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Weekly Current Affairs

English

## National

### 1. India Reaches 250 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Capacity

India has achieved 250 GW of non-fossil fuel power capacity, marking a major step toward its 2030 target of 500 GW renewable energy. Announced by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, this milestone includes solar, wind, hydro, biomass, and nuclear power. The government's utility-led solar model has provided free electricity to 20 lakh households, with plans to scale to 1 crore. These efforts align with India's climate goals and push for sustainable, equitable energy access.



### 2. PM Modi Launches Portal to Digitise Manuscripts

On 12 September 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Gyan Bharatam Portal at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, during the International Conference on Manuscript Heritage. The portal aims to digitise, preserve, and make accessible India's vast manuscript legacy using AI-driven tools. Developed by the Union Ministry of Culture, the initiative supports research, capacity building, and public participation. It aligns with India's cultural revival, National Education Policy 2020, and the

broader vision of a digitally empowered, culturally rooted Viksit Bharat by 2047.

### 3. Great Nicobar Project to Boost Maritime Power

The Great Nicobar Island Project, endorsed by PM Modi on 12 September 2025, aims to transform India's southernmost island into a global maritime and air connectivity hub. With a ₹72,000 crore investment over 30 years, the project includes an international port, airport, township, and power infrastructure. While strategically vital, concerns over biodiversity, tribal rights, and seismic risks remain. The government assures ecological safeguards, reflecting its commitment to balancing development with conservation under the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

### 4. Aizawl Gets Rail Link via ₹8,000 Cr Project

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the ₹8,000 crore Bairabi-Sairang railway line on September 13, 2025, connecting Mizoram's capital Aizawl to India's railway network for the first time. The 51 km line, stretching from Bairabi to Sairang, enhances connectivity, trade, tourism, and freight transport in the region. Aizawl becomes the fourth northeastern capital linked by rail. Three new train services, including Rajdhani Express, will further boost economic integration between Mizoram and key Indian cities.

### 5. PM Modi To Launch INR 71,000 Cr Projects in 5 States

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has embarked on a three-day tour to five states—Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, West Bengal, and Bihar—to launch and inaugurate development projects worth over INR 71,000 crore. The projects span various sectors, including railways, roadways, energy, and education. The tour is a major push

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for improving infrastructure and ease of living, particularly in the eastern and northeastern regions of the country. A key highlight is the inauguration of the Bairabi–Sairang New Rail Line in Mizoram, which will connect the state's capital to the Indian Railways network for the first time.

## 6. Om Birla Inaugurates Women Empowerment Meet in Tirupati

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the National Conference on Women Empowerment in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, on 14 September 2025. The two-day event, organised by the Parliamentary and Legislative Committee on Empowerment of Women, focused on enhancing women's participation in politics and public life. Birla highlighted the strategic importance of gender equality and the recently enacted law mandating 33% reservation for women in legislatures. The conference included exhibitions, discussions, and expert panels to promote inclusive development and institutional support for women leaders.



## 7. PM Modi Launches Gyan Bharatam Portal for Manuscript Digitisation

On 12 September 2025, PM Narendra Modi launched the Gyan Bharatam Portal at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, aiming to digitise, preserve,

and provide public access to India's vast manuscript heritage. The portal integrates AI-driven tools for search, translation, and annotation, while supporting research, publication, and capacity building. Launched during the International Conference on Gyan Bharatam, the initiative promotes cultural preservation, global collaboration, and education integration. It aligns with India's vision of safeguarding knowledge traditions, enhancing public access, and fostering a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

## 8. Acharya Devvrat Sworn in as Maharashtra Governor

Acharya Devvrat, Governor of Gujarat, was sworn in as the Governor of Maharashtra on 15 September 2025 at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai. The oath was administered in Sanskrit by the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, Shree Chandrashekhar, in the presence of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, other state ministers, bureaucrats, and police officials. Appointed by President Droupadi Murmu after C P Radhakrishnan vacated the post, Devvrat, 66, holds postgraduate degrees in Hindi and History and a doctorate in Naturopathy and Yogic Science.





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**9. Amit Khare Named Secretary to Vice-President Radhakrishnan**

Retired IAS officer Amit Khare, currently serving as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been appointed Secretary to Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan on a three-year contract. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet also appointed Chandrasekar S, a 2014-batch Kerala cadre IAS officer, as private secretary to the Vice-President. Khare, a 1985-batch Jharkhand cadre officer, previously served as Union Higher Education Secretary and advisor to the PM, contributing to the National Education Policy and holding key positions in finance, education, and administration during his civil service career.

**10. PM Modi Inaugurates 16th Armed Forces Conference in Kolkata**

On 15 September 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference (CCC) at the Eastern Command headquarters in Kolkata, attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and all three service chiefs. The conference, the first after Operation Sindoor, focuses on reforms, transformation, and operational preparedness under the theme "Year of Reforms – Transforming for the Future." PM Modi will also visit Bihar to launch development projects worth ₹36,000 crore and inaugurate a new airport terminal.

**11. Manipur Hosts Hathei Chilli GI Festival**

Manipur inaugurated the 14th Sirarakhong Hathei Chilli Festival in Ukhrul district to promote its GI-tagged Hathei chilli, known for its bright red color, medium pungency, and strong aroma. The three-day event included ceremonial flag hoisting, cultural performances, a buyer-seller meet for farmers, and a tree plantation drive

under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign. The festival aims to boost agri-tourism, provide market linkages for local farmers, celebrate cultural identity, and encourage environmental conservation.

**12. Amit Shah Inaugurates India's Biggest Sports Complex**

On 14 September 2025, Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated India's largest and most modern sports complex in Naranpura, Ahmedabad, aimed at positioning India as a top sporting nation by 2047. Built at a cost of ₹825 crore, the facility includes world-class aquatic, indoor, and outdoor sports amenities, along with athlete training and residential facilities. Shah highlighted the rise in India's sports budget from ₹1,643 crore to ₹5,300 crore over a decade. Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel and Union Minister Mansukh Mandviya also attended.

**13. Aadhaar Users to Get Priority in IRCTC Booking from Oct 1**

On 1 October 2025, IRCTC will reserve the first 15 minutes of online ticket booking exclusively for Aadhaar-authenticated users to prevent misuse by touts. This change applies to IRCTC website and app bookings only, while PRS counters and the existing 10-minute agent restriction remain unaffected. The measure follows the deactivation of over 2.5 crore suspicious accounts and aims to curb fraudulent bookings, ensuring genuine passengers secure tickets, especially during high-demand periods, thereby improving transparency and fairness in the railway ticketing system.

**14. Statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Unveiled in Pimpri-Chinchwad**

In Pimpri-Chinchwad, Maharashtra, a grand bronze statue honouring Chhatrapati Shivaji

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Maharaj has been unveiled as a tribute to the Maratha warrior king's legacy. Rising prominently in the city, the monument symbolises regional pride and celebrates his leadership, courage, and vision. The unveiling drew participation from local leaders, cultural groups, and citizens, highlighting Shivaji's enduring influence on Maharashtra's identity. The initiative also aims to inspire younger generations by reinforcing values of bravery, governance, and community spirit associated with the Maratha Empire.

### **15. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Announces India's First Geothermal Energy Policy**

The Government has formally notified the National Policy on Geothermal Energy (2025) to enable large-scale deployment of Earth's natural heat as a clean energy source, supporting 2070 Net Zero goals. It lays out measures for exploration, capacity building, technology innovation, and ecosystem development. Applications include electricity generation and direct uses such as space heating, aquaculture, and cooling via ground source heat pumps. It also approved five pilot projects to assess geothermal potential and viability across different regions.

### **16. Election Commission Introduces New Design for EVM Ballot Papers**

The Election Commission has updated the design and printing guidelines for Electronic Voting Machine ballot papers under Rule 49B of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 to make them more readable and voter-friendly. Beginning with the upcoming Bihar Assembly polls, the changes include colour photographs of candidates covering three-quarters of the photo space, larger bold serial numbers in international Indian numerals with font size thirty, and names

printed uniformly. Papers will be 70 GSM; for Assembly elections, pink-coloured paper with specified colour values will be used.

### **17. NaMo App Rolls Out 15-Day Seva Campaign to Celebrate Prime Minister's Birthday**

The NaMo App has launched "Seva Parv 2025", a fifteen-day digital engagement drive running from September 17 to October 2, to mark the Prime Minister's 75th birthday and conclude on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. It offers nine interactive modules for citizens to participate in acts of service, virtual exhibitions, quizzes, and creative greetings. Users can choose tasks like tree planting or blood donation ("Sabka Saath, Sabki Seva"), create AI-based birthday wishes, or upload "seva selfies" to earn recognition. The campaign seeks to blend celebration with community service and civic participation.

### **18. Unified Payments Interface Raises Daily Person-to-Merchant Transaction Limit to Ten Lakh Rupees**

The National Payments Corporation of India has raised the daily limit for Person-to-Merchant UPI transactions to ten lakh rupees for selected categories such as insurance, capital markets, government marketplace, travel bookings, credit card bill payments, and loan EMI's. Per-transaction limits in many of those categories have also increased, often to five lakh rupees. The new norms, effective from mid-September twenty twenty-five, aim to enable high-value digital payments while keeping fraud risk in check by applying stricter rules for verified merchants.

### **19. M.K. Stalin Unveils 'Anbu Karangal' Program for Orphaned Children**



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The new programme offers monthly aid of two thousand rupees to children who have lost both parents, or where one parent is deceased and the surviving guardian is unable to provide care. The benefit continues until the child turns eighteen or finishes school, whichever comes first. In its first phase about 6,082 children are being helped. Beyond school, those who complete Class 12 will get help for higher education and skills training. The scheme also includes distribution of laptops for eligible students to support their learning.

## 20. EPFO Introduces 'Passbook Lite' for Faster Settlements and Instant Tracking

A new "Passbook Lite" feature has been introduced on the EPFO member portal to simplify tracking of provident fund accounts. Members can now view a summary of contributions, withdrawals and balance using a single login—no need to separately access the old passbook site. The transfer certificate (Annexure K) can be downloaded in PDF directly from the portal. Approval powers for claims, transfers, advances, refunds and other services have been delegated to lower-level officers to speed up settlements and reduce processing delays.

## 21. Yatri Sewa Diwas 2025: Indian Airports Prioritise Passenger-Friendly Services

Indian airports marked Yatri Sewa Diwas with activities designed to improve the travel experience and foster goodwill among passengers. Airports celebrated with traditional welcomes like tilak and sweets, cultural dance performances, quiz and painting competitions for children, and selfie booths. Health-oriented services such as free medical check-ups, eye testing, blood donation camps were organized. Feedback counters were set up to understand

passenger concerns. Environmental efforts included tree planting under "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam." Some airports also announced efforts to address travel time and improve connectivity to terminals.

## International

### 1. India Supports UN Two-State Resolution on Palestine

On September 12, 2025, India voted in favor of the UN General Assembly's "New York Declaration" supporting a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Backed by 142 nations, the resolution calls for peaceful coexistence between a sovereign Palestine and a secure Israel. India reaffirmed its long-standing support for diplomatic resolution, aligning with its balanced approach to both nations. Despite U.S. opposition, India's vote strengthens its global image as a proponent of peace and international consensus.

### 2. India-Mauritius Special Economic Package 2025

India and Mauritius have formalized the India-Mauritius Special Economic Package 2025, an initiative designed to bolster bilateral economic ties and foster development cooperation. The comprehensive package, announced during a high-level ministerial meeting, includes a significant credit line of USD 200 million for infrastructure projects, preferential trade terms for Indian exports, and a new framework for financial services collaboration. The agreement also provides a boost to tourism and education sectors by simplifying visa processes and offering scholarships for Mauritian students. Both nations hailed the pact as a landmark step toward strengthening their shared strategic

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partnership in the Indian Ocean region.

### 3. India Backs UNGA Resolution on Palestine Two-State Solution

India has voted in favor of a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution supporting the 'New York Declaration' on a peaceful settlement for the Palestine issue, based on a two-state solution. The resolution, introduced by France, was adopted with 142 votes in favor, 10 against, and 12 abstentions. The text called for an end to the conflict in Gaza and urged Israel to make a public commitment to a sovereign and viable Palestinian state. India's support for the resolution reaffirms its long-standing position on the issue, emphasizing the need for a just, lasting, and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

### 4. India and Norway Hold First Maritime Security Dialogue

India and Norway held their first Maritime Security, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation Dialogue in Oslo on 13 September 2025, marking a key step in their strategic partnership. Discussions focused on disarmament, non-proliferation, international maritime law under UNCLOS, freedom of navigation, and protection of critical maritime infrastructure. Both nations agreed to counter illicit activities like smuggling and piracy, and enhance regional surveillance, training, and technical collaboration. The dialogue strengthens Indo-Pacific maritime security, with the next round planned in New Delhi.

### 5. Carlos Felipe Jaramillo Named World Bank VP for East Asia-Pacific

The World Bank has appointed Carlos Felipe Jaramillo as Vice President for East Asia and Pacific (EAP), effective September 15, 2025.

Based in Singapore, the new regional hub, he will oversee partnerships with 23 countries and manage a portfolio exceeding US\$32 billion. Jaramillo earlier served as VP for Latin America and the Caribbean, leading projects worth US\$41.5 billion. With over two decades of global leadership, including senior roles in Colombia, he holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in development economics from Stanford University.

### 6. Albania Names World's First AI Minister

Albania has become the first country in the world to appoint an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered government minister. Named Diella, the AI minister is a virtual, non-human entity responsible for overseeing public procurement and contracts. Introduced on September 11, 2025, by Prime Minister Edi Rama, Diella evaluates tenders, processes citizen requests via digital portals, and aims to reduce corruption in government spending. The initiative demonstrates how AI can be integrated into governance, although details on human oversight and potential security concerns remain unspecified.

### 7. South Korea and United States Reaffirm Commitment to Korean Peninsula Denuclearisation

South Korea's leadership, together with the United States, has restated their shared aim to achieve denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. The framework emphasises a phased approach: first freezing North Korea's nuclear and missile programs; then scaling back existing capabilities; and finally moving to full dismantlement under international verification. Both nations also emphasise the necessity of diplomatic engagement alongside credible deterrence. The renewed commitment is intended to reinforce regional stability and send



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a message of resolve amid ongoing nuclear threats.

### 8. United States Federal Reserve Reduces Interest Rate by 25 Basis Points, Indicates Start of Easing Cycle

The United States Federal Reserve cut its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points, lowering the federal funds rate target to a range of four to four-and-a-quarter percent. This is the first rate reduction since December, driven by signs of a slowing labour market and rising unemployment risk. Policymakers signalled that more reductions are likely by the end of the year. Inflation remains above target, so decisions will remain data-dependent. One member dissented, calling for a steeper cut, highlighting differing views within the committee.

### 9. First Shipment of Hilsa Fish from Bangladesh Arrives in India

Ahead of the Durga Puja festival, the first batch of hilsa fish from Bangladesh has reached India. Eight trucks carrying about 32 tonnes of the prized "Padma hilsa" crossed the border via Petrapole and are bound for wholesale markets in Kolkata. Bangladesh has approved a total export quota of 1,200 tonnes within a fixed window from September 16 to October 5. Prices are high—about Rs 1,800 per kilogram for the hilsa of Padma origin. Demand is strong despite limited supply, and more consignments are expected daily.

### 10. Australia Raises Climate Target to Cut Emissions by 62 Percent by 2035

Australia has set a new target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 62 to 70 percent below 2005 levels by the year 2035. The decision raises ambition substantially above the earlier goal of a 43 percent cut by 2030, and is part of

its Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement. To support this target, the government has committed new funding for industrial decarbonization, clean fuels, renewable generation, electric vehicle infrastructure, and expansion of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation. Critics argue some measures are underexplained and that emissions cuts should be deeper.

### 11. Gourangalal Das Named India's New Envoy to South Korea

Senior diplomat Gourangalal Das has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the Republic of Korea. He is a 1999-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, currently serving as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, heading the East Asia Division. The MEA has stated that he will assume his post in Seoul shortly. In his current role, Das has been involved in important negotiations, especially efforts to rebuild ties with China following tensions in Eastern Ladakh. His appointment is part of India's ongoing diplomatic engagement in East Asia.

## Sports

### 1. India Defeats Switzerland, Secures 2026 Davis Cup Spot

India defeated ninth-seeded Switzerland 3–1 in the Davis Cup 2025 World Group I tie held at the Swiss Tennis Arena in Biel on 15 September 2025. Sumit Nagal sealed the victory by defeating Henry Bernet 6–1, 6–3 in the reverse singles, marking India's first away win against a European nation since 1993. This historic triumph ends a 32-year drought in Europe, qualifies India for the 2026 Davis Cup Qualifiers, and highlights the team's growing competitiveness on the international tennis stage.

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**2. Anandkumar Clinches India's First Speed Skating World Gold**

Indian speed skater Anandkumar Velkumar made history by winning India's first-ever gold medal at the Speed Skating World Championships in China. The 22-year-old clinched the senior men's 1,000 m sprint title with a timing of 1:24.924, shortly after earning India's first senior world championship bronze in the 500 m sprint. In the junior category, Krish Sharma also won gold in the 1,000 m sprint. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju congratulated Velkumar for his historic achievement, praising his grit, speed, and inspiring performance.

**3. Baba Kalyani Wins ASME Holley Medal for Engineering Excellence**

Baba Kalyani, Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Forge, was awarded the prestigious ASME Holley Medal on 15 September 2025 by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The award recognizes his engineering leadership in strengthening resilient supply chains, advancing manufacturing, and delivering public benefit amid global trade challenges. Established in 1924, the Holley Medal honours engineering achievements with major societal impact. Under his leadership, Bharat Forge has become a global leader in forging, defence, aerospace, and green technologies.

**4. Central Zone Clinches Duleep Trophy After 11 Years**

The Central Zone, led by captain Rajat Patidar, won the 2025 Duleep Trophy after an 11-year gap, defeating South Zone by 6 wickets at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. Central Zone secured a massive 362-run first-innings lead, with Patidar adding to his achievements after leading Royal Challengers Bengaluru to

their first IPL title. Yash Rathod was named Player of the Match. This victory marked Central Zone's sixth Duleep Trophy title, highlighting the team's depth, balance, and resilience in domestic cricket.

**5. Samuel Umtiti Retires from Football at 31**

On 15 September 2025, French defender Samuel Umtiti, a 2018 FIFA World Cup winner, retired from professional football at the age of 31 due to chronic knee injuries. Umtiti began his career at Olympique Lyonnais and moved to FC Barcelona in 2016, earning 2 La Liga titles and 3 Copa del Rey trophies. Known for his composure, positional sense, and ball-playing ability, he scored the semi-final winner against Belgium in the 2018 World Cup. His early retirement marks the end of a celebrated but injury-hit career.

**6. Anish Giri and Vaishali Rameshbabu Clinch 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss Titles in Samarkand**

In Samarkand, Uzbekistan, the 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss events concluded with Anish Giri winning the Open section with a score of eight wins and three draws, defeating Hans Niemann in the final round. His victory qualifies him for the 2026 Candidates Tournament. In the Women's event, Vaishali Rameshbabu defended her title, tying with Kateryna Lagno but taking first place on tiebreaks. Both players have now secured their spots in the 2026 Women's Candidates. The tournaments featured 11 rounds in Swiss format.

**7. Marium Fatima Creates History as Bihar's First Female FIDE Chess Master**

Marium Fatima from Muzaffarpur has become the first female from Bihar to earn the FIDE Woman FIDE Master (WFM) title. She has also been state women chess champion and won the National Amateur Chess Championship (Below 2000 Women) with a strong score. Her rise was



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supported by early coaching, family encouragement and competitive performance in FIDE-rated events. The Bihar State Sports Authority has officially congratulated her. This is seen as a major boost for women's chess in the state.

## Summits/MoUs/Conferences/Agreement

### 1. Rabi Abhiyan 2025 Conference Kicks Off in Delhi

The Rabi Abhiyan 2025 Conference began on 15 September 2025 in New Delhi, chaired by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. As part of Phase 2 of the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan, the two-day event focuses on planning and improving Rabi crop cultivation, including wheat, barley, mustard, chickpeas, and lentils. It brings together scientists, policymakers, state officials, and farmers to promote climate-resilient practices, efficient resource use, digital advisory systems, and higher yields. The aim is sustainable agriculture, enhanced farmer income, and national food security alignment.

### 2. India and FAO Partner to Establish Blue Ports for Smarter Fisheries

India has entered into a technical cooperation agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization to develop "Blue Ports"—smart, integrated fishing harbours that combine modern technology with sustainable environmental practices. Three pilot harbours—Vanakbara (Diu), Karaikal (Puducherry), and Jakhau (Gujarat)—will be upgraded with an investment of 369.8 crore rupees. Facilities will include digital and satellite systems, energy-efficient lighting, electric powered equipment, rainwater harvesting, waste management, marine debris cleanup and tools for traceability.

The goal is to make fisheries infrastructure more efficient, eco-friendly and inclusive, supporting livelihoods and food security.

### 3. IIT Kanpur and Vietnam National University Sign Agreement to Strengthen Research, Artificial Intelligence, and Innovation

IIT Kanpur and Vietnam National University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to deepen cooperation in academic research, student and faculty exchanges, and joint projects. Key areas include deploying artificial intelligence in medical diagnosis and hospital systems (especially for Vietnam), AI-based educational tools including language learning, using advanced AI for infrastructure defect detection, smart city planning, and drone tech for rescue and agricultural use. Material science collaboration will involve carbon-carbon material prediction. The aim is mutual capacity building and tackling shared challenges through innovative research.

### 1. NECA 2025 Introduces Award for Influencers Advocating Energy Efficiency

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency has introduced a new category under the National Energy Conservation Awards 2025 for content creators and influencers. This recognises individuals with a following of at least ten thousand on major social media platforms who produce short videos (up to ninety seconds) in an Indian language or Hindi, with transcript in English or Hindi. Themes include everyday energy-saving actions and sustainable living. Winners will be honoured in a national ceremony in New Delhi on 14 December 2025. The aim is to expand public awareness of conservation through digital

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Science and tech/Space/Defence

### 1. AIIMS Begins Training on da Vinci Robot System

AIIMS New Delhi has become India's first government medical college to offer training on the da Vinci Robotic Surgical System, installed at its Skills, E-Learning and Telemedicine (SET) Facility. This milestone enhances India's surgical education by offering hands-on training in robotic-assisted, minimally invasive procedures. AIIMS now hosts both the da Vinci and Hugo robotic systems, making it the only institution in the country with two such training platforms—boosting healthcare innovation, surgeon expertise, and reducing dependency on foreign training.

### 2. Indian Navy Inducts Tata-Built Spanish Radar

The Indian Navy has inducted its first Tata-built Lanza-N 3D Air Surveillance Radar, a naval variant of Spain's Indra system, under a USD 145 million deal signed in 2020. Developed by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), the radar offers long-range detection of aerial threats up to 474 km. Successfully tested on a warship, it boosts maritime defence and marks a key step toward defence indigenisation, technology transfer, and enhanced air surveillance capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region.

### 3. India Launches First All-Women Tri-Service Sailing Voyage

On 12 September 2025, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off 'Samudra Pradakshina', the world's first all-women tri-service circumnavigation sailing expedition, from Mumbai. Led by 10 women officers from the Army, Navy, and Air Force, the nine-month voyage aboard the indigenously-built IASV

Triveni will cover 26,000 nautical miles, crossing the Equator twice and rounding Cape Leeuwin, Cape Horn, and Cape of Good Hope. The mission promotes women empowerment, joint military cooperation, India's self-reliance, and provides operational and leadership experience, inspiring youth and enhancing international maritime presence.

### 4. INS Nistar Takes Part in Pacific Reach 2025, Singapore

INS Nistar, India's newly commissioned indigenously-built Diving Support Vessel, participated in the multinational Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 at Changi Naval Base, Singapore. Commissioned on 18 July 2025 with over 80% indigenous components, INS Nistar serves as a mothership for India's Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV), capable of operating up to 650 meters deep. The biennial exercise, hosted by Singapore, involves over 40 countries and includes harbour and sea phases with submarine rescue drills, enhancing India's maritime safety, rapid-response, and international naval cooperation capabilities.

### 5. India to Set Up Satellite Tracking Station Near Diego Garcia

India and Mauritius have agreed to establish a satellite tracking station near Diego Garcia, a strategic US-UK military base in the Chagos archipelago, to strengthen India's surveillance capabilities amid rising Chinese naval activity in the Indian Ocean. The agreement, signed during Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam's visit, also includes cooperation in space research, maritime security, and hydrography. India announced a \$680 million development and security package for Mauritius, covering infrastructure, Coast Guard support, and EEZ management, deepening the strategic



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partnership under India's Neighbourhood First policy.

### 1. Sushila Karki Becomes Nepal's First Woman PM

Sushila Karki, Nepal's first female Chief Justice, has been appointed interim Prime Minister following Gen-Z-led protests that ousted PM KP Sharma Oli. The youth uprising, sparked by corruption and a proposed social media ban, triggered mass political resignations. Karki, sworn in on 12 September 2025, was chosen for her integrity and anti-corruption stance. She will oversee Nepal's stabilization and democratic transition, with a focus on conducting fair elections within a year and restoring public trust in governance.

### 2. APEDA Opens First Regional Office in Bihar

On 12 September 2025, Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated APEDA's first regional office in Patna, marking a key milestone in boosting Bihar's agricultural export capabilities. The office will offer farmers, exporters, and agri-entrepreneurs direct access to export services, cutting dependency on Varanasi. The move supports GI-tagged products like Mithila Makhana and Shahi Litchi. A symbolic export of 7 metric tons of Makhana to global markets underscored Bihar's rising potential in international agri-trade and inclusive rural development.

### 3. Goa to Host 10th Global Ayurveda Day

India will celebrate the 10th Ayurveda Day on 23rd September 2025 at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Goa, under the theme "Ayurveda for People & Planet." For the first time, the event will be held on a fixed date, enhancing its global identity. The celebration aims to

promote Ayurveda's role in sustainable healthcare and environmental harmony. With participation from over 150 countries expected, the event underscores India's health diplomacy and commitment to traditional medicine on the global stage.

### 4. PSB Manthan 2025: Target of Two PSBs in World's Top 20 by 2047

At the two-day PSB Manthan 2025 conclave, the government set a long-term vision to make at least two public sector banks (PSBs) part of the world's top 20 lenders by 2047. This ambitious target aligns with the Viksit Bharat 2047 roadmap. Currently, only State Bank of India (SBI) and HDFC Bank are in the top 100 global lenders by assets. The discussions at the conclave focused on strengthening corporate governance, enhancing customer experience, adopting new technologies like AI, and improving financial stability to ensure PSBs are future-ready and globally competitive.

### 5. SEBI Approves Key Reforms in Public Issues, FPIs, and Mutual Funds

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has announced major reforms to deepen capital markets and ease compliance. For companies with a market capitalization between INR 1 trillion and INR 5 trillion, the Minimum Public Offer (MPO) has been revised to INR 6,250 crore + 2.75% of post-issue market cap. The regulator also raised the anchor investor reservation from 33.33% to 40%, with one-third reserved for domestic mutual funds. To attract foreign capital, SEBI launched SWAGAT-FI, a single-window framework for low-risk Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), which will cover over 70% of FPIs. Additionally, REITs were re-classified as equity for mutual funds, and the maximum exit load on mutual funds was reduced from 5% to 3%.

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## 6. SEBI Stresses Transparency on Family Settlements

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has clarified before the Bombay High Court that family agreements, such as the Deed of Family Settlement (DFS), must be disclosed by listed companies under its Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR). SEBI stressed that while these agreements are 'material information' for shareholders and must be disclosed to ensure transparency and accountability, their disclosure does not impose any binding obligations or restrictions on the company itself. The move aims to protect investors' interests by ensuring all information that could affect a company's performance or share price is made public.

## 7. SEBI Eases FPI Entry with Automatic Registration Window

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved the introduction of an 'automatic window' to simplify the registration process for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs). This reform aims to boost capital inflows into India by reducing procedural hurdles and enhancing the ease of doing business. The new framework provides a single registration route for eligible FPIs, particularly those at least 75% owned by foreign governments or regulated in their home jurisdictions. This streamlined process is a strategic move to counter significant equity outflows and attract more foreign capital to the Indian markets.

## 8. FPOs Critical to Agtech Adoption in Rural India

Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) are emerging as a vital platform for accelerating the adoption of agricultural technologies (agtech) among small and marginal farmers in rural India. By enabling collective bargaining, FPOs

make modern machinery and digital tools more affordable and accessible. FPOs also function as knowledge hubs, providing training and data-driven insights on precision farming and crop planning. They help farmers access finance and credit and invest in shared infrastructure, addressing key challenges and enabling technology-driven productivity improvements across the agricultural supply chain.

## 9. AI-Powered Monsoon Forecasts Transform Kharif Farming in India

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoAFW) has harnessed artificial intelligence (AI) to deliver advanced, farmer-centric monsoon forecasts for Kharif farming. This first-of-its-kind initiative uses a blend of Google's Neural GCM and ECMWF's AI Forecasting System (AIFS) to create highly accurate predictions of monsoon onset and intensity. The forecasts were disseminated via the m-Kisan SMS platform to 3.8 crore farmers across 13 states, providing region-specific guidance up to four weeks in advance. The program aims to empower farmers to plan their crops efficiently, reduce climate-related risks, and strengthen resilience against weather variability.

## 10. Larry Ellison Surpasses Elon Musk as World's Richest

Larry Ellison, co-founder of Oracle, has surpassed Elon Musk to become the world's richest person, as per the Bloomberg Billionaire Index. Ellison's net worth soared by an unprecedented USD 101 billion in a single day, reaching a total of USD 393 billion. This dramatic increase was driven by Oracle's record-breaking earnings report, which sent the company's stock price to new highs. Meanwhile, a sharp decline in Tesla's share value led to Elon Musk's net worth slipping, ending his nearly year-long reign at the top. This shift



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underscores the strong link between corporate performance and the dynamic changes in global wealth rankings.

**11. Former Meghalaya CM D.D. Lapang Dies at 91**

D.D. Lapang, veteran political leader and former Chief Minister of Meghalaya, passed away on 13 September 2025 in Shillong at the age of 91. Born on 10 April 1934, he began his career as a road labourer and school sub-inspector before entering politics in 1972, winning from Nongpoh as an independent. Serving four terms as Chief Minister between 1992 and 2008, Lapang was known for coalition leadership, consensus-building, promoting inclusive development, and maintaining communal harmony. He remained a respected statesman until his death.

**12. Vishakha Mulye Appointed MD and CEO of Aditya Birla Capital**

Vishakha Mulye has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO) of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, effective 1 September 2025, for a five-year term. She has been with ABCL since 2022 and will lead the company under the strategic framework "One ABC, One P&L," aimed at integrating all business verticals for seamless customer experience. Mulye has driven digital innovation through platforms like the ABCD App and Udyog Plus, strengthened financial capital, and focuses on growth, technology adoption, and financial inclusion.

**13. Amit Shah Inaugurates 5th Rajbhasha Sammelan in Gandhinagar**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 5th All India Rajbhasha Sammelan on 14 September 2025 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, on the occasion of Hindi Day. Addressing over 7,000 central government

officials, he emphasized promoting Hindi alongside regional languages, respecting mother tongues, and expanding Hindi's use in science, technology, policing, and judiciary. Key initiatives include the Sarathi Platform for official communication and the Hindi Shabd Sindhu Kosh, a digital encyclopedia. The event fosters multilingual coordination and national integration through language.

**14. International Day of Democracy 2025**

The International Day of Democracy 2025 is observed on 15 September to promote democratic values, human rights, and citizen participation. Established by the UNGA in 2007, it emphasizes inclusive governance, political equality, and the protection of minority rights. The 2025 theme, "Achieving Gender Equality, Action by Action," highlights gender parity in political systems and institutions. Celebrations include awareness campaigns, educational programs, debates, and voter drives. The day also commemorates the 1997 Universal Declaration on Democracy by the IPU, reinforcing participation, transparency, and rule of law globally.

**15. EPFO Officer Chosen for World Bank–Milken PFAM Program**

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) announced that Shri Vivekanand Gupta, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, has been selected for the prestigious World Bank–Milken Institute Public Financial Asset Management (PFAM) Program 2025–26. Nominated by PDUNASS, he became the first-ever EPFO representative and the sole participant from India in this global cohort of 16 professionals from 13 countries. Hosted at Bayes Business School, the program focuses on asset management, governance, and financial policy,

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enhancing EPFO's global outlook and institutional capacity.

## 16. Muzaffarpur Leads Inspire Award 2025 in Student Innovation

Muzaffarpur district in Bihar has topped the Inspire Award – MANAK 2025, securing the first position in India with 7,403 student innovation ideas, surpassing Bengaluru, Jaipur, and Lucknow. The rankings were announced by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) on 13 September 2025. Vaishali district also made it to the top 10, ranking sixth with 5,805 submissions, showcasing Bihar's rising focus on grassroots innovation. The Inspire Award – MANAK promotes creativity among students of classes 6–10, encouraging socially relevant scientific ideas.

## 17. RBI Fines PhonePe ₹21 Lakh for PPI Rule Breach

On 13 September 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) fined fintech company PhonePe ₹21 lakh for non-compliance with prepaid payment instrument (PPI) regulations. The penalty arose because PhonePe's escrow account balances were lower than outstanding PPI liabilities on certain days, and the company failed to promptly report the shortfall. This marks PhonePe's third RBI penalty since 2019 for regulatory violations. PPIs, including digital wallets, must maintain end-of-day balances equal to payments due to merchants and users, ensuring financial compliance and security.

## 18. Myntra, Sourav Ganguly Unveil Souragya Ethnic Wear Brand

Myntra has partnered with former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly to launch 'Souragya', a premium ethnic wear brand inspired by Bengali culture. Introduced ahead of Durga Puja, the collection features around 100 styles including

kurtas, sherwanis, dhotis, and ceremonial wear, showcasing Kantha embroidery, Jamdani weaves, and Batik prints. Managed by Myntra Jabong India Private Limited, the brand blends traditional craftsmanship with modern design. The launch marks Myntra's push into premium ethnic wear as India's festive fashion market rapidly expands.

## 19. Kotak811 Rises to 3rd Globally in App Downloads

In H1 2025, Kotak Mahindra Bank's Kotak811 app became the third-most downloaded banking app globally, with over 16 million downloads and 250% growth, surpassing India's SBI Yono, which recorded 14 million downloads. Launched in 2017, Kotak811 offers a full digital banking ecosystem including savings accounts, payments, mutual funds, insurance, and credit cards. Despite regulatory restrictions and a smaller customer base than SBI, Kotak's digital-first strategy, zero-balance accounts, and affordable add-ons helped it achieve rapid growth, reflecting the global shift toward mobile-first banking.

## 20. RBI Issues New Framework for PAs and PGs

On 16 September 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued comprehensive guidelines for Payment Aggregators (PAs) and recommended baseline standards for Payment Gateways (PGs) to enhance safety, transparency, and resilience in digital payments. Non-bank PAs must obtain RBI authorization, maintain a minimum net worth, comply with "fit and proper" criteria, and keep customer funds in escrow accounts. Guidelines also mandate risk management, annual security audits, merchant background checks, and strict adherence to PCI-DSS standards, strengthening India's rapidly growing digital payment ecosystem.



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**21. State Bank of India Offloads 13.18 Percent Stake in Yes Bank to Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation**

The State Bank of India has sold its 13.18 per cent shareholding in Yes Bank to Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) for about eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine crore rupees. After the divestment, SBI's remaining stake in Yes Bank is approximately 10.8 per cent. The transaction received necessary regulatory approvals from the central banking authority and the competition commission earlier this year. This deal forms part of SMBC's plan to acquire 20 per cent overall in Yes Bank by buying stakes from SBI and other Indian banks.

**22. P and G Health Appoints Shashank Srowthy as Chief Financial Officer, Effective October First**

Procter and Gamble Health has named Shashank Srowthy as its Chief Financial Officer, effective October first, two thousand twenty-five. He replaces Lokesh Chandak, who will move to a senior finance leadership role in the Asia, Middle East, and Africa region. Srowthy has been with the company since two thousand eleven, working in diverse financial roles across India, Dubai, and Singapore. His educational qualifications include a degree in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering and a master's in management studies. The appointment awaits regulatory and shareholder approvals under the relevant company law provisions.