4. **Simone Biles Named Laureus Ambassador:** Simone Biles, seven-time Olympic gold medallist and most decorated gymnast in history, was appointed as a Laureus Ambassador, joining global sporting icons alongside athletes such as Neeraj Chopra and Yuvraj Singh, with the Laureus Sport for Good Programme supporting 300+ global projects using sports to fight violence, discrimination, and social inequality while promoting social inclusion, with Biles as four-time Laureus Sportswoman of the Year Award winner, officially starting ambassador role during visit to Milan where she visited Polisportiva Garegnano—a Laureus-supported sports project providing safe and inclusive opportunities for children and young people.
5. **India Women's Cricket Team Nominated for 2026 Laureus World Team of the Year Award:** The India women's national cricket team earned its first-ever nomination for the Laureus World Team of the Year Award 2026 following their historic victory at the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, marking the first time a women's cricket team has been nominated in this category, with the team led by Harmanpreet Kaur delivering outstanding performance throughout the tournament including achievement of the highest successful run chase in women's ODI history, defeating Australia in the semi-final, alongside nominations from elite global teams such as England women's national football team, Paris Saint-Germain F.C., and McLaren Formula 1 Team.

Summits and Conferences News

1. **Mobile World Congress 2026 Held in Barcelona, Spain:** In March 2026, the Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026, the world's largest event for mobile and technology industry, was held from 2-5 March at Fira Barcelona Gran Via, Barcelona, Spain, with theme "The IQ Era" emphasizing integration of Artificial Intelligence with advanced connectivity to enable smarter networks, digital innovation, and societal transformation, organized by the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA), with India's participation led by Union Minister Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia representing India at GSMA Ministerial Programme and MWC Main Stage discussions.
2. **India Artificial Intelligence Impact Summit 2026:** The India Artificial Intelligence Impact Summit 2026 saw participation from 100+ countries with achievement of a Guinness World Record through 2.5 lakh pledges for AI adoption and over USD 200 billion in AI investments announced, strengthening India's leadership in responsible AI development and global digital transformation.
3. **GCC 4.0: Co-Creating India's Innovation Powerhouse Summit in Hyderabad:** The 'GCC 4.0: Co-Creating India's Innovation Powerhouse' summit held in Hyderabad, Telangana, brought together industry leaders and academic institutions to discuss Global Capability Centers' role in deep tech innovation, with HCLTech and IIT Kanpur partnership announcements focused on translating AI research into enterprise solutions.
4. **Raisina Dialogue 2026 in Delhi:** The Raisina Dialogue 2026 will gather global leaders, ministers, and scholars in Delhi to discuss security, artificial intelligence, trade, climate, and global governance under the theme "Samskara", inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Alexander Stubb of Finland.
5. **Bharat Steel 2026 Summit in New Delhi:** India will host the Bharat Steel 2026 Summit in New Delhi from 16 April 2026 for two days, bringing together global leaders from steel, technology, mining, and trading sectors to deliberate on the future of next-generation steel ecosystem, build sustainable and green steel production ecosystem, strengthen collaboration between policymakers and industry leaders, promote sustainable industrial growth, and expand India's global steel footprint.

Ranks and Reports

1. **Sapien Labs 'Global Mind Health in 2025' Report:** The American Non-Government Organisation Sapien Labs released its global report titled "Global Mind Health in 2025: Mind Health – The Ability to Navigate Life's Challenges and Function Productively", revealing that India's youth aged 18-34 years ranked 60th out of 84 countries with Mind Health Quotient score of 33, while Indians aged 55+ ranked 49th with significantly higher score of 96, highlighting emotional, social, cognitive, and physical capacity disparities across age groups.

2. **Hurun Global Rich List 2026:** The Hurun Research Institute released the 15th edition of the Hurun Global Rich List 2026, ranking USD billionaires based on wealth calculated as of 15 January 2026, covering 4,020 billionaires from 2,914 companies across 73 countries (first time global count crossed 4,000), with Elon Musk (USA) retaining world's richest person at USD 792 billion (up 89%), Mukesh Ambani as India's richest person with ₹9.8 lakh crore, India ranking third globally with 308 billionaires (57 new entrants), and combined Indian billionaire wealth at ₹112 lakh crore.
3. **World Obesity Atlas 2026 (Childhood Obesity – 2nd Edition):** According to the World Obesity Atlas 2026, about 41 million children in India are affected by overweight or obesity, overtaking the United States to become the second highest country globally just behind China, with 14.9 million children (5-9 years) and over 26 million adolescents (10-19 years) overweight or obese, projected to rise to 20 million obese and 56 million overweight or obese children by 2040, driven by low physical activity (74% of adolescents not meeting recommended levels), sugary drinks consumption, poor nutrition, and only 35.5% of school-age children receiving school meals.
4. **Brand Finance Banking 500-2026:** According to Brand Finance Banking 500-2026, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) remained the world's most valuable bank brand for the 10th consecutive year, followed by major Chinese and US banks, while SBI and HDFC Bank represent India globally in the ranking.
5. **Hurun Global Rich List 2026 Women Rankings:** Among women billionaires, China dominated self-made category with 75%, while Diane Hendricks (78) of ABC Supply (USA) remained world's richest self-made woman for fourth time with USD 24 billion, Alice Walton (76) of Walmart was richest woman globally with USD 119 billion, and Roshni Nadar Malhotra was India's richest woman and first to enter overall top three.
2. **Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya Unveils Logo of Cycling League of India:** In March 2026, Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya unveiled the logo of the Cycling League of India (CLI), the world's first franchise-based road cycling league, featuring eight city or region-based franchises comprising ten cyclists each, with team composition including two international riders bringing global expertise and competitiveness and two junior cyclists nurturing emerging Indian talent, with competitions conducted in three phases leading to grand finale featuring diverse formats including criterium races, team time trials, and mass start events.
3. **Alyssa Healy Retires from All Forms of Cricket:** Former Australia Captain Alyssa Healy retired from all forms of international cricket after memorable final One Day International match in Hobart, scoring stunning 158 runs off 98 balls, leading Australia to 409 for 7 against India who were bowled out for 224, securing 185-run victory, reaching first 50 in 49 balls, second 50 in 30 balls, final 50 in just 16 deliveries, hitting 23 runs in single over against spinner Sree Charani, finishing ODI career with 125 ODIs, 3,619 runs at 83 average, 8 centuries, 19 half-centuries, and outstanding strike rate of 100.69.
4. **Mumbai Cricket Association Names Wankhede Stadium Stand After Ravi Shastri:** The Mumbai Cricket Association approved naming the Level 1 Stand below the Press Box at Wankhede Stadium after former India captain Ravi Shastri, recognizing his contribution as all-rounder, former India captain, head coach, and commentator, celebrating his long-standing association with Mumbai and Indian cricket, with gates also being named after cricket legends—Gate No. 3 after Dilip Sardesai (30 Tests, 179 First-Class matches), Gate No. 5 honoring Diana Edulji (former India women's team captain), and Gate No. 6 named after Eknath Solkar (known for exceptional close-in fielding).
5. **Indian Army Retains Khelo India Winter Games 2026 Team Championship:** The Indian Army successfully defended its team championship title at Khelo India Winter Games 2026, winning total of 23 medals including 9 gold (8 golds in Gulmarg leg), with Himachal Pradesh finishing as runners-up with 14 total medals (6 gold, 7 silver, 1 bronze) and Haryana securing third with 7 total medals (4 gold, 1 silver, 2 bronze), with Khelo India Winter Games 2026 hosted by Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council and managed by Sports Authority of India, featuring mascot Sheen-E-She (Snow Leopard) symbolizing resilience and adaptability, with first leg held in Ladakh (20-26 January).

Sports News

1. **Jammu & Kashmir Clinches First Ranji Trophy Title 2025-26:** The Jammu and Kashmir cricket team won its first-ever Ranji Trophy title 2025-26 by defeating eight-time champions Karnataka in the final held at KSCA Rajnagar Stadium, Hubballi, Karnataka on 28 February 2026, with J&K clinching championship with commanding 291-run first-innings lead in drawn five-day final, becoming 19th team to win the trophy since debut in 1959-60, with match summary showing J&K posting 584 runs (Shubham Pundir 121) and bowling out Karnataka for 293 (Auqib Nabi 5/54), second-innings centuries from Qamran Iqbal (160*) and Sahil Lotra (101) extending lead to 633 runs, Auqib Nabi named Player of Tournament with 62 wickets, and Abdul Samad J&K's highest scorer with 748 runs at 57 average.
6. **Sanju Samson Scores Match-Winning Innings in T20 World Cup:** Sanju Samson's match-winning 97-run knock guided India to successfully chase 196 runs against West Indies at Eden Gardens, securing a semifinal berth and scripting the third-highest successful chase in T20 World Cup history, demonstrating exceptional batting performance and crucial contribution to India's tournament advancement.

- The first Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 will be held in Chhattisgarh from March 26 to April 6, featuring seven sports including athletics, hockey, wrestling, and archery to identify and nurture tribal sporting talent.
- Jasprit Bumrah reached 500 international wickets during the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 semifinal against England, dismissing Harry Brook. Since debuting in 2016, he has become a cornerstone of India's bowling attack.
- Lakshya Sen reached the semi-finals of the All England Open 2026 after defeating Li Shi Feng in straight games at Utilita Arena Birmingham, remaining India's only contender in the prestigious BWF Super 1000 tournament.

Schemes and Committees News

- MoC&F Observes Janaushadhi Saptah 2026:** The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers observed 'Janaushadhi Saptah 2026' from 1-7 March 2026 (concluding with 8th Janaushadhi Diwas on 7 March) to promote awareness about affordability and quality of generic medicines under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), organized by Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) under Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), with theme "Jan Aushadhi – affordable and trustworthy, good health with savings", featuring health camps, awareness programmes, pamphlet distribution, outreach campaigns, with over 18,000 PM Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) operational across India and target to expand to 25,000 by 31 March 2027.
- President Droupadi Murmu Dedicates Four Women-Centric Schemes under 'Sashakt Nari, Samridh Delhi':** President Droupadi Murmu dedicated four major welfare schemes—Delhi Lakhpati Bitiya Scheme (₹56,000 deposited in instalments, growing to ₹1.25 lakh by age 21 for girl children meeting educational criteria), Saheli Pink National Common Mobility Card (free travel for women on DTC buses, Delhi Metro, RRTS, public transport), Free LPG Cylinder Scheme (₹853 per consumer during Holi and Diwali through Direct Benefit Transfer), and Meri Poonji Mera Adhikaar (disbursing pending Ladli Scheme funds to 1.75 lakh beneficiaries in phases)—during 'Sashakt Nari Samridh Delhi' programme at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi on 2 March 2026.



Science and Technology News

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Inaugurates Central Facility for Recombinant Cells and Sensors:** On 1 March 2026 (as part of National Science Day 2026 celebrations on 28 February), Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the newly established Central Facility for Recombinant Cells and Sensors at Biotechnology Research and Innovation Centre–Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (BRIC-RGCB), Akkulam campus, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, with advanced biotechnology research facility aiming to strengthen drug discovery, Medical Genomics (MG), and Agri-Genomics (AG) research while accelerating target-specific drug discovery and high-throughput screening, developed with approximate ₹60 crore capital outlay by Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- Union Minister Jitendra Singh Lays Foundation for cGMP Facility at BRIC-RGCB:** Union Minister Jitendra Singh laid the foundation stone for state-of-the-art current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) facility at Akkulam campus of BRIC-RGCB, implemented in two phases with total outlay of ₹80 crore by Department of Biotechnology (DBT) to support pharmaceutical and biomedical manufacturing quality standards and research translation.
- Union Minister Jitendra Singh Releases "Quantum Physics: One Hundred Magical Years":** Union Minister Jitendra Singh released the book titled "Quantum Physics: One Hundred Magical Years" authored by V. P. N. Nampoori, highlighting developments in quantum physics research and history during National Science Day 2026 celebrations.
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Launches India's First State Innovation Mission in Tripura:** Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr. Jitendra Singh of the Ministry of Science and Technology launched India's 1st State Innovation Mission (SIM) at Hapania International Exhibition Center, Agartala, Tripura, describing the Northeast region as the 'New Engine' of India's economic and innovation growth, designed as long-term institutional framework to support States and Union Territories (UTs) in developing inclusive, robust, region-specific innovation ecosystems aligned with national priorities and local capabilities.
- Tripura Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha Launches T-NEST:** Tripura Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha launched 'T-NEST (Tripura: Nurturing Entrepreneurship and Startups)', Tripura's 1st premier incubation and innovation hub, supporting entrepreneurs, startups, and innovation-based businesses in the state, with the government also launching one of India's 1st District Innovator Fellowships (DIF) to identify and support grassroots innovators with structured lifecycle mentoring and support systems.
- Tripura Government to Introduce State AI Policy:** The Tripura government announced plans to soon introduce a State Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy to promote AI-based development, digital transformation, and technology governance.

7. **Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta Launches 'CM Jan Sunwai Portal' and Mobile App:** Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta launched the 'CM Jan Sunwai Portal' and mobile application to strengthen public grievance redressal and enhance citizen engagement through technology-driven framework, featuring centralized unified grievance platform covering all government departments, digitized public hearings (Jan Sunwai) with complaint mapping and departmental officer accountability, four submission channels (online portal, mobile app, helpline 1902, offline at CMO), unique reference ID for complaint tracking, SMS updates at every stage, and structured three-tier grievance redressal mechanism (Grievance Redressal Officer, Appellate Authority, Final Appellate Authority).
8. **DRDO Conducts Flight Trials of VSHORADS Missile System:** The Defence Research and Development Organization successfully conducted three consecutive flight trials of the indigenously developed Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur off the coast of Odisha, with VSHORADS being a man-portable air defence missile system (MANPADS) designed to neutralize low-altitude aerial threats such as fighter aircraft, helicopters, UAVs, and drones, successfully intercepting and destroying targets simulating enemy aircraft under various threat conditions with flight data recorded using telemetry systems, electro-optical tracking systems, and radars.
9. **Indian Navy Commissions INS Anjadip Anti-Submarine Vessel:** On 28 February 2026, the Indian Navy commissioned Indian Naval Ship (INS) Anjadip, the third of eight indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), nicknamed the 'Dolphin Hunter', at Chennai Port, Tamil Nadu, under commissioning ceremony conducted by Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi (Chief of Naval Staff), built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata with over 80% indigenous content.
10. **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Launches 30 kW WBG-Based Integrated Drive System for EVs:** In March 2026, S. Krishnan, Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), launched an indigenously developed 30 kilowatts (kW) Wide Band Gap (WBG)-based Integrated Drive System (IDS) for electric vehicle (EV) applications at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, aiming to reduce import dependency on EV powertrain systems, lower system costs through localization, and support scalable manufacturing under Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, with the system integrating electric motor and inverter into compact, high power-density unit based on Interior Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor (IPMSM) architecture utilizing Silicon Carbide (SiC) Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor (MOSFET) power modules.
11. **Maharashtra Launches Saksham Skill Census, India's First AI-Powered Skill Survey:** In March 2026, Ashish Shelar, Minister of Information Technology & Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra, formally launched 'Saksham Skill Census', India's first-of-its-kind Artificial Intelligence-powered skill census, at RD National College, Bandra West in Mumbai, Maharashtra, aiming to evaluate skills of youth aged 18-40 years to improve employability, with survey conducted by Sapio Analytics covering 55,000 houses in H-West ward of Mumbai using advanced AI technology and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping with hyperlocal skill mapping dividing areas into regions, AI-based door-to-door surveys studying educational qualification, skill interest, and necessary training for employment.
12. **IBM Launches Sangam Infrastructure Innovation Center in Bengaluru:** In March 2026, International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) launched its first Sangam Infrastructure Innovation Center at India Systems Development Lab (ISDL) campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka, aiming to strengthen India's position as global hub for advanced infrastructure engineering and Artificial Intelligence (AI) development, with centre designed to accelerate development and deployment of enterprise-grade AI systems by integrating infrastructure technologies, hybrid cloud capabilities, and AI solutions under one platform, functioning as collaborative engineering hub bringing together IBM's systems architects and infrastructure specialists from ISDL to co-create AI solutions with wide ecosystem of partners.
13. **Ministry of Culture Launches Upgraded Version of Indian Culture Portal in New Delhi:** In March 2026, Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, launched Version 2.0 of the Indian Culture Portal (ICP) at Kartavya Bhawan in New Delhi, Delhi, serving as national digital platform providing easy access to India's vast cultural heritage for scholars, researchers, and general public, with upgraded portal featuring modern architecture with React-based frontend and Drupal backend improving speed, scalability, and performance, including AI-powered chatbot Bharti integrated with Bhashini platform to support responses in 22 Indian languages, functioning as Progressive Web App (PWA) enabling seamless access across devices, providing immersive experiences such as 3D walkthroughs and 360-degree virtual tours of heritage monuments, and 46 curated cultural categories.
14. **Scientists Discover Two New Earthworm Species in Silent Valley National Park, Kerala:** In March 2026, researchers discovered two new species of moniligastrid earthworms—'Moniligaster girishi' and 'Drawida reynoldsi'—in Silent Valley National Park located in Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR) of Western Ghats, Kerala, with findings published in peer-reviewed scientific journal Zootaxa, increasing total number of recognized moniligastrid earthworm species in India to 95, of which 70 species found in Western Ghats, with Moniligaster girishi collected from tropical wet evergreen forest near Chembotti belonging to gravelly species-group distinguished by unique single undivided spermathecal atrial gland, and Drawida reynoldsi collected from montane grasslands belonging to robusta species-group characterized by sausage-like prostatic capsule.

15. **New Genus and Species of Blind Miniature Fish Discovered in Assam:** In March 2026, a group of international researchers from Germany, India, and Switzerland discovered a new genus and species of blind, aquifer-dwelling (phreatobitic) fish named 'Gitichak nakan', living in hand-dug well in Assam village, with discovery published in Nature Portfolio journal Scientific Reports, marking 1st record of aquifer-dwelling fish species from North-East (NE) India and eastern Himalayan region, with name derived from Garo language describing physical appearance ('Gitichak' meaning red, 'na-tok' and 'kana' referring to absence of eyes), miniature fish growing maximum 2 centimetres with translucent body, lacking any skin pigment giving striking bright red color, and most unusual feature being complete absence of skull roof with brain covered only by skin rather than bone.

16. **Scientists Find Evidence of Earth's Earliest Animals in 541-Million-Year-Old Rocks:** Scientists discovered evidence of Earth's earliest animals in Precambrian rocks more than 541 million years old, pushing back timeline of complex life evolution on Earth, with study suggesting soft-bodied sea sponges among first animals in Earth's oceans existing before Cambrian explosion, with research conducted by scientists from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences detecting chemical fossils called steranes (molecular biomarkers derived from sterols), with 30-carbon steranes strongly associated with demosponges (modern sea sponges), scientific evidence showing early animals surviving in low-oxygen ancient ocean environments.

Important Days News

- **National Science Day 2026 – February 28:** National Science Day observed annually on 28 February across India to commemorate discovery of Raman Effect (1928) by Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (C. V. Raman), with 28 February 2026 marking observance of 40th National Science Day, theme "Women in Science: Catalysing Viksit Bharat", with background in 1986 when National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC) recommended 28 February as National Science Day, first officially celebrated on 28 February 1987 honoring Raman Effect and promoting scientific awareness, with Department of Science and Technology under Ministry of Science and Technology hosting national celebration at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, featuring lectures by eminent scientists and science-policy dialogue chaired by Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA).

- **Zero Discrimination Day 2026 – March 1:** Zero Discrimination Day (ZDD) observed globally on 1 March to celebrate diversity, advocate equality and inclusion, and raise awareness about harmful effects of discrimination across all genders, ages, ethnicities, religions, disabilities, and sexual orientations, with March 1, 2026 marking 12th observance of ZDD, theme "People First", launched in 2013 by UNAIDS (Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS) on World AIDS Day (1 December) to promote global equality and inclusion, introduced under Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (Nobel Peace Prize laureate) as UNAIDS Global Advocate for Zero Discrimination using hashtag #zerodiscrimination, with inaugural Zero Discrimination Day observed on 1 March 2014 led by Michel Sidibé (Executive Director, UNAIDS) in Beijing, China, with butterfly as official symbol representing transformation toward world where everyone can live with dignity.
- **World Civil Defence Day 2026 – March 1:** World Civil Defence Day (WCDD), also known as World Civil Protection Day, observed globally every year on 1 March to mark entry into force of International Civil Defence Organization (ICDO) Constitution and honour civil defence personnel, with 1 March 2026 marking 37th observance of WCDD, theme "Managing Environmental Risks for a Resilient and Sustainable Future", with WCDD formally instituted by ICDO during its 9th General Assembly on 18 December 1990 in Geneva, Switzerland, inaugural WCDD held on 1 March 1990 under aegis of United Nations (UN), with date 1 March marking entry into force of ICDO Constitution in 1972 (originally adopted on 17 October 1966), establishing ICDO as intergovernmental organization for civil defence coordination, with ICDO formally inaugurating Civil Defence Day (CDD) in 2012 to enhance global protection awareness.
- **World Seagrass Day 2026 – March 1:** The United Nations' World Seagrass Day observed annually on 1 March worldwide to raise global awareness about vital role of seagrass ecosystems in preserving marine biodiversity, maintaining ocean health, and supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation, with 1 March 2026 marking observance of 4th World Seagrass Day, with UNGA adopting Resolution A/RES/76/265 on 23 May 2022 declaring 1 March as World Seagrass Day, with first World Seagrass Day observed globally on 1 March 2023, UNGA inviting United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate observance of World Seagrass Day co-organized by key global bodies including International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN-Oceans, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Ramsar Secretariat (RS), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Global Environment Facility (GEF), and Commonwealth Secretariat (CS).

- Civil Accounts Day 2026 – March 1:** Civil Accounts Day observed annually on 1 March in India to mark foundation day of Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS), functioning under Department of Expenditure (DoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF), with March 1, 2026 marking 50th Civil Accounts Day, with ICAS role in public financial management established as result of Government of India's major reform in Public Financial Management in 1976, with ICAS established to handle government accounts and financial management carved out from Indian Audit & Accounts Service (IA & AS) initially through Ordinance amending CAG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act 1976, later with Departmentalisation of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Act 1976 passed by Parliament and assented to by President of India on 8 April 1976, effective retroactively from 1 March 1976, marking foundation of ICAS.
- World Hearing Day 2026 – March 3:** World Hearing Day (WHD) observed annually across globe on 3 March to raise awareness about hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care, serving as call to action to tackle related challenges, with March 3, 2026 marking 20th observance of WHD, theme "From communities to classrooms: hearing care for all children", with Beijing Declaration from First International Conference on Prevention and Rehabilitation of Hearing Loss in Beijing (China) leading to creation of International Ear Care Day to promote global hearing care, with inaugural International Ear Care Day held on 3 March 2007 (date chosen because numbers 3 and 3 resemble shape of ears), renamed as World Hearing Day in 2016 to reflect broader mission of raising awareness about hearing loss.
- World Wildlife Day 2026 – March 3:** The United Nations' World Wildlife Day (WWD) observed annually on 3 March to honour and raise awareness about world's wild fauna (animals) and flora (plants), highlighting importance of wildlife conservation and vital role in sustaining ecosystems, with 2026 theme "Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods", with UNGA proclaiming 3 March as WWD through Resolution 68/205 on 20 December 2013 during 68th session, with first-ever WWD celebrated globally on 3 March 2014, with March 3 selected to mark adoption of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973, with CITES Secretariat in collaboration with relevant UN organizations coordinating and supporting implementation of WWD worldwide.
- National Security Day 2026 – March 4:** National Security Day (NSD), also known as Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas, observed across India every year on 4 March to honour and express gratitude to Indian security forces including Police, Military, Paramilitary forces, Guards, Commandos, and all personnel dedicated to safeguarding nation and ensuring safety of citizens, with first NSD in India observed on 4 March 1972, with National Security Council (NSC) of India established on 19 November 1998 by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as federal institutional and consultative body for national security decision-making, structured as three-tier system within Prime Minister's Office (PMO) chaired by Prime Minister with National Security Advisor (NSA) serving as Secretary.
- National Safety Day 2026 – March 4:** National Safety Day (NSD) observed annually on 4 March across India to highlight importance of safety measures in preventing workplace accidents and promoting strong safety culture through adherence to safety guidelines, with day also marking beginning of National Safety Week Campaign observed nationwide from 4-10 March every year, theme "Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety", with declaration in 1972 when National Safety Council designated 4 March as NSD launching nationwide campaign to raise awareness about safety standards and practices, with first NSD also observed on 4 March 1972.
- World Obesity Day 2026 – March 4:** World Obesity Day (WOD) observed annually across globe on 4 March to highlight global obesity crisis, promote public health reforms, reduce stigma, and encourage collective action to prevent and manage obesity, with March 4, 2026 marking 12th observance of WOD, theme "8 Billion Reasons to Act on Obesity", with World Obesity Federation (WOF) establishing WOD in 2015 as annual campaign to promote healthy weight management and reduce global obesity, with first WOD observed on 11 October 2015 continuing until 2019, with WOD observed globally on 4 March since 2020, with World Obesity Atlas 2026 (Childhood Obesity – 2nd Edition) showing about 41 million children in India affected by overweight or obesity with numbers projected to rise sharply by 2040.
- World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development 2026 – March 4:** UNESCO's World Engineering Day (WED) for Sustainable Development observed annually across globe on 4 March highlighting vital role of engineering in modern life and importance in addressing climate change and advancing sustainable development especially in Africa and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with 4 March 2026 marking 7th observance of WED, theme "Smart Engineering for Sustainable Future through Innovation and Digitalization", with UNESCO proclaiming 4 March as WED for Sustainable Development in November 2019 during 40th General Conference (40 C/64) based on proposal by World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), with inaugural WED for Sustainable Development observed globally on 4 March 2020, with main international congress for WED 2026 held from 3-5 March at Balai Kartini Convention and Exhibition Centre in Jakarta, Indonesia, with Adani Group appointed as official partner for World Engineering Day 2026 (WED 2026), marking first time Indian organisation chosen by WFEO for this distinction.

- **International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness 2026 – March 5:** The United Nations' International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness observed annually across world on 5 March to raise public awareness, particularly among youth, about disarmament and role in promoting peace, preventing conflicts, and reducing human suffering caused by weapons, with 5 March 2026 marking 4th observance of International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness, with UNGA declaring 5 March as International Day through Resolution A/RES/77/51 adopted on 7 December 2022, with first International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness observed on 5 March 2023, with significance of date coinciding with entry into force of Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) on 5 March 1970.

Obituaries News

- **Padma Shri Awardee and Renowned Ghoda Nacha Artist Utsav Charan Das Passed Away:** On 26 February 2026, Padma Awardee Utsav Charan Das, renowned Ghoda Nacha (dummy horse dance) artist, passed away at age 80 in Cuttack, Odisha, born in 1946 in Mania, Orissa Province (British India), now part of Odisha, with 2020 Padma Shri conferred for contribution in field of art, recognized as renowned folk artist from Odisha best known for lifelong dedication to preserving and promoting traditional folk dance form Ghoda Nacha (dummy horse), with art career spanning over six decades including performances across villages, towns, and cultural festivals in Odisha known for energetic stage presence, strong narrative expression, authentic traditional costume, and synchronized musical coordination, established institution in 1964 to train students in Ghoda Nacha, guided numerous young artists as mentor promoting art form through workshops and cultural programs.
- **Veteran Congress Leader and Former Union Minister K.P. Unnikrishnan Passed Away:** In March 2026, Veteran politician and former Union Minister K.P. Unnikrishnan passed away at age 90 in Kozhikode, Kerala, born on 20 September 1936 in Koyilandy, Kozhikode, prominent figure in Indian parliamentary history for over three decades, began professional journey in journalism associated with Mathrubhumi daily (leading Malayalam newspaper), joined Indian National Congress (INC) in 1960s, by 1962 secured position as member of All India Congress Committee (AICC), contributed to fiscal oversight as member of Public Accounts Committee (PAC) between 1980-1982 examining appropriation accounts of Government of India and reports of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- **Renowned Sociologist T.K. Oommen, Jawaharlal Nehru University Professor Emeritus, Passed Away:** In March 2026, renowned Indian sociologist T.K. Oommen, Professor Emeritus at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), passed away at age 88 in Gurugram, born on 16 October 1937 in Venmony, Alappuzha, Kerala, considered leading architect

of modern Indian sociology known for research on social justice, identity, pluralism, citizenship, state power, and nation-building, served as President of International Sociological Association (ISA) in 1990 (only Indian sociologist to hold this position), also served as President of Indian Sociological Society and member of Sachar Committee studying socio-economic and educational conditions of Indian Muslims, received honours including Padma Bhushan (2008), ICSSR Award (1981), VKRV Rao Prize in Sociology and Social Anthropology, made major theoretical contributions to Indian sociological theory by indigenizing sociology rather than relying solely on Western frameworks, joined University of Delhi in 1964 and later joined JNU in 1971 helping build Centre for Study of Social Systems into leading sociology research centre, worked on peace-building and social harmony as chairman of Gujarat Harmony Project after 2002 Gujarat communal violence, associated with international institutions including UNESCO and Ford Foundation, authored 22 books and numerous research papers contributing significantly to global sociology scholarship, served as Visiting Professor in universities across Sweden, USA, France, Germany, and Australia.

- **Veteran Journalist and Former Diplomat H.K. Dua Passes Away:** In March 2026, renowned journalist, former diplomat, and parliamentarian Hari Krishan (HK) Dua passed away at age 88 in New Delhi, born on 1 July 1937, honoured by Government of India in 1998 with Padma Bhushan (India's 3rd highest civilian honor) in 'Literature and Education (Journalism)' category, during illustrious journalistic career spanning more than 40 years held senior editorial positions at famous print media houses including Editor of Hindustan Times (1987-94), Editor-in-Chief of Indian Express (1994-96), Editorial Advisor of Times of India (1997-98), and Editor of Tribune (2003-09), had also worked as Media Advisor to two Prime Ministers (Atal Bihari Vajpayee and H.D. Deve Gowda), served as Ambassador of India to Denmark (2001-2003), nominated member of Rajya Sabha (2009-2015), actively participated in debates on foreign affairs and national security during Rajya Sabha tenure.



- **International Women’s Day 2026** will be observed on **March 8** with the **UN theme “Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls.”** The campaign theme **“Give To Gain”** encourages mentorship, resources, and opportunities to advance **gender equality**.

Miscellaneous News

- **Indian Railways Launches Rail Tech Policy 2026, Rail Tech Portal and e-RCT:** Indian Railways launched Rail Tech Policy 2026, Rail Tech Portal, and e-Railway Claims Tribunal (e-RCT) in New Delhi as part of "52 Reforms in 52 Weeks" initiative announced by Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw, aimed at accelerating technology adoption, enhancing safety, and promoting digital governance in railway operations, with Rail Tech Policy 2026 promoting large-scale adoption of advanced technologies with collaboration with startups, industry, and academic institutions focusing on AI-based safety systems including elephant intrusion detection, fire detection in coaches, drone-based rail monitoring, fog obstruction detection, Rail Tech Portal introduced as digital platform for submission and evaluation of innovative proposals ensuring transparent approval process and faster pilot implementation, e-Railway Claims Tribunal (e-RCT) launched to digitize claim settlement processes with online filing, case tracking, faster adjudication improving transparency with plan to digitize 23 benches of Railway Claims Tribunal within 12 months.
- **Government of India Launches First Indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Passenger Vessel:** India achieved historic step in green maritime mobility with launch of its first fully indigenous hydrogen fuel cell passenger vessel, which began commercial operations at Namo Ghat, Varanasi, flagged off by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal,

marking breakthrough in India's transition toward clean, sustainable, and self-reliant waterways.

- **Ashmolean Museum Returns 16th-Century Saint Thirumankai Alvar Idol to India:** The Ashmolean Museum returned a 16th-century Saint Thirumankai Alvar idol to India, restoring it to Shri Soundararaja Perumal Temple, reflecting cultural cooperation, ethical restitution, and India's efforts to reclaim heritage artefacts.
- **Montana Unveils First Mahatma Gandhi Bust at Mike Mansfield Center:** Montana unveiled its first Mahatma Gandhi bust at Mike Mansfield Center, gifted by Government of India, highlighting cultural diplomacy, India-US ties, and Gandhi's message of peace and non-violence.
- **Khurda-Balangir Railway Line Nears Completion in Odisha:** The 301-km railway line in Odisha, valued at ₹5,000 crore and pending since pre-Independence, is nearing full completion, connecting five districts with a 4.77-km viaduct that will become India's second-longest after Bogibeel Bridge.
- **Hatti Risala Festival in Jalna Celebrates 138 Years:** The Hatti Risala Festival in Jalna celebrates 138 years, featuring a decorated elephant procession, revdis distribution, and symbolizing cultural heritage, unity, and communal harmony.
- **Nitish Kumar to Resign as Bihar CM for Rajya Sabha Elections:** Nitish Kumar announced his resignation as Bihar Chief Minister to contest Rajya Sabha elections, marking a political transition after ten terms and over two decades in office.
- **Assam Exports GI-Tagged Karbi Anglong Ginger to London:** Assam exported GI-tagged Karbi Anglong Ginger to London for the first time, boosting global demand, farmer income, and promoting Assam's agricultural identity internationally.

Static Takeaways

Category	Name	Key Details
Regulatory Body	SEBI	Established: 12 April 1988 (Executive Body); Statutory Status: 30 Jan 1992 (SEBI Act, 1992); Headquarters: Mumbai; Chairman: Tuhin Kanta Pandey
Ministry	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	Minister (Independent Charge): Rao Inderjit Singh; Constituency: Gurgaon, Haryana
State	Assam	CM: Himanta Biswa Sarma; Governor: Lakshman Prasad Acharya; Capital: Dispur; National Parks: Kaziranga, Manas, Dibru-Saikhowa; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Pobitora, Orang, Bura-Chapori, Nameri
State	Maharashtra	CM: Devendra Fadnavis; Governor: Acharya Devvrat; Capital: Mumbai; National Parks: Tadoba, Sanjay Gandhi, Chandoli, Gugamal, Navegaon; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Bhimashankar, Koyna, Karnala Bird, Melghat, Radhanagari
State	Gujarat	CM: Bhupendra Patel; Governor: Acharya Devvrat; Capital: Gandhinagar; National Parks: Gir, Blackbuck, Vansda, Marine; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Nal Sarovar Bird, Velavadar Blackbuck, Kutch Desert, Barda, Purna
State	Sikkim	CM: Prem Singh Tamang; Governor: Om Prakash Mathur; Capital: Gangtok; National Park: Khangchendzonga; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Fambong Lho, Kyongnosla Alpine, Maenam

Category	Name	Key Details
State	Rajasthan	CM: Bajan Lal Sharma; Governor: Haribhau Bagade; Capital: Jaipur; National Parks: Ranthambhore, Sariska Tiger Reserve, Keoladeo, Desert; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Kumbhalgarh, Darrah, Ranthambore, Bassi
International Organization	World Economic Forum	Formation: 24 January 1971; Headquarters: Cologny, Switzerland
Bank	RBL Bank	Founded: August 1943; Headquarters: Mumbai; MD & CEO: R Subramaniakumar
Sports Association	Mumbai Cricket Association	Headquarters: Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai; President: Ajinkya Naik
Asset Management Company	CRAMC	Established: 1987; JV of Canara Bank & ORIX Corporation Europe; AUM: ₹1.22 lakh crore (Dec 2025)
Bank	Central Bank of India	Established: 21 December 1911; Headquarters: Mumbai; MD & CEO: Kalyan Kumar; Owner: Ministry of Finance (89.27%)
Country	Israel	President: Isaac Herzog; Prime Minister: Benjamin Netanyahu; Capital: Jerusalem; Currency: New Shekel
Defence Organization	DRDO	Headquarters: New Delhi; Chairman: Samir V. Kamat
Central Bank	RBI	Established: 1 April 1935; Headquarters: Mumbai; Governor: Sanjay Malhotra
State	Chhattisgarh	CM: Vishnu Deo Sai; Governor: Ramen Deka; Capital: Raipur; National Parks: Indravati, Kanger Valley, Guru Ghasidas; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Achanakmar, Badalkhol, Udanti, Sitanadi
State	Tamil Nadu	CM: M. K. Stalin; Governor: R. N. Ravi; Capital: Chennai; National Parks: Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Gulf of Mannar Marine, Indira Gandhi (Anamalai), Guindy; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Vedanthangal Bird, Vettangudi Bird, Kalakad, Sathyamangalam, Vallanadu, Megamalai, Point Calimere
Ministry	Ministry of Defence	Cabinet Minister: Rajnath Singh; MoS: Sanjay Seth
Organization	EPFO	Under: Ministry of Labour & Employment; CEO: Ramesh Krishnamurthi; Headquarters: New Delhi; Manages EPF, EPS, EDLI
Government Agency	Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)	Established under Energy Conservation Act, 2001; Works under Ministry of Power
State	Andhra Pradesh	CM: N. Chandrababu Naidu; Governor: S. Abdul Nazeer; Capital: Amaravati; National Parks: Sri Venkateswara, Papikonda; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Coringa, Pulicat Lake Bird, Kambalakonda, Rollapadu, Krishna
State	Haryana	CM: Nayab Singh Saini; Governor: Ashim Kumar Ghosh; Capital: Chandigarh; National Parks: Sultanpur, Kalesar; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Bhindawas, Kalesar, Nahar
International Organization	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Formation: 19 December 1966; Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines; President: Masato Kanda; Members: 69 Countries
Regulatory Authority	IRDAI	Founded: 1999; Headquarters: Hyderabad; Chairperson: Ajay Seth; Under Ministry of Finance
Bank	Axis Bank	Founded: 1993; Headquarters: Mumbai; CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry; Slogan: "Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi"
Union Territory	Puducherry	CM: N. Rangasamy; Lieutenant Governor: K. Kailashnathan; Capital: Puducherry; Districts: Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe, Yanam; Wildlife Area: Ousteri Wetland
State	Uttarakhand	CM: Pushkar Singh Dhama; Governor: Gurmit Singh; Capital: Dehradun; National Parks: Jim Corbett, Nanda Devi, Rajaji, Gangotri, Valley of Flowers; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Kedarnath, Askot, Binsar, Govind, Sonanadi
Country	Scotland	Capital: Edinburgh; Currency: Pound Sterling
Country	Canada	Capital: Ottawa; Currency: Canadian Dollar
Regulatory Body	Competition Commission of India (CCI)	Founded: 14 October 2003; Headquarters: New Delhi; Chairperson: Ravneet Kaur; Enforces Competition Act 2002