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MICRO CURRENT AFFAIRS

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TAMIL NADU

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has formed an Expert Advisory Committee to monitor and assess the possible impact of the El Niño weather phenomenon during 2026–27 and 2027–28.
- ❖ As of 27 July 2026, Tamil Nadu Cauvery delta region's Kuruvai cultivation covered 3.87 lakh acres, compared with 5.05 lakh acres during the same period in 2025.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has decided to expand the Singapengal Entrepreneurship Credit Scheme by increasing cooperative lending and widening beneficiary coverage.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has changed the name of "Chief Minister's Thayumanavar Scheme" as the doorstep delivery of Public Distribution System (PDS) (ration) commodities for senior citizens and persons with disabilities.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu received the 'Best State' Award for organ donation at the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day event held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Finance Minister N. Marie Wilson presented the TVK-led government's first Budget for 2026–27 in the Legislative Assembly on 5 August 2026.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's first Mangrove Conservation Centre is being established at Muzhukuthurai near Killai in Cuddalore district under the Tamil Nadu Shoreline Restoration Initiative (TN-SHORE).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu announced India's first dedicated Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Innovation City, named 'Arivagam', in the 2026–27 State Budget.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister R. Vinoth presented the Agriculture Budget for 2026–27 in the Legislative Assembly.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu introduced a Bill, proposing an Environmental and Social Welfare Cess on the sale of alcoholic liquor.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has created an Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) with ₹264 crore to strengthen action against drug-related crimes across the State.
- ❖ V.O. Chidambaranar Port in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, became India's first major port to achieve Scope-2 Emission-Free status.
- ❖ The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has declared Tamil Nadu's Tamirabharani (Porunai) River a deity, giving it the status of a legal person to protect it from pollution.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched compulsory 'Presence-less Registration' for the first-time registration of housing plots and apartments.
- ❖ The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has declared Tamil Nadu's Tamirabharani (Porunai) River a deity, giving it the status of a legal person to protect it from pollution.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu will launch the Chief Minister's Elderly Health Insurance Scheme, covering nearly 38 lakh senior citizens aged 70 and above.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has announced 365 days of maternity leave for women government employees for their third child, replacing the earlier 12-week limit.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu will develop the Vetri Paathai app at a cost of ₹20 lakh for students preparing for competitive examinations.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu increased the coverage under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme from ₹5 lakh to ₹25 lakh.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu will set up a Talent Research Wing to identify and train young sports talents for future Olympic competitions.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced a revised crop loan waiver, increasing the limit for marginal, small and other farmers from ₹50,000 to ₹75,000.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has increased the annual allocation for archaeological surveys, excavations and underwater explorations from ₹7 crore to ₹10 crore.
- ❖ A common business brand called 'Vettri' will be introduced to improve the quality, marketing, market share and profits of products manufactured by cooperatives.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has announced Vision 2031 to increase the State's renewable energy share to 50% by 2031.
- ❖ The Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$230 million loan to modernise Chennai's water supply and sanitation infrastructure.
- ❖ Madras Day is observed every year on August 22, and in 2026 it marks the 387th anniversary of the founding of Madras in 1639.
- ❖ For 2026–27, Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) has a hydro generation target of 4,776 million units (MU).
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker has barred members and the media from publicising notices submitted under Rule 55 and Rule 56 before they are admitted.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu announced the Annapoorani Super Six Scheme in the State Assembly on August 24, 2026, with the scheme planned to begin on Pongal Day in January 2027.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu announced the expansion of the Vettri Payanam Scheme to provide free bus travel for women on more types of buses from October 2, 2026 (Gandhi Jayanti).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that the proposed Parandur airport project would be dropped.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu will introduce the TN-ARIVU (Analytical Thinking, Reasoning, Innovation, Venture and Entrepreneurship, Upskilling) curriculum with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies from the 2027–28 academic year.

- ❖ The ARIVU curriculum will have ARIVU Foundation for Classes I–V, ARIVU Discovery for Classes VI–VIII and ARIVU Edge for Classes IX–XII.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is preparing to launch the 'Thaimaman Thanga Mothiram Thittam' on September 15, 2026, under which eligible newborns will receive a 1-gram gold ring.
- ❖ The 16th Finance Commission (FC) has recommended more than ₹27,000 crore for Tamil Nadu's Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) for 2026–31, apart from special infrastructure and urbanisation grants.
- ❖ A 13th-century Tamil stone inscription found at the Thanthondreeswarar Temple in Anandur, near Pochampally, Krishnagiri district, reveals that four Jewish merchant guilds financed the construction of a hall at the Lord Shiva temple.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu will establish Tamil Nadu Mineral Resources Development Corporation Limited, a new Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Companies Act, 2013.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu announced the establishment of a Social Justice Welfare Board for the welfare of Dalits.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu notified three new elephant corridors in the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Hosur Forest Division.
- ❖ T.N. government reconstitutes Advisory Board for Preventive Detention and P. Kalaiyarasan and V. Parthiban, both retired judges of the Madras High Court, were appointed as members.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has designated the Cyber Crime Wing Headquarters as the Tamil Nadu State Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (TN-S4C) at Chennai.

NATIONAL

- ❖ The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS) completed 150 years of its establishment on July 29, 2026.
- ❖ India and Nepal jointly inaugurated the restored Shree Gusthal Mahavihar and Agam of Prathamshree Mahavihar in Lalitpur, Nepal.
- ❖ The Supreme Court quashes the Centre's 2021 Office Memorandum on ex post facto environmental clearance.
- ❖ The Ministry of Finance has introduced a strict "One Officer, One Official Car" policy.
- ❖ India–China border trade through Nathu La Pass, Sikkim, resumed on 1 August 2026 after a six-year suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic and border tensions.

- ❖ The Indian Navy launched the fifth Diving Support Craft (DSC A24) at Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL), Kolkata.
- ❖ The Lok Sabha passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026 to increase the sanctioned strength of Supreme Court judges from 34 to 38.
- ❖ India's distributed solar capacity increased to 31.5 Gigawatt (GW) in Financial Year (FY) 2026, rising over 17 times from 1.8 GW in FY 2018.
- ❖ India's First Telecom Manufacturing Zone will be established in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ India has achieved near-universal banking coverage, with 99.92% of inhabited villages having a banking outlet within a 5-kilometre radius.
- ❖ The 'One Nation, One Fertilizer' initiative has improved fertilizer availability and distribution across India during the Kharif 2026 season.
- ❖ India's 1st Dedicated Department of Military Medicine was inaugurated at Command Hospital, Central Command, Lucknow
- ❖ Indian Navy launched Machilipatnam Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Watercraft (ASW SWC)
- ❖ The Indian Army introduced Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel; an indigenous fuel designed to operate in extreme cold conditions up to -42°C.
- ❖ Prakriti Gyan Dham, the first eco-educational centre of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI), was inaugurated in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Yard 3037 Shruti, an indigenously designed and built Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) of the Shachi class, was launched for the Indian Navy at Kolkata.
- ❖ India's first private, branded train, the Lucknow-Delhi Tejas Express, will run as the 'Sprite' Tejas Express from August 19 to November 11, 2026.
- ❖ Prime Minister of India released former President Ram Nath Kovind's autobiography, "Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles," at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, covering his life journey, struggles and public service.
- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) have renewed the 'One Herb, One Standard' initiative for another three years.
- ❖ India has officially crossed 300 GW of installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity generation capacity, reaching 300.50 GW as of 2026.
- ❖ Parliament passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, which restricts States' powers to levy taxes on mineral rights and mineral-rich lands.
- ❖ India aims to achieve 100 GWe (Gigawatt electric) nuclear capacity by 2047 under the Nuclear Energy Mission.

- ❖ U.S. accounts for 67% of India's LPG imports.
- ❖ Prime Minister has introduced the Sapta Dhara (Shakti Ki Sapta dhara) framework during his Independence Day address on 15 August 2026.
- ❖ The Supreme Court (SC) has directed 19 States and Union Territories (UTs) to declare cancer a notifiable disease for early detection and proper patient care.
- ❖ "Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles" is the official autobiography of Ram Nath Kovind, the 14th President of India, who served from 2017 to 2022.
- ❖ The Supreme Court, in *State of Karnataka & Anr. v. Prathik Parasrampur*, issued directions to curb the use of unaccounted money in elections.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved a permanent bench of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ❖ Census 2027 will not record beggars and vagrants as a separate category for the first time. They will instead be included under "others" in the non-economic activity category.
- ❖ India's Non-Fossil Fuel Power Capacity Crosses 300 GW.
- ❖ India's Installed solar capacity has risen to 164.59 GW.
- ❖ India's Installed wind capacity has reached 58.14 GW.
- ❖ India's hydropower accounts for 57.24 GW of capacity, while bio-power contributes 11.75 GW.
- ❖ India's Nuclear power accounts for another 8.78 GW.
- ❖ The government restricted the manufacturing, sale and distribution of fixed-dose combinations (FDCs) containing Chlorpheniramine Maleate and Phenylephrine Hydrochloride for children below four years.
- ❖ Mangrol, the Third of eight Third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft was delivered recently.
- ❖ India signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) with the United States on to procure the Javelin anti-tank guided missile system through the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) process.
- ❖ Indian defence startup Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace (FWDA) has unveiled FWD Supreme Lite, touted as India's first AI-piloted fighter aircraft programme.
- ❖ Hindalco Industries commissioned India's first Superfine Precipitated Aluminium Trihydrate (PPT ATH) plant in Belagavi, Karnataka.
- ❖ The Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of hanging as a mode of executing the death penalty, holding that it does not violate Article 21 or the right to dignity.

INTERNATIONAL

- ❖ The United States (US) deployed the Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile system in Guam for the first time.
- ❖ The IEA's Electricity Mid-Year Update 2026 says global electricity consumption is projected to rise from 28,600 terawatt hours in 2025 to 30,700 terawatt hours by 2027.
- ❖ Pacific island nation Nauru officially changed its name to the Republic of Naoero after a constitutional amendment approved by its Parliament in May 2026.
- ❖ Venezuela has formally notified the United Nations of its "irrevocable" decision to withdraw from the International Criminal Court.
- ❖ India and the Maldives have launched the Favara–Unified Payments Interface (UPI) cross-border payment corridor for real-time money transfers.
- ❖ Italy temporarily suspended Schengen free-movement rules with Spain from 1 August 2026 for one month after a large influx of irregular migrants into Ceuta.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia and 13 other countries have established a maritime defence coalition to enhance maritime security, protecting freedom of navigation, securing international trade routes and energy supply lines.
- ❖ A 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck near San José del Palmar, Chocó, Colombia, killing at least 164 people and causing major damage in Cali and Pereira.
- ❖ Lebanon's Parliament abolished the death penalty, making Lebanon the first Middle Eastern country to formally abolish capital punishment.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan have signed a joint defence agreement to offer mutual defence guarantees.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia has launched the Multinational Maritime Defence Coalition (MMDC) to strengthen maritime security in the Red Sea, Bab al-Mandeb Strait and Gulf of Aden.
- ❖ Iran and Oman reached an agreement on a shipping route map for traffic through the Strait of Hormuz.
- ❖ Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Iturup Island in the disputed Kuril Islands, prompting strong protests from Japan.
- ❖ The United States launched "Operation Economic Outcast" to economically isolate Iran by targeting its financial and commercial networks.
- ❖ A massive flash flood struck Nepal on August 26, 2026, after a sudden surge from the Tibet side affected the Bhote Koshi–Trishuli river system
- ❖ The United States designated the U.K.-based Palestine Action as a foreign terrorist organisation.
- ❖ In 2025, about 11.5 million HIV-positive people were aged 50 years or older.

ECONOMY

- ❖ State Bank of India (SBI) is set to become the first Indian bank in 2026 to issue Basel III-compliant Additional Tier-I (AT-1) Perpetual Bonds.
- ❖ India climbed from 82nd in 2010 to 57th in 2023 in the Market Distortions Performance Index, according to the Competere Foundation report.
- ❖ Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) revised the base year of the Consumer Price Index from 2012=100 to 2024=100.
- ❖ India became the world's leading ship recycling nation, increasing its global share from 30.1% in 2024 to 35.4% in 2025.
- ❖ The government has proposed a ₹10,000 crore Container Manufacturing Assistance Scheme (CMAS) to increase domestic container production and reduce import dependence.
- ❖ India is retaining the top position globally in the number of Initial Public Offerings (IPO).
- ❖ India's buffalo meat exports rose 25.6% to \$5.1 billion in 2025–26, making it the country's best-performing agricultural export item.
- ❖ The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) completed 10 years of digital payments in India on 25 August 2026, UPI is currently operational in 11 countries: United Arab Emirates, France, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Singapore, Mauritius, Qatar, Cambodia, Greece and the Maldives.
- ❖ India attracted \$30.7 billion in gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during April–June 2026, the highest level in at least 15 years.
- ❖ India's foreign exchange reserves increased by \$12.4 billion to a record \$729.3 billion during the week ended August 21, 2026.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- ❖ Scientists discovered that the Sun's upper atmosphere rotates faster than its visible surface.
- ❖ Researchers discovered a previously unknown metal alloy inside glass-like hiros himaites recovered from Hiroshima Bay, Japan, formed after the 1945 atomic bomb blast.
- ❖ ICAR - National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal developed India's first indigenous MA-104 cell line-based Live Attenuated African Swine Fever (ASF) Vaccine for pigs.
- ❖ IIT Guwahati developed "E-Eye", a low-cost portable optical sensing device for rapid detection of toxicants and cancer-causing heavy metals.

- ❖ Bengaluru-based Astrobase Space Technologies unveiled EVEREST, India's first privately built 800-kilonewton (kN) Full-Flow Staged Combustion (FFSC) rocket engine.
- ❖ Param Pragya, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered high-performance computing facility inaugurated at IIT Delhi Sonipat Campus.
- ❖ IN-SPACe approved India's first fully commercial indigenous Earth Observation (EO) satellite constellation under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.
- ❖ Scientists have identified GJ 523b, an exoplanet classified as a "mega-Earth".
- ❖ Scientists have identified S301 as the fastest-moving star on a confirmed orbit in the Milky Way.
- ❖ NASA abandoned its attempt to rescue the Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory after the rescue spacecraft LINK developed control problems.

ENVIRONMENT

- ❖ Uzbekistan released 672 Houbara bustards (*Chlamydotis macqueenii*) in Karakalpakstan to restore biodiversity in the Aral Sea region.
- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) identified the Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana as a priority recipient site for tiger recovery.
- ❖ Varayattumudy in Idukki district, Kerala, has emerged as a major habitat for the endangered Nilgiri tahr, with its population increasing significantly.
- ❖ Scientists discovered two new fruit fly species, *Zeugodacus umiam* and *Zeugodacus nasivittatus* in Ri-Bhoi district, Meghalaya.
- ❖ A new freshwater catfish species, *Pseudolaguvia khairii*, was discovered in the Budhabalanga River, Mayurbhanj district, Odisha.
- ❖ India is home to the world's largest wild tiger population, accounting for nearly 70% of all wild tigers globally.
- ❖ Scientists discovered a new species of blind, blood-red eel named *Rakthamichthys anchi* in underground aquifers connected to dug-out wells in Goalpara district, Assam.
- ❖ Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh has been designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site, becoming the state's first Ramsar Site.
- ❖ Scientists confirmed Charles Darwin's 150-year-old prediction that the plant *Saxifraga candelabrum* is an insect-eating (carnivorous) plant.
- ❖ A new species of stream-loving catfish, *Pseudecheneis likimroensis*, has been discovered in the fast-flowing Likimro River in Nagaland.
- ❖ The Supreme Court ruled that a 10-km mining buffer applies to all notified wetland reserves, even when a separate buffer has not been notified.

- ❖ Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) announced the completion of the National Catalogue of Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths), the final volume was published in Zoo Taxa.
- ❖ Global sea surface temperatures (SST) outside the polar regions reached a record high (20.96°C) in July 2026.
- ❖ Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the United States, reached its lowest-ever water level at about 1,040.3 feet (317.1 m) above sea level.
- ❖ A 72,600 sq. yard man-made lake, called Blue Heart, is being developed at By the Waters, a 100-acre residential estate about 35 km from Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ *Pteris madhusoodananii*, a new fern species belonging to the genus *Pteris* and family *Pteridaceae*, was discovered in Kolli Hills, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Scientists have discovered three new cascade frog species in Northeast India - Ammachi's Cascade Frog (*Amolops ammachi*) from Tripura, Sendenyu Cascade Frog (*Amolops sendenyu*) from Nagaland and Beautiful Cascade Frog (*Amolops bella*) from West Bengal.
- ❖ The rare solitary Himalayan bee *Colletes bhutanicus* was recorded in India for the first time in Tawang district, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The 16th Lion population estimation (May 2025) recorded an increase in the Asiatic Lion population to 891 individuals across the Greater Gir landscape in Gujarat.
- ❖ Ladakh has announced India's first-ever Altitude Wildlife Safari in the region.
- ❖ India has added heatwaves and lightning to its list of notified natural disasters.
- ❖ Assam records world's first-ever release of captive-bred slender-billed vultures (*Gyps tenuirostris*).
- ❖ Ladakh is hosting its first-ever Black-necked Crane Festival to promote conservation of this threatened species.
- ❖ The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) approved the proposal for the Desert Zoological Park and Night Safari at Deesa in Gujarat's Banaskantha district.
- ❖ A new freshwater crab species, *Ghatiana karnataka*, has been scientifically described from Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka.
- ❖ A new freshwater crab species, *Ghatiana karnataka*, has been scientifically described from Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka.
- ❖ India's first virtual zoo has been opened at the Indore Zoo in Madhya Pradesh, along with a 14-D cinema and a virtual jungle safari.
- ❖ India launched its first-ever Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems of India at the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP17 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

- ❖ A new Himalayan flowering plant has been named *Impatiens nimsapurjai* after Nepali mountaineer Nirmal “Nimsdai” Purja.
- ❖ The ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) has officially registered the Periyar cow, also known as Periyar Kullam, as an indigenous cattle breed.
- ❖ A new global drought resilience architecture was launched at the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP17.
- ❖ The National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP) has developed India’s first soil texture map.
- ❖ Scientists from Pune discovered two new species of microscopic marine organisms, *Psammophaga holzmannae* and *Psammophaga sinhai*, in the intertidal sediments along Maharashtra’s Konkan coast.
- ❖ Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary in Gujarat was identified as a major breeding site for the Black-necked Stork.
- ❖ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research–National Research Centre for Banana (ICAR-NRCB) in Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu, released two new banana varieties — Kaveri Thangam and Kaveri Nandan.

REPORTS AND INDICES

- ❖ The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released the report "No Transition Without Justice".
- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) released the "Roadmap for Active Management of Tigers in India" report based on the 2022 All India Tiger Estimation.
- ❖ Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2026 was developed by Institutes of Yale and Columbia University, along with support from the McCall MacBain Foundation.
- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) released the Peat-Emit Report 2026 to improve the accuracy of greenhouse gas emission estimates from peatlands.
- ❖ The World Bank released the World Development Report 2026: The Promise of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- ❖ The Department of Science and Technology (DST) released the Research and Development (R&D) Statistics 2025–26 report.
- ❖ Punjab has overtaken Kerala to rank No. 1 in the NITI Aayog School Education Quality Index 2026.

- ❖ NITI Aayog has released the report titled “Key Sectors to Position India as a Global Manufacturing Hub”.
- ❖ A new report - Global Employment Trends for Youth 2026: Back to the future was launched by the UN’s International Labour Organization (ILO)
- ❖ Twenty blackbucks (15 females, 5 males) were rewilded in Banni Grasslands, Kutch, Gujarat, after translocation from Vantara, Jamnagar.
- ❖ The Global Gas Report 2026 was released by the International Gas Union (IGU), Snam and Rystad Energy.

STATES

- ❖ Assam exported its first international consignment of Purabi Ice Cream to Bhutan, marking a milestone for the state's dairy sector.
- ❖ Pithora Painting of Gujarat’s Rathwa tribal community got GI Tag
- ❖ Ladakh will begin the second phase of Census 2027 on August 17, 2026, and will be among the first areas to record caste details.
- ❖ Parichha Weir, a 140-year-old irrigation structure in Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh selected as a World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS).
- ❖ India’s first virtual zoo has been opened at the Indore Zoo in Madhya Pradesh, along with a 14-D cinema and a virtual jungle safari.
- ❖ Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have become the first Union Territories (UTs) to provide food subsidy transfers to eligible beneficiaries through Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)-based Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- ❖ Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma inaugurated a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Eri silk weaving at Nongpoh, Ri-Bhoi district, Meghalaya.
- ❖ Maharashtra declared snakebite a notifiable disease, making reporting of all suspected, probable and confirmed cases and deaths mandatory.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh became the first inland State in India to begin exporting value-added Tilapia fish products.
- ❖ Karnataka has banned the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of analogue paneer as “paneer” across the state for one year, from August 17, 2026 to August 17, 2027.
- ❖ The Suru Summer Festival is being held in Suru Valley, Kargil, Ladakh.
- ❖ The Centre has set up a committee chaired by Pankaj Kumar Singh, former Deputy National Security Adviser to finalise a “permanent political solution” for the Gorkha issue in Darjeeling hills.
- ❖ Delhi recorded the highest own revenue share among states and Union Territories at 93.2% in the Financial Year 2024–25 Budget Estimates (FY25 BE).

INITIATIVES, SCHEMES AND CAMPAIGNS

Name	Ministry/Organization	Aim
Samudra Manthan	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Explore offshore hydrocarbon resources
Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana	Solar Energy Corporation of India	Develop Floating Solar Photovoltaic
DAANVEER Initiative	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Close the immediate computer gap in the Gram Panchayats
'Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan campaign	–	Anti-drug awareness
GOBARdhan Scheme	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	For Compressed Biogas
Back-to-School 2026 campaign	Google	AI-powered learning

PERSONALITIES AND AWARDS

Personalities	Associated fields	Remarks
Varsha Ashok Aglawe	Palaeontologist	First woman Director General (DG) of the Geological Survey of India
Felix Gerald	–	Chairman of the TN State Minorities Commission
D. Krishnakumar	Former Manipur High Court Chief Justice	Chairman of the reconstituted TN State Law Commission
A.S. Rajeev	–	Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner
Anil Menon	Indian-origin Nasa astronaut	Completed his first spacewalk
Bhawana Kanth	Squadron Leader	IAF's 1 st woman 'Top Gun' pilot
Pranesh M	Won the Kanizsa Open 2026	India's 19-year-old Grandmaster
Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir	–	23 rd President of Bangladesh
R. Praggnanandhaa	First Indian to win the Grand Chess Tour	–

Prize/Awards	Awardee	Remarks
Fields Medal 2026	Yu Deng (China), John Pardon (USA), Hong Wang (China), and Jacob Tsimmerman (Canada)	Highest honour in mathematics
COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026	Annapurni Subramaniam	Astrophysicist
Environment Protection Award 2026	Pechiyammal and Govindhammal	Contributions to environment protection
Dirac Medal 2026	Deepak Dhar	Indian physicist
Thagaisal Thamizhar Award 2026	M. Krishnasamy	Former MP
National Teachers' Award 2026	M Thangaraj & J Amudha	–
Nammazhvar Awards	C. Nallasivam (Namakkal), A. Subramanian (Pudukkottai), & Sadhana (Chengalpattu).	Excellence in organic farming

EVENTS AND SUMMITS

- ❖ The 28th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA28) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) concluded in Nairobi, Kenya.
- ❖ India hosted the Second BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting and Second BRICS Expert Network on Asset Recovery Meeting in Hyderabad.
- ❖ The GI & Beyond 2.0 Summit was held in New Delhi to promote India's Geographical Indication (GI)-tagged handloom and handicraft products.
- ❖ The 16th BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting concluded in Jaipur, Rajasthan under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- ❖ The 10th BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting concluded in Jaipur, Rajasthan, under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- ❖ The 13th BRICS Education Ministers' Meeting was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- ❖ The 11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting concluded in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, with the adoption of the Bhopal Declaration.
- ❖ The 7th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 7) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held in Nairobi, Kenya

- ❖ The 8th Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology (OPST) was held in Goa.
- ❖ Pune is hosting the 7th BRICS Working Group for Cooperation in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).
- ❖ The 17th Conference of Parties (COP17) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) began in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ Union Home Minister chaired the 31st meeting of the Southern Zonal Council in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The 16th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) concluded in Chennai.
- ❖ India hosted the 8th BRICS Working Group on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology (OPST) in Goa during its BRICS Presidency.
- ❖ The BRICS Sports Ministers' Meeting concluded in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, with the adoption of the BRICS Sports Joint Declaration by consensus.
- ❖ Mongolia hosted the Global Pastoralist Gathering and Conference under the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) 2026.
- ❖ India hosted the 8th BRICS Youth Energy Summit virtually under its BRICS Chairship.
- ❖ The 2nd BRICS 2026 Tourism Working Group Meeting was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan under India's BRICS Chairship.

DEFENCE EXERCISES AND OPERATIONS

Name	Countries/ Organization Involved	Venue
Operation Trishul	Indian Govt	Bring back 274 fugitives from 36 countries
Exercise ROTOR CLAP III	Indian Air Force	Rajasthan
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026	India-US Navy	Kochi
Exercise Udara Shakti 2026	India-Malaysia Air Force	Malaysia
Exercise Maitree 2026	India- Thailand Army	Thailand
Exercise 'SAHYOG HOP-TAC'	India – Vietnam Coast Guards	Chennai

SPORTS

- ❖ Asmita Dey (women's 48 kg category) and Harsh Singh (men's 60 kg category) won India's first-ever judo gold medals at the 2026 Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow, Scotland.
- ❖ India finished 4th at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2026 in Glasgow with 39 medals (13 Gold, 17 Silver, 9 Bronze).

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Important Day	Theme
August 1-7	World Breastfeeding Week	Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen What Works
August 03	Indian Organ Donation Day	–
August 04	International Clouded Leopard Day	–
August 04	National Bone and Joint Day	Healthy Bones, Healthy Joints, Healthier India
August 07	National Handloom Day	–
August 07	National Javelin Day	–
August 09	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being
August 10	World Lion Day	–
August 10	World Biofuel Day	–
August 12	World Elephant Day	Bringing the world together to help elephants
August 23	National Space Day	–
August 29	National Sports Day	Khelega Bharat, Jeetega Bharat
August 23-27	World Water Week	Water for People & Progress

