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**National****1. PM Modi Receives Daruma Doll During Japan Visit**

On August 29, 2025, during his visit to Japan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was presented with a Daruma doll, a meaningful symbol reflecting the deep spiritual and historical connection between India and Japan. The Daruma doll, which signifies determination and goal achievement, is tied to Bodhidharma, the Indian monk credited with introducing Zen Buddhism. This exchange highlights the importance of cultural diplomacy, emphasizing the shared traditions between the two countries while strengthening their spiritual and diplomatic bonds.

**2. NARI 2025 Report Highlights Women's Safety Gaps**

The National Annual Report & Index on Women's Safety (NARI) 2025, released by the National Commission for Women, assesses urban safety for women across 31 Indian cities based on a survey of 12,770 women. With a national safety score of 65%, cities like Kohima and Mumbai rank safest, while Patna and Delhi rank lowest. Despite six in ten women feeling safe, harassment remains prevalent, especially among women under 24. The report highlights low confidence in redressal systems and widespread gaps in infrastructure and institutional responsiveness.

**3. President Murmu Presents SCOPE Eminence Awards 2025**

On August 29, 2025, in New Delhi, President Droupadi Murmu presented the SCOPE Eminence Awards to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in recognition of their excellence and contributions. The awards recognize CPSEs' excellence in governance, innovation, and sustainability. Murmu highlighted their pivotal role in achieving a Developed India by 2047. The

awards celebrate CPSE contributions across various sectors, including defense, agriculture, and manufacturing, aligning with national campaigns like Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India.

**4. UDISE+ Report Highlights Growth in India's Education**

The UDISE+ 2024-25 report from the Ministry of Education shows that India's teacher count has exceeded 1 crore. UDISE+ is a real-time educational data management system that collects and monitors comprehensive data from all recognized schools across the country, from pre-primary to higher secondary levels. Each school is assigned a unique 11-digit code and uses integrated modules to update infrastructure, student, and teacher data, ensuring data accuracy and transparency at block, district, state, and national levels.

**5. India-Japan Seal Strategic 2025 Partnership Agreements**

During PM Modi's August 2025 visit to Tokyo, India and Japan signed transformative agreements across defense, digital tech, clean energy, and cultural exchange. A Joint Vision for 2035 was unveiled, targeting cooperation in eight strategic sectors. Key deals include defense personnel exchange, a new AI initiative, lunar mission collaboration, and a ¥10 trillion private investment goal. Sustainability efforts, infrastructure development, and people-to-people ties were also emphasized, marking a new era in India-Japan bilateral relations.

**6. Reliance Builds Massive Green Energy Hub in Gujarat**

Reliance Industries is developing a large clean energy network across Jamnagar and Kutch in Gujarat. During its 48th Annual General Meeting, the company unveiled plans for gigafactories to manufacture solar panels, hydrogen, batteries, and electrolyzers. The solar farm in Kutch,

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covering 550,000 acres—three times the size of Singapore—is expected to supply roughly 10% of India's future electricity demand. Through green fuel exports from Kandla, Reliance aims to establish India as a global green energy leader by 2026.

#### **7. Government Launches Rs 25,000 Cr Export Boost Plan**

The Indian government has allocated Rs 25,000 crore under the Export Promotion Mission for the period 2025–2031 to boost export growth, focusing primarily on MSMEs. This initiative is led by multiple key ministries and features two main sub-schemes: Niryat Protsahan, with over Rs 10,000 crore aimed at providing financial support, and Niryat Disha, allocating more than Rs 14,500 crore towards capacity building, branding, and market expansion. The mission includes measures such as interest equalisation, alternative trade financing, quality standards support, and enhanced logistics to help MSMEs tackle non-tariff barriers and integrate effectively into global value chains.

#### **8. India-China Diplomatic Reset Gains Strategic Momentum**

PM Modi and President Xi Jinping met at the SCO Summit in Tianjin, marking a positive shift in the previously strained India-China relations. They discussed restarting direct flights, resuming border trade, and allowing the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. Both leaders emphasized cooperation, strategic autonomy, and de-escalation of border tensions post-Galwan. Their renewed engagement marks a shift towards mutual trust and collaboration, with implications for regional stability, global diplomacy, and economic growth — especially within the Global South and multilateral platforms.

#### **9. India Pioneers Barrier-Free Multi-Lane Tolling**

India launched its first Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling system at the Choryasi Fee Plaza

in Gujarat, aiming to revolutionize highway travel by eliminating toll barriers. This high-tech system uses FASTag and vehicle recognition to automatically charge tolls without stopping, reducing congestion and emissions. Supported by a partnership between IHMCL, NHAI, and ICICI Bank, MLFF will expand to multiple highways across the country, enhancing efficiency, transparency, and driver convenience.

#### **10. India Launches First Mobile Glass Factory**

On August 30, 2025, India inaugurated its first tempered glass manufacturing facility for mobile devices in Noida, marking a significant step forward in the nation's electronics production sector. A collaboration between Optimus Electronics and Corning Incorporated, the facility will reduce import dependency and support the "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" missions. With a phased expansion plan, the plant will scale from 25 million to 200 million units annually and create over 5,000 jobs, marking a significant milestone in India's growing electronics ecosystem.

#### **11. India Digitizes 2,000 Public Services Nationwide**

India's National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has integrated 1,938 e-Government services across all 36 states and UTs through platforms like DigiLocker and e-District. This milestone enhances 24/7 citizen access to key services such as birth certificates, welfare applications, and utility bill payments reducing paperwork and improving efficiency. Leading states include Maharashtra and Delhi. With plans to adopt AI, the initiative will enable predictive, personalized governance and foster greater inclusivity for underserved communities, advancing the goals of the Digital India mission.

#### **12. India Launches AI Tribal Language Translator**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched Adi Vaani, India's first AI-powered tribal language translator



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translator, to preserve endangered dialects and promote cultural inclusion. Developed by IIT Delhi and partners, it supports translation between tribal languages and Hindi/English with text, speech, and OCR tools. Currently covering four tribal languages, Adi Vaani aims to enhance education, healthcare, and governance access while empowering tribal communities through digital literacy and participation, aligning with national missions for inclusive growth.

### 13. India Post Payments Bank commemorates 8 years since its founding

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) celebrated its 8th Foundation Day on September 1, 2025, highlighting its role in last-mile banking with over 12 crore customers. Established in 2018 under the Department of Posts, it integrates 1.64 lakh post offices and 1.90 lakh+ postmen and GDS, serving 5.57 lakh villages in 13 languages. IPPB offers digital savings, Aadhaar-based authentication, RuPay cards, AePS, Bharat BillPay, DBT, pensions, credit, insurance, and remittances, emerging as a key model of financial inclusion and technology-driven banking in rural India.

### 14. IEPFA launches the second phase of Niveshak Didi, aimed at empowering women investors

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) launched Phase II of Niveshak Didi on September 1, 2025, in Hyderabad, focusing on women-led financial literacy in rural India. This "for women, by women" initiative empowers women to make informed financial decisions, prevent fraud, adopt digital banking, and understand safe investments. By strengthening household planning and promoting secure digital platforms, it enhances financial inclusion and community resilience. Niveshak Didi aligns with India's inclusive growth goals, fostering a culture of savings, trust, and responsible investment.

### 15. NCERT marks its 65th anniversary by

### introducing Bal Vatika TV and DIKSHA 2.0

On September 1, 2025, NCERT celebrated its 65th Foundation Day, launching initiatives aligned with NEP 2020, including Bal Vatika TV Channel, DIKSHA 2.0, and PRASHAST 2.0. Bal Vatika targets children aged 3–6 for foundational learning, while DIKSHA 2.0 offers AI-powered, multilingual digital education. PRASHAST 2.0 supports early disability identification, and Kitab Ek Padhe Anek ensures inclusive textbooks. Additional launches included VR Labs, PM eVidya app, primers in multiple languages, and vocational education guides, reinforcing NCERT's focus on digital learning, inclusivity, and curriculum innovation.

### 16. Gangtok Secures 5th Position Among the Safest Cities for Women in India

Gangtok has been ranked the 5th safest city for women in India with a 70.4% score in the NARI 2025 report by the National Commission for Women, surpassing the national safety benchmark of 65%. The survey, covering 12,770 women across 31 cities, assessed infrastructure, harassment reporting, workplace safety, law enforcement trust, and night-time security. Northeast cities led the rankings, with Kohima (1st) and Aizawl (4th), reflecting strong community vigilance and gender inclusivity. Gangtok's high score highlights proactive policing and a positive safety culture.

### 17. Kapas Kisan App Introduced to Support and Empower Cotton Farmers

Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh launched the Kapas Kisan App on September 2, 2025, to digitize cotton procurement under the MSP scheme. The app allows farmers to self-register, book delivery slots, and track payments in real time, reducing reliance on middlemen and manual paperwork. Supporting multiple Indian languages, it ensures transparency, prevents distress sales, and saves time. The initiative aligns with Digital India and agri-tech goals, enhancing farmer welfare and aiding

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procurement agencies like the Cotton Corporation of India in efficient record-keeping and logistics management.

### 18. PM Modi Launches Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh Limited

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Bihar Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh Limited on September 2, 2025, providing affordable, digitally enabled credit to rural women under the Jeevika program. Funded jointly by the Bihar and Central governments, the cooperative facilitates low-interest loans for over 20 lakh women entrepreneurs, bypassing intermediaries. Equipped with digital tools for transparency, the initiative received an initial Rs. 105 crore transfer. Aimed at empowering women, it integrates with schemes like Lakhpati Didi and Drone Didi to boost rural entrepreneurship and financial inclusion.

### 19. Centre Issues New Rules for Unified Pension Scheme Under NPS

The Indian government has officially notified the Central Civil Services (Implementation of the Unified Pension Scheme under the National Pension System) Rules, 2025, which govern service-related provisions for central employees opting for the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) within NPS. Enacted via Gazette on September 4, 2025, these rules cover UPS enrolment, one-time switch to NPS (under defined timelines), contribution structures, compensation for delays, and benefit options in cases of death or disability. They also clarify entitlements for various exit scenarios and the impact of disciplinary actions.

### 20. UIDAI Achieves 221 Crore Aadhaar Authentications in August 2025

In August 2025, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) recorded 221 crore Aadhaar authentication transactions, marking a 10.3% year-on-year increase compared to

August 2024, demonstrating the expanding role of Aadhaar in India's digital landscape. Face-based authentication surged significantly, reaching 18.6 crore transactions, up from 6.04 crore a year ago. On September 1, UIDAI recorded its highest-ever single-day face authentications, tallying over 1.5 crore, beating the previous high of 1.28 crore on August 1. Additionally, 38.53 crore e-KYC transactions were completed during August, aiding seamless service delivery across financial and government sectors.

### 21. Silver Hallmarking with HUID Made Voluntary in India

From September 1, 2025, India has launched voluntary hallmarking for silver jewellery under the updated BIS standard IS 2112:2025, introducing the Hallmarking Unique Identification (HUID) system. The hallmark features the BIS mark, the purity grade (now expanded with new 958 and 999 grades), and a unique 6-character HUID code. Consumers can verify article details—such as type, fineness, date of hallmarking, testing centre, and jeweller registration—via the BIS Care App. This move aims to bolster transparency, traceability, and consumer confidence in the silver market.

### 22. UPI Transaction Limit Enhanced to Rupees 10 Lakh for Specific Categories

Beginning September 15, 2025, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has raised per-transaction and 24-hour UPI limits to rupees 5 lakh and rupees 10 lakh respectively for select high-value categories like capital markets, insurance, government e-Marketplace, travel, collections, credit card payments, and more. These enhanced limits apply only to Person-to-Merchant (P2M) payments with verified merchants; P2P limits remain unchanged at rupees 1 lakh/day. The aim is to facilitate seamless large transactions while ensuring security and convenience.



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## International

### 1. Prime Minister Modi attended the 25th (SCO) Summit held in Tianjin in 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin, China (Aug 31–Sep 1, 2025), emphasising India's three-pillar SCO vision: Security, Connectivity, and Opportunity. He stressed zero tolerance for terrorism, urged coordinated action against terror funding, and highlighted India's regional connectivity initiatives like Chabahar Port and INSTC. Modi proposed a Civilizational Dialogue Forum to strengthen cultural ties and supported SCO reforms in cybersecurity, organised crime, and global governance. He endorsed the Tianjin Declaration, reaffirming peace, cooperation in AI, energy, sustainable development, and a rules-based multilateral order.

### 2. India to Provide 1,000 E-Scholarships to Afghan Students for 2025–26 Academic Year

India has announced 1,000 e-scholarships for Afghan students for 2025–26 under the Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan Nationals (SSSAN), administered by ICCR via the e-VidyaBharati i-learn portal. Targeting Afghan nationals aged 18–35, the programme offers online undergraduate and postgraduate courses from nine Indian universities, including IGNOU, Jamia Millia Islamia, and Anna University. This initiative, continuing from previous years, supports education, capacity building, and people-to-people ties, providing Afghan youth access to diverse disciplines in humanities, science, commerce, management, and IT from anywhere in Afghanistan.

### 3. India, Singapore Strengthen Cooperation in Defence and Trade

India and Singapore have unveiled a comprehensive road map to deepen their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. During the

bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Modi and Singapore's PM Lawrence Wong, the nations committed to enhancing cooperation across trade, defence, advanced manufacturing, digitalisation, civil aviation, green and digital shipping, semiconductors, civil nuclear energy, and maritime security. Key milestones include signing five pacts in sectors like space and skills, fast-tracking reviews of CECA and ASEAN trade agreements, strengthening maritime domain awareness, and enabling joint ventures in emerging tech and security infrastructure.

### 4. PM Modi and Singapore PM Wong Open Phase-II of PSA Mumbai Terminal

On September 4, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Singapore's PM Lawrence Wong virtually inaugurated Phase-II of the Bharat Mumbai Container Terminal (BMCT) at Jawaharlal Nehru Port. The expansion, executed under a Rupees 10,900 crore (~USD 1.3 billion) public-private partnership with PSA International, doubles the terminal's handling capacity to 4.8 million TEUs. Spanning 200 hectares with a 2 km quay and deep-draft berths for 18,000 TEU vessels, the facility is India's largest container terminal, powered fully by renewable energy and seamlessly linked to 63 ICDs via rail and road.

## Sports

### 1. Ajaya Babu Valluri Wins Gold at Championships

Ajaya Babu Valluri clinched the gold medal in the men's 79kg category at the 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad, lifting a total of 335 kg and securing a spot in the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This win contributes to India's impressive performance, alongside podium finishes by Harjinder Kaur and Mirabai Chanu. With over 300 lifters from 31 countries participating, India's strong medal haul highlights the country's rising dominance in weightlifting, boosting its chances

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for the upcoming Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

## 2. Satwik-Chirag Seal Redemption with Paris Win

India's top men's doubles badminton pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, secured a semifinal berth at the 2025 BWF World Championships by defeating their Olympic nemeses, Malaysia's Chia-Soh, in straight sets. The win, at the same Paris venue where they lost in 2024, marks a moment of redemption and guarantees their second Worlds medal. Their ongoing achievements strengthen India's rising prominence in doubles badminton and contribute to the country's consistent presence on the global podium.

## 3. Oscar Piastri secured a sensational victory at the 2025 Dutch Grand Prix

The 2025 Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort saw Oscar Piastri secure victory for McLaren, while Lando Norris suffered a late mechanical failure, impacting the title race. Max Verstappen finished second, and Isack Hadjar achieved his first F1 podium in third. Alexander Albon rose from P15 to fifth, and Ollie Bearman finished sixth from the pit lane. Aston Martin scored double points with Stroll and Alonso. Piastri's championship lead increased to 34 points, and Mercedes closed to 12 points behind Ferrari in the Constructors' battle.

## 4. China announces USD 2 billion funding and AI collaboration at the SCO Summit

At the 2025 SCO Summit in China, Ambassador Xu Feihong announced initiatives including a USD 2 billion grant, RMB 10 billion in loans, 100 local livelihood projects, and expanded scholarships for SCO nations. China will launch the SCO Innovative PhD Programme, 10 Luban Workshops, and 10,000 vocational training opportunities. The Tianjin Declaration highlighted responsible AI development, emphasising security, fairness, and inclusiveness. India

endorsed ethical AI and tech collaboration, reinforcing its strategic tech diplomacy. President Xi stressed AI, energy, digital economy, and innovation as central to the SCO's future.

## 5. New Delhi Set to Host the 2026 Badminton World Championships

New Delhi will host the 2026 Badminton World Championships in August, marking India's return as host after 17 years since Hyderabad in 2009. Announced by the Badminton World Federation at the 2025 Paris Championships, the event also brings the tournament back to Asia after eight years, following Nanjing, China in 2018. The championship highlights India's growing prominence in international badminton, celebrates its top players, inspires future athletes, and promotes sports tourism, drawing global attention and reinforcing New Delhi's reputation as a venue for major sporting events.

## Summits/MoUs/Conferences/Agreement

### 1. Tata Electronics Partners with Merck to Boost Semiconductor Development

Tata Electronics Private Limited and Merck have signed an MoU to boost India's semiconductor and electronics manufacturing, supporting the India Semiconductor Mission. The collaboration covers high-purity materials, AI-powered solutions, turnkey fabrication infrastructure, and access to Merck's Athinia® platform. It also emphasizes safety standards, local supply chains, and talent development. Tata Electronics is investing Rs. 91,000 crore (USD 11 billion) to establish India's first semiconductor Fab in Dholera, Gujarat, producing advanced chips for automotive, mobile, and AI applications, strengthening India's global semiconductor presence.

### 2. PM Modi Inaugurates Semicon India 2025, Marking a Major Advancement in Technology



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Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Semicon India 2025 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, on September 2, 2025, showcasing India's ambition to become a global semiconductor leader. The event highlighted 10 major fab and design projects with Rs. 1.5 lakh crore investment, streamlined approvals via the National Single Window System, and initiatives like Design Linked Incentive, Chips-to-Startup, and National Research Fund. Emphasizing a full-stack ecosystem, critical minerals, skilled talent, and state-supported semiconductor parks, PM Modi positioned India as a trusted, innovation-driven partner in the USD 1 trillion global chip industry.

### Ranks/Reports/Indices

#### 1. Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh Lead in SEEI 2024

The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2024, released by the Ministry of Power, ranks Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Tripura as the top performers in energy efficiency across seven sectors. The index evaluates 66 indicators to track state-level energy performance, driving competition and policy improvements. These states excelled in energy-efficient buildings, transport, rural energy access, and renewable-powered municipal services, significantly contributing to India's energy efficiency goals and the SDG 7 objectives.

#### 2. Singapore Tops Asia's 2025 Peace Rankings

In the 2025 Global Peace Index, Singapore ranks as Asia's safest country and 6th globally, reflecting strong social stability and security improvements. India remains 115th with an unchanged score, facing ongoing internal security and border issues. The index evaluates 163 countries on safety, conflict, and militarisation, highlighting Asia's most peaceful nations like Japan, Malaysia, and Bhutan, while

Europe dominates the global top ten for low violence and political stability.

#### 3. NITI Aayog Publishes Report on Pulses Growth Pathways for Atmanirbhar Bharat

NITI Aayog has published the report "Strategies and Pathways for Accelerating Growth in Pulses towards the Goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat" (released on September 4-5, 2025), outlining a strategic roadmap to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses. It proposes increasing production from 26.06 million tonnes (2022) to 34.45 MT by 2030, and reaching 51.57 MT by 2047. The report recommends enhancing pulse cultivation area, productivity, value addition, climate-smart methods, and reducing post-harvest losses. It also incorporates farmer insights from a survey across key pulse-growing states

### Science and tech/Space/Defence

#### 1. Saab's Nimbrix Missile Enhances Ground-Based Defense

Swedish defense company Saab has unveiled Nimbrix, its first dedicated counter-unmanned aircraft system (C-UAS) missile, aimed at neutralizing threats from small UAVs. Designed for cost efficiency, it incorporates additive manufacturing and off-the-shelf components. Nimbrix is a fire-and-forget missile with a 5 km range and an active seeker, using an air-burst warhead to target multiple drones simultaneously. It is ground-based, adaptable for vehicle or fixed platform deployment, and can operate independently or within integrated air defense systems.

#### 2. India, Japan Partner for Chandrayaan-5 LUPEX Mission

India's PM recently welcomed the ISRO-JAXA agreement for the Chandrayaan-5 mission under the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX)

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program. Aimed at exploring the Moon's south pole, the mission will search for water and surface ice using a lander (by ISRO) and a rover (by JAXA). Equipped with advanced instruments from ISRO, JAXA, NASA, and ESA, the rover will drill, sample, and analyze lunar regolith. The mission emphasizes cutting-edge mobility, drilling tech, and lunar night survival capabilities.

### 3. US Approves ERAM Missile Sale to Ukraine

The U.S. has approved the sale of 3,350 Extended Range Attack Munitions (ERAM) missiles to Ukraine, enhancing its long-range strike capabilities. ERAM is a next-gen, precision-guided, air-launched missile with a range of 240–450 km and a 500-pound explosive warhead. It uses GPS, inertial navigation, and terminal seeker guidance with high accuracy. Designed for affordability and flexibility, ERAM can be mounted on modern fighters like F-16s or retrofitted to Soviet-era jets for broader operational use.

### 4. Army, ITBP Conduct Joint Achook Prahar Exercise

In August 2025, the Indian Army's Spear Corps and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) conducted the Achook Prahar drill in Arunachal Pradesh. The drill tested combat readiness with mortars, machine guns, rockets, and grenades, highlighting strong joint operational coordination. The ITBP, specialized in mountain warfare, supports the Army in securing the challenging high-altitude border with China. The exercise enhances interoperability, rapid response, and tactical integration essential for frontier security.

### 5. India deploys a small-scale computer to search for Cosmic Dawn signals

The Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru, developed a compact single-board computer (SBC) for India's proposed PRATUSH lunar

mission to study the Cosmic Dawn. PRATUSH aims to detect the faint 21-cm hydrogen signal from the early universe, ideally observed from the Moon's radio-quiet far side. The SBC efficiently coordinates antennas, receivers, and FPGA chips, pre-processes data, and calibrates the system with low power usage. Successful tests show millikelvin-level noise reduction and high sensitivity, paving the way for AI-enabled lunar payloads to study early cosmic structures and universe evolution.

### 6. India deploys its troops to Alaska for Yudh Abhyas 2025

From September 1–14, 2025, the Indian Army deployed a battalion of the Madras Regiment to Fort Wainwright, Alaska, for the 21st Yudh Abhyas joint exercise with the U.S. Army's 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment. The exercise focuses on heliborne operations, mountain warfare, UAS use, casualty evacuation, and integrated artillery and electronic warfare drills. Conducted in extreme Arctic conditions, it enhances interoperability, multi-domain operational readiness, and strategic cooperation, strengthening India-US defence partnership and preparing forces for UN missions, coalition operations, and humanitarian contingencies.

### 7. Exercise MAITREE-XIV: India-Thailand Joint Military Drill Commences in Meghalaya

The 14th edition of Exercise MAITREE, a bilateral military drill between India and Thailand, began on September 1, 2025, at the Joint Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya, and will run until September 14. India's Madras Regiment and Thailand's 1st Infantry Battalion participate, focusing on counter-terror operations in semi-urban terrain under UN Chapter VII. Initiated in 2006, the exercise enhances interoperability, tactical skills, and mutual trust. It strengthens Indo-Pacific defence cooperation, addressing regional security challenges and continuing the annual rotational format alternating between India and Thailand.



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## 8. India Develops Rare Anti-Doping Reference Material for Global Application

On September 4, 2025, India's Youth Affairs and Sports Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, unveiled an indigenous Anti-Doping Chemical Reference Material—specifically, Methandienone Long-Term Metabolite (LTM)—at the 22nd Governing Body meeting of the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL), New Delhi. Developed in collaboration with NIPER, Guwahati, this high-precision standard enhances detection accuracy by extending the drug detection window. It will be distributed to WADA-accredited global labs. The launch also introduced research grant frameworks, an awards system for anti-doping science, and bolstered India's role in advancing global clean-sport initiatives.

## 9. India Becomes Member of HealthAI Global Regulatory Network

India has been accepted as a Pioneer Country in the HealthAI Global Regulatory Network (GRN)—a new international platform for regulating AI in healthcare. This landmark agreement, announced in New Delhi, involves collaboration between HealthAI, the Indian Council of Medical Research's National Institute for Research in Digital Health and Data Science (ICMR-NIRDHDS), and IndiaAI. India will share safety protocols, monitor AI system performance, and contribute to global best practices alongside other GRN members such as the UK and Singapore.

### Miscellaneous

## 1. National Sports Day Celebrates Dhyan Chand's Legacy

National Sports Day 2025, observed on August 29, honors hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand and promotes fitness through the 'Ek Ghanta, Khel ke Maidan Main' initiative. The government

is advancing sports through major investments, including Rs.3,794 crore in FY 2025–26, and the Khelo India and Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 schemes. The newly enacted National Sports Governance Act 2025 modernizes sports administration, ensuring transparency, gender representation, and athlete welfare, empowering India's youth toward the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

## 2. Bihar Launches Mahila Rojgar Yojana to Empower Women

On August 29, 2025, the Bihar government launched the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana to empower women through self-employment. The scheme provides Rs.10,000 as initial aid via DBT to one woman per family, with potential additional support of up to Rs.2 lakh after performance evaluation. Women can pursue ventures like handicrafts, agriculture, or retail. By promoting local markets and entrepreneurship, the initiative aims to boost rural employment, enhance incomes, and reduce migration among economically weaker households.

## 3. Department of Posts and MapmyIndia launch DIGIPIN

The Department of Posts has partnered with MapmyIndia to launch DIGIPIN, a digital addressing system aimed at precise geolocation and improved service delivery. DIGIPIN assigns a unique digital address to every location, offering high accuracy compared to traditional PIN codes. This collaboration supports e-governance, logistics efficiency, and business innovation, enhancing public service delivery, logistics, and urban development through better address-based solutions.

## 4. India Launches First EMI-Based Credit Card

BharatPe and Unity Small Finance Bank have launched India's first EMI-driven credit card on the RuPay network—the Unity Bank BharatPe Credit Card. Designed for flexible repayments,

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the card allows users to convert purchases into EMI of up to 12 months, with no joining or annual fees. Linked to UPI, it offers seamless payments, 2% rewards on EMI spends, and premium benefits like lounge access. The fully digital onboarding process ensures quick eligibility checks and activation via the BharatPe app.

## 5. Urjit Patel Appointed IMF Executive Director

Former RBI Governor Urjit Patel has been appointed as Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a three-year term. He will represent India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan at the IMF headquarters in Washington, D.C. Founded in 1944, the IMF works to foster international monetary cooperation, ensure financial stability, and support sustainable economic development worldwide. It operates through a quota-based system, with governance by a Board of Governors and an Executive Board managing daily operations.

## 6. PM Modi Reshapes NDMA With New Appointments

In August 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi named scientist Dinesh Kumar Aswal and disaster recovery specialist Rita Missal as new members of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). Rajendra Singh, Krishna Swaroop Vatsa, and Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd.) were also reappointed for another three-year term. The NDMA, India's leading disaster management agency, formulates national policies and collaborates with states and agencies to ensure efficient, technology-driven, and resilient disaster response across the country.

## 7. International Day Highlights Enforced Disappearances' Impact

Observed on August 30, the International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances raises awareness about the forced disappearances worldwide, often perpetrated by state authorities

to suppress dissent. Defined by the UN as abductions with concealed fate, these acts violate human rights severely. Since 2011, the day spotlights victims' suffering, family trauma, and societal fear caused by disappearances in over 85 countries, emphasizing the urgent need for justice, accountability, and protection for vulnerable groups.

## 8. Educate Girls Makes History with Global Honor

Educate Girls, a pioneering Indian NGO, became the first Indian organisation to win the 2025 Ramon Magsaysay Award for revolutionizing girls' education in rural India. Founded by Safeena Husain, it has empowered over 2 million girls through enrolment, retention, and innovative programs like Pragati and the world's first Development Impact Bond. Recognised for combating cultural stereotypes and promoting female literacy, the award spotlights the NGO's lasting grassroots impact and reinforces the transformative power of inclusive education across Asia.

## 9. Odisha Accelerates Green Transit With E-Bus Push

Odisha ranks fifth in the country for electric bus deployment, operating 450 e-buses and aiming to scale up its fleet to over 1,000 in the near future. Led by CRUT, the initiative focuses on eco-friendly transport in cities like Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, and Puri, with expansion into more urban centers. Odisha outpaces its eastern neighbors and strengthens green mobility through smart ticketing, charging infrastructure, and digital services. This reflects India's nationwide push toward sustainable urban transit under central support schemes.

## 10. India's Economic Rise Fuels Global Ambitions

Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced India's imminent rise as the world's third-largest economy, driven by a robust 7.8% GDP growth and the success of the Jan Dhan



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Yojana financial inclusion initiative. Introduced 11 years ago, the initiative has facilitated the opening of 55 crore bank accounts, helping to empower underserved and marginalized communities. Malhotra emphasized ongoing efforts to expand financial literacy, improve KYC compliance, and promote digital banking, ensuring inclusive and sustainable economic growth amid global challenges.

## 11. Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia takes charge as IAF's Maintenance Chief

Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia AVSM VSM assumed the role of Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance at IAF Headquarters, bringing 37 years of distinguished service and technical expertise. Commissioned in 1988 in Aeronautical Engineering, he holds degrees from GEC Jabalpur, BITS Pilani, and a doctorate from Bhopal University, and is an alumnus of DSSC and Air Force Test Pilot School. A decorated officer, he received VSM (2016), AVSM (2025), and UN commendation for Congo service. He emphasises operational excellence, logistics leadership, and respect for military tradition.

## 12. India appoints T.C.A. Kalyani as the Controller General of Accounts

On September 1, 2025, Ms. T.C.A. Kalyani became the 29th Controller General of Accounts (CGA) under the Ministry of Finance, bringing over 34 years of experience in public financial management. A gold medalist from Lady Shri Ram College and JNU alumna, she has contributed to DBT for fertilisers, digital governance at MTNL, and PSU revival. As CGA, she oversees government accounts, financial statements, reforms, and transparency initiatives. Her appointment highlights women's growing leadership in top financial administrative roles in India.

## 13. Rajit Punhani Named as the New CEO of FSSAI

Shri Rajit Punhani, a 1991-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, assumed charge as CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 1st September 2025. With over 30 years of civil service, he has led reforms in public finance, health, energy, and governance, and served in key roles including Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development, and CEO, Sansad TV. His initiatives include a pension scheme for 450 million unorganised workers and the largest maternal messaging program. FSSAI, under the Ministry of Health, is headquartered in New Delhi.

## 14. Dr. Deepak Mittal Named India's New Ambassador to the UAE

India has appointed Dr. Deepak Mittal, a 1998-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, as its next Ambassador to the UAE, succeeding Sunjay Sudhir in September 2025. Dr. Mittal, with experience in the PMO and as India's Ambassador to Qatar (2020-22), has played key roles in strategic diplomacy, including establishing India's first Taliban contact. His tenure aims to strengthen energy, trade, defence, and technology cooperation, deepen cultural ties, and support India's 3.5 million-strong diaspora, reinforcing the longstanding India-UAE partnership established in 1972.

## 15. ADR Report Flags Rising Criminalization in Indian Politics

The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) report reveals deepening criminalization in Indian politics: 45 % of MLAs (1,861) face criminal charges, with 29 % (1,205) accused of serious offences such as murder, kidnapping, and crimes against women—especially prevalent in Andhra Pradesh (79 %), Kerala (69 %), and Telangana (69 %). At the parliamentary level, 44 % of sitting MPs have criminal cases against them, with 31 % facing serious charges. The report underscores how this trend undermines democratic institutions and governance.