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Weekly Current Affairs

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National

1. Parag Jain Takes Charge as New RAW Chief After Key Involvement in Operation Sindoor

Parag Jain, a veteran 1989-batch IPS officer of the Punjab cadre, has taken charge as the new Secretary of India's external intelligence agency, R&AW, starting July 1, 2025, succeeding Ravi Sinha. Known for his pivotal role in Operation Sindoor—where his Aviation Research Centre supplied crucial intelligence for precision missile strikes on terror camps—Jain brings expertise in HUMINT, TECHINT, and counterterror operations. His career spans sensitive postings in Jammu and Kashmir, Canada (monitoring Khalistani activity), and Sri Lanka, positioning him to navigate India's evolving security challenges.



2. India to Set Up Global Potato Innovation Centre in Agra

The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the International Potato Center's South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC) in Singna, Agra, marking a major boost to India's agri-food research. With 111-120 crore rupees funding from the government and CIP, the 10-hectare facility will focus on developing climate-resilient potato and sweet potato varieties, enhancing seed systems, pest control, post-harvest handling, processing, and farmer training. This center aims to uplift farmer incomes across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and South Asia while generating rural employment and strengthening India's position

in global root crop innovation.

3. Centre Introduces 'Adi Karmyogi' Initiative for Enhanced Tribal Welfare Program Delivery

The Centre has launched the Adi Karmyogi initiative under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to ensure better outreach and delivery of tribal welfare schemes, complementing existing drives like PM JANMAN and the Dharti Aaba Abhiyan. Running until June 30, the fortnight-long campaign in over 500 districts and 100,000 tribal villages focuses on saturation-level benefit camps—providing Aadhaar, health cards, pensions, bank accounts, land rights, and more—with the active participation of district officials, community leaders, and 17 Union ministries. It aims for inclusive, last-mile service access for tribal communities.



4. India Unveils Nation's Longest Wildlife Overpass on Delhi-Mumbai Expressway

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has inaugurated the country's first dedicated wildlife corridor on a 12 km stretch of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, traversing the buffer of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. Featuring five 500 m overpasses and a 1.2 km underpass, the design allows species—tigers, bears, deer—to cross safely over the eight-lane highway. Collaborated with the Wildlife Institute of India and Environment Ministry, the corridor includes eco features: 35,000 trees, rainwater harvesting, sound barriers, and wildlife monitoring systems.

5. India Rejects Additional Verdict by Court of Arbitration on Indus Waters Treaty

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On June 27, 2025, India officially rejected a supplemental ruling by the Pakistan-backed Court of Arbitration in The Hague, which asserted jurisdiction over India's Kishenganga and Ratle hydropower projects under the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) labelled the court "illegal," deeming its formation a violation of the treaty and Pakistan's influence a 'charade.' India emphasized the treaty is in abeyance following the Pahalgam terror attack and affirmed that only a Neutral Expert, not this court, remains a valid dispute-resolution forum.



6. Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Inaugurates SMFCL

On June 26, 2025, Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL), India's first NBFC dedicated to the maritime sector. Registered with RBI as a Mini Ratna PSU, SMFCL aims to bridge financing gaps by providing customised short-, medium-, and long-term credit to ports, MSMEs, startups, shipping companies, and maritime educational institutions. It will also support strategic segments like shipbuilding, cruise tourism, renewable energy, and digital ports—bolstering the government's Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 and accelerating growth under the Sagarmala initiative.



7. MoSPI Launches GoStats App for Seamless Access to Official Data

On Statistics Day 2025, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched a new mobile application called GoStats. This digital tool is designed to provide real-time and on-the-go access to official government statistics. The app will allow users to easily find and utilize crucial data related to the nation's economy and social indicators, such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), inflation rates, and employment figures. This initiative aims to enhance transparency and accessibility of government data for various stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, students, and the general public.

8. State Bank of India (SBI) Day 2025

July 1st, 2025, marks the annual celebration of State Bank of India (SBI) Day, commemorating the bank's establishment on this date in 1955. This significant day highlights SBI's enduring legacy and its pivotal role in India's financial landscape. Over the past six years, between the financial years 2018 and 2024, SBI has demonstrated remarkable growth, successfully doubling its balance sheet. Furthermore, the bank maintains a dominant position in the retail loan market, holding at least a 25% share in both its overall retail loan book, which stands at Rs. 15.60 lakh crore, and specifically in home loans, underscoring its widespread reach and impact on individual borrowers across the nation.

9. Kumram Bheem Conservation Reserve Declared in Telangana

The Government of Telangana has officially designated the Kawal-Tadoba tiger corridor as the Kumram Bheem Conservation Reserve. This newly declared reserve spans an expansive area of nearly 1,493 square kilometers. The primary objective behind establishing this conservation reserve is to significantly bolster the ongoing efforts aimed at protecting India's critically

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important big cat population, particularly tigers, and to safeguard other vital biodiversity within the central Indian landscape. This move is expected to enhance habitat connectivity and provide a safer environment for wildlife movement and proliferation.

10. Turmeric Board Initiatives for Export and Farmer Empowerment

The recently constituted Turmeric Board has outlined ambitious goals aimed at significantly boosting India's turmeric sector. A key objective is to increase turmeric exports to a target of USD 1 billion by the year 2030, which would mark a substantial rise in global trade. Beyond exports, the board is committed to actively promoting the numerous medicinal benefits associated with turmeric, both domestically and internationally. Furthermore, it seeks to expand India's presence in international markets and empower Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to enhance the overall strength and efficiency of the turmeric value chain. To support these efforts, branches of the National Export Cooperative Limited (NECL) and National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) are slated to be established in Nizamabad, Telangana, facilitating trade and farmer support.

11. Gujarat Launches Jan Suraksha Santruhti Abhiyan to Broaden Access to Welfare Schemes

On June 30, 2025, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel launched the Jan Suraksha Santruhti Abhiyan in Gandhinagar, initiating a national campaign (July 1–September 30) to ensure 100% coverage of key welfare schemes like PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY, and PMJDY. The campaign focuses on identifying unserved eligible citizens, promoting digital literacy, encouraging KYC updates, and ensuring direct benefit delivery. With over 1.93 crore Jan Dhan accounts and Rs. 21,409 crore in DBT disbursed, the initiative aims to deepen financial inclusion and social security outreach.

12. CM Nitish Kumar Launches Youth and Cultural Welfare Initiatives Ahead of Assembly Polls

On July 1, 2025, the Bihar Cabinet approved key welfare schemes to boost youth employment, support artists, and promote religious tourism. The *Mukhya Mantri Pratigya Yojana* offers monthly stipends to interns, while the *Kalakari Pension Yojana* provides Rs. 3,000 pensions to senior artists. A Rs. 882 crore plan was sanctioned for developing the Punaura Dham temple in Sitamarhi. Amendments to factory rules now allow women (excluding pregnant/lactating women) to work in hazardous units. These initiatives align with Bihar's focus on employment and cultural preservation.

13. Union Cabinet Clears Rs. 1,853 Crore Four-Lane Highway Project in Tamil Nadu

On July 1, 2025, the Union Cabinet approved a Rs. 1,853 crore four-lane highway project between Paramakudi and Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu under NH-87. Spanning 46.7 km and executed via Hybrid Annuity Mode, the project aims to decongest traffic, boost tourism to Rameshwaram, and enhance regional trade. Generating over 18 lakh employment person-days, it addresses road safety concerns and supports economic growth. The upgrade aligns with Sagarmala and Bharatmala initiatives, strengthening connectivity and infrastructure in semi-urban and coastal regions.

14. ESIC Unveils SPREE 2025 to Broaden Social Security Reach

Launched on July 1, 2025, SPREE 2025 is an ESIC initiative aimed at expanding social security by registering unregistered employers and workers, including contractual and gig workers. Running till December 31, 2025, it offers a simplified digital registration process and immunity from past inspections or contribution demands. Employers can self-declare registration dates without fear of penalties. Chaired by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya,

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this move promotes voluntary compliance and supports India's goal of universal social protection and inclusive labour welfare.

15. Virudhunagar Set to Emerge as Global Textile Hub Under PM MITRA Scheme

The Government of India has approved a Rs. 1,900 crore PM MITRA Textile Park in Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu, to enhance India's global textile competitiveness. Spread over 1,052 acres, it will feature advanced infrastructure, including a ZLD treatment plant, a 10,000-bed dormitory, and 1.3 million sq. ft. of ready industrial space. Targeted for completion by 2026, the park is expected to attract Rs. 10,000 crore in investment and create over one lakh jobs, supporting sustainable, value-added textile manufacturing and export-led growth.

16. NIPCCD Renamed in Honour of Savitribai Phule, Emphasises Regional Capacity Development

On July 2, 2025, the Central Government renamed NIPCCD as the Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development, honouring India's first female teacher and social reformer. Announced by Minister Annpurna Devi, the move reflects a commitment to inclusive, mission-driven welfare. A new Regional Centre in Ranchi will support Eastern states with training for schemes like Mission Shakti and Poshan 2.0. This decentralization aims to strengthen last-mile delivery, promote gender-sensitive development, and enhance support for frontline workers and adolescents.

17. Coal Ministry Set to Launch RECLAIM Framework for Eco-Friendly Mine Closure

The Ministry of Coal will launch the RECLAIM Framework on July 4, 2025, to guide inclusive and sustainable mine closures in India. RECLAIM stands for Repurposing, Engagement, Community, Livelihoods, Assets, Inclusivity, Mine-

closure. It promotes gender inclusion, community participation, and support for vulnerable groups. The framework includes tools for stakeholder mapping, social impact assessment, and monitoring. Aligned with local governance systems, RECLAIM aims to repurpose mine sites for productive use, ensuring just transition and empowering rural and coal-dependent communities.

18. Slice Unveils India's First UPI-Enabled Bank Branch in Bengaluru

Fintech firm slice has launched India's first UPI-powered digital bank branch in Koramangala, Bengaluru, marking its transition from a digital platform to a full-stack bank. The branch features a UPI ATM and the slice UPI Super Card, offering up to 3% cashback and "slice in 3" EMI options. With no annual fees, the card provides credit via UPI payments. Slice aims to democratize credit access, especially for underserved segments, by integrating technology and trust into every banking interaction.

19. Aadhaar Logs Close to 230 Crore Authentication Transactions in June 2025

In June 2025, UIDAI recorded 229.33 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions, a 7.8% rise from June 2024, reflecting its growing role in digital identity verification. Cumulatively, Aadhaar has enabled over 15,452 crore transactions since inception. AI-powered face authentication surged to 15.87 crore in June, with over 100 organizations using the secure, app-based technology. Additionally, Aadhaar facilitated 39.47 crore e-KYC transactions, streamlining verification for banks and service providers, and reinforcing its importance in India's digital inclusion and public service delivery efforts.

20. Gujarat Enters One-Crore Milestone in Stock Market Investor Count

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Gujarat has become the third Indian state to surpass one crore registered stock market investors, joining Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. Together, these states represent 36% of India's total investor base. As of May 2025, India has nearly 11.5 crore investors, with May alone adding over 11 lakh new registrations. North India leads regionally with 4.2 crore investors, followed by the West, South, and East. Notably, North and East India showed the highest annual growth, reflecting expanding financial awareness and digital access.

International

1. India Engages with China Over Rare Earth Magnet Supply Amid Export Limitations

India has initiated diplomatic talks with China to secure the supply of rare earth magnets, as Beijing's April export restrictions threaten India's tech, automotive, and energy sectors. With over 90% of global processing controlled by China, Indian automakers rely on just 4–6 weeks of inventory. New Delhi is sending industry delegations, offering enduser certificates, planning incentives, and fasttracking domestic mining, processing, recycling, and stockpile schemes to build resilience.

2. G7 Nations Agree to Exempt U.S. Firms from Global Minimum Tax

In a significant development in international tax diplomacy, the G7 nations have reached an agreement to exempt U.S. multinational companies from the global minimum tax. This decision marks a pivotal shift in the ongoing discussions surrounding international corporate taxation. The global minimum tax aims to ensure that large multinational corporations pay a minimum level of tax regardless of where they operate, preventing a 'race to the bottom' in corporate tax rates. The exemption for U.S. firms could have implications for global tax harmonization efforts and the competitive

landscape for businesses worldwide.

3. Kailash Mansarovar Yatra Resumes After Five Years

The revered Kailash Mansarovar Yatra has officially resumed via the Lipulekh Pass on June 30, 2025, after a suspension of five years. This significant pilgrimage was halted in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequently by tensions along the India-China border. This year, India has granted permission for 750 citizens to undertake this arduous journey, organizing them into 15 distinct groups. The yatra, which typically spans over 20 days, is open to Indian citizens aged 18 to 70 who are physically and medically fit and possess a valid passport. Both the Nathu La and Lipulekh Pass routes are now accessible, offering different levels of difficulty and travel distances for pilgrims.

4. Zohran Mamdani Makes Waves in New York City

On July 1, 2025, Zohran Mamdani, a 33-year-old democratic socialist, won the New York City Democratic Mayoral Primary, defeating former Governor Andrew Cuomo by 12 points after ranked choice voting. Mamdani's grassroots campaign centred on affordability and equity, resonating with voters despite his initial underdog status. His victory marks a major political shift, challenging establishment politics. Known for bold stances on police reform and Gaza, Mamdani's win highlights a generational and ideological transformation in urban American leadership.

5. Pakistan Takes Over UN Security Council Presidency for July 2025

On July 1, 2025, Pakistan assumed the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) presidency for July, during its two-year non-permanent membership. Led by Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, Pakistan aims to promote multilateralism, peacebuilding, and adherence to

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international law. Key events include high-level debates on conflict resolution, Palestine, and cooperation with the OIC. Chaired by Deputy PM Ishaq Dar, this presidency highlights Pakistan's expanding diplomatic role, regional concerns, and its influence on issues like Afghan stability amid rising global tensions.

6. Jio Emerges as the World's Leading Fixed Wireless Access Provider

Reliance Jio has become the world's largest Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) provider, surpassing T-Mobile with over 20 million subscribers by mid-2025. This milestone highlights Jio's rapid broadband expansion through its 5G-powered Jio AirFiber, launched in 2023. With affordable plans and 98% population coverage, Jio has revolutionized internet access in rural and tier-3 regions. Its success supports education, healthcare, and e-commerce, promoting digital inclusion. Jio's FWA model is now attracting global interest as a scalable solution for emerging economies.

7. SAIL Establishes First International Office in Dubai to Expand Global Footprint

SAIL has inaugurated its first international Representative Office in Dubai, marking a key step in its global expansion strategy. Chosen for its access to MENA markets and global trade routes, Dubai will help SAIL boost exports and strengthen India-UAE trade ties. The office aligns with India's National Steel Vision 2030 and aims to enhance client engagement, market intelligence, and business opportunities. This move supports India's goal of becoming a global steel leader and reflects the deepening India-UAE economic partnership.

8. Nvidia Poised to Become the Most Valuable Company in Global History

Nvidia has become the world's most valuable company with a USD 3.92 trillion market cap, surpassing Apple. This historic rise is driven by

surging demand for Nvidia's AI chips, essential for powering major tech firms' AI data centers. Founded in 1993, Nvidia evolved from a gaming chipmaker to a global AI leader. Despite brief challenges, it now dominates the S&P 500 and replaced Intel on the Dow Jones. Analysts hail this as a "Golden Wave" in AI, with Nvidia at its core.

9. Russia Becomes the First Nation to Formally Acknowledge the Taliban Government

On July 3, 2025, Russia became the first country to officially recognize the Taliban government in Afghanistan, removing the group from its list of banned organizations and accepting its appointed ambassador. This marks a major diplomatic shift, potentially influencing other nations to follow. The Taliban welcomed the move as historic. Russia's recognition, given its global influence and regional presence, may reshape international engagement with Afghanistan, which has remained largely unrecognized since the Taliban's return to power in August 2021.

Sports

1. Neeraj Chopra Wins Gold at Ostrava Golden Spike 2025

India's Olympic gold medalist in javelin throw, Neeraj Chopra, continued his stellar performance by winning the gold medal at the Ostrava Golden Spike 2025 event. His winning throw measured 85.29 meters, showcasing his consistent excellence in the sport. This victory adds another significant achievement to his already impressive career, reinforcing his position as one of the world's leading javelin throwers. The Ostrava Golden Spike is a prestigious athletics meeting, and Chopra's win here is a strong indicator of his form ahead of major upcoming competitions.

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In a strategic move to bolster India's sovereign space capabilities, SatSure and Dhruva Space have announced a collaboration to provide end-to-end Earth Observation (EO) solutions. This partnership aims to integrate the upstream (satellite manufacturing and launch) and downstream (data analysis and applications) segments of the space value chain. By combining KaleidEO's payloads with Dhruva Space's satellite platform infrastructure, the alliance will offer comprehensive, full-stack space solutions. This indigenous innovation-focused collaboration seeks to accelerate mission delivery, reduce operational costs, and significantly contribute to India's burgeoning private space sector.

2. SCO Defence Ministers Meeting Held

The Defence Ministers from all 10 member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) convened for a crucial meeting. Union Minister Rajnath Singh, representing the Ministry of Defence (MoD), led the Indian delegation at this significant gathering. This visit by an Indian Defence Minister to China marks a notable diplomatic event, as it is the first such visit since the Galwan Valley clash in June 2020. The meeting provided a platform for discussions on regional security, counter-terrorism efforts, and strengthening defence cooperation among the SCO member nations.

3. India Organises Inaugural National Conference of Urban Local Body Chairpersons in Gurugram

On July 3, 2025, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the first National Conference of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) Chairpersons at Manesar, Gurugram. Held over two days, the event aimed to empower ULBs in urban

governance and nation-building. With the theme "Role of ULBs in Strengthening Constitutional Democracy," discussions focused on democracy, inclusivity, innovation, Vision 2047, and women's empowerment. Dignitaries including Union Minister Manohar Lal and Governor Bandaru Dattatraya participated, highlighting ULBs' key role in India's urban transformation.

4. India-Sri Lanka Educational Bond Deepens with Introduction of Hindi Language Course at KDU

In a boost to India-Sri Lanka cultural ties, Colombo's General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) has launched a Hindi Language Learning Programme in collaboration with the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre. Inaugurated by Indian High Commissioner Santosh Jha, the course will serve military and civilian students, offering practical skills in Hindi. The initiative promotes cultural understanding, academic exchange, and regional cooperation. Building on earlier distance learning success, this on-campus elective strengthens people-to-people ties and enhances Hindi's global relevance.

Ranks/Reports/Indices**1. Meta Highlights Decade-Long Boom in Indian Startup Landscape in Latest Report**

A recent Metacommissioned report by Alvarez and Marsal India highlights a transformational decade for Indian startups. Over 70% of them now integrate AI in core operations, with 87% of adopters achieving ~30% reductions in marketing costs. Startups are diversifying into omnichannel models (67%), collaborating with creators (88%), expanding to Tier2/3 cities, and targeting cross-border markets. India now boasts 150,000+ DPIIT-recognized startups—with nonmetro founders making up half—and ranks third globally in unicorn valuation and tech funding.

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2. Agricultural and Allied Sectors Output Report Released for 2011–2024 Period

The National Statistical Office (NSO), under MoSPI, has released its "Statistical Report on Value of Output from Agriculture and Allied Sectors" covering 2011–12 to 2023–24. The Gross Value Added (GVA) surged ~225% in current prices (Rupees 1,502 trn to Rupees 4,878 trn), while Gross Value of Output (GVO) rose ~54.6% in constant prices (Rupees 1,908 trn to Rupees 2,949 trn). Crops led the output (~54%), with livestock, forestry, and fisheries also showing strong growth. Horticulture and aquaculture notably expanded, reflecting India's diversified agri-sector boom.

3. India's External Debt Rises 10% to USD 736.3 Billion in FY25

According to recent data, India's external debt increased by 10% in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), reaching a total of USD 736.3 billion. This growth has also led to the external debt-to-GDP ratio climbing to 19.1%. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) noted that major contributors to this rise include borrowings by non-financial corporations and the government. While US dollar-denominated loans continue to dominate the composition of India's external debt, the increase in the short-term debt share relative to forex reserves raises questions about potential vulnerability to external shocks.

4. Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025 Released

In June 2025, the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a prominent global think tank based in Sydney, Australia, released its 19th edition of the Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025. This comprehensive index provides a ranking of countries based on their peacefulness. According to the 2025 index, India has shown a positive improvement in its ranking, climbing one position to 115th place with a score of 2.229, up from its 116th rank in 2024. For the 17th consecutive time, Iceland has maintained its

position as the most peaceful country globally, with an impressive GPI score of 1.095. Conversely, Russia has been identified as the least peaceful country in 2025, ranking 163rd with a score of 3.441, marking its first time in this position.

5. India Achieves Significant Decline in Under-Five Mortality Rate

India has achieved a remarkable milestone in public health, recording a 78% decline in its under-five mortality rate. This substantial reduction places India in a leading position, as this decline significantly surpasses the global average. The achievement underscores the effectiveness of various health interventions, improved healthcare access, enhanced maternal and child health programs, and increased awareness regarding child welfare across the country. This positive trend reflects a stronger commitment to child survival and well-being, contributing to overall health improvements.

6. 2025 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index

The 2025 Sustainable Development Report reveals that none of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are on track for full achievement by 2030, with only 17% of targets progressing as planned. While progress is noted in healthcare, infrastructure, and basic services, setbacks persist in press freedom, corruption, nutrition, and environmental health. The SDG Index 2025 highlights a global divide, with Nordic countries like Finland, Sweden, and Denmark leading the rankings, reflecting strong commitments to inclusive and sustainable development.

Science and tech/Space/Defence

1.Parag Jain Appointed as New RAW Chief

Senior IPS Officer Parag Jain has been appointed as the new Chief of the Research and Analysis

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Wing (RAW), India's external intelligence agency. This significant appointment follows the retirement of the previous chief, Ravi Sinha, on June 30, 2025. Jain's elevation to this crucial role is largely attributed to his pivotal leadership and intelligence acumen during 'Operation Sindoor.' This covert and strategic counteroffensive was launched in response to the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, 2025, which tragically resulted in the deaths of 26 civilians. 'Operation Sindoor' involved precision strikes, real-time intelligence gathering, and multi-agency coordination, successfully targeting Pakistan-backed terror infrastructure and concluding with a ceasefire on May 10, 2025.

2. G7 Nations Pledge Increased Aid for Climate Resilience in Developing Countries

The Group of Seven (G7) nations, at a special summit held today, July 1, 2025, have collectively pledged an additional USD 50 billion in financial aid to support climate resilience initiatives in developing countries. This commitment aims to help vulnerable nations adapt to the escalating impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and food insecurity. The G7 leaders emphasized the urgent need for global solidarity and increased investment in sustainable development and green technologies to combat the climate crisis effectively.

3. SatSure and Dhruva Space to Offer End-to-End Earth Observation Solutions

In a significant development for the space and technology sector, SatSure and Dhruva Space have announced a collaboration to jointly offer end-to-end Earth Observation Solutions. This partnership aims to integrate SatSure's expertise in data analytics and artificial intelligence for satellite imagery with Dhruva Space's capabilities in satellite manufacturing and deployment. The collaboration is expected to provide comprehensive services ranging from

satellite design and launch to data acquisition, processing, and actionable insights for various applications, including agriculture, urban planning, and disaster management, offering a complete solution for Earth observation needs.

4. RailOne Mobile App Unveiled

On July 2, 2025, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the 'RailOne' mobile app, a unified digital platform offering services like ticket booking, PNR enquiry, journey planning, meal booking, and freight enquiries. Introduced during the 40th Foundation Day of CRIS, the app aims to enhance convenience and streamline travel for Indian Railways users. With features like R-Wallet, biometric login, and single sign-on, RailOne supports the Digital India initiative and improves accessibility for over 23 million daily railway passengers.

5. INS Tamal Inducted in Kaliningrad

India commissioned INS Tamal (F71), a stealth guided missile frigate, on July 1, 2025, at Yantar Shipyard in Russia. This marks the last major foreign-built warship for the Indian Navy, highlighting India's shift toward defence indigenisation under Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Equipped with BrahMos missiles, advanced sonar, and multi-role warfare systems, INS Tamal joins the Western Fleet to enhance maritime strength. As the 51st Indo-Russian collaborative ship, it reflects deep bilateral ties and India's strategic move toward domestic warship production.

6. Union Minister C.R. Patil Unveils C-FLOOD, India's First Integrated Flood Forecasting System

On July 2, 2025, Union Minister C.R. Patil launched C-FLOOD, a web-based Unified Inundation Forecasting System, to enhance India's flood preparedness. Developed by C-DAC, CWC, and NRSC under the National Supercomputing Mission, it provides two-day advance village-level flood forecasts using high-performance

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computing and 2-D hydrodynamic modelling. Covering Mahanadi, Godavari, and Tapi basins, it supports disaster management with real-time mapping and decision-making tools. C-FLOOD aims to improve evacuation planning, reduce flood damage, and promote digital, climate-resilient governance.

7. Indore Unveils India's First QR-Code Enabled Digital Address System for Homes

Indore Municipal Corporation has launched India's first Digital House Address Project under the Smart Cities Mission, replacing traditional addresses with QR-coded plates linked to GPS coordinates. Piloted in Ward 82, Sudama Nagar, each plate integrates with the national Digipin system, enabling citizens to access civic services via mobile scan. This initiative enhances service delivery, emergency response, and urban planning while supporting digital governance. It marks a scalable, tech-driven model for standardizing urban addresses across India, with nationwide adoption expected to follow.

8. Ancient Egyptian Genome Decoded for the First Time

In a groundbreaking study published on July 2, 2025, researchers sequenced the first complete genome of an ancient Egyptian from the Old Kingdom period, over 4,500 years ago. Discovered in Nuwayrat, the well-preserved DNA revealed the man had predominantly North African ancestry with 22% Mesopotamian influence, suggesting early cross-regional interactions. This marks a major breakthrough in ancient DNA research, especially in arid regions like Egypt, and offers valuable insights into ancient human migration, genetic diversity, and cultural exchange in early civilizations.

Miscellaneous

1. Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath Celebrated with

Grandeur Across the Nation

The annual Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath has been celebrated with grandeur across India, led by the iconic procession from the Jagannath Temple in Puri to Gundicha Temple on June 27. The nine-day festival includes rituals like Snana Purnima, Gundicha Marjana, Hera Panchami, Bahuda Yatra, Suna Besha, and concludes with Niladri Bijie. Millions of devotees nationwide — from Puri to Ahmedabad, London, and Edinburgh — pulled chariots, chanted hymns, and performed 'chhera pahanra'. Enhanced security, IMD weather alerts, and community-driven events highlight the festival's cultural and spiritual unity.

2. Post Offices to Accept UPI Payments Nationwide by August 2025

Starting August 2025, all post offices across India will begin accepting digital payments through dynamic QR codes linked to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system. This initiative is part of the Department of Posts' IT 2.0 upgrade and follows a successful pilot program implemented in Karnataka. The move aims to significantly boost financial inclusion, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas, by providing a secure, seamless, and cashless transaction experience at postal counters. Replacing static QR codes, this real-time dynamic system aligns with the broader goals of Digital India and fostering a cashless economy.

3. Adani Green Becomes First Indian Firm to Cross 15 GW Renewable Energy Milestone

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian company to surpass 15 gigawatts (GW) of installed renewable energy capacity. This achievement marks a significant step forward in India's clean energy transition. The company's portfolio includes flagship projects such as Khavda, which is currently under development as the world's largest renewable plant. With

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ambitious plans to reach 50 GW by 2030, AGEL is setting a rapid pace for sustainable energy development. In Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) alone, AGEL added 3,309 megawatts (MW) to its capacity, setting a national record and reflecting India's broader ambition to become a global leader in green energy.

4. Warren Buffett Donates USD 6 Billion to Five Philanthropic Foundations in 2025

Famed investor and billionaire philanthropist Warren Buffett, Chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, has announced a substantial donation of USD 6 billion to five philanthropic foundations in 2025. This significant contribution continues his long-standing commitment to charitable giving. Buffett is well-known for his 'Giving Pledge,' a campaign he co-founded with Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates, which encourages billionaires to commit the majority of their wealth to philanthropy. His latest donation will further support the work of these foundations in various areas, including global health, poverty alleviation, and education.

5. National Doctor's Day 2025 Theme: 'Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?'

National Doctor's Day 2025, observed annually on July 1st, commemorates the invaluable contributions of doctors and healthcare professionals across India. Established in 1991, this day honors the birth and death anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, a legendary physician and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal. The theme for National Doctor's Day 2025 is 'Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?'. This theme highlights the critical importance of addressing the mental health and emotional well-being of doctors, urging society to acknowledge and support those who dedicate their lives to caring for others.

6. Maharashtra Transporters Initiate Indefinite

Strike

Transport operators across Maharashtra have commenced an indefinite strike starting July 1, 2025. The primary reason for this widespread protest is their strong opposition to the e-challan system. The operators allege that they are being unfairly fined for routine operational activities, such as stopping at designated bus stops or parking near educational institutions like schools. This indefinite strike aims to draw attention to their grievances and pressure authorities to address the issues they face with the current e-challan system, demanding policy reforms to ensure fair and reasonable enforcement.

7. World Sports Journalists Day 2025

World Sports Journalists Day 2025, observed on July 2, honours the dedication of reporters, writers, and photographers who bring the spirit of sports to life. Celebrated globally, this year's theme, "*Championing Fair Play: Reporting with Integrity and Impact*", emphasises ethical and truthful journalism. Established in 1994 by AIPS, the day acknowledges the crucial role of media in shaping sports narratives, promoting press freedom, and inspiring future journalists. Celebrations include tributes, poster creation, webinars, and sharing behind-the-scenes stories.

8. Kesavan Ramachandran Named New Executive Director of RBI

The Reserve Bank of India appointed Kesavan Ramachandran as Executive Director effective July 1, 2025, to lead the Department of Regulation's Prudential Regulation Division. With over 30 years of experience, including roles in risk monitoring, currency management, and bank supervision, Ramachandran brings deep expertise to the role. His appointment comes at a critical time as the RBI strengthens its focus on financial stability and regulatory oversight, reinforcing its capacity to manage evolving risks in the banking and non-banking financial

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9. PM Modi Conferred with Ghana's 'Order of the Star' Honour

During his first state visit to Ghana on July 3, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with Ghana's highest civilian award, the "Officer of the Order of the Star of Ghana," by President John Dramani Mahama. The award acknowledges his global leadership and commitment to South-South cooperation. Key agreements focused on education, healthcare, agriculture, digital finance, and trade. The visit marked a major step in strengthening India-Ghana ties and reaffirmed India's outreach to Africa and the Global South.

10. Puducherry Becomes First State to Include TB Screening in Family Adoption Initiative

Puducherry has become India's first Union Territory to integrate TB screening into the Family Adoption Programme, where medical students adopt families for long-term health monitoring. Students screen adopted families for TB, assist in diagnosis and treatment, and conduct verbal autopsies to study TB-related deaths. With nine medical colleges contributing 45% of TB case notifications, advanced diagnostics like AI chest X-rays and NAAT are used for high-risk groups. This proactive model supports the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme's mission to detect and treat TB early.



11. Sunil Kadam Named Executive Director of SEBI

Sunil Kadam has been appointed Executive Director at SEBI, bringing nearly 30 years of experience. He will oversee key departments including IT, investor education, economic policy, and general services. His leadership aims to enhance SEBI's efficiency, transparency, and investor protection. Kadam's past roles span market regulation, surveillance, and investigations. He also contributed to international policy and held leadership roles at NISM and SEBI's Northern office. With strong expertise in finance and law, his appointment is expected to strengthen India's financial regulatory system.

12. Air Marshal S. Sivakumar Assumes Role of Air Officer-in-Charge Administration

Air Marshal S. Sivakumar has been appointed Air Officer-in-Charge Administration at Air Force Headquarters, bringing over 35 years of service and global experience, including a UN mission in Congo. Air Marshal Jasvir Singh Mann took charge as Senior Air Staff Officer of Western Air Command, with over 3,000 flying hours. Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari assumed the role of Vice Chief of the Air Staff on May 2, 2025. He is a decorated officer, recently awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal.

