

Current Affairs Revision

Category: Government Initiative · Entries: 45

July 15, 2026

Science and Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

India's First Hydrogen Train to Run Between Jind and Sonipat

NEWS ITEM

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will flag off India's first **hydrogen train** from **Jind railway station, Haryana**, on **17 July 2026**. The train will operate between **Jind and Sonipat**, marking an important step towards clean and sustainable rail transport in India.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's first **hydrogen train** will be flagged off from **Jind railway station** in Haryana.
- The train will operate between **Jind and Sonipat**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will flag off the train on **17 July 2026**.
- In **Jind**, PM Modi will lay the foundation stone and dedicate projects worth around **₹14,700 crore**.
- The Jind event will be held at **Eklavya Stadium**.
- In **Chandigarh**, projects worth over **₹6,600 crore** related to healthcare, education and road infrastructure will be inaugurated or launched.
- PM Modi will inaugurate the **Advanced Mother and Child Centre** and **Advanced Neurosciences Centre** at **PGIMER Chandigarh**.
- In **Jalandhar**, projects worth over **₹5,470 crore** will be inaugurated or launched.
- **75 redeveloped railway stations**, including **Jalandhar Cantt**, will be inaugurated under the **Amrit Bharat Station Scheme**.
- Important places in news: **Jind, Sonipat, Chandigarh, Jalandhar and Jalandhar Cantt**.

July 15, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

IPC-UPPPC MoU for Pharmaceutical Quality

NEWS ITEM

The **Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)** signed an MoU with the **Uttar Pradesh Promote Pharma Council (UPPPC)** to strengthen quality standards, regulatory compliance and innovation in the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors. The partnership also covers capacity building, industry-academia collaboration, patient safety and digital adverse-event reporting support for MSMEs.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The MoU was signed during the **YEIDA MedTech Investors Meet & Site Visit 2026** at Greater Noida.
- The partnership covers pharmaceuticals as well as medical devices.
- It promotes awareness of the **Indian Pharmacopoeia**, pharmacovigilance and materiovigilance.
- MSMEs will be supported through digital tools for adverse-event reporting.
- The collaboration includes training programmes, workshops and industry-academia initiatives.

July 13, 2026

Government Schemes

Health

Government Initiative

MY Bharat Launches Next Phase of Nasha Mukta Yuva Campaign

NEWS ITEM

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, through **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)**, launched the next phase of the nationwide **“Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat”** campaign. The campaign will conduct creative competitions in a three-tier format: district, state and national levels.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The campaign is being implemented by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** through **MY Bharat**.
- The campaign name is **“Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat.”**
- Registrations began on the **MY Bharat portal**.
- Competitions will be held in a **three-tier format**: district, state and national levels.
- District-level competitions will be held from **24 to 27 July 2026**.
- State champions will be invited to **New Delhi** for the national finale.
- The national finale will be held on **12 and 13 August 2026** during the **National Youth Summit**.
- Five categories are included: **Dance, Music, Reel and Short Film, Nukkad Natak and Slam Poetry**.

July 12, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Uttar Pradesh

Species & Environment

Government Initiative

India Conducts Massive Tree-Planting Campaign Across States

NEWS ITEM

A massive tree-planting campaign was conducted across India, with major drives in **Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and New Delhi**. Uttar Pradesh launched a State-wide **Vriksharopan Maha Yagya** from Gorakhpur and reported planting over **35.27 crore saplings** in a single day under the theme **“Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam.”**

PRELIMS FACTS

- A massive tree-planting campaign was conducted across India.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** launched the **Vriksharopan Maha Yagya** from **Gorakhpur**.
- He planted the sacred **Triveni** of **Neem, Peepal and Banyan** near the Link Expressway.
- Uttar Pradesh planted over **35.27 crore saplings** in a single day.
- The plantation exceeded the State target of **35 crore** by **27.89 lakh saplings**.
- Uttar Pradesh Governor **Anandiben Patel** planted a white sandalwood sapling at **Jan Bhawan**.
- The campaign was carried out across all **18 divisions and 75 districts** of Uttar Pradesh.
- Uttar Pradesh's cumulative plantation for the year stood at **40.29 crore saplings**.
- The Forest Department completed the largest target of **15.50 crore saplings**.
- Home Minister **Amit Shah** launched a plantation drive in **Gandhinagar**, Gujarat, with over **1.25 crore saplings** planted across his Lok Sabha constituency.
- Gandhinagar's green cover target is **20% by 2029**.
- Madhya Pradesh launched a plantation drive in **Indore**, targeting **21 lakh saplings** and **51,000 rainwater harvesting units**.
- India has set a target of achieving **net zero carbon emissions by 2070**.

July 12, 2026

Economy

Places in News

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Shipping Shocks Expose India's Container Vulnerability

NEWS ITEM

A report highlighted how global shipping disruptions have exposed India's dependence on foreign container ships and limited domestic container capacity. The first outcome of the **₹10,000 crore container manufacturing scheme** announced in **Union Budget 2026-27** came on **3 July 2026**, when an India-made **EXIM container** built by **DCM Shriram Group** was unveiled at **Dadri** for **Maersk**, which placed a follow-on order for another **1,000 containers**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- A **₹10,000 crore container manufacturing scheme** was announced in **Union Budget 2026-27**.
- Its first outcome came on **3 July 2026** with an India-made EXIM container built by **DCM Shriram Group**.
- The container was unveiled at **Dadri** for **Maersk**.
- Maersk placed a follow-on order for another **1,000 containers**.
- India manufactured around **24,000 TEUs in FY24**.
- China's container output runs into several million TEUs annually.
- Foreign shipping lines carry around **90-95% of India's cargo**, increasing vulnerability during global disruptions.
- Indian-made containers cost roughly **20% more** than Chinese containers due to logistics and location disadvantages.
- Manufacturing containers closer to ports such as **Dadri** can reduce transport cost disadvantages.
- Coffee exporters are affected as ships avoid the **Red Sea-Suez route** and move around the **Cape of Good Hope**.
- Rice exports to Iran are affected by uncertainty around the **Strait of Hormuz**.
- Freight from **Kochi to Jebel Ali** reportedly rose from around **\$1,000-\$1,500** to nearly **\$7,000**.
- **Nhava Sheva** has become a major hub for larger container ships.
- **Kochi, Thoothukudi, Vizhinjam, Kandla, Mumbai, Dadri, Dubai, Khor Fakkan, Sohar and Jebel Ali** came into news in the context of container logistics.
- An MoU was signed to establish **Bharat Container Shipping Line**, India's first national container carrier.
- Institutions linked to this initiative include **Shipping Corporation of India, Container Corporation of India, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Tuticorin** and **Chennai** port authorities.

July 12, 2026

Science and Technology

Places in News

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Indian Lab's Quantum Algorithm Shows Active Quantum Advantage

NEWS ITEM

A team led by **Dr. Indrakshi Raychowdhury** of **BITS Pilani**, working with **IBM Quantum**, designed a quantum algorithm that simulated the behaviour of subatomic particles on **120 qubits** of an IBM processor. The result has been marked "**active**" by the **Quantum Advantage Tracker**, making it the first such verified active quantum-advantage result from an Indian laboratory.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The quantum algorithm was designed by a team led by **Dr. Indrakshi Raychowdhury** of **BITS Pilani**.
- The team worked with **IBM Quantum**.
- The algorithm simulated subatomic particle behaviour on **120 qubits** of an IBM processor.
- The quantum calculation took about **20 seconds**, compared with about **two hours** on a classical computer.
- The result was marked "**active**" by the **Quantum Advantage Tracker**.
- This is the first active quantum-advantage result from an Indian laboratory.
- The work is linked to simulating **quarks and gluons** governed by the **strong nuclear force**.
- The team used a simplified model of the strong force and reduced mathematical redundancy to scale the simulation.
- A task earlier run by others on at most **27 qubits** was pushed to **120 qubits**.
- The **Quantum Advantage Tracker** was launched in **November 2025** by IBM with the Flatiron Institute, BlueQubit, Algorithmiq and academic reviewers.
- The article mentions **CERN, Switzerland**, in the context of high-energy physics and future particle simulations.
- India's **National Quantum Mission** was approved in **2023** with an outlay of **₹6,003 crore**.
- The Mission funds quantum algorithms and a computing hub in **Bengaluru**.
- India currently does not have high-end quantum hardware of its own and researchers often depend on machines abroad.

July 11, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Species & Environment

Government Initiative

National CAMPA Approves Conservation Projects for Four Species

NEWS ITEM

The governing body of **National CAMPA** approved four new conservation projects for **river dolphins, snow leopards, wild water buffalo and Indian rhinoceroses**. The new scheme has an initial corpus of **₹3,000 crore over five years**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The governing body of **National CAMPA** approved four new conservation projects.
- The species covered are **river dolphins, snow leopards, wild water buffalo and Indian rhinoceroses**.
- The new scheme has an initial corpus of **₹3,000 crore over five years**.
- The river dolphin project includes studies on conservation and recovery action plan.
- **Project Snow Leopard Phase-II** includes the second cycle of population estimation.
- A conservation action plan has been approved for the **Indian Rhinoceros**.
- A pan-India conservation approach has been approved for the **wild water buffalo**.

July 10, 2026

International Relations

Government Initiative

Sports

India-Australia Sports Collaboration Roadmap

NEWS ITEM

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Australian Prime Minister **Anthony Albanese** jointly released the **India-Australia Sports Collaboration Roadmap** at the **Melbourne Cricket Ground** on **10 July 2026**. The roadmap aims to deepen cooperation in sports training, capacity building, sports science, technology, sports industry, investment, women's participation and youth exchanges.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **India-Australia Sports Collaboration Roadmap** was jointly released on **10 July 2026**.
- It was released by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Australian Prime Minister **Anthony Albanese** at the **Melbourne Cricket Ground**.
- The roadmap builds on the **2023 Sports Cooperation Agreement**.
- The roadmap looks ahead to the **2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad** and the **2032 Olympics and Paralympics in Brisbane**.
- It identifies cooperation areas such as capacity building, sports science and technology, major sports events, sports industry and investment, and women's participation.
- It proposes cooperation in high performance sports centres in India.
- Para sports are recognised as a key priority, including cooperation in para classification, coaching and performance support.
- It promotes coach exchanges and a **train-the-trainer** approach.
- It proposes physical education exchange programmes between India and Australia.
- It encourages cooperation in yoga and yogasana in Australia.
- The roadmap mentions the **India-Australia High Performance Coach Development Programme** with the Australian Sports Commission.
- It encourages India-Australia university partnerships in sports science, sports curriculum and research.
- It mentions cooperation between **Sport Integrity Australia** and India's **NADA** in anti-doping capacity-building.
- It encourages exhibition matches and youth events in sports such as **kabaddi, kho kho, Australian football, basketball and cricket**.
- The first **Big Bash League match in India** is welcomed for **Chennai in December 2026**.
- An Australia-funded **Sports Industry Summit** is proposed in **Mumbai in December 2026**.
- The roadmap supports increasing India's exports of high-quality and competitively priced sports goods to Australia.
- It promotes women's leadership, health, high performance and participation in sports, including bilateral tournaments for women athletes.
- PM Modi visited the **Melbourne Cricket Ground** with PM Anthony Albanese and Victorian Premier **Jacinta Allan**.
- Australian sports personalities including **Steve Waugh** and **Lisa Sthalekar** attended the event.

July 10, 2026

Health

Health

Law and Policies

Government Initiative

Centre Tightens Rules for High Alcohol-Containing Drug Formulations

NEWS ITEM

The Central Government has amended the **Drugs Rules, 1945** to strengthen regulation of **high alcohol-containing drug formulations**. The Health Ministry removed the earlier **Schedule K exemption** from licensing requirements for formulations containing ethyl alcohol above specified limits.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The Centre amended the **Drugs Rules, 1945**.
- The amendment regulates **high alcohol-containing drug formulations**.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare removed the **Schedule K exemption** from licensing requirements.
- Formulations containing more than **12% v/v ethyl alcohol** and quantities exceeding **30 ml** will no longer get the exemption.
- Such products must obtain licenses under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**.
- Earlier, some tinctures and aromatic preparations such as cardamom and ginger tinctures were exempted.
- Some exempted formulations could contain ethyl alcohol concentration up to **80-90% v/v**.
- The amendment aims to prevent diversion and misuse for intoxication.
- It will ensure supply through a regulated pharmaceutical supply chain while allowing legitimate therapeutic use.

July 9, 2026

Education

Education

Places in News

Government Initiative

Uttarakhand Becomes India's Sixth Fully Literate State

NEWS ITEM

Uttarakhand has become India's **sixth fully literate State** after meeting the prescribed adult literacy benchmarks under **National Education Policy 2020** and the **ULLAS - New India Literacy Programme**. The declaration was approved by the Governor on **8 July 2026**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Uttarakhand** has become India's **sixth fully literate State**.
- The declaration was approved by the Governor on **8 July 2026**.
- The achievement is linked to **NEP 2020** and **ULLAS - New India Literacy Programme**.
- ULLAS stands for **Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society**.
- The literacy standards were laid down by the **Department of School Education and Literacy**, Ministry of Education.
- Uttarakhand joins **Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim** on the list of fully literate States.
- Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** called the achievement historic.
- The State government said it will continue promoting **digital literacy, financial literacy, continuing education and life skills**.

July 9, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

States Carry Growing Share of Welfare Spending

NEWS ITEM

A data-based report highlighted that while revenues increasingly accrue to the **Union government**, fiscally constrained **States** are carrying a larger share of welfare and social-sector spending. For selected welfare schemes and sectors in **2025-26**, combined Union and State allocations were estimated at **₹24.20 lakh crore**, equal to **6.77% of GDP**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The report was published as a **Data Point** on welfare spending.
- Data sources included **Union Expenditure Budget 2025-26**, **377th Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee**, **RBI database**, Ministry of Education data and **16th Finance Commission** reports.
- Combined Union and State allocations for selected welfare schemes/sectors in **2025-26** were estimated at **₹24.20 lakh crore**.
- This amounted to **6.77% of GDP**.
- Union allocation for selected schemes was **₹6.73 lakh crore**, while State allocation was **₹17.46 lakh crore**.
- Union share of selected schemes was **1.89% of GDP**, while State share was **4.89% of GDP**.
- State cash transfers were estimated at **₹3.87 lakh crore** in FY 2025-26.
- Union allocation for **PM-KISAN** was **₹0.64 lakh crore**.
- Union allocation for **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)** was **₹0.1 lakh crore**.
- School education showed one of the largest State spending shares, with States estimated to contribute around **75.2%**.
- For school education, Union allocation was shown as **₹0.79 lakh crore**, while State allocation was **₹6.83 lakh crore**.
- For public health, Union allocation was shown as **₹1 lakh crore**, while State allocation was **₹3.93 lakh crore**.

July 8, 2026

Defence and Security

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Defence

DRDO Tests Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket

NEWS ITEM

DRDO successfully flight-tested the **Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)** at the **Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha**. The rocket was tested for a user-defined minimum range of **60 km** and was launched from the in-service Pinaka launcher.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **DRDO** successfully flight-tested **Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)**.
- The test was conducted at **Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha**.
- The rocket was tested for a user-defined minimum range of **60 km**.
- The rocket was launched from the **in-service Pinaka launcher**.
- Pinaka LRGR was designed by **Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE)**.
- **High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)** was associated with the design.
- **Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL)** and **Research Centre Imarat (RCI)** provided support.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** called the test a major milestone in indigenous long-range guided rocket capability.

July 8, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Varanasi Airport to Get India's First Six-Lane Runway Underpass

NEWS ITEM

India's first **six-lane underpass beneath an active runway** is being built at the new terminal of **Varanasi Airport**. Union Civil Aviation Minister **Ram Mohan Naidu** said that foundation and raft work of the **450-metre underpass** is underway.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's first **six-lane underpass beneath an active runway** is coming up at **Varanasi Airport**.
- The underpass will be about **450 metres** long.
- Foundation and raft work of the underpass is currently underway.
- It will enable road traffic to move below while aircraft operate above.
- The project is linked with the new terminal infrastructure at Varanasi Airport.
- Union Civil Aviation Minister **Ram Mohan Naidu** shared the update.

July 8, 2026

Education

Education

Indexes & Reports

Government Initiative

UDISE+ 2025-26 Report Shows Fall in School Dropout Rates

NEWS ITEM

The Union Education Ministry released the **UDISE+ 2025-26 report**, showing a decline in school dropout rates across key stages. The preparatory level dropout rate fell from **2.3% to 1.8%**, while the secondary level dropout rate declined from **8.2% to 7.0%**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **UDISE+ 2025-26 report** was released by the **Union Education Ministry**.
- Preparatory level dropout rate fell from **2.3% in 2024-25 to 1.8% in 2025-26**.
- Secondary level dropout rate declined from **8.2% to 7.0%**.
- Girls' enrolment marginally increased to **48.4%** from **48.3%**.
- Women teachers formed **54.9%** of total teachers, up from **54.2%**.
- Student retention at middle level rose to **83.7%** from **82.8%**.
- Secondary level retention increased to **51.9%** from **47.2%**.
- Secondary level **GER** increased to **71.7%** from **68.5%**.
- Transition from middle to secondary increased from **86.6% to 88.3%**.
- Teacher strength rose by **8.3%** compared with **2022-23**.
- Single-teacher schools reduced by **3%** and zero-enrolment schools fell by **29%**.
- Schools with computer access increased to **69.9%**.
- Schools with Internet connectivity increased to **67.4%**.
- **95%** schools have electricity, **98.5%** have girls' toilets and **97.2%** have boys' toilets.

July 8, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

NAL Completes Design Phase of Saras MK-II Aircraft

NEWS ITEM

Civil Aviation Minister **Ram Mohan Naidu** congratulated **National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)** for completing the design phase of the **19-seater Saras MK-II** aircraft. He said the aircraft advances the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** vision and can support the **UDAN** goal of connecting remote and high-altitude airfields with Made-in-India aircraft.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **NAL** has completed the design phase of the **19-seater Saras MK-II**.
- Saras MK-II is being developed as an indigenously designed **light transport aircraft**.
- The development supports the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** vision.
- The aircraft is linked with the **UDAN** vision of improving regional air connectivity.
- It is expected to help connect remote and high-altitude airfields with Made-in-India aircraft.
- Union Civil Aviation Minister **Ram Mohan Naidu** congratulated NAL for the achievement.

July 7, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Places in News

Government Initiative

Mizoram Natural History Museum Becomes India's 21st Designated Repository

NEWS ITEM

The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has notified the **Natural History Museum (NHM), Mizoram University, Aizawl**, as India's **21st Designated Repository** under **Section 39 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002**. The notification was issued on **19 June 2026** based on the recommendation of the **National Biodiversity Authority**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Natural History Museum, Mizoram University, Aizawl** has been notified as India's **21st Designated Repository**.
- It was notified under **Section 39 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002**.
- The notification was issued on **19 June 2026**.
- The recommendation came from the **National Biodiversity Authority**.
- NHM was established in **2022** under **Mizoram University**, a Central University.
- It is located in the **Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot**.
- It will preserve flora such as **pteridophytes** and **macrofungi**.
- It will preserve fauna such as **reptiles, amphibians, fishes, moths, beetles and butterflies**.
- It will serve as a depository for **type specimens** of newly discovered species from the region.
- Mizoram and the wider North-East region have over **7,500 flowering plant species** and more than **2,000 faunal species**.
- The repository will support documentation of endemic species such as **Leptobrachella tamdil**, a recently described amphibian from Mizoram.
- Before designation, NHM had preserved more than **500 specimens**, including herbarium sheets and wet-preserved collections.

July 7, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Kamarajar Port Becomes India's Second Major Port with 18-Metre Draft

NEWS ITEM

Kamarajar Port Limited (KPL) has become India's **second Major Port**, after **Visakhapatnam Port**, to offer an operational draft of **18 metres**. This follows the completion of **Capital Dredging Phase VI** with an investment of about **₹440 crore**, enabling the port to handle fully laden **Capesize vessels** of up to **1,70,000 DWT**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Kamarajar Port** has become India's **second Major Port** with **18-metre draft capability**.
- The first Major Port with 18-metre draft capability is **Visakhapatnam Port**.
- Kamarajar Port is located near **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- It is India's first **corporatised Major Port**.
- **Capital Dredging Phase VI** was completed with an investment of about **₹440 crore**.
- The port can now handle fully laden **Capesize vessels** of up to **1,70,000 DWT**.
- The project deepened the outer approach channel from **20 m to 23 m**.
- The inner entrance channel was deepened from **19 m to 22 m**.
- The enhanced draft is expected to reduce logistics costs through economies of scale.
- The achievement supports **Maritime India Vision 2030** and **Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**.

July 7, 2026

Education

Government Initiative

IIM Bangalore to Establish Overseas Campus in Indonesia

NEWS ITEM

Union Education Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** said that approval for **Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIM-B)** to establish an overseas campus in **Indonesia** marks a new chapter in India's education sector. The proposal was approved by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** during his visit to Indonesia.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **IIM Bangalore** will establish an overseas campus in **Indonesia**.
- The proposal was approved during Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's visit to Indonesia**.
- Union Education Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** said it marks a new chapter for India's education sector.
- The campus is linked with India's effort to globalise its knowledge traditions and education system.
- The campus is proposed at **Singhasari SEZ, Indonesia**.
- It is expected to serve students and professionals in the wider **ASEAN region**.

July 6, 2026

Health

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Over 104 Crore Health Records Linked to ABHA Accounts

NEWS ITEM

The government said that over **104 crore health records** have been linked to more than **93 crore Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA)** accounts. This is a major step towards creating a connected digital public health ecosystem under the **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Over **104 crore health records** have been linked to over **93 crore ABHA accounts**.
- **ABHA** is a **14-digit unique health identifier**.
- ABHA is part of the **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission**.
- ABHA helps connect individuals with doctors, hospitals, labs, insurers and other digital health services.
- Health records linked to ABHA can include prescriptions, lab reports, discharge summaries and treatment history.
- **ABDM** aims to create fully digital health records for citizens across India.
- Data sharing under ABHA is based on user consent.

July 6, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Five Years of Sahkar Se Samriddhi

NEWS ITEM

The **Ministry of Cooperation** completed five years since its formation on **6 July 2021** under the vision of **Sahkar Se Samriddhi**. On its 5th Foundation Day, the Ministry converted **50,000 PACS into e-PACS**, laid foundation stones for **47 grain storage godowns**, and launched digital tools such as **Milk Supply Review Dashboard**, **Sahakar CBS** and **Sahakar Sahyogi** to strengthen cooperatives, rural infrastructure, dairy, banking and livelihoods.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Ministry of Cooperation** was established on **6 July 2021**.
- Its guiding vision is **Sahkar Se Samriddhi**.
- On the 5th Foundation Day, **50,000 PACS** were converted into **e-PACS**.
- Foundation stones were laid for **47 grain storage godowns**.
- **Milk Supply Review Dashboard** was launched for **National Dairy Development Board**.
- **Sahakar CBS** and **Sahakar Sahyogi** were launched for **Urban Cooperative Banks**.
- The Ministry has implemented **over 152 reform initiatives** since its formation.
- **White Revolution 2.0** aims to increase milk procurement by **50% by 2028-29**.
- **Bharat Taxi** is India's first cooperative-based mobility platform.

July 6, 2026

Defence and Security

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Indian Navy to Commission Project 17A Stealth Frigate Mahendragiri

NEWS ITEM

The Indian Navy will commission its sixth **Project 17A indigenous stealth frigate, Mahendragiri (F38)**, at **Visakhapatnam** on **11 July 2026**. The ship has been designed by the Indian Navy's **Warship Design Bureau** and built by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited**, Mumbai.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Mahendragiri (F38)** will be commissioned at **Visakhapatnam** on **11 July 2026**.
- It is the **sixth Project 17A indigenous stealth frigate** of the Indian Navy.
- It was designed by the Indian Navy's **Warship Design Bureau**.
- It was built by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited**, Mumbai.
- Mahendragiri is named after the **Mahendragiri mountain range in the Eastern Ghats**.
- It is the first Indian Naval warship to bear the name **Mahendragiri**.
- Its motto is **"Mighty-Majestic-Matchless."**
- Project 17A frigates are also known as **Nilgiri-class frigates**.
- Project 17A is the follow-on class of the earlier **Project 17 Shivalik-class frigates**.
- Mahendragiri is powered by **Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG)** propulsion.
- The project has around **75% indigenous content** and supports the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiative.
- Project 17A ships strengthen India's maritime capability in the **Indian Ocean Region** and the **Indo-Pacific**.

July 6, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

ISRO Tests SOLVE Motor for Gaganyaan Mission

NEWS ITEM

ISRO successfully conducted the first ground test of the solid motor-based **Sub-Orbital Launch Vehicle for Experiments (SOLVE)** at the **Static Test Facility, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**, on **3 July 2026**. SOLVE will be used to validate the **Gaganyaan crew module's parachute-based deceleration system** under different test conditions.

PRELIMS FACTS

- ISRO conducted the first ground test of **SOLVE** on **3 July 2026**.
- The test was conducted at the **Static Test Facility, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.
- SOLVE stands for **Sub-Orbital Launch Vehicle for Experiments**.
- SOLVE is a solid motor-based platform for **Gaganyaan test missions**.
- It will be used for **Integrated Parachute Tests** of the Gaganyaan crew module.
- In SOLVE test missions, the crew module will be carried to an altitude of **10 km to 17 km** and then separated.
- A series of **10 parachutes** will reduce the crew module's velocity before sea splashdown.
- SOLVE's solid stage is derived from the **PSLV strap-on motor**.
- Key modifications include **slow burn-rate propellant** and **secondary injection thrust vector control**.
- ISRO stated that motor performance parameters were as expected.
- ISRO has also carried out **IADT-02** and **Mission MITRA** for Gaganyaan.

July 5, 2026

Science and Technology

Awards & Honours

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

ICMR-MINDS Wins Gold at e-Governance Awards

NEWS ITEM

ICMR-MINDS, a flagship digital mental healthcare initiative of the **Indian Council of Medical Research**, won the **Gold Award** at the **National Awards for e-Governance 2026**. It was awarded under the category **Innovation by Use of AI and Other New Age Technologies for Providing Citizen-Centric Services**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **ICMR-MINDS** won the **Gold Award** at the **National Awards for e-Governance 2026**.
- The award was presented by **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- ICMR-MINDS is a **National Health Research Priority** project.
- It integrates screening and management of mental and substance use disorders with other **non-communicable diseases**.
- Its **AI-enabled CDSS** supports mental health screening, assessment, follow-up and routine management by trained non-specialist frontline healthcare providers.
- It is being implemented across seven States through seven collaborating institutions.
- Collaborating institutions include **AIIMS Guwahati, Gujarat Institute of Mental Health, Ahmedabad, AIIMS New Delhi, St. John's Medical College, Bengaluru, AIIMS Bhopal, AIIMS Bhubaneswar** and **PGIMER Chandigarh**.

July 4, 2026

Economy

Important Days

Government Initiative

International Day of Cooperatives 2026

NEWS ITEM

Vice President **C. P. Radhakrishnan** and Union Minister of Cooperation **Amit Shah** extended greetings on the **International Day of Cooperatives**. They highlighted the role of cooperatives in empowering farmers, women, small entrepreneurs and workers, and linked the sector with **Sahakar Se Samridhhi** and **Viksit Bharat @ 2047**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **International Day of Cooperatives** is observed on the **first Saturday of July**.
- In **2026**, it was observed on **04 July**.
- Vice President **C. P. Radhakrishnan** and Union Minister of Cooperation **Amit Shah** extended greetings on the occasion.
- The 2026 UN theme is **"Cooperatives for a Peaceful World."**
- The cooperative sector was linked with **Sahakar Se Samridhhi** and **Viksit Bharat @ 2047**.
- Initiatives mentioned include **Cooperative University**, modern training centres and empowerment of cooperative institutions in emerging sectors.

July 4, 2026

International Relations

International Organisations

Government Initiative

India-Israel Bilateral Investment Agreement Enters Force

NEWS ITEM

The **Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA)** between **India and Israel** came into force on **04 July 2026**. Signed in **New Delhi** in September 2025, the agreement aims to strengthen bilateral economic relations and create a secure, predictable and investor-friendly investment climate.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **India-Israel Bilateral Investment Agreement** came into force on **04 July 2026**.
- It was signed on **08 September 2025** in **New Delhi**.
- The agreement was signed by India's Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** and Israel's Finance Minister **Bezalel Smotrich**.
- The BIA aims to provide a secure and predictable investment climate.
- It seeks to protect investments and investors while preserving sovereign policy space for legitimate public policy objectives.
- It provides for minimum standard of treatment and an independent dispute resolution mechanism through arbitration.
- The agreement includes safeguards against expropriation, transparency-related provisions, smooth transfers and compensation for losses.
- It is expected to increase cross-border investment activity and deepen India-Israel economic partnership.

July 4, 2026

Economy

Places in News

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

PM Launches ₹1.06 Lakh Crore Projects in Rajasthan

NEWS ITEM

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** dedicated, inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth around **₹1.06 lakh crore** at **Balotra, Rajasthan**. The projects cover energy, petrochemicals, aviation, metro connectivity, roads, railways, renewable energy, power transmission and water supply.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The event was held at **Balotra, Rajasthan** on **04 July 2026**.
- Projects worth around **₹1.06 lakh crore** were dedicated, inaugurated or had foundation stones laid.
- **Rajasthan Refinery** is located at **Pachpadra in Balotra district**.
- The projects cover sectors such as petrochemicals, urban transport, aviation, railways, roads, renewable energy and power transmission.
- A new terminal building at **Jodhpur Airport** was inaugurated.
- A modified phase of the **UDAN** regional air connectivity scheme was launched.
- The foundation stone was laid for **Jaipur Metro Phase 2**.
- Rajasthan and Haryana agreed to work on water supply to **Shekhawati** through an underground pipeline from **Hathnikund Barrage**.
- Beneficiary districts mentioned for the Shekhawati water plan include **Sikar, Churu and Jhunjhunu**.
- Renewable energy initiatives mentioned include solar parks, rooftop solar under **PM Surya Ghar** and solar pumps under **PM-KUSUM**.
- **Khejri** was highlighted as an ecologically important tree in desert regions.

July 4, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

CG Semi OSAT Facility Inaugurated in Sanand

NEWS ITEM

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **CG Semi Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility** at **Sanand, Gujarat**. The facility marks a major step in India's semiconductor journey by starting commercial chip packaging and testing and strengthening India's position in the global semiconductor value chain.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **CG Semi OSAT facility** at **Sanand, Gujarat** on **04 July 2026**.
- **OSAT** stands for **Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test**.
- The facility begins commercial chip packaging and testing operations.
- The Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of the project in **2024**.
- Chip testing at the facility started by **August 2025**, as mentioned in the official release.
- The facility is linked with industrial partners from **India, Japan and Thailand**.
- The current stated production capacity is **20 crore units per year**.
- The future target mentioned is **500 crore units per year**.
- **Sanand** is emerging as a semiconductor cluster with companies such as **Micron, Kaynes** and **CG Semi**.
- India's semiconductor strategy aims to cover **design, fabrication, assembly, testing and packaging**.
- The Prime Minister described the semiconductor push as the next stage of India's electronics manufacturing growth: products, then components, and now semiconductors.
- The facility is expected to support sectors such as **AI, robotics and next-generation technologies**.

July 4, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Places in News

Species & Environment

Government Initiative

Tiger Population Rises Fourfold in Nameri Tiger Reserve

NEWS ITEM

The tiger population in **Nameri Tiger Reserve** in Assam increased from **3 tigers in the 2022 All India Tiger Estimation** to **12 tigers by end-2025**, as validated by the **Wildlife Institute of India**. The recovery also includes the return of tigers to **Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary** after more than two decades.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Nameri Tiger Reserve** is located in **Assam**.
- Nameri's area mentioned in the report is **344 sq km**.
- Nameri shares a boundary with **Pakke Tiger Reserve** in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- Assam has four tiger reserves: **Nameri, Kaziranga, Manas** and **Orang**.
- **Kaziranga** and **Manas** are **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.
- Nameri's tiger population increased from **3 in the 2022 AITE** to **12 by end-2025**.
- The 2025-end estimate was validated by the **Wildlife Institute of India**.
- Tigers returned to **Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary** after more than two decades.
- **Sonai Rupai** had seen local extinction of tigers in the early 2000s.
- **Kaziranga** is noted for one of the highest tiger densities in India.

July 4, 2026

Economy

Places in News

Government Initiative

Assam Estate Sells India's First Commercial Matcha Tea

NEWS ITEM

An Assam tea estate sold India's first commercially produced **matcha tea** at the **Guwahati Tea Auction Centre**. The first batch of **5 kg** came from **Chota Tingrai Tea Estate** in Tinsukia district and was bought by Guwahati-based **Sheosons Chai Co**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's first commercially produced **matcha tea** was sold by an estate in **Assam**.
- The tea came from **Chota Tingrai Tea Estate** in **Tinsukia district**.
- The first batch weighed **5 kg**.
- It was sold at the **Guwahati Tea Auction Centre**.
- The auction was conducted by **J. Thomas & Co. Pvt. Ltd.**
- The buyer was Guwahati-based **Sheosons Chai Co**.
- The premium fetched was **₹3,000 per kg**.
- Matcha is made from shade-grown **Camellia sinensis** leaves.

July 3, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Vikram-1 Set for India's First Private Orbital Launch

NEWS ITEM

Skyroot Aerospace announced the launch window for **Vikram-1**, India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket, under **Mission Aagaman**. The test flight is targeted no earlier than **July 12, 2026**, with the window extending till **August 4, 2026**, from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Vikram-1** is India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket.
- It has been developed by **Skyroot Aerospace**, a Hyderabad-based private space company.
- Vikram-1's first test flight is named **Mission Aagaman**.
- The launch window is from **July 12 to August 4, 2026**.
- The launch is planned from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.
- Vikram-1 follows the successful suborbital flight of **Vikram-S** on **November 18, 2022**.
- The test flight will gather data on propulsion, stage separation, guidance, navigation, control and overall vehicle performance.
- All stages of Vikram-1 have been integrated and stacked at the launch pad.

July 3, 2026

Polity and Governance

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Nagaland Gets First UIDAI Aadhaar Seva Kendra

NEWS ITEM

Nagaland's first **UIDAI Aadhaar Seva Kendra** was inaugurated at **Purana Bazaar, Dimapur** by Advisor for Tribal Affairs and Election **H. Tovihoto Ayemi**. The centre will provide Aadhaar enrolment and update services, with capacity to process up to **250 requests daily**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Nagaland's first **UIDAI Aadhaar Seva Kendra** was opened at **Purana Bazaar, Dimapur**.
- It was inaugurated by **H. Tovihoto Ayemi**, Advisor for Tribal Affairs and Election.
- The centre can process up to **250 enrolment and update requests daily**.
- Biometric update service will remain free of cost until **September 30**.
- The centre will remain open on all days except public holidays.

July 3, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Maruti Suzuki's Fourth Plant Inaugurated at Kharkhoda

NEWS ITEM

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Japanese Prime Minister **Sanae Takaichi** inaugurated **Maruti Suzuki's fourth vehicle manufacturing facility** at **Kharkhoda, Haryana** during the India-Japan Joint Economic Forum. The plant is expected to strengthen India's automobile manufacturing capacity and India-Japan industrial cooperation.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The plant is located at **Kharkhoda, Haryana**.
- It is **Maruti Suzuki's fourth vehicle manufacturing facility** in India.
- The inauguration took place during the **India-Japan Joint Economic Forum**.
- The plant's capacity will be expanded from **5 lakh units** to **10 lakh units** annually.
- The projected total investment at the facility is **₹35,000 crore**.
- Suzuki cars made in India are exported to more than **100 countries**.

July 3, 2026

Defence and Security

Operations & Missions

Government Initiative

Sarla Bhat Case Chargesheet After 36 Years

NEWS ITEM

The **Jammu and Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA)** filed a chargesheet in the 1990 killing of Kashmiri Pandit nurse **Sarla Bhat**, who worked at **SKIMS, Srinagar**. The chargesheet names **JKLF chief Yasin Malik** among five accused and is being viewed as a milestone in reopening legacy terror cases in Jammu and Kashmir.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Sarla Bhat** was a 27-year-old Kashmiri Pandit nurse at **SKIMS, Srinagar**.
- She was abducted in April **1990** and later killed during the peak of militancy in Kashmir.
- The **J&K State Investigation Agency** filed a chargesheet after nearly **36 years**.
- The chargesheet names **Yasin Malik** among five accused.
- Only two of the five accused mentioned in the report are alive.
- The chargesheet is reportedly **737 pages** long.
- The case is being viewed as a landmark in investigating legacy terror crimes in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Yasin Malik is already in **Tihar Jail** in connection with other terror funding-related convictions.

July 3, 2026

Polity and Governance

Places in News

Government Initiative

Temple Donations and Governance Models

NEWS ITEM

A report on the **Ram Temple donation row** explained how major Indian temples manage donations and why their governance systems differ. It showed that most major temples follow similar donation-handling safeguards, but operate under different models such as trusts, statutory boards, Devaswom boards, State departments, mahant-led systems and traditional community-based arrangements.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The report was linked to the **Ram Temple donation row** and examined donation management in major Indian temples.
- Common donation safeguards include authorised opening of hundis, CCTV-monitored counting, separation of cash and valuables, official documentation, audit and bank deposit.
- Approximate annual donations cited in the report include **Tirupati ₹1,880 crore, Vaishno Devi ₹230 crore, Ram Temple ₹150 crore, Siddhivinayak ₹100 crore, Kashi Vishwanath ₹80 crore** and **Puri Jagannath ₹18 crore**.
- **Ram Temple, Ayodhya** follows a trust model under **Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust**.
- **Tirupati** is managed by **Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams**, and its donation counting is associated with the **Parakamani system**.
- **Vaishno Devi** is managed under the **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Act, 1988**.
- **Kashi Vishwanath Temple** is governed under the **Uttar Pradesh Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple Act**.
- **Jagannath Temple, Puri** functions under the **Shri Jagannath Temple Act**.
- **Tamil Nadu HR&CE Department** administers over **40,000 temples** under the Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1959.
- **Travancore Devaswom Board**, constituted in 1950, manages several temples in Kerala, including **Sabarimala**.
- Traditional temple management models include **family management, mahant system** and **akhada/panchayati system**.
- **Article 25(2)** permits State regulation of secular activities associated with religious practice.

July 2, 2026

Science and Technology

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

India's First PinS Procedure for Helicopter Operations

NEWS ITEM

India has approved its first **Private Point-in-Space (PinS) Instrument Approach Procedure** for helicopter operations at **Undavalli Heliport**. Developed by the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** and approved by the **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**, it enables safer satellite-based approaches where conventional landing infrastructure is absent.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's first private **PinS Instrument Approach Procedure** has been approved for **Undavalli Heliport**.
- It was developed by **AAI** and approved by **DGCA**.
- PinS uses satellite-based navigation for helicopter instrument approaches.
- It is useful where conventional landing infrastructure or ground-based navigation aids are unavailable.

July 2, 2026

International Relations

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

India-Japan Energy Resilience Partnership

NEWS ITEM

India and Japan agreed to deepen cooperation on **strategic crude oil stockpiling**, petroleum reserve mechanisms and maritime energy transport value chains. The agreement followed summit-level talks between Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Japanese Prime Minister **Sanae Takaichi** in New Delhi.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India and Japan issued a **Joint Statement on Energy Resilience** on **02 July 2026**.
- The statement followed talks between Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Japanese Prime Minister **Sanae Takaichi** in **New Delhi**.
- The partnership covers strategic crude oil stockpiling, petroleum reserve mechanisms and maritime energy transport value chains.
- Cooperation will include national stockpiling systems, industry stockpiles, coordination with producing countries, emergency response and market stabilisation.
- Indian stakeholders include **Indian National Oil Companies** and **Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL)**.
- Japanese stakeholders include **JOGMEC** and **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)**.

July 2, 2026

Economy

Awards & Honours

Government Initiative

MPEDA Holds Seafood Skill Olympiad Finale in Kochi

NEWS ITEM

The **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)** concluded the second **National Skill Olympiad on Seafood Value Addition** during **Seafood Expo Bharat 2026** in **Kochi**. The event tested the skills of ten trained seafood processing professionals in preparing value-added seafood products for export markets.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The grand finale of the second **National Skill Olympiad on Seafood Value Addition** was held during **Seafood Expo Bharat 2026** in **Kochi**.
- The event was organised by **MPEDA**.
- **P. Surya Bhaskar** of **Devi Fisheries Limited, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh** won the competition and received **₹1 lakh**.
- **Muthu Kumaran** of **Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu** secured the second position.
- **Sagarika Sardar** of **Kolkata** and **Barasarani Jena** of **Bhubaneswar** secured the third and fourth positions respectively.
- Before the finale, MPEDA trained over **2,500 seafood processing workers** through **50 training programmes** across India's east and west coasts.

July 2, 2026

Polity and Governance

Awards & Honours

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

29th National e-Governance Conference Concludes in Jaipur

NEWS ITEM

The **29th National e-Governance Conference** concluded in **Jaipur** with the presentation of the **National e-Governance Awards**. The conference focused on digital governance, emerging technologies and better use of technology in public service delivery.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **29th National e-Governance Conference** was held in **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.
- The conference concluded with the presentation of the **National e-Governance Awards**.
- The awards recognise outstanding e-governance initiatives by Central and State Governments and other organisations.
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** was the chief guest at the valedictory and awards ceremony.
- The conference was jointly organised by **DARPG, MeitY** and the **Government of Rajasthan**.
- The concluding day included three plenary sessions on digital governance and emerging technologies.

July 2, 2026

Defence and Security

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Personalities in News

Army Chief Unveils VIJAY Roadmap

NEWS ITEM

Chief of the Army Staff **General Dhiraj Seth** unveiled a roadmap titled **VIJAY** to transform the Indian Army into a technology-enabled, future-ready force. The roadmap focuses on vigilance, innovation, jointness, self-reliance and soldier-centric development for modern multi-domain warfare.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **General Dhiraj Seth** is the **31st Chief of the Army Staff**.
- He unveiled the **VIJAY** roadmap for a technology-enabled, future-ready Indian Army.
- **V** stands for Vigilance and Readiness.
- **I** stands for Innovation and Transformation.
- **J** stands for Jointness and Integration.
- **A** stands for Aatmanirbharta.
- **Y** stands for Yodha First.
- The roadmap emphasises multi-domain operational capability, indigenous technologies, civil-military fusion and a Whole-of-Nation approach.

July 2, 2026

Economy

Science & Technology

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Building India's Coal Chemistry Capability

NEWS ITEM

An opinion article argued that India's energy security needs deeper **coal chemistry capability**, not only import diversification. It highlighted that while India managed the 2026 **Strait of Hormuz** disruption through refinery flexibility, long-term resilience requires domestic alternatives such as **Dimethyl Ether (DME)** produced through **coal gasification** to reduce LPG import dependence.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The article was written by **R.A. Mashelkar**, distinguished scientist and former Director General of **CSIR**.
- The core argument is that India must move from crisis management to structural reduction of energy import dependence.
- During the Hormuz disruption, India's non-Hormuz crude sourcing reportedly rose from **55% to 70%**.
- Domestic LPG production during the crisis reportedly increased from **35 TMT per day** to **54 TMT per day** within five days.
- **DME** can be produced through coal gasification and can be blended with LPG.
- **BIS** has approved blending of up to **20% DME with LPG**.
- A 20% DME blend could displace around **6.3 million tonnes** of LPG imports annually and save nearly **₹34,000 crore** in foreign exchange.
- The **Surface Coal and Lignite Gasification Scheme** has an outlay of **₹37,500 crore** and targets **100 million tonnes** of coal gasification annually by **2030**.

June 27, 2026

Economy

Important Days

Government Initiative

MSME Day 2026-Udyami Bharat

NEWS ITEM

Vice-President **C. P. Radhakrishnan** presided over the **MSME Day 2026-Udyami Bharat** event in New Delhi and highlighted the MSME sector as a key pillar of **Viksit Bharat by 2047**. He urged universal MSME registration, cost-effective production, quality improvement and adoption of modern technology.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **MSME Day** is observed on **27 June**.
- The Vice-President stated that MSMEs contribute nearly **50% of India's total exports**.
- The event focused on formalisation, digital empowerment, access to finance, market linkages, technology adoption and innovation-led growth.
- Digital initiatives launched included **PMEGP 2.0 Portal**, **SAMADHAAN 2.0 Portal**, **PMS Portal**, **MSME Global Mart 2.0 Portal**, **MSME Testing Portal** and **MSME Idea Hackathon 6.0**.

June 27, 2026

Economy

Places in News

Government Initiative

First Export of GI-Tagged Rewa Sundarja Mangoes to UAE

NEWS ITEM

APEDA facilitated the first commercial export of **GI-tagged Rewa Sundarja Mangoes** from **Madhya Pradesh** to the **United Arab Emirates**. The consignment comprised **one metric tonne** of premium-quality mangoes and is expected to support growers in the Rewa region.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **APEDA** facilitated the first commercial export of **GI-tagged Rewa Sundarja Mangoes** to the **UAE**.
- The mangoes were exported from **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The consignment comprised **one metric tonne** of premium-quality mangoes.
- **GI registration** helps create a distinct identity for region-specific agricultural products in international markets.

June 27, 2026

Economy | Science and Technology

Government Schemes

Government Initiative

11 Years of Digital India: Pushing Frontiers in AI, Semiconductors, and Electronics Manufacturing

NEWS ITEM

Marking the completion of 11 years since its launch on July 1, 2015, the **Digital India** initiative has entered a transformative phase. Transitioning from basic digital connectivity and financial inclusion, the program now strategically focuses on high-tech domains, including the **IndiaAI Mission**, the **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0**, expanding **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** like UPI, and scaling domestic electronics manufacturing to position India as a global tech leader.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Launch Date:** Digital India was launched on **July 1, 2015**.
- **Telecom Infrastructure:** India's 5G network covers 99.9% of districts through 4.74 lakh towers; BharatNet has connected 2.18 lakh gram panchayats via high-speed broadband.
- **Data Sovereignty:** A new National Data Centre for the North-Eastern region was operationalized in **Guwahati** in February 2026.
- **Global Innovation Index (GII):** India's global ranking in the GI improved significantly from **81st in 2015 to 38th in 2025**.
- **Regulatory Milestones:** The **Online Gaming Promotion and Regulation Act** came into effect on May 1, 2026, followed by the establishment of the **Online Gaming Authority of India** in April 2026. The **Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Draft Rules** were released in January 2025 to enforce consent-based data governance.
- **Startup Ecosystem:** Direct employment generated by DPIIT-recognized startups reached **23.36 lakh jobs**, with nearly 48% of these startups having at least one woman director or partner.

June 27, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Launch of Cooperative Mobility Platform 'Bharat Taxi' in Gujarat

NEWS ITEM

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched 'Bharat Taxi', a pioneering cooperative-based mobility platform, at the Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Operating across two-wheeler, auto, and four-wheeler segments, the platform implements Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahkar se Samridhi' in the transport sector by transforming drivers into 'Sarathis' who act as equal shareholders and owners of the cooperative enterprise.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Platform Name:** 'Bharat Taxi' is India's first large-scale cooperative-based mobility platform.
- **Launching Authority:** Inaugurated by the Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Amit Shah, at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- **Supporting Consortium:** Jointly backed by **NCDC, IFFCO, KRIBHCO, NDDB, NABARD, NCEL, and Amul**.
- **Operational Timeline Targets:** Expansion to **7 major cities by July 31, 2026**, and reaching **500+ cities and towns within 2 years**.
- **Strategic MoUs:** Signed with Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation, Gujarat State Cooperative Bank, Traffic Police, Airports Authority of India, Adani Airports, and Western Railway.

June 26, 2026

Economy

Government Initiative

Infrastructure

Civil Aviation Minister Launches India's First 'Easy Connect' Flight from Varanasi

NEWS ITEM

Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu launched India's first '**Easy Connect**' flight from Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi under the **Hub-and-Spoke model**. This initiative aims to transform India into a global aviation hub by 2030 and provide seamless international connectivity to passengers from Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's first '**Easy Connect**' flight under the Hub-and-Spoke model was launched from **Varanasi** (Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport).
- The strategy targets making India a preferred aviation hub for Indian passengers by 2030 and globally by 2047.
- Under this framework, both domestic and international legs of the journey are treated strictly as international operations for security purposes.
- Distinct physical boarding cards are issued for domestic (D) and international (I) passengers to prevent mix-ups.