adda247

THE HINDU REVIEW

- Current **Affairs**
- Monthly **Capsule**

JANUARY 2026

- *Padma Awards 2026 Announced*
- *Republic Day 2026*

- *Economic Survey 2025–26*
- *Ashok Chakra*

- *World Economic Forum 2026*

Contents

Most Important Current Affairs of the Month

ISRO's Successfully Lift Off Anomaly in PS3 Stage of PSLV-C62/EOS-N1 Mission

India's PSLV-C62 rocket carrying the EOS-N1 satellite encountered an anomaly during the final phase of its third stage on January 12, 2026. The launch took place from Sriharikota after a 22.5 hour countdown. While initial stages performed normally, deviations in roll rate and flight path were observed, prompting ISRO to begin a detailed technical analysis.

Why in News?

The PSLV-C62/EOS-N1 mission faced a technical anomaly near the end of the PS3 stage. ISRO confirmed that the issue led to deviations in the rocket's trajectory, and further assessment of mission data is in progress.

Mission Overview and Launch Details

The PSLV-C62/EOS-N1 mission followed a 22.5-hour countdown before lifting off from Sriharikota, marking the 105th launch from the spaceport and the 64th flight of the PSLV. The mission used the PSLV-DL variant, which features two strap-on boosters, and was the fifth flight of this configuration.

EOS-N1, an Earth observation satellite built for strategic applications, was the primary payload. The launch was a commercial mission executed by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), ISRO's commercial arm. Alongside EOS-N1, 15 co-passenger satellites developed by startups and academic institutions from India and abroad were onboard, reflecting India's growing role in the global small satellite launch market.

Planned Mission Profile

Under the original mission plan, EOS-N1 and 14 of the co-passenger satellites were to be injected into a Sun Synchronous Orbit (SSO). The remaining payload, the KID capsule developed by Orbital Paradigm (Spain) in collaboration with RIDE (France), was intended for a re-entry experiment.

Following satellite deployment, the PS4 stage was scheduled to restart to de-boost itself and enter a re-entry trajectory. Both the PS4 stage and the KID capsule were expected to re-enter Earth's atmosphere and impact the South Pacific Ocean. ISRO has not yet confirmed whether these objectives were achieved.

What Did ISRO Say About the Anomaly?

ISRO Chairman V Narayanan stated that a deviation was noticed during the third stage of the rocket. He clarified that mission data is currently being analysed and that ISRO will share detailed findings soon. At present, the mission has not been officially declared a success or failure.

Key Payloads and Strategic Importance

One of the major satellites onboard was Anvesha, a surveillance satellite developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization. Anvesha is designed to provide advanced imaging capabilities, enhancing India's ability to monitor and map strategic locations with high precision, which is vital for national security and disaster management.

Role of the Private Space Sector

The mission marked a milestone for India's private space ecosystem. For the first time, a single private company, Dhruva Space from Hyderabad, contributed seven satellites to a PSLV mission. This highlights the growing collaboration between ISRO and private players following space sector reforms.

Key Summary At Glance

Aspect	Details
Why in News?	Anomaly during PSLV-C62 third stage
Launch Vehicle	PSLV (64th mission)
Launch Date	January 12, 2026
Launch Site	Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
Main Payload	EOS-N1
Strategic Satellite	Anvesha (DRDO)
Private Sector Role	Dhruva Space (7 satellites)
Current Status	Data under analysis

WEF Global Risks Report 2026

The **World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Risks Report 2026 (21st edition)** paints a worrying picture of the coming decade. The report suggests that the world is moving into an **"Age of Competition"**, where rivalry between countries is intensifying—not only in the military space, but also through **trade restrictions, sanctions, technology controls, and information warfare**. This shift is creating a global environment where shocks spread faster, cooperation becomes harder, and societies become more vulnerable to instability.

The report ranks risks across **two key time horizons**—the near future (2 years) and the long term (10 years). Its core message is straightforward: the global landscape is becoming **more fragmented, more unpredictable, and more exposed to multiple overlapping risks**.

1) What Does WEF Mean by "Global Risk"?

WEF defines a **global risk** as a threat or event that can cause major negative impact on a large scale, affecting:

- **the world's population**
- **the global economy**
- **natural resources and ecological systems**

This definition matters because it places emphasis on threats that cross borders, spread rapidly, and create ripple effects across regions.

2) How the Report Is Built

The report is primarily based on expert perceptions collected through global surveys of leaders and specialists across sectors. It then organizes risks into categories such as:

- **Geopolitical**
- **Economic**
- **Societal**
- **Technological**
- **Environmental**

It also studies how risks connect with each other, showing that crises rarely happen in isolation. Instead, one major event often triggers several others.

3) Global Mood: Instability Is Rising

A major finding of the report is that a large share of experts expects the world to experience **turbulence** in both the short and long term. This suggests that many see current tensions as part of deeper structural changes rather than temporary fluctuations.

Main reasons behind the growing instability include:

- rising rivalry between major powers
- shrinking space for international cooperation
- economic pressures such as high debt and uneven growth
- rapid technological disruptions
- intensifying climate impacts

4) Most Likely Crisis Trigger in 2026: Geoeconomic Confrontation

The report identifies **geoeconomic confrontation** as the most likely risk to trigger a global crisis in 2026.

What geoeconomic confrontation means

It refers to the use of economic tools as instruments of strategic power, such as:

- sanctions and counter-sanctions
- tariffs and trade barriers
- restrictions on technology exports
- control over supply chains
- manipulation of critical resources (oil, gas, rare earth minerals, chips)

Why it is dangerous

Geoeconomic rivalry:

- disrupts global trade networks
- increases inflationary pressures
- reduces investment confidence
- weakens global supply chains
- creates uncertainty for industries and jobs

In today's world, economic rivalry is becoming as destabilizing as direct military confrontation.

5) Conflict and Security: The Risk of Armed Escalation

Along with economic rivalry, the report highlights **state-based armed conflict** as a leading risk. Conflicts today have grown more complex because they often combine:

- conventional warfare
- cyberattacks
- economic sanctions
- information manipulation

Key concerns linked to armed conflict

- damage to infrastructure and energy networks
- global commodity price instability
- increase in displacement and migration
- rising military expenditure at the cost of development spending

6) Information Crisis: Misinformation, Disinformation, and Polarization

One of the strongest warnings in the report is the growing influence of **misinformation and disinformation**, especially through digital platforms. The report links false information with **social unrest and political division**.

How misinformation becomes a global threat

- spreads confusion during crises (pandemics, wars, disasters)
- reduces trust in governments and media
- creates fear and anger among communities
- influences elections and public decision-making

Societal polarization: a connected risk

Polarization means deep social division where people move into rigid groups and stop trusting each other.

It leads to:

- frequent protests and instability
- weaker policymaking and governance
- rising hostility between communities
- breakdown of social harmony

7) Economic Risks: Signs of a Possible Reckoning

The report notes that economic risks are rising sharply in importance.

Major economic risks highlighted

- **economic downturn**
- **inflation resurgence**
- **asset bubble risks**
- widening gap between rich and poor

Why these risks are increasing

Some key drivers include:

- high public and private debt
- unstable trade flows
- pressure on currencies and interest rates
- financial market volatility

A prolonged downturn could amplify societal anger, unemployment, and political instability.

8) Cyber Insecurity: A Direct Threat to Critical Systems

In the digital era, cyber insecurity has become one of the most immediate global risks.

Cyber threats impact:

- banking and financial systems
- electricity grids
- railways and aviation networks
- hospitals and healthcare data
- government databases
- military systems

Why cyber risk is rising

- increasing digital dependence
- growth of ransomware attacks
- state-sponsored cyber operations
- weak cybersecurity capacity in many sectors

Cyberattacks can cause economic loss and also shake national security.

9) AI Risk: Powerful, Fast—and Hard to Control

The report emphasizes that **adverse outcomes of AI technologies** are among the most significant long-term threats.

What AI-related risks include

- deepfakes and automated misinformation
- job displacement in multiple industries
- algorithmic bias and discrimination
- surveillance and privacy violations
- autonomous weapons and AI-driven warfare
- concentration of AI power in few hands

AI is described as a double-edged technology—it can boost productivity, but without strong safeguards it can weaken trust, stability, and accountability.

10) Environmental Risks: The Most Dangerous Long-Term Threat

The long-term risk ranking is dominated by environmental dangers. The report highlights that climate risks are not only continuing but intensifying.

Top environmental risks (long-term)

- **extreme weather events**
- **biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse**
- **critical changes to Earth systems**
- pollution
- resource shortages (water, food, minerals)

Why this is alarming

Environmental damage creates chain reactions:

- crop failures and food insecurity
- water stress and conflicts
- forced displacement
- economic shocks
- increased health emergencies

The report warns that climate stress can become a multiplier—making economic and political risks even worse.

11) Inequality: The Most Interconnected Global Risk

A very important insight of the report is that **inequality** is one of the most "connected" risks, meaning it triggers or strengthens several other threats.

Inequality fuels:

- political dissatisfaction
- crime and insecurity
- social unrest
- polarization
- migration pressures
- weakening of trust in institutions

This shows that inequality is not just a social problem—it is also a governance and stability issue.

12) The World Order Ahead: Multipolar and Fragmented

The report suggests that the world is shifting away from a single dominant power structure. Instead, it sees the future as:

- **multipolar** (many major powers)
- or **fragmented** (regions setting different rules)

What this could lead to

- competing trade blocs
- multiple technology ecosystems
- inconsistent global regulations
- reduced effectiveness of international institutions

This fragmentation makes collective action harder—especially on climate, global health, and conflict prevention.

Golden Globes 2026

The **83rd Golden Globe Awards 2026** concluded with One Battle After Another and Adolescence dominating major film and television categories, while actors Wagner Moura, Jessie Buckley, and Timothée Chalamet won top acting honours.

Major Film Winners at Golden Globes 2026

- In the film categories, Hamnet won Best Film – Drama, while One Battle After Another secured Best Film – Musical or Comedy, establishing itself as the evening's most successful film.
- The film also earned accolades for Best Director and Best Screenplay for Paul Thomas Anderson.
- In acting categories, Wagner Moura won Best Male Actor (Drama) for The Secret Agent, while Jessie Buckley claimed Best Female Actor (Drama) for Hamnet.
- In musical or comedy roles, Timothée Chalamet won Best Male Actor for Marty Supreme, and Rose Byrne took Best Female Actor for If I Had Legs I'd Kick You.

Here Is The Full Winners List

Sr. No	Category	Winner
1	Best Film Drama	Hamnet
2	Best Film Musical or Comedy	One Battle After Another
3	Best Male Actor Film Drama	Wagner Moura (The Secret Agent)
4	Best Female Actor Film Drama	Jessie Buckley (Hamnet)
5	Best Television Series Musical or Comedy	The Studio
6	Best Television Limited Series Anthology/TV Film	Adolescence
7	Best Television Series – Drama	The Pitt
8	Best Female Actor – Television Series	Drama Rhea Seehorn (Pluribus)
9	Best Standup Comedy on Television	Ricky Gervais (Mortality)
10	Best Supporting Female Actor – Television	Erin Doherty (Adolescence)
11	Best Film Non-English Language	The Secret Agent
12	Best Film – Animated K Pop	Demon Hunters
13	Best Director – Film	Paul Thomas Anderson (One Battle After Another)
14	Cinematic and Box Office Achievement	Sinners
15	Best Female Actor – TV Limited Series/Anthology/TV Film	Michelle Williams (Dying for Sex)
16	Best Male Actor – TV Limited Series/Anthology/TV Film	Stephen Graham (Adolescence)
17	Best Male Actor – Film Musical or Comedy	Timothee Chalamet (Marty Supreme)
18	Best Female Actor – Film Musical or Comedy	Rose Byrne (If I Had Legs I'd Kick You)
19	Best Screenplay – Film	Paul Thomas Anderson (One Battle After Another)
20	Best Original Score – Film	Ludwig Göransson (Sinners)
21	Best Original Song – Film	Golden (K Pop Demon Hunters)
22	Best Podcast	Good Hang with Amy Poehler
23	Best Male Actor – TV Series Musical or Comedy	Seth Rogen (The Studio)
24	Best Supporting Male Actor – Television	Owen Cooper (Adolescence)
25	Best Female Actor – TV Series Musical or Comedy	Jean Smart (Hacks)
26	Best Male Actor – TV Series Drama	Noah Wyle (The Pitt)
27	Best Male Actor – Supporting Role in a Film	Stellan Skarsgård (Sentimental Value)
28	Best Female Actor – Supporting Role in a Film	Teyana Taylor (One Battle After Another)

Henley Passport Index 2026

The **Henley Passport Index 2026** once again highlights the sharp divide in global travel freedom, ranking passports based on how many destinations their holders can visit without needing a visa in advance. India's global travel access has seen a modest improvement in 2026. According to the latest passport rankings, Indian travellers can now visit more countries without lengthy visa procedures than last year. However, significant limitations remain for popular destinations like Europe and North America, shaping how Indians plan international trips.

Why in the News?

The Henley Passport Index 2026 has ranked **India at 80th position globally.** Indian passport holders get visa free, visa-on-arrival or e-visa access to 55 destinations, up from last year's rank of 85.

India's Rank in the Henley Passport Index 2026

- India is ranked 80th in the Henley Passport Index 2026. Indian passport holders currently enjoy visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 55 destinations.
- India shares this position with Nigeria and Algeria, while regional neighbours Bangladesh and Pakistan rank even lower.
- The data reflects a significant mobility gap within South Asia and between India and leading global economies.

World's Most Powerful Passports in 2026

- At the top of the rankings, Singapore holds the number one position, with its citizens enjoying visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 192 destinations, the highest in the world.
- Japan and South Korea jointly occupy the second position with access to 188 destinations, reflecting their strong diplomatic networks and stable international relations.
- Europe continues to dominate the upper ranks, with multiple EU countries offering access to over 185 destinations, highlighting the strength of European diplomacy and integration.

Which Country Has the Weakest Passport in the World?

- Afghanistan (Rank 101) – 24 destinations
- Afghanistan holds the weakest passport globally, allowing access to just 24 destinations without a prior visa.
- It is followed closely by Syria and Iraq, underscoring how conflict, political instability, and security concerns sharply limit international mobility.
- The gap between the most powerful passport (Singapore) and the weakest (Afghanistan) now stands at 168 destinations.

Top 10 Most Powerful Passport List

Rank	Country/Countries	Visa Free Destinations
1	Singapore	192
2	Japan, South Korea	188
3	Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland	186
4	Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway	185
5	Hungary, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Arab Emirates	184
6	Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Malta, New Zealand, Poland	183
7	Australia, Latvia, United Kingdom, Liechtenstein	182
8	Canada, Iceland, Lithuania	181
9	Malaysia	180
10	United States	179

Bottom 5 Countries With Weakest Passport

Rank	Country/Countries	Visa Free Destinations
101	Afghanistan	24
100	Syria	26
99	Iraq	29
98	Pakistan, Yemen	31
97	Somalia	33

Where Indians Can Travel Easily in 2026

Indian passport holders enjoy easier access mainly to,

- **Asia:** Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Maldives
- **Middle East:** UAE, Qatar, Oman
- **Africa:** Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda
- **Islands & Caribbean**: Mauritius, Seychelles, Barbados

Key Outcomes of UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed's Visit to India

India and the United Arab Emirates have taken their strategic partnership to a new level following the visit of Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to India. The visit resulted in multiple agreements and announcements covering investment, defence, space, energy, trade, technology and people-to-people ties, reflecting growing trust and long-term cooperation between the two countries.

Why in News?

The President of the UAE visited India in January 2026. Several MoUs, Letters of Intent and major announcements were signed to expand India-UAE strategic cooperation.

List of Agreements / MoUs / Letters of Intent

S. No.	Agreement/MoU/LoI	Objective
1	LoI on Investment Cooperation for Dholera Special Investment Region between Government of Gujarat (India) and Ministry of Investment (UAE)	UAE partnership in development of Dholera SIR including international airport, pilot training school, MRO facility, greenfield port, smart urban township, railway connectivity and energy infrastructure
2	LoI between IN-SPACe (India) and UAE Space Agency	Joint infrastructure for space industry development and commercialization including launch complexes, manufacturing zones, incubation centres, training institutes and exchange programmes

S. No.	Agreement/MoU/LoI	Objective
3	LoI on Strategic Defence Partnership between India and UAE	Establish a Strategic Defence Partnership Framework and expand cooperation in defence industry, innovation, advanced technology, training, special operations, cyber security and counter-terrorism
4	Sales & Purchase Agreement (SPA) between HPCL and ADNOC Gas	Long-term purchase of 0.5 MMPTA LNG by HPCL from ADNOC Gas for 10 years starting from 2028
5	MoU on Food Safety and Technical Requirements between APEDA (India) and Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (UAE)	Facilitate trade in food and agricultural products, promote Indian exports (especially rice), benefit Indian farmers and enhance UAE food security

Announcements

S. No.	Announcement	Objective
6	Establishment of a Supercomputing Cluster in India	Collaboration between C-DAC (India) and G-42 (UAE) under the AI India Mission; facility to support research, application development and commercial use
7	Doubling Bilateral Trade to US$ 200 Billion by 2032	Expand trade, link MSMEs, promote new markets through initiatives such as Bharat Mart, Virtual Trade Corridor and Bharat-Africa Setu
8	Promotion of Bilateral Civil Nuclear Cooperation	Cooperation in advanced nuclear technologies, large reactors, SMRs, reactor systems, nuclear power plant operations, maintenance and nuclear safety under SHANTI Act 2025
9	UAE Companies in GIFT City (Gujarat) – FAB & DP World	FAB to open a branch to promote trade and investment; DP World to operate ship leasing for global operations
10	Exploration of Digital / Data Embassies	Explore establishment of Digital Embassies under mutually recognized sovereignty arrangements
11	Establishment of 'House of India' in Abu Dhabi	Creation of a cultural space including a museum of Indian art, heritage and archaeology

S. No.	Announcement	Objective
12	Promotion of Youth Exchanges	Foster youth engagement, academic and research collaboration, and strengthen cultural ties between future generations

About India-UAE Relations
- India and the UAE share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership spanning trade, energy, defense, diaspora ties and technology.
- The **UAE is one of India's largest trading partners and a key investor.**
- These outcomes further institutionalize cooperation across traditional and emerging sectors.

GoI Approves Wage Revision and Pension Revision for PSGICs, NABARD and RBI

The Central Government has approved **wage revision** and **pension revision** for employees and pensioners in key financial institutions, including **Public Sector General Insurance Companies (PSGICs)**, **NABARD**, and **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. This move is being seen as a significant step towards boosting employee morale, ensuring improved retirement security, and strengthening social welfare measures in the financial sector.

The decision highlights the Government's continued focus on **social security**, **fair compensation**, and the **financial well-being of pensioners**, especially those who have dedicated decades of service to India's economic and financial institutions.

What Has Been Approved?
The announcement covers three major areas:
- **Wage revision for employees of PSGICs**
- **Pay revision for employees of NABARD**
- **Pension revision for retirees of RBI and NABARD**
- **Family pension revision for PSGICs**

This policy intervention is important not just for beneficiaries but also for government exam aspirants, as it touches multiple topics like **social security**, **financial sector reforms**, **public sector compensation**, and **retirement benefits**.

Wage Revision for PSGIC Employees (Effective from 1 August 2022)

Key Details
The wage revision for employees of Public Sector General Insurance Companies (PSGICs) will be effective from:
01 August 2022

Overall wage hike
- **Overall hike in wage bill: 12.41%**
- **Increase: 14%** on existing **Basic Pay + Dearness Allowance (DA)**

Beneficiaries

- Total employees benefiting: **43,247 PSGIC employees**

This revision provides substantial salary improvement, helping employees manage inflation and rising living costs.

Enhancement in NPS Contribution for PSGIC Employees

A major welfare step in the revision package is the enhancement of **National Pension System (NPS) contribution**:

- **Earlier:** 10%
- **Now:** 14%

Who benefits?

This applies to employees who joined after: **01 April 2010**

This is aimed at creating stronger long-term retirement security and better future social safety for younger employees.

Family Pension Revision for PSGICs

To support dependents of deceased employees, the Government has approved a major update in the **family pension** structure.

Revised family pension rate

- **Uniform rate of 30%**
- Effective from the **date of publication in the official gazette**

Beneficiaries

- Benefiting family pensioners: **14,615**
- Total existing family pensioners: **15,582**

This is being viewed as a gesture of appreciation and support for families linked to the public insurance system.

Financial Implication for PSGICs

The total financial outgo is estimated at: **₹8,170.30 crore**

Break-up:

- **₹5,822.68 crore** towards wage revision arrears
- **₹250.15 crore** for increased NPS contribution
- **₹2,097.47 crore** for family pension revision

PSGICs Covered Under the Wage Revision

The wage revision applies to employees working in the following Public Sector General Insurance Companies:

- **National Insurance Company Ltd. (NICL)**
- **New India Assurance Company Ltd. (NIACL)**
- **Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. (OICL)**
- **United India Insurance Company Ltd. (UIICL)**
- **General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC)**
- **Agricultural Insurance Company Ltd. (AICIL)**

NABARD Pay Revision (Effective from 1 November 2022)

Key Details

Pay revision for NABARD employees is effective from: **01 November 2022**

Increase in pay and allowances

- **Hike:** About **20%**
- Applicable to: **Group A, B and C employees**

Beneficiaries

- Approx beneficiaries: **3,800** serving and former employees

NABARD Pension Revision: Who is Covered?

The Government has approved pension revision for NABARD retirees who:

- Were originally recruited by NABARD
- Retired **before 01 November 2017**

Key Change

Their **basic pension/family pension** has been brought **on par with ex-RBI NABARD retirees**. This ensures parity and removes long-standing differences in pension benefits.

Financial Implication for NABARD

Pay the revision cost

- **Additional annual wage bill:** approx **₹170 crore**
- **Total arrears:** approx **₹510 crore**

Pension revision cost

- **One-time arrear payment: ₹50.82 crore**
- **Additional monthly pension outgo: ₹3.55 crore**

Beneficiaries:

1. **269 pensioners**
2. **457 family pensioners**

RBI Pension Revision (Effective from 1 November 2022)

The Government has approved a revision in pension and family pension for RBI retirees.

Key Revision

- **Pension + family pension increased by 10%**
- Calculation: **10% on basic pension + dearness relief**
- Effective date: **01 November 2022**

Effective pension enhancement

The revision results in an effective increase of basic pension by a factor of: **1.43 times**

This significantly boosts monthly pension payments for beneficiaries.

RBI Pension Revision Beneficiaries

Total beneficiaries: **30,769**

Break-up:
- **22,580 pensioners**
- **8,189 family pensioners**

Financial Implications for RBI Pension Revision

Total financial implication:

₹2,696.82 crore

Break-up:
- **₹2,485.02 crore** (one-time arrears)
- **₹211.80 crore** (recurring annual expenditure)

Overall Beneficiaries (PSGICs + NABARD + RBI)

As per government estimates:
- Employees benefiting: **~46,322**
- Pensioners benefiting: **~23,570**
- Family pensioners benefiting: **~23,260**

This makes it one of the most comprehensive compensation and pension reforms in recent times for the financial sector.

Davos 2026: Detailed Key Takeaways from the World Economic Forum

The **World Economic Forum (WEF) 2026** Annual Meeting in **Davos, Switzerland** brought together nearly **3,000 global leaders**, including heads of state, policymakers, CEOs, economists, and civil society representatives. Held under the theme **"A Spirit of Dialogue,"** the summit aimed to encourage cooperation in a time marked by geopolitical tensions, technological disruption, and economic uncertainty.

For students preparing for **competitive government exams**, the discussions at Davos are important for understanding **international relations, global economic trends, technology governance, and multilateral cooperation**. Below is a detailed and easy-to-understand analysis of the major outcomes from **Davos 2026**.

1. A Spirit of Dialogue Defined the Summit
- The central theme emphasized **communication and cooperation over confrontation**
- Leaders acknowledged that the world is becoming more **polarised**, yet stressed the need to keep diplomatic channels open
- Many sessions focused on **multilateralism**, which means countries working together through international platforms
- Dialogue was seen as the best tool to handle issues like **trade disputes, security tensions, and technology governance**

This focus showed that despite global disagreements, nations still recognize the importance of **talking through differences**.

2. Geopolitical Tensions Took Centre Stage
- Global politics strongly influenced the discussions at Davos 2026
- The speech and foreign policy positions of **US President Donald Trump** attracted major attention
- Issues related to **Greenland, tariffs, and international security alliances** sparked debate among allies
- Some countries supported stronger national strategies, while others expressed concern about the weakening of the **rules-based global order**

The "rules-based order" refers to international systems like the **United Nations and trade agreements** that guide how countries interact peacefully. Concerns were raised that rising unilateral actions could weaken these systems.

3. Peace Through Diplomacy: Board of Peace Initiative
- A proposed initiative called the **"Board of Peace"** gained visibility
- It is intended to serve as a **structured diplomatic forum** for resolving international conflicts
- The goal is to promote **negotiation and mediation instead of military escalation**
- Although still in early stages, the idea reflects growing global interest in **preventive diplomacy**

For exam aspirants, this connects with topics related to **conflict resolution mechanisms and global peace initiatives**.

4. Trade Talks and Strategic Partnerships Accelerated
- Leaders agreed that **global trade patterns are undergoing structural changes**
- Countries are trying to make supply chains more **resilient and secure** after recent disruptions
- Discussions suggested that **EU–India economic cooperation** could deepen in areas like trade, technology, and green energy
- Nations are focusing on **strategic partnerships** to reduce overdependence on any single country or region

This reflects a broader shift toward **economic diversification and strategic autonomy**, which are key concepts in modern global trade.

5. Artificial Intelligence Shaped the Future Narrative
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** emerged as one of the most important themes at Davos 2026
- Leaders highlighted AI's potential to boost **economic growth, innovation, and productivity**
- At the same time, concerns were raised about **job displacement, misinformation, data privacy, and ethical risks**
- Many governments called for **balanced AI regulation** that supports innovation while protecting society
- The discussion focused on finding the right balance between **technological progress and responsible governance**

AI governance is now a key topic in **science and technology sections of competitive exams**.

6. Workforce Transformation Through Reskilling

- The WEF's **Reskilling Revolution initiative** received strong support
- Leaders stressed that workers must be prepared for **technology-driven job markets**
- Traditional jobs are being transformed due to **automation, AI, and digitalisation**
- There is a growing need for **digital literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills**
- Governments and private companies were urged to invest more in **education and skill development**

Reskilling was described as essential for ensuring that economic growth remains **inclusive and socially stable**.

7. High-Level Global Participation

- Davos 2026 saw one of the **highest levels of participation by heads of state and senior leaders** in recent years
- Major business leaders discussed **investment trends and economic risks**
- International organisations contributed to talks on **development, climate, and global governance**
- This wide participation reinforced Davos as a key platform for **global policy dialogue**

Such forums play an important role in shaping **international policy direction**, even though decisions are not legally binding.

8. Trade, Growth, and Innovation Reinforced

- Despite political tensions, leaders remained focused on **long-term economic growth**
- Innovation and technology adoption were seen as critical for improving **productivity and competitiveness**
- Discussions included support for **startups, digital infrastructure, and industrial transformation**
- Emphasis was placed on building **resilient economies** that can withstand global shocks

This shows how economic planning today combines **technology, trade, and policy reforms**.

9. Diverging Views on Climate and Security

- Climate change remained part of the agenda but received **less attention compared to previous years**
- Immediate issues like **geopolitical security and economic instability** dominated discussions
- However, leaders still acknowledged the importance of **clean energy and sustainability**
- The shift in focus shows how global priorities can change during periods of **political and economic stress**

For exam preparation, this reflects the connection between **climate policy, energy security, and geopolitics**.

10. Dialogue Over Division, But Challenges Remain

- Davos 2026 showed that global leaders still value **engagement and negotiation**
- Even countries with strong disagreements chose to participate in **open discussions**
- Major global issues such as **armed conflicts, economic inequality, and technological disruption** remain unresolved
- The summit reinforced the idea that **continuous dialogue is essential** for managing global challenges

National News

Cabinet Approvals

Parliament News

State-wise January Month Important Events

Andhra Pradesh

- **Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport**: AP Cabinet approved Dagadarthi Greenfield Airport in Nellore district as the state's 8th airport with 1.4 million passenger capacity in Phase-I.
- **Green Hydrogen Project**: AP CM N. Chandrababu Naidu laid foundation for world's largest green hydrogen and ammonia project at Kakinada with USD 10 billion investment and 1.5 MTPA capacity across 3 phases supporting India's clean energy goals.
- **Women's Industrial Park**: Andhra Pradesh signed MoU with FICCI-FLO to establish women entrepreneurs' industrial park in 30-acre facility for enhanced economic participation.

Arunachal Pradesh

- **Kalai-II Hydropower Project**: Union Environment Ministry's expert panel recommended environmental clearance for Kalai-II hydropower project despite conservationists' concerns over critically endangered white-bellied heron presence in Lohit River basin.

Assam

- **Sleeper Vande Bharat Express**: India's first Sleeper Vande Bharat Express launched between Howrah-Guwahati with modern coaches and upgraded facilities for semi-high-speed rail modernization.
- **Kaziranga Elevated Corridor**: Rs 6,957 crore elevated corridor project launched near Kaziranga to improve connectivity while protecting wildlife and habitats in ecologically sensitive zone.
- **Atal Vichal Agragami Assam Scheme**: Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma announced research scholar support scheme providing Rs 25,000/month to scholars and Rs 40,000/month to Divyang scholars for talent development.

- **Mukhya Mantrir Eti Koli Duti Paat Scheme**: Assam announced Rs 5,000 one-time assistance to 6+ lakh tea garden workers plus nutritional wage compensation for livelihood support.
- **PM Modi's Regional Visit**: PM Modi visited Malda to dedicate projects worth Rs 3,250 crore and laid foundation stones for 4 major railway projects strengthening connectivity.

Goa

- **Starlink Partnership**: Goa government signed agreement with Starlink Satellite Communications to improve internet and digital services across the state with faster and wider digital access.

Gujarat

- **Private Satellite Manufacturing Facility**: Azista Space laid foundation for Palmnaro satellite manufacturing facility at Sanand for end-to-end satellite and electro-optical payload manufacturing to reduce import dependence.
- **Namo Laxmi Scheme**: Gujarat announced Rs 50,000 financial assistance over 4 years for 12+ lakh girl students in Classes 9-12 to prevent school dropouts.

Haryana

- **Jal Sanrakshit Project**: World Bank approved Rs 5,700 crore support for canal restoration, micro-irrigation, and sustainable agriculture initiatives (2026-2032).

Himachal Pradesh

- **MSME Technology Centres**: Ministry approved two new MSME Technology Centres at Pandoga (Una district) and Parwanoo (Solan district) at Rs 10 crore each offering skill development and emerging tech access including AI and robotics.

Karnataka

- **Longest Serving Chief Minister**: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah emerged as the longest serving CM of Karnataka, reflecting resilience and grassroots connect in politically dynamic landscape.
- **Sandalwood Leopard Discovery**: Karnataka's wildlife gained national attention with discovery of extremely rare leopard color variant nicknamed "Sandalwood Leopard," highlighting state's genetic diversity and big cat conservation significance.
- **Akka Pade Scheme**: Karnataka Cabinet approved 'Akka Pade' (Elder Sister Force) scheme to strengthen women and minor girls protection with phased rollout across 31 districts.
- **Akka Pade Implementation**: Scheme involves patrolling sensitive areas (7 AM-8 PM) and public awareness campaigns on child marriage, trafficking, and legal protection.

- **Gruha Lakshmi Digital Marketing Portal**: Karnataka launched portal at Karmani Utsav 2026 enabling women entrepreneurs to sell handicrafts globally with vocational training and financial support linked to Rs 2,000 monthly assistance.
- **Jamma Bane Land Reform**: Karnataka amended land laws to reform Jamma Bane land records in Kodagu, resolving ownership issues and strengthening digitization under Bhoomi Project.

Kerala

- **India's First Paperless District Court**: Chief Justice of India Surya Kant virtually inaugurated India's first fully paperless district court system in Kalpetta, Wayanad on January 6, 2026 with AI-based judicial assistance tools and electronic proceedings.
- **Justice Soumen Sen as CJ**: Justice Soumen Sen sworn in as 40th Chief Justice of Kerala High Court with 20+ years of practice experience.
- **Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary**: Kerala renamed Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary as Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary recognizing region's rich biodiversity and endemic butterfly species.
- **Bacillus subtilis as State Microbe**: Kerala became first Indian state to formally recognize Bacillus subtilis microorganism as state symbol, promoting scientific awareness.

Madhya Pradesh

- **Swachh Jal Abhiyan**: MP Chief Minister Mohan Yadav launched 'Clean Water Campaign' with technology-driven monitoring and GIS-based pipeline mapping in two phases (Jan 10-Feb 28, Mar 1-May 31).
- **BHASHINI MoU**: Digital India BHASHINI Division and Government of Madhya Pradesh signed MoU to integrate AI-powered language tools into state's digital platforms for multilingual governance.

Manipur

- **Thadou Language Radio**: Prasar Bharati resumed live radio programmes in Thadou language from All India Radio Imphal as confidence-building measure in violence-affected state promoting linguistic diversity.

Meghalaya

- **First Woman Chief Justice**: Justice Revati Mohite-Dere sworn in as first woman Chief Justice of Meghalaya HC, strengthening gender inclusivity in higher judiciary.
- **ECCED Collaboration**: Governments of Odisha and Meghalaya signed MoU in Bhubaneswar to enhance cooperation in Early Childhood Care, Education and Development.

Odisha

- **Keyi Panyor Bio-Happy District**: Newly formed Keyi Panyor district set to become India's first Bio-Happy District integrating biodiversity conservation with human well-being and reviving M. S. Swaminathan's biohappiness concept.
- **APEDA Regional Office**: APEDA inaugurated Raipur regional office to boost exports of GI-tagged rice, fortified kernels, and minor forest produce.
- **ECCED Collaboration**: Governments of Odisha and Meghalaya signed MoU to enhance cooperation in Early Childhood Care, Education and Development.

Rajasthan

- **Bamanwas Kankar Organic Village**: Rajasthan's Bamanwas Kankar village declared first fully organic village after adopting chemical-free farming and sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Kumbhalgarh Eco-Sensitive Zone**: Union Minister Bhupender Yadav declared zero to one km area around Kumbhalgarh WLS as Eco-Sensitive Zone, restricting mining, industrial units, and large construction across 94 villages spanning 243 km to protect biodiversity.
- **Alwar Biological Park**: New biological park planned in Kati Ghati area of Alwar district over 100 hectares as first biological park of its kind in NCR, offering safaris, rescue centre and modern veterinary hospital.

Tamil Nadu

- **Port Infrastructure Projects**: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched port infrastructure and digital governance projects worth Rs 235 crores on January 8, 2026 at Chennai Port (Rs 129.36 crores) and Kamarajar Port including coastal revetment, firefighting systems, hospital modernization and e-Port Clearance Portal.
- **Quantum Computing Programme**: Tamil Nadu launches India's first state-backed Quantum Computing Programme in partnership with German firm XeedQ GmbH, implementing in two phases.
- **FPO Strengthening**: Ministry constituted high-level committee to review and strengthen Farmer Producer Organization governance and market linkages in Tamil Nadu.

Telangana

- **Large-Scale Trout Farming**: India's fisheries sector marked major technological milestone with launch of large-scale trout farming project successfully adapted to warm inland climate for value addition and export-oriented aquaculture growth.

Tripura

- **Solar-Powered ATM Van**: Tripura Gramin Bank launched India's first solar-powered ATM van 'TGB on Wheels' operating 3 solar-powered vans for rural banking access.

- **ICEGATE-LPMS Integration**: CBIC inaugurated ICEGATE-LPMS integration at Agartala's Integrated Check Post enabling real-time digital data exchange for customs operations.

Uttarakhand

- **Uniform Civil Code Amendment**: Uttarakhand enforced UCC amendments on January 31, 2026 with 100% digital marriage registrations post-implementation.
- **Swasth Seema Abhiyan**: Uttarakhand government signed MoU with Indo-Tibetan Border Police to provide better medical services to people in remote border villages under new healthcare initiative.

Uttar Pradesh

- **Regional AI Impact Conference**: Uttar Pradesh hosted Regional AI Impact Conference (Jan 12-13) focusing on population-scale AI deployment for governance and healthcare.
- **IndiaAI Mission**: IndiaAI Mission signed MoU with UPDESCO to establish 65 Data & AI Labs across UP with two labs already operational at NIELIT centers.

West Bengal

- **Naval Base at Haldia**: Indian Navy to establish new naval base (detachment) at Haldia on Hooghly River in January 2026 to strengthen operational presence and maritime surveillance in Bay of Bengal with ~100 personnel.
- **Health System Reform**: World Bank approved USD 286 million financing for West Bengal Health System Reform Program targeting improved quality of life and life expectancy for over 90 million people through equitable healthcare access.
- **PM Modi's Visit**: PM Modi visited region to dedicate railway projects and infrastructure strengthening regional connectivity and development.

National/Pan-India Initiatives

- **National Startup Day 2026**: PM Modi launched 5th National Startup Awards recognizing startups from Tier-I and Tier-III cities across 20 categories focused on deep-tech innovation.
- **SIDBI Equity Infusion**: Union Cabinet approved Rs 5,000 crore equity support to SIDBI across FY26-FY28 to expand MSME credit and employment generation.
- **Automatic Weather Stations**: Union MoS Dr Jitendra Singh announced deployment of 200 Automatic Weather Stations across Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Pune under Mission Mausam Phase II for precise urban weather forecasting.
- **Open-Sea Marine Fish Farming**: Union MoS Dr Jitendra Singh launched India's first open-sea Marine Fish Farming project in Andaman Sea at Sri Vijaya Puram to promote Blue Economy and coastal livelihoods.

- **Project Dolphin Second Survey**: Union Minister Bhupender Yadav launched second nationwide dolphin survey covering major river systems including Ganga Basin to monitor freshwater ecosystem.
- **All India Presiding Officers' Conference**: Uttar Pradesh hosted 86th AIPOC 2026 from January 19-21 with participation of 36 Presiding Officers from 24 States/UTs adopting six key resolutions on governance and democracy.
- **Punjab Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana**: Punjab government introduced free cashless healthcare up to Rs 10 lakh per family annually covering 65 lakh families.
- **Maharashtra PESA Rankings**: Maharashtra topped PESA implementation rankings followed by Madhya Pradesh (2nd) and Himachal Pradesh (3rd) among Fifth Schedule areas.

January Month Launches & Inaugurations:

- **MeitY Approves 22 New Proposals Worth ₹41,863 Crores** - The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** approved **22 additional proposals** worth **₹41,863 crores** under **ECMS** as the third tranche of clearances, bringing cumulative approvals to **46 projects** with total investment of **₹56,567 crore**. The 22 approved companies span **11 key electronics product segments** including **PCBs, capacitors, camera modules**, and **lithium-ion cells**, with geographical spread across **8 states** including Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu.
- **MoC&I Launches ₹7,295 Crore Financial Interventions for MSME Exports** - The **Directorate General of Foreign Trade** under the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry** launched two critical interventions: **₹5,181 crore interest subvention scheme** for pre and post-shipment export credit and **₹2,114 crore collateral guarantee support** for export credit. Eligible exporters will receive **2.75% base interest subvention** with additional incentives for exports to **under-represented markets**, while collateral guarantee offers **85% coverage** for micro and small exporters and **65%** for medium exporters.
- **PLI Scheme for Textiles Deadline Extended to March 31, 2026** - The **Ministry of Textiles** extended the deadline for fresh applications under the **Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Textiles** from December 31, 2025 to **March 31, 2026**. Under the scheme launched in September 2021 with **₹10,683 crore outlay** for FY22-FY26, **74 applications** have been approved with proposed investments of approximately **₹28,711 crore** across **man-made fibres, fabrics**, and **technical textiles**.
- **Union Minister JP Nadda Releases 10th Edition of Indian Pharmacopoeia** - On January 2, 2026, Union Minister **Jagat Prakash Nadda** released the **10th edition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP 2026)**, the official compendium of drug standards in India, at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi. **IP 2026** added **121 new monographs** totaling **3,340** and introduced **20 monographs for blood components** for **transfusion medicine**, strengthening **drug quality standards** and ensuring safe blood transfusions aligned with national regulatory standards.
- **Indian Army Declares 2026 as 'Year of Networking & Data Centricity'** - The **Indian Army** under **Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi** declared **2026 as the 'Year of Networking & Data Centricity'** to drive **digital integration, enhance connectivity**, and enable **real-time decision-making**. The initiative aims to treat **data as a core operational asset** through **seamless digital connectivity** among soldiers, command centres, sensors, and weapon platforms while operationalising **indigenous communication systems** and **battlefield management platforms**.
- **Indian Army Launches Community Radio Station 'Radio Sangam' in Rajouri, J&K** - On January 2, 2026, the **Indian Army** in collaboration with civil administration launched **"Radio Sangam"**, the **first community radio station** along the **Line of Control** at Keri village in **Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir**, broadcasting on **88.8 FM**. **Radio Sangam** aims to provide **reliable information, promote local culture**, and strengthen **trust** between the Indian Army, civil administration, and villagers through **awareness campaigns, agriculture tips, cultural programs**, and **interactive shows**.
- **India-Pakistan Exchange Nuclear Lists on January 1, 2026 (35th Time)** - India and Pakistan exchanged the list of **Nuclear Installations and Facilities** through diplomatic channels simultaneously, marking the **35th consecutive exchange** since **January 1, 1992**. Both countries exchanged **prisoner lists** as well, with Pakistan handing over **257 Indian prisoners** including **199 fishermen** and **58 civilians**, as mandated under the **1988 Agreement on Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations** and the **2008 consular access pact**.
- **Rakesh Aggarwal (IPS 1994 batch) Appointed as NIA Director General** - Appointed with tenure extending until **August 2028**, leading the National Investigation Agency in combating terror and national security threats.
- **Union Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar Launches 'IITM Global Research Foundation' at IIT-Madras** - In January 2026, Union Minister **Dr. S. Jaishankar** launched the **'IITM Global Research Foundation'** at **IIT-Madras** in Chennai to position the institute as the **world's first multinational university**. The initiative includes a dynamic **'plug-and-play' framework** for **technology transfer, joint research projects**, and **startup expansion**, with IIT-M signing MoUs with **3 institutions in USA, 1 in UK, 3 in Germany, 3 in UAE, 3 in Asia-Pacific**, and **6 under India-for-Global initiative** for initial setup in USA, Dubai, Malaysia, and Germany.

- **Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan Releases 184 New Crop Varieties** - On January 4, 2026, Union Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** released **184 newly developed crop varieties** across **25 different crops** at an event in New Delhi, developed by **ICAR (60 varieties), state and central agricultural universities (62 varieties)**, and **private seed companies (62 varieties)**. The varieties include **122 cereals** focused on **climate-resilient millets, 24 cotton varieties, 13 oilseeds, 11 fodder crops, 6 pulses, 6 sugarcane**, and individual **jute and tobacco varieties** to enhance **agricultural productivity** and **food security**.

- **42nd Foundation Day of DSIR: Relaxes 3-Year Eligibility Norm for Deep-Tech Startups** - On January 4, 2026, Union Minister of State **Dr. Jitendra Singh** announced removal of the mandatory **3-year existence condition** for **deep-tech startups** to avail maximum **₹1 crore financial assistance** under **DSIR's Industrial Research and Development Promotion Program**. The event also launched **4 new initiatives** including **Guidelines for Recognition of In-House R&D Centres, PRISM Network Platform, Creative India 2025**, and **DSIR Disaster Management Plan** along with multiple **MoUs** for **technology transfer** and **skill development**.

- **ICAR-NDRI Developed Karan Fries Cattle Breed** - Through **Holstein Friesian-Tharparkar crossbreeding**, a new breed offering **high milk yield** in **hot-humid climates** was developed, improving dairy productivity in diverse Indian conditions.

- **Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh Inaugurates SGA Farm and Research Institute in Hyderabad** - On January 5, 2026, Union Minister **Rajiv Ranjan Singh** inaugurated the **Smart Green Aquaculture (SGA) Farm and Research Institute** in **Hyderabad, Telangana**, featuring **India's first commercial-scale tropical trout farm** and **state-of-the-art Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) facility**. **SGA Limited's project** at **Kandukur Mandal** serves as a **live training and demonstration center**, providing **hands-on learning** to youths in **advanced aquaculture systems, automation, monitoring**, and **biosecurity practices** for **sustainable fish farming**.

- **GoI Approves Nutrient-Based Subsidy Rates for Rabi 2025–26 Season** - Government of India approved **Nutrient-Based Subsidy rates** for **Rabi 2025-26 season** effective **October 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026** with estimated budgetary requirement of **₹37,952.29 crore**. **NBS rates** set at **₹43.02 per kg** for Nitrogen, **₹47.96 per kg** for Phosphorus, **₹2.38 per kg** for Potassium, and **₹2.87 per kg** for Sulphur, with GoI raising **DAP subsidy to ₹29,805 per MT** from ₹21,911 in Rabi 2024-25, while domestic P&K fertilizer production increased over 50% from **112.19 LMT in 2014 to 168.55 LMT by December 2025**.

- **India's AYUSH System Recognised in Bilateral Agreements with Oman and New Zealand** - In January 2026, the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry** announced India's **traditional medical system (AYUSH)** formal recognition in bilateral agreements with **Oman** under **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement** and **New Zealand** under **Free Trade Agreement**. The announcement was made during **AYUSHEXCIL's 4th establishment anniversary** celebrations, noting that **AYUSH and herbal product exports** rose from **USD 649.2 million** in 2023-24 to **USD 688.89 million** in 2024-25, registering **6.11% growth** while **AYUSHEXCIL** implements the **Ayush Quality Mark programme** launched by PM Modi.

- **PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates Grand International Exposition of Sacred Piprahwa Relics** - On January 3, 2026, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **"The Light and the Lotus: Relics of the Awakened One"** exposition at **Rai Pithora Cultural Complex** in New Delhi, organized by the **Ministry of Culture**. The exposition showcases over **80 artefacts** from the **6th century BCE to present**, marking the **historic reunification of Piprahwa Buddhist relics** after **127 years** through a **Public-Private Partnership** with **Godrej Industries Group**, displaying the **original monolithic stone coffer** alongside **sculptures, manuscripts**, and **gem relics**.

Miscellaneous National News

- **Prime Minister Modi Inaugurates International Kite Festival 2026** - PM Modi inaugurates **International Kite Festival 2026** at **Sabarmati Riverfront** with **German Chancellor Friedrich Merz** as **Chief Guest**, celebrating **Uttarayan traditions** during his **Gujarat visit**.

- **India-Germany Bilateral Trade Crosses USD 50 Billion** - India-Germany bilateral trade crosses **USD 50 billion** with **19 strategic agreements** signed covering **healthcare migration, visa-free transit, clean energy**, and **maritime heritage**.

- **Lokpal of India Observes Foundation Day** - The **Lokpal of India**, established in 2014, observed its **Foundation Day** by reaffirming its **anti-corruption mandate** and commitment to **clean and accountable governance**. **Rising complaints, growing public trust**, and the launch of an **IT Data Centre** highlight **increased transparency** and **citizen participation**.

- **India's Non-Fossil Fuel Capacity Reaches 266.78 GW in 2025** - India's **non-fossil fuel capacity** reaches **266.78 GW** in 2025, marking **22.6% increase** with **solar** contributing **131.81 GW** and aligning with **500 GW target by 2030**.

- **India Added 48 GW Renewable Energy in 2025** - India added **48 GW renewable energy** in 2025 including **hydropower**, achieving **over 50% progress** alongside **China and USA** toward **clean energy goals**.

- **GAIL Completed 694-km Mumbai–Nagpur Natural Gas Pipeline** - **GAIL** completed the **694-km Mumbai–Nagpur Natural Gas Pipeline**, with **96% laid** along the **Samruddhi Mahamarg corridor**. The project reflects the **PM GatiShakti model** and **advanced engineering** in the **Western Ghats**.
- **Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Launches Speed Post Services** - Union Minister **Jyotiraditya Scindia** launched **Speed Post 24** and **Speed Post 48** services, ensuring **24-hour and 48-hour delivery** respectively, modernizing **India's postal system**.
- **PM Modi Inaugurated Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar Metro Phase 2** - PM Modi inaugurated **Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar Metro Phase 2** by flagging off services from **Mahatma Mandir Metro Station** in **Gandhinagar**.
- **Ministry of Textiles Released "India's Textile Atlas: State Compendium 2025"** - **Ministry of Textiles** released **"India's Textile Atlas: State Compendium 2025"** at **National Conference** highlighting **textile sector growth** and **District-Led Textiles Transformation (DLTT) Plan**.
- **DLTT Plan Aims to Transform 100 High-Potential Districts** - **DLTT Plan** aims to transform **100 high-potential districts** into **Global Export Champions** and elevate **100 Aspirational Districts** into **self-reliant hubs**.
- **NITI Aayog Released 4th Export Preparedness Index 2024** - **NITI Aayog** released **4th Export Preparedness Index 2024** with **Maharashtra topping large states** (68.01 score), followed by **Tamil Nadu** (64.41) and **Gujarat** (64.02).
- **Union Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar Unveiled India's BRICS Chairship 2026 Logo** - Union Minister **Dr. S. Jaishankar** unveiled **India's BRICS Chairship 2026 logo** and theme **"Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"** with **lotus-inspired design**.
- **India's BRICS Chairship Marks Fourth Tenure** - **India's BRICS Chairship** (Jan-Dec 2026) marks **fourth tenure** and coincides with **20th BRICS anniversary** with **four priority pillars**.
- **Responsible Nations Index Launched by World Intellectual Foundation** - **Responsible Nations Index** launched by **World Intellectual Foundation** (January 19) to evaluate countries on **citizen well-being** and **ethical governance**.

- **GeM's Womaniya Initiative Completes 7 Years** - GeM's **Womaniya Initiative** completes **7 years** with **2 lakh+ women-led MSEs** registered and **procurement orders** worth **₹80,000 crore+**.
- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah Unveiled ₹629 Crore Development Projects in Mansa** - Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** unveiled **₹629 crore development projects** in **Mansa, Gujarat**, including **₹267 crore sports complex** and **₹362 crore BSL-4 bio-lab**.
- **Government Blocked 242 Illegal Betting and Gambling Websites** - The **Government blocked 242 illegal betting and gambling websites**, taking **total action** against **over 7,800 platforms nationwide**. Strengthened by the **Online Gaming Act**, the drive aims to **protect youth, prevent addiction**, and ensure **digital ecosystem safety**.
- **India's First NAMO Book Fest Launched** - **India's first NAMO Book Fest** was launched, where **Dr. Jitendra Singh** released **'Gen V Bano'** and **'Mahatma'**. The **two-day event** promoted **youth engagement, intellectual dialogue**, and books on **Narendra Modi**.
- **World Bank Upgraded India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast** - **World Bank** upgraded **India's FY26 GDP growth forecast to 7.2%** from 6.3%, citing **strong domestic demand** and **economic resilience**.
- **Supreme Court Ruling on Unreserved Category Seats** - The **Supreme Court** ruled that **unreserved (general) category seats** are **open to all candidates** purely on **merit**, including **reserved-category candidates** qualifying without concessions. Based on **Articles 14 and 16**, the judgment clarifies **recruitment rules nationwide**.
- **Union Budget 2026-27 to be Presented February 1, 2026** - **Union Budget 2026-27** to be presented **February 1, 2026** focusing on **welfare, infrastructure, and defence priorities**.
- **Kaziranga Elevated Corridor Project**: PM Modi laid foundation stone for an **Rs 6,957 crore elevated corridor** project near Kaziranga, Assam, designed to improve connectivity while **prioritizing wildlife safety and habitat protection** in this ecologically sensitive zone.
- **India's First Sleeper Vande Bharat Express**: Indian Railways launched **India's first Sleeper Vande Bharat Express** between Howrah (WB) and Guwahati (Assam) at Malda railway station, featuring modern sleeper coaches and **upgraded facilities for semi-high-speed rail modernisation**.
- **National Startup Day 2026**: PM Modi celebrated **10 years of Startup India** with launch of **5th National Startup Awards (NSA 5.0)** recognizing startups from Tier-I and Tier-III cities across **20 categories covering deep-tech innovation**.
- **MSME Technology Centres in Himachal Pradesh**: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises approved two new MSME Technology Centres at Pandoga (Una district) and Parwanoo (Solan district) at **Rs 10 crore each** offering skill development and **access to emerging technologies including AI and robotics**.

- **SIDBI Receives Rs 5,000 Crore Equity Infusion**: Union Cabinet approved **Rs 5,000 crore equity support** to SIDBI in three tranches (FY26-FY28) to **expand credit availability for MSMEs** and support employment generation across India.
- **Automatic Weather Stations Deployment**: Union MoS Dr Jitendra Singh announced deployment of **200 Automatic Weather Stations** (50 each in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Pune) under **Mission Mausam Phase II** for high-resolution urban weather data and **accurate forecasting of extreme events**.
- **India's First Open-Sea Marine Fish Farming Project**: Union MoS Dr Jitendra Singh launched **India's first open-sea Marine Fish Farming project** in Andaman Sea at North Bay, Sri Vijaya Puram, to promote **Blue Economy and generate coastal livelihoods** through finfish cultivation and seaweed farming.
- **Project Dolphin Second Survey Launched**: Union Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the **second nationwide dolphin survey** under Project Dolphin covering major river systems including **Ganga Basin** to estimate dolphin populations and **strengthen freshwater ecosystem monitoring**.
- India has taken a big step in space technology with the start of its first integrated private satellite manufacturing facility. The foundation stone was laid at **Khoraj in Sanand, Gujarat,** marking a new chapter in the country's growing space sector. This development highlights the increasing role of private companies in strengthening India's space capabilities.
- The **new facility is being set up by Azista Space** and will focus on building satellites and high-end electro-optical payloads. The plant, named **Palmnaro**, is designed to support end-to-end satellite manufacturing under one roof. It will help India reduce dependence on imports and encourage local innovation in space technologies.

GOVT SCHEMES

Government Schemes - Central and State (January 2026)

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

S. No.	Scheme Name	Ministry/Department	Year/Period	Purpose & Key Details
1	Market Access Support (MAS) Scheme	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	FY26-FY31	Strengthen global market access for MSMEs and first-time exporters with Rs 4,531 crore outlay for international trade fairs, exhibitions, buyer-seller meets, and trade delegations to priority and emerging markets.
2	Startup India Programme	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	2016-2026 (10 Years)	Strengthen innovation-led entrepreneurship; completed 10 years with 5th National Startup Awards (NSA 5.0) recognizing startups from Tier-I and Tier-III cities across 20 categories covering deep-tech innovation.
3	Quality Control Order Revocation on Flux Cored Solder Wire	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	2026	Remove mandatory BIS certification requirement for Flux Cored Solder Wire reducing costs and delays for manufacturers; promotes ease of business and manufacturing competitiveness.
4	Paripoorna Mediclaim Ayush Bima	Ministry of AYUSH	2026	Provide cashless treatment and AYUSH therapy coverage for CGHS beneficiaries; optional health insurance with sum insured Rs 10-20 lakhs and zero GST on premiums launched by DFS under Ministry of Finance.
5	BIS Integrated Standardisation Portal	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	2026	Launch Beta Version of Bureau of Indian Standards Integrated Standardisation portal with SHINE Scheme for women empowerment, BIS education literature, BIS-SAKSHAM initiative, and MoUs with academic institutions.

S. No.	Scheme Name	Ministry/Department	Year/Period	Purpose & Key Details
6	PANKHUDI Portal	Ministry of Women and Child Development	2026	Integrated Corporate Social Responsibility and partnership facilitation digital portal providing single-window access for CSR and partnerships covering nutrition, health, ECCE, child welfare, and women's empowerment.
7	National Sports Governance Rules 2026	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	2026	Establish mandatory frameworks for National Sports Bodies with athlete representation, transparent elections, and sportsperson representation (at least 4 SOMs with 50% women representation).
8	National Olympic Education & Development Programme (NOEDP)	Indian Olympic Association & Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	2026	Support grassroots to elite Olympic movement with focus on Olympic values, education-ethics, holistic athlete development, and governance strengthening through partnership with International Olympic Academy.
9	NPS Assured Payouts Regulatory Framework	Ministry of Finance (PFRDA)	2026	Frame assured payouts regulatory framework under National Pension System with standardized disclosures preventing mis-selling and clarifying 'assured' vs market-linked returns; consumer protection focus.
10	Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Extension	Ministry of Finance (PFRDA)	Till FY 2030-31	Continuation of APY with 8.66 crore subscribers ensuring guaranteed pension ranging from Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000/month after age 60 for unorganised sector workers; extended government funding for promotional and gap funding activities.
11	NPS Swasthya Pension Scheme	Ministry of Finance (PFRDA)	2026	Health-linked pension scheme under regulatory sandbox allowing 25% withdrawal for medical expenses after Rs 50,000 corpus; innovative health-focused retirement product addressing medical security.
12	Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)	Ministry of Finance	Since January 22, 2015 (11 Years)	Small savings scheme for girl child financial planning; 40+ lakh girl accounts opened; 8.2% interest with EEE (Exempt-Exempt-Exempt) tax benefits; long-term investment vehicle for girls below 10 years.
13	MSME Sector Convergence Recommendations	NITI Aayog	2026	Released comprehensive report "Achieving Efficiencies in MSME Sector through Convergence of Schemes" recommending dual approach of information and process convergence to address 18 overlapping MSME schemes and reduce duplication.
14	Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) Targets - Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change	2026	Government notified GEI targets for additional carbon-intensive sectors under CCTS expanding Indian Carbon Market coverage and strengthening climate commitment to industrial decarbonization.

S. No.	Scheme Name	Ministry/Department	Year/Period	Purpose & Key Details
15	Smart Fishing Harbour - Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying	2026	Government approves Smart Fishing Harbour at Mayabunder with Rs 199.24 crore funding under PMMSY (Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana) supporting 430 fishing vessels and coastal livelihood development.
16	National Shipbuilding & Heavy Industries Park (NSHIP) SPV	Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways	2026	Government establishes NSHIP with 2,000-acre facility at Thoothukudi aimed at boosting commercial shipbuilding under SbDS (Shipbuilding Development Subsidy) scheme as 'Make in India' maritime manufacturing hub.
17	NITI Aayog NPS Investment Framework Committee	NITI Aayog with PFRDA	2026	Constitutes High-Level Committee (SAARG) with 9 expert members to modernize NPS guidelines in 9-month tenure; modernizes pension investment framework for improved competitiveness.
18	PFRDA Strategic Asset Allocation Committee (SAARG)	Ministry of Finance (PFRDA)	2026	Forms Strategic Asset Allocation Committee led by Narayan Ramachandran to benchmark NPS against global pension systems improving international competitiveness of Indian pension scheme.

STATE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

S. No.	Scheme Name	State	Year	Purpose & Key Details
1	Sanskaar Shaala	Assam	2026	Cultural and value-based learning initiative for children aged 4-14 promoting cultural preservation and moral education; strengthens traditional knowledge transmission and community engagement.
2	Financial Assistance Scheme for Udasin Bhakats	Assam	2026	Provide Rs 1,500 monthly financial assistance to approximately 620 identified celibate Vaishnavite monks to ensure welfare and preserve cultural and religious heritage linked to Udasin satra system.
3	Tamil Nadu Assured Pension Scheme (TAPS)	Tamil Nadu	2026	Provide assured pension to State government employees and teachers equivalent to Old Pension Scheme benefits; Rs 13,000 crore one-time and ~Rs 11,000 crore annual government contribution; 50% last-drawn basic pay with bi-annual DA revision, 60% family pension, gratuity up to Rs 25 lakh.
4	Tamil Nadu Deep-Tech Startup Policy 2025-26	Tamil Nadu	2025-26	Support 100 deep-tech startups over five years to bridge lab-to-market gap for research-driven ventures; Rs 100 crore allocation; India's first deep-tech startup policy promoting technology commercialization and innovation ecosystem.
5	Namma Arasu	Tamil Nadu	2026	WhatsApp-based e-governance service in partnership with Meta offering multilingual (English and Tamil) chatbot enabling bus ticket booking, exam hall tickets, and tax payments; 3rd Indian state service after Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.
6	Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana	Punjab	2026	Launched major healthcare scheme providing every family in state with free and cashless medical treatment worth up to Rs 10 lakh without worrying about hospital expenses; launched by CM Bhagwant Mann ensuring healthcare equity across income groups.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- **USA Withdraws from 66 International Bodies Including India-led ISA** - On January 7, 2026, USA President **Donald Trump** issued an executive order and presidential memorandum announcing **withdrawal from 66 international organizations, treaties, and commissions** including **India-and-France-led International Solar Alliance** and several **UN-affiliated entities**. The withdrawal covers **35 non-UN organizations** and **31 UN-affiliated bodies** including **IRENA, IPCC, IUCN, UNFCCC, UNFPA**, and **UN Water**, with USA formally exiting **ISA** ending approximately **USD 2.1 million contributions** made between 2022-2025 as part of **"America First" review** citing concerns over **national sovereignty** and **resource use**.

- **UNGA Declares 2026 as International Year for Rangelands and Pastoralists** - In January 2026, the **United Nations General Assembly** declared **2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP)** at its 76th session, with resolution led by **Mongolia** and backed by **60 Member States** and **Food and Agriculture Organisation** as leading implementing agency. **IYRP 2026** aims to **share pastoralist knowledge, encourage innovation, build partnerships**, and **support policies** for **sustainable rangelands and livelihoods**, emphasizing that **rangelands covering 50% of Earth's land surface** support **over 2 billion people** and **50% of world's livestock** while playing pivotal role in **biodiversity conservation** and **climate resilience**.

- **Archaeologists in Pakistan Discover 2,000-Year-Old Kushan Empire Coins** - Archaeologists in **Pakistan** have discovered **2,000-year-old Kushan Empire coins** and **lapis lazuli fragments** at **Bhir Mound near Taxila** in **Rawalpindi**. The coins belong to the era of **King Vasudeva**, one of the **last great Kushan rulers**. The discovery highlights the region's **ancient trade links, religious diversity**, and **historical importance** during the **early centuries of the Common Era**.

- **German Chancellor Friedrich Merz's First Asia Visit to India (January 12-13, 2026)** - German Chancellor Friedrich Merz is set to visit **India** on **January 12 and 13, 2026** at a crucial time for **India–Germany relations**, with both countries seeking **deeper cooperation** in **trade, technology, climate action**, and **global governance**. The visit includes **Sabarmati Ashram** and **India-Germany CEO Forum in Ahmedabad**, followed by **Bengaluru** featuring **IISc's CeNSE center** and **Bosch campus** showcasing **scientific research** and **sustainable mobility initiatives**, expected to further strengthen **strategic and economic engagement**.

- **India Launches e-B-4 Visa Category for Chinese Nationals** - **India** has launched a new **electronic business visa category** called the **e-B-4 Visa (e Production Investment Business Visa)** to **simplify and regulate business travel** for **Chinese nationals**, aiming to support **legitimate business activities** and respond to **rising demand** for **structured business engagement** between **India and China**.

- **India-China Bilateral Trade Crossed $155.62 Billion in 2025** - **India-China bilateral trade** crossed **$155.62 billion in 2025** despite recording a **record $116.12 billion deficit**, reflecting significant **trade imbalance concerns** and highlighting the need for **balanced trade mechanisms** between the two economies.

- **China Commissions New Advanced Warship 'Loudi'** - **China** has recently strengthened its **naval power** by commissioning a new **advanced warship named Loudi**, highlighting how quickly the **Chinese Navy is expanding its fleet** in order to **match or challenge** the **naval strength of the United States**.

- **Italy Confers Order of the Star of Italy on Goa Industrialist** - **Italy** conferred the prestigious **Order of the Star of Italy** on **Goa industrialist Shrinivas Dempo** for **fostering India-Italy business and cultural ties**, recognizing his significant contributions to bilateral relations.

- **India and Germany Signed Joint Declaration on Telecommunications Cooperation** - In January 2026, **India and Germany** signed a **Joint Declaration on Telecommunications Cooperation** covering **policy, regulation, manufacturing, innovation**, and **global digital engagement**, strengthening **bilateral technological partnership** and digital collaboration.

- **Israel Announces Withdrawal from Seven UN Agencies** - **Israel** announces **withdrawal from seven UN agencies**, citing **alleged bias**, affecting **humanitarian and development programs** globally and raising concerns about international cooperation.

- **USA Freezes Immigrant Visa Processing for 75 Countries** - **USA freezes immigrant visa processing** for **75 countries** with implementation expected from **January 21, 2026**, impacting hundreds of thousands of visa applicants worldwide.

- **Yemen's PM Salem bin Breik Resigned** - Yemen's PM Salem bin Breik resigned, with **Foreign Minister Shaya Mohsen Zindani** appointed to **form new cabinet** amid **ongoing political crisis** in the country.

- **WEF Global Risks Report 2026 Flags Geoeconomic Confrontation as Top Threat** - The **World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2026** flags **geoeconomic confrontation** as the **top short-term threat** based on insights from **1,300+ expert views**, highlighting growing tensions in international economic relations.

- **Australian Universities Planning Bengaluru Campuses** - The **University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia** is planning a **Bengaluru campus** offering **undergraduate programmes** in **commerce, media, computer science, and data science**, along with **postgraduate programmes in cybersecurity**. **The University of Liverpool** and **Lancaster University** are also planning **Bengaluru campuses** to **expand access to international higher education** in **India**.

- **Australia's Finke River Recognised as World's Oldest Flowing River** - **Australia's Finke (Larapinta) River**, aged **300–400 million years**, is recognised as the **world's oldest flowing river**. Its path through the **MacDonnell Ranges** confirms it **predates the mountain formation**, making it a geological marvel.

- **Nobel Institute Clarifies Maria Corina Machado Cannot Transfer Prize Medal** - Although **Maria Corina Machado** symbolically handed her **Nobel Peace Prize medal to Donald Trump**, the **Nobel Institute** clarified that **prizes cannot be transferred or shared**. **Machado remains the sole official laureate**, and the symbolic gesture does not alter the official status of the award.

- ⬥ **India-UAE Strategic Defence Partnership**: India and UAE signed **Defence Letter of Intent** creating **Strategic Defence Partnership** focusing on **special operations, cyber security, counterterrorism, and maritime security** in Indian Ocean region during bilateral summit.

- The **world's first legally binding High Seas Treaty** came into effect on January 17, 2026. The agreement **sets global rules to protect oceans beyond national boundaries**. These international waters cover nearly half of the planet. The treaty is seen as a historic step to tackle overfishing, pollution, climate change and threats to deep-sea ecosystems. The High Seas Treaty has **officially entered into force** after ratification by over 60 countries. It establishes global rules to conserve marine life in international waters, also known as the high seas.

- Uganda has concluded a closely watched presidential election with a decisive outcome. Veteran leader **Yoweri Museveni** has been declared the **winner for a seventh term.** However, the results have sparked controversy as the main opposition candidate rejected the outcome, citing irregularities, internet shutdowns, and alleged harassment of polling agents. The election has again put Uganda's democratic process under global scrutiny.

- The **Philippines** is facing a **fresh natural hazard as tropical storm Nokaen** threatens to trigger lahars near Mayon Volcano. The storm is expected to bring heavy rainfall to southern Luzon, raising concerns of muddy volcanic flows in areas already impacted by volcanic unrest. Authorities have urged residents to remain alert and follow safety advisories closely.

- India and the United Arab Emirates have taken a major step to strengthen their economic and strategic ties. During delegation-level talks in New Delhi, both nations agreed to double bilateral trade to 200 billion dollars by 2032. The meeting also resulted in multiple agreements across defence, space, energy, infrastructure and cultural cooperation, reflecting the deepening India–UAE partnership.

- China'' population declined by 3 million in 2025. Births fell to a record low despite new child-rearing incentives.

- China is facing an intensifying demographic challenge. New official data shows that China's population declined again in 2025, marking the fourth straight year of contraction, even as the government rolled out financial incentives and policy measures to encourage families to have more children.

- **Abu Dhabi** has been named the **world's safest city for the 10th year in a row** in an international safety ranking released by Numbeo, reaffirming its global reputation for security and quality of life.

- Scientists confirmed that the Sun triggered a **Level-4 solar radiation storm**, the strongest seen since October 2003. The storm caused vivid auroras in Europe and raised alerts for satellites, aviation, astronauts, and power infrastructure.

- **Israel** has taken a significant diplomatic step by agreeing to join US President Donald Trump's Board of **Peace, a proposed international body** aimed at overseeing the Gaza ceasefire and post-war reconstruction. The decision, announced by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, signals a shift from Israel's earlier reservations and has triggered political and global reactions. Benjamin Netanyahu has confirmed that Israel will join the **Board of Peace proposed** and chaired by Donald Trump. The board is meant to supervise the Gaza ceasefire and future governance arrangements.

- India and Namibia held the **fifth round of Foreign Office Consultations (FOC)** on January 19-20, 2026, where both sides agreed to deepen collaboration in defence and critical minerals along with other key sectors.

- **India has delivered 7.5 tonnes of life-saving cancer medicines to Kabul,** reaffirming its commitment to supporting the people of Afghanistan through humanitarian medical assistance.

- **USA Formally Exits WHO After 78 Years** - United States completed withdrawal from World Health Organization citing pandemic mishandling, with $130+ million unpaid dues outstanding.

- **India-EU Free Trade Agreement Concluded** - Historic FTA negotiations concluded during 16th India-EU Summit, described as "Mother of All Deals" covering goods, services, and investments.

- **India-EU Signed First-Ever Defence and Security Partnership** - Comprehensive defence partnership signed covering maritime security, cyber cooperation, and defence industrial collaboration.

- **56th World Economic Forum 2026 Concludes in Davos** - WEF annual meeting highlighted India ranked 8th in AI investments (1.2%-1.8% of GDP), with major state investment commitments.

- **Spain's Foreign Minister Visits India for 70th Diplomatic Anniversary** - Spain formally joined Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative during bilateral visit, upgrading India-Spain ties to Strategic Association.
- **Donald Trump Launches Board of Peace Initiative at Davos** - US President launched Board of Peace initiative for Gaza reconstruction with 35+ countries participating; India took cautious stance.
- **Mozambique's Graca Machel Awarded Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2025** - Human rights activist recognized for lifetime contributions to education, women's empowerment, and peace with ₹1 crore award.

- **UNEP Report: Global Nature-Negative Spending 30 Times Higher Than Protection** - For every $1 spent on nature protection, $30 goes to harmful activities ($7.3 trillion vs $220 billion in 2023).
- **Japan Returns Last Two Giant Pandas to China** - Japan ended panda presence since 1972 by returning twin cubs amid tense diplomatic relations over Taiwan stance.
- **World Bank Approves $815 Million for Dorjilung Hydropower Project in Bhutan** - World Bank financing approved for 1,125 MW project with Tata Power's 40% stake, strengthening India-Bhutan clean energy ties.

BANKING, ECONOMY, BUSINESS & FINANCE

Banking & Finance Developments - January 2026

BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

S. No.	Bank/Institution	Initiative	Key Details
1	ICICI Bank	Capital Gains Account Scheme (CGAS)	Launched January 1, 2026; allows taxpayers to deposit un-invested long-term capital gains earning interest with tax exemptions up to 3 years; two types—Type A Savings Account (flexible withdrawals) and Type B Term Deposit (minimum Rs 10,000).
2	IDFC FIRST Bank	Zero-Forex Diamond Reserve Credit Card	Launched January 2026; zero foreign exchange markup on international transactions; Rs 3,000 annual fee (waived from 2nd year on Rs 6 lakh annual spend); includes domestic/international lounge access and Rs 25,000 trip cancellation + Rs 1 crore air accident cover.
3	HDFC Bank	Digital Rupee (e₹) Integration	Integrated RBI's Digital Rupee (e₹) CBDC into SmartGateway merchant payment platform January 2026; zero transaction cost for merchants; supports e₹ alongside UPI, cards, and net banking.
4	Federal Bank	'The Fortuna Wave' Brand Refresh	Unveiled refreshed brand entity January 7, 2026; brand ambassador Vidya Balan; three wave elements representing authenticity, togetherness, and prosperity signaling modernization and future-readiness.
5	Axis Finance Limited	Axis Finance Vyapar Business Loan	Launched January 8, 2026; collateral-free credit for Micro and Small Enterprises; up to Rs 10 lakh with flexible repayment tenures; minimal documentation with data-driven underwriting.
6	Bank of Baroda	Primary Dealer Subsidiary	Received RBI approval to switch from Bank Primary Dealer (PD) to wholly-owned Standalone Primary Dealer (SPD) subsidiary; strengthens government securities trading capabilities.
7	Karnataka Bank	Digital Public Infrastructure	Enabled Khajane-2 e-Receipts via net banking for seamless state government tax payments; won IBA Banking Technology Award for Best Fintech & Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Adoption.
8	Tripura Gramin Bank	Solar-Powered ATM Van	Introduced 'TGB on Wheels' eco-friendly mobile banking for rural areas; 3 operational solar-powered vans pioneering sustainable rural banking services.
9	State Bank of India (SBI)	GDP Growth Projection	Economic Research Department released Ecowrap report January 7, 2026; projects India's FY26 GDP growth at 7.5% with upward bias; slightly above NSO's 7.4% and RBI's 7.3% projections.
10	Reliance Industries	Jio AI Platform	Announced development of Jio Artificial Intelligence Platform with Rs 7 lakh crore investment in Gujarat over 5 years; includes AI-ready data centres at Jamnagar.
11	Ola Electric	Shakti Battery Storage System	Launched from Krishnagiri Gigafactory starting at Rs 29,999 for 1.5 kilowatt-hour capacity; India's first domestically designed residential battery storage system.

RBI NEWS & REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

S. No.	Regulatory Action	Details	Effective Date
1	NBFC CoR Cancellation	Cancelled Certificate of Registration (CoR) of 35 NBFCs for non-compliance; 16 others voluntarily surrendered CoR restricting NBFI business operations.	December 9-31, 2025
2	Standing Liquidity Facility (SLF) Increase	Increased SPD aggregate limit from Rs 10,000 crore to Rs 15,000 crore enhancing Primary Dealer liquidity management.	April 2, 2025
3	Payment Aggregator Authorizations	Granted final authorization to Skydo as Payment Aggregator-Cross Border (PA-CB); approved PayG for PA-Physical (PA-P) and PA-CB operations.	January 2026
4	Innoviti Authorization	Authorized Innoviti for online and offline Payment Aggregator operations expanding from online-only authorization (March 2024).	January 2026
5	Consumer Protection Mandate	Mandated auto-transfer of unresolved bank complaints to Internal Ombudsman within 30 days strengthening consumer protection mechanisms.	Ongoing
6	Ombudsman Scheme 2026	Establishing Central Complaints Processing Centre (CRPC) under revised Integrated Ombudsman Scheme; faster grievance redressal with compensation up to Rs 30 lakh.	July 1, 2026
7	FEDAI Recognition	Recognized Federation of Forex Dealers' Associations (FEDAI) as Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for forex dealers strengthening governance.	January 2026
8	Forex Position Rules	Proposed revised Forex Position Rules for banks aligning with global standards implementing April 1, 2027 framework.	April 1, 2027
9	SMBC Subsidiary Approval	Granted in-principle approval to Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) for wholly owned subsidiary (WOS) in India with banking licence.	January 2026
10	Payoneer PA-CB License	Granted in-principle approval to Payoneer India for Payment Aggregator – Cross Border (PA-CB) operations; Rs 25 lakh per-transaction limit.	January 2026
11	ZET UPI on RuPay Cards	NPCI approved ZET as Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) for ZET UPI enabling UPI payments on RuPay credit cards; RBL Bank partnership.	January 2026
12	Razorpay POS Authorization	Authorized Razorpay POS (offline payments division) as Offline Payment Aggregator (PA-P) for in-store payment services.	January 2026
13	FEMA Trade Rules	Issued Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Goods and Services) Regulations 2026 introducing uniform timelines and monitoring.	October 1, 2026
14	Export Credit Subvention Guidelines	Issued operational guidelines for interest subvention on pre and post-shipment export credit under NIRYAT PROTSAHAN benefiting MSME exporters.	January 2026

SEBI NEWS & MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

S. No.	Announcement	Key Details	Effective Date
1	Merchant Bankers Net Worth	SEBI notified phased rollout of revised net worth: Category-I merchants Rs 25 crore (Jan 2, 2027) and Rs 50 crore (Jan 2, 2028); liquid net worth Rs 6.25 crore and Rs 12.5 crore respectively; 20x underwriting limit with 3-year revenue requirement.	Phased: Jan 2027 & 2028
2	Mutual Fund Expense Structures	SEBI introduced performance-based expense structures for mutual funds improving transparency and aligning investor costs with fund performance.	April 2026
3	PhonePe IPO Approval	SEBI approved PhonePe's Rs 12,000 crore IPO through Offer for Sale with 45% UPI market share and zero fresh capital infusion.	January 2026
4	Juspay Unicorn Status	Juspay became India's first homegrown unicorn of 2026 after $50 million Series D at $1.2 billion valuation processing $1 trillion TPV.	January 2026

ECONOMIC & GROWTH PROJECTIONS

Organization	FY26 Growth Projection	FY27 Growth Projection	Key Details
NSO (First Advance Estimates)	7.4%	-	Real GDP at Rs 201.90 lakh crore; nominal GDP 8% growth.
SBI Research (Ecowrap)	7.5% (with upward bias)	-	Slightly above NSO estimate; shows strong economic momentum.
RBI (Previous)	7.3%	-	Lower than NSO and SBI projections.
India Ratings & Research (Ind-Ra)	7.4%	6.9%	FY27 lower due to El Nino, weak investments, sluggish global trade.
Morgan Stanley	7.6%	6.5%	Driven by fiscal-monetary policy support and household incomes.
Moody's	7.3%	-	Robust growth compared to FY25's 6.5%.
IMF (Upwardly Revised)	7.3%	6.4%	Revised up from 6.6% in October 2025.
World Bank	-	6.5%	FY28 expected at 6.6% with services recovery.
UN-DESA (Calendar Year)	6.6% (CY2026)	6.7% (CY2027)	India remains fastest-growing major economy.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE & MACRO INDICATORS

- **Real GDP Growth FY26**: National Statistics Office released First Advance Estimates on January 7, 2026 projecting real GDP growth at 7.4% with real GDP value at Rs 201.90 lakh crore against 6.5% in FY25.
- **Nominal GDP Growth FY26**: Nominal GDP growth projected at 8% in FY26 lower than previous year's 10.4%; nominal GDP projected to expand to Rs 357.13-357.14 lakh crore.
- **Real GVA Growth FY26**: Real Gross Value Added estimated at Rs 184.50 lakh crore registering 7.3% growth rate against Rs 171.87 lakh crore in FY25.
- **Nominal GVA Growth FY26**: Nominal GVA at Rs 323.48 lakh crore recording 7.7% growth rate showing strong economic momentum.
- **Retail Inflation December 2025**: Climbed to 3-month high of 1.33% rising from 0.71% in November but below RBI's 2% threshold with food inflation at -2.71% for 7th consecutive month and core inflation surging to 27-month high of 4.45%.
- **Foreign Exchange Reserves**: Increased by $392 million to $687.19 billion supported by rise in gold reserves enhancing external stability and investor confidence.
- **India-China Trade**: Bilateral trade crossed $155.62 billion in 2025 with record $116.12 billion deficit reflecting heavy dependence on Chinese imports.
- **Female Labor Force Participation**: Reached 35.3% in December 2025 marking yearly high in employment metrics supporting inclusive growth.

TRADE & EXPORT PERFORMANCE

- **India's Fish Production**: Doubled in decade to 197.75 lakh tonnes in FY25 up 106% from 95.79 lakh tonnes in FY14 making India world's second-largest fish producer.
- **India's Seafood Exports**: Hit all-time high of Rs 62,408 crore (USD 7.45 billion) in FY25 with value-added exports rising 56% over five years.
- **India's Automotive Exports**: Nearly doubled from USD 8.2 billion to USD 16.9 billion achieving 7% CAGR while global auto-components market at USD 856 billion with 3% CAGR per NITI Aayog Trade Watch Quarterly report.
- **Indian Railways Electrification**: Electrified 99.2% (69,427 Route Kilometres) of 70,001 RKMs broad-gauge network by November 2025 emerging as one of world's most extensively electrified rail systems with electrification expanding from 1.4 km/day (2004-14) to over 15 km/day (2019-2025); solar capacity surged 244 times from 3.68 MW (2014) to 898 MW (November 2025).
- **FDI Inflows to India**: Jumped 73% to USD 47 billion in 2025 per UNCTAD report highlighting strong FDI growth driven by IT, R&D, and manufacturing sectors.

ENERGY & REFINING DEVELOPMENTS

- **HPCL LC-Max Facility Commissioned**: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation successfully commissioned world's first and largest Liquid Conversion-Maximum Residue Upgradation Facility at Visakhapatnam Refinery on January 5, 2026 as part of Rs 31,407 crore Visakh Refinery Modernization Project with 3.55 MTPA capacity converting 93% of low-value bottom-of-barrel oils into higher-value diesel and jet fuel using three massive 2,200-tonne reactors.

PENSION & FINANCIAL INCLUSION

- **PFRDA NPS Assured Payouts**: PFRDA constituted 15-member high-level committee headed by M.S. Sahoo to formulate assured payouts framework under National Pension System with standardized disclosures preventing mis-selling and clarifying 'assured' vs market-linked returns.
- **PFRDA NPS Investment Framework**: Constituted SAARG Committee chaired by Narayan Ramachandran to modernize NPS guidelines within 9 months benchmarking NPS against global pension systems.
- **Piramal Finance Sustainable Funding**: Piramal Finance Limited secured USD 350 million in multilateral funding from IFC (USD 200 million) and ADB (USD 150 million) under Sustainable Finance Framework with 5-year tenor targeting affordable housing, MSMEs, and women borrowers in Tier 2-3 cities.

FINTECH & DIGITAL PAYMENTS

- **ZET UPI on RuPay Cards**: Credit fintech ZET secured NPCI approval to operate as Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) launching ZET UPI enabling UPI payments using RuPay credit cards with RBL Bank partnership powered by Juspay technology infrastructure.
- **Razorpay POS Offline Payments**: Razorpay POS received RBI authorization as Offline Payment Aggregator (PA-P) expanding in-store payment services and strengthening position in digital payments ecosystem.
- **Suryoday Bank AI Video KYC**: Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with HyperVerge deploying AI-powered Video KYC (VKYC) solution modernizing customer onboarding while ensuring regulatory compliance and data security.
- **Canara Bank UPI Integration**: Canara Bank partnered with NPCI BHIM Services Limited (NBSL) integrating Unified Payments Interface (UPI) into Canara ai1Pe banking app becoming first bank adopting NBSL's plugin-based UPI solution for secure digital payments.

INSURANCE & WEALTH MANAGEMENT

- **SBI Life Smart Platina Plan**: SBI Life Insurance launched 'Smart Platina Advantage' individual non-linked savings plan with Limited Premium Payment Term of 7-10 years and flexible maturity options (15, 20, 30 years) offering guaranteed additions and comprehensive life cover starting from Rs 50,000 annual premium.
- **Insurance Sector Growth**: Strong insurance sector growth with 17% rise in total premiums reaching Rs 10.9 lakh crore during April-November FY26 per Moody's projection.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT

- **ADB Musi Riverfront Loan**: Asian Development Bank granted in-principle approval for Rs 4,100 crore (USD 500 million) loan to Telangana on January 2, 2026 for Phase-I Musi Riverfront Development Project covering 21 kilometres from Osman Sagar to Bapu Ghat with Phase-I works beginning after cost estimates finalization by March 31, 2026.
- **Tata Innovation City**: Tata Group announced $11 billion investment to establish world-class Innovation City in Maharashtra focused on artificial intelligence, data centres, and semiconductor-related services.

IT SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY

- **Infosys Brand Valuation**: Ranked world's third most valuable IT Services Brand valued at USD 16.4 billion with Brand Strength Index score of 86.8/100 following Accenture (1st, USD 42.2 billion) and TCS (2nd, USD 21.2 billion) per Brand Finance Global 500 2026 achieving 15% CAGR over last 6 years.
- **Global IT Services Brands**: Indian IT companies account for 36% of top 25 brands' value at USD 60.4 billion with total global valuation reaching USD 167.2 billion per Brand Finance.
- **Microsoft Maia 200 AI Chip**: Microsoft launched Maia 200 second-generation in-house AI processor manufactured by TSMC using 3nm technology deployed at Iowa data centre.

FINTECH CERTIFICATIONS & STANDARDS

- **FSS ISO/IEC 42001 Certification**: Financial Software and Systems became first payments company in India, Middle East, Asia-Pacific, and South Africa to earn ISO/IEC 42001 Certification for Artificial Intelligence Management Systems on January 6, 2026 highlighting commitment to responsible and trustworthy AI use with structured governance framework mitigating bias and regulatory non-compliance risks.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- **Air India-Singapore Airlines Partnership**: Air India and Singapore Airlines signed commercial cooperation framework deepening partnership with integrated bookings, expanded routes, and coordinated flight schedules enabling seamless travel across 61 destination codeshare network.
- **BSNL-Viasat Navy SatCom**: Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Viasat Inc. announced partnership supporting Indian Navy's Satellite Communications (SatCom) upgrade integrating Viasat Ka-band systems with BSNL's L-band network with installation scheduled late January 2026.
- **Wikipedia AI Training**: Wikimedia Foundation signed strategic partnerships with Amazon, Meta, Microsoft, Mistral AI, and Perplexity providing structured, paid access to Wikipedia content for AI training supporting LLM and chatbot development through Wikimedia Enterprise programme.

BANKING SECTOR LEADERSHIP CHANGES

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) ICICI Stake**: LIC sold 70 crore shares reducing stake from 6.737% to 4.731% on January 2026 exiting large shareholder obligations in ICICI Bank.
- **SBI Market Cap Leadership**: State Bank of India (Rs 9.60 trillion) regained position as second-most valuable bank after 6+ years surpassing ICICI Bank (Rs 9.57 trillion) demonstrating banking sector restructuring.

TVCS APPOINTMENT

- **TVS Supply Chain Global CEO**: TVS Supply Chain Solutions appointed Vikas Chadha as Global CEO effective January 22, 2026 for global growth and logistics execution.

HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVES

- **India Cancer Medicine Assistance**: India delivered 7.5 tonnes of life-saving cancer medicines to Kabul reaffirming commitment to supporting Afghanistan through humanitarian medical assistance.

MoU's & AGREEMENTS

Comprehensive MoUs Consolidated Table - January 2026
MoUs WITH COUNTRIES

Country	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Bhutan	Supreme Court of India	Judicial Exchange & Cooperation - Exchange of young legal professionals; two law clerks from Bhutan will work in SCI for three-month tenure with honorarium equivalent to Indian law clerks promoting knowledge sharing and professional ties.
Germany	Government of India	19 Strategic Agreements - Covering defence technology, critical minerals, supply chain resilience, visa-free transit, healthcare migration, clean energy, and maritime heritage strengthening bilateral strategic and economic engagement.
Germany	Bharat Forge & Agile Robots	AI-Driven Robotics & Industrial Automation - Collaboration targeting automotive, healthcare, consumer electronics sectors aiming to develop fully autonomous 'dark' factories for production efficiency.
United Arab Emirates	Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) & Khalifa Economic Zones Abu Dhabi	India-UAE Food Corridor - Aimed at strengthening bilateral food trade and establishing operational framework for food export-import between India and UAE.

Country	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
United Arab Emirates	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) & G-42	Supercomputing Cluster - India-UAE collaboration to establish supercomputing cluster for advanced technology development and innovation.
United Arab Emirates	Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) & UAE Space Agency	Space Infrastructure Development - Letter of Intent signed for developing joint space infrastructure including launch facilities, tech zones, and start-up incubation.
United Arab Emirates	HPCL & ADNOC	LNG Sales & Purchase Agreement - 10-year agreement enables HPCL to import 0.5 MTPA of LNG from ADNOC Gas starting 2028 valued at USD 2.5-3 billion.
United Arab Emirates	APEDA (MoC&I) & UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment	Food Trade Enhancement MoU - MoU to enhance food sector trade and promote bilateral agricultural exports.
European Union	India	Defence and Security Partnership - Comprehensive agreement covers maritime security, cyber cooperation, and opens EU's SAFE defense financing program to Indian companies.
International	Indian Olympic Association (IOA) & International Olympic Academy	National Olympic Education & Development Programme (NOEDP) - Supporting grassroots to elite Olympic movement focusing on Olympic values, education-ethics, holistic athlete development, and governance strengthening.
World Economic Forum	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	India Skills Accelerator - Deepening cooperation in vocational education, training, and skill development through India Skills Accelerator launch.

MoUs WITH STATES

State	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Tamil Nadu	UN Women	Gender-Responsive Governance Initiative - Strengthen institutional capacities for gender-responsive governance, improve women's welfare, promote inclusive development supporting SDG Goal 5 (Gender Equality).
Tamil Nadu	XeedQ GmbH (Germany)	State-Backed Quantum Computing Programme - Implementing in two phases (remote access and on-premises); India's first state-backed Quantum Computing Programme.
Tamil Nadu	Sarvam AI	India's First Sovereign AI Park - Establishment of Sovereign AI Park in Chennai with Rs 10,000 crore investment advancing India's AI ecosystem development.
Tamil Nadu	State Bank of India	Enhanced Corporate Salary Package - SBI signed MoU with TN Government to extend enhanced benefits for TN's State Public Sector Undertakings employees with zero-balance accounts and concessional interest rates.
Karnataka	UNSW Australia	University Campus Development - UNSW Australia signed MoU to open Bengaluru campus by August 2026 offering undergraduate programmes in commerce, media, computer science, and data science plus postgraduate cybersecurity.
Uttar Pradesh	IndiaAI Mission & UPDESCO	Data & AI Labs Establishment - Establishing 65 Data & AI Labs across Uttar Pradesh promoting AI adoption in governance and healthcare at population scale with two labs already operational.
Goa	Starlink Satellite Communications	Satellite Connectivity Partnership - Goa partnered with Starlink for satellite connectivity in remote areas and disaster preparedness (pending official launch in India).
Uttarakhand	Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	Swasth Seema Abhiyan - ITBP will provide healthcare services to 108 border villages through telemedicine and regular medical visits.
Maharashtra	Drip Capital	Collateral-Free Trade Finance - Drip Capital committed Rs 10,000 crore collateral-free trade finance to MSME exporters over 2026-2031.

MoUs BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS

Banking & Finance Sector

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB)	TechFini	UPI Infrastructure Partnership - TechFini serves as Technology Service Provider managing UPI switching enabling faster, secure, and scalable UPI infrastructure for Payment Aggregators, NBFCs, merchants, and fintech partners.
Choice Wealth	India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)	Digital Investment Platform - Launched digital investment platform offering online mutual fund aggregation and Robo-Advisory services expanding financial inclusion through postal network.
Department of Posts	Stock Holding Services Limited	Capital Market Access Expansion - DoP expanded capital market access through India Post network for Demat, MF, and IPO services.

Energy Sector

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)	Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL) - Japanese Shipping Company	Joint Ventures in Ethane Shipping Business - Two JVs registered in GIFT-City Gandhinagar (Bharat Ethane One & Two IFSC) each owning Very Large Ethane Carriers transporting ethane from USA to India aligned with Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.
GAIL (Gas Authority of India Limited)	Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)	#NonStopZindagi Campaign - Promoting PNG and CNG adoption (Jan 1-Mar 31) to increase natural gas share to 15% by 2030 advancing clean energy transition.
GAIL	K LINE and J M Baxi	LNG Carrier Equity Partnership - GAIL signed term sheet for LNG ship-owning company equity participation with delivery scheduled 2027.

Logistics & Rural Development

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Department of Posts	Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)	National Logistics Mechanism for Rural Citizens - Expanding financial, digital, and logistics services for Self Help Groups (SHGs) and rural households under DAY-NRLM supporting women entrepreneurs.
Department of Posts	Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAFW)	National Logistics System for Agricultural Testing - Creating nationwide system for transporting pesticide, seed, and fertilizer samples to testing labs reducing delivery time from 10-15 days to 48-72 hours.

Technology & Telecom

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur)	Research & Technical Studies in Next-Generation Telecom - Driving research, testing, and standardization in next-generation telecom including 6G architecture, AI-ML in telecom for network automation, and Non-Terrestrial Networks integration.
TRAI	RANext Technologies	Digital Connectivity Rating Agency Authorization - Approved RANext Technologies as Digital Connectivity Rating Agency to assess and rate digital connectivity infrastructure quality across India promoting transparency.

Textiles & Handicrafts

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Textiles Committee	North Eastern Handicrafts & Handloom Development Corporation (NEHHDC)	Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Protection - IPR protection of unique North-Eastern products through Geographical Indication (GI) registration promoting cultural heritage and market value.
Ministry of Textiles	15 States (Tex-RAMPS Scheme)	Operational Framework for Data Systems - Creating operational framework for data systems to track textile production, exports, and supply chain metrics across states.

Manufacturing & Automation

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Bharat Forge	Agile Robots (Germany)	AI-Driven Robotics & Intelligent Industrial Automation - Collaboration for developing AI-driven robotics targeting automotive, healthcare, consumer electronics sectors aiming to develop fully autonomous 'dark' factories.

Maritime & Ports

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Visakhapatnam Port Authority	Directorate General of Lighthouses & Lightships (DGLL)	Lighthouse Museum Development - Development of Lighthouse Museum in Visakhapatnam promoting maritime heritage and cultural tourism.

Agriculture & Research

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Coromandel International	IIT Madras	Corporate Research Centre Establishment - Establishment of Corporate Research Centre at IIT Madras Research Park, Chennai promoting industry-academia collaboration in agricultural research and innovation.
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)	National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)	Multidisciplinary Research Collaboration - Collaboration focusing on dairy production, processing, value addition, climate resilience, and value chain development advancing agricultural sustainability.

Education & Skill Development

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Galgotias University	NIT Jamshedpur & JUT Ranchi	Joint Research & Deep-Tech Startups - Signed MoUs for joint research initiatives and deep-tech startup development fostering technology innovation and academic collaboration.
NITI Aayog	NIIT Foundation	Digital Literacy Partnership - Partnership aims 100% block coverage reaching 2 lakh beneficiaries with digital and financial skill training.

Government & Procurement

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Government e-Marketplace (GeM)	MVIRDC World Trade Centre Mumbai	MSME Public Procurement Partnership - Signed MoU to strengthen MSME participation in public procurement through global outreach, capacity building, and AI integration for sustainable procurement.
GeM	Women's Collective Forum (WCF)	Women Entrepreneurs Partnership - Signed MoU to strengthen institutional support for women entrepreneurs with 2 lakh women-led MSEs registered and Rs 80,000 crore in public orders.

Digital Infrastructure

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Digital India BHASHINI Division	Survey of India	Toponymy Digitisation - MoU to digitise over 16 lakh (1.6 million) geographical place names across India using AI-based speech and language technologies in compliance with National Geospatial Policy 2022.
BISAG-N	QNu Labs	Quantum-Resilient Cybersecurity - Vedic Kavach cryptographic software integrated with quantum hardware for indigenous cybersecurity solutions.

Healthcare & Ayurveda

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
CCRAS	Colorado State University (CSU)	Ayurvedic Manuscripts Workshop - 15-day workshop successfully transliterated 5 rare Ayurvedic manuscripts into Sanskrit and Malayalam.

Financial Regulation

Organization	MoU's With	Field/Purpose
Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)	Central Counterparties Regulation - Agreement enables supervisory cooperation between Indian and EU clearing house regulators facilitating cross-border clearing.

SUMMARY OF KEY MoU INITIATIVES

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Comprehensive Appointments Consolidated Table - January 2026

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS – JUDICIARY

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Justice Mahesh Sharadchandra Sonak	Chief Justice	Jharkhand High Court	Bombay High Court judge; appointed under Article 217(1) of Constitution; assumes office January 8, 2026 after retirement of CJ Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan; expertise in civil, constitutional, labour, environmental, and commercial law since June 2013.
Justice A Muhamed Mustaque	Chief Justice	Sikkim High Court	24th Chief Justice; senior-most judge of Kerala High Court; sworn-in with oath administered by Governor Om Prakash Mathur; succeeding CJ Biswanath Somadder who retired December 14, 2025; appointed Additional Judge of Kerala HC in 2014, Permanent Judge in 2016.
Justice Manoj Kumar Gupta	Chief Justice	Uttarakhand High Court	Senior judge of Allahabad High Court; appointed under Article 217(1) of Constitution; assumes office January 9, 2026 after retirement of CJ Justice Guhanathan (G.) Narendra; 25+ years legal practice in civil, rent control, constitutional law.

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS - REGULATORY & GOVERNMENT BODIES

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
A. K. Balasubrahmanian	Chairman	Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)	Distinguished scientist; three-year tenure succeeding Dr. D.K. Shukla (completed tenure December 31, 2025); nearly 40 years career in nuclear power design, development, safety assessment; previously Director (Technical) of NPCIL.
Abhishek Dev	Chairman (Extended)	Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)	One-year extension approved effective February 8, 2026; 2007-batch IAS officer from Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram cadre; previously Director in Department of Commerce; appointed APEDA Chairman in July 2023.
Rakesh Aggarwal	Director General	National Investigation Agency (NIA)	IPS 1994 batch; tenure until August 31, 2028; leading agency in combating terror and national security threats; appointed by Appointments Committee of Cabinet.
Praveen Vashista	Vigilance Commissioner	Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)	1991-batch IPS officer from Bihar; appointed by President Droupadi Murmu for 4 years or until age 65; experienced in CBI and Ministry of Home Affairs; 30+ years law enforcement expertise strengthening India's vigilance and anti-corruption framework.
Shatrujeet Singh Kapoor	Director General	Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	Tenure until October 31, 2026; appointed by Appointments Committee of Cabinet strengthening central security forces leadership.
Praveen Kumar	Director General	Border Security Force (BSF)	Tenure until September 30, 2030; appointed by Appointments Committee of Cabinet strengthening central security forces leadership.

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS - BANKING SECTOR

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Karthikeyan Manickam	Chairman	ESAF Small Finance Bank	Former Executive Director of Bank of India; effective January 2, 2026; succeeding Ravimohan Periyakavil Ramakrishnan who stepped down December 20, 2025; over 36 years public sector banking experience in operations, risk management, regulatory compliance, HR, credit monitoring.
Anup Kumar Saha	Whole-Time Director	Kotak Mahindra Bank	Effective January 12, 2026; overseeing consumer banking, marketing, data analytics; responsible for retail banking strategy and digital initiatives.
Sandeep Bakshi	Managing Director & CEO (Re-appointment)	ICICI Bank	Re-appointed till October 3, 2028; reflects leadership stability with prior tenure since October 2018; Board also re-appointed Ajay Kumar Gupta as ED till November 2028.
Arijit Basu	Chairman	IndusInd Bank	Former SBI MD appointed part-time chairman effective January 31, 2026; succeeding Sunil Mehta.

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS - CORPORATE SECTOR

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Vikas Chadha	Global Chief Executive Officer	TVS Supply Chain Solutions	Effective January 22, 2026; appointed for global growth and logistics execution; experienced in supply chain and logistics management.
Deepinder Goyal	Resignation & Succession	Eternal Group (Zomato Parent)	Resigned as CEO and MD effective February 1, 2026; Albinder Singh Dhindsa, CEO of Blinkit, appointed as successor; Goyal remains Vice Chairman of Board reflecting organizational restructuring.
Ganesh Lakshminarayanan	Managing Director & CEO	Tata Communications	Former Airtel Business executive with 30+ years experience; succeeding A.S. Lakshminarayanan retiring April 13, 2026; strong telecom and B2B expertise.
Kota Ravi	Chairman & Managing Director	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)	Appointed with 30+ years aerospace experience; brings substantial expertise in aviation and defense sector.

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Ida Liu	Chief Executive Officer	HSBC Private Bank	Effective January 5, 2026; succeeding Gabriel Castello (interim CEO since December 2024); over 25 years global experience in wealth management and strategic advisory; previously Global Head of Citi Private Bank since 2007; former Head of Citi Private Bank North America and Head of Asian Clients Group.
Dina Powell McCormick	President and Vice Chairman	Meta	Part of AI strategy leadership restructuring; 25+ years experience in global finance and national security; 16 years at Goldman Sachs; former Deputy National Security Advisor under President Donald Trump; held senior State Department roles.
Shaea Muhssin Mohammed Al-Zindani	Prime Minister	Yemen	Appointed by Yemen's Presidential Leadership Council succeeding Salem bin Braik; extensive diplomatic experience including previous roles as Deputy Foreign Minister and Ambassador to multiple countries.

Person Name	Appointed As	Entity / Place	Key Notes
Yoweri Museveni	President (Re-elected)	Uganda	81-year old incumbent won with 71.65% vote share securing seventh term (2026-2031); longest-serving African leader since 1986; opposition leader Bobi Wine received 24.72%.
Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani	President	Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)	Elected successor following resignation of five-time Olympic shooter Randhir Singh; strengthens regional sports governance.

SPORTS APPOINTMENTS & HONORS

Person Name	Appointed/Recognized As	Sport / Organization	Key Notes
Aaryan Varshney	India's 92nd Chess Grand Master	Chess	21-year old from Delhi achieved GM title after winning 16th Andranik Margaryan Memorial title in Armenia with 3rd and final GM norm; becomes 8th Grandmaster from Delhi.
Vijender Singh	Member	Asian Boxing Council (ABCO)	India's Olympic medallist appointed by Boxing Federation of India; recognized for historic Bronze medal at 2008 Beijing Olympics and contributions to boxing.
Amelia Valverde	Head Coach	India Women's Football	Costa Rican coach with World Cup qualification record joined Indian Blue Tigresses for AFC Asian Cup 2026.
Randhir Singh	Resignation	Olympic Council of Asia President	Five-time Olympic shooter resigned as OCA President; Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani elected successor.

BRAND & CAMPAIGN AMBASSADORS

Person Name	Brand / Campaign	Organization	Key Notes
Vidya Balan	Brand Ambassador	Federal Bank - 'The Fortuna Wave'	Brand ambassador for refreshed brand identity launch on January 7, 2026; signaling modernization and future-readiness.

AWARDS

Comprehensive Awards & Honors Consolidated Table - January 2026

MAJOR NATIONAL AWARDS

S. No.	Award/Honor	Recipient	Key Details
1	Padma Vibhushan	5 Recipients	Highest civilian honor (2026); recognizes exceptional and distinguished service to nation; part of 131 total Padma Awards approved by President.
2	Padma Bhushan	13 Recipients	Second-highest civilian honor (2026); recognizes distinguished service; part of 131 total Padma Awards approved by President.
3	Padma Shri	113 Recipients	Third-highest civilian honor (2026); recognizes distinguished service in various fields; Maharashtra leads with 15 awardees among 131 total awards.
4	Ashoka Chakra	1 Armed Forces Personnel	Highest peace-time military honor; approved on Republic Day eve for exceptional bravery in military operations.
5	Kirti Chakra	3 Armed Forces Personnel	Second-highest peace-time military honor; approved on Republic Day eve for gallantry in military operations.
6	Jeevan Raksha Padak Awards	30 Individuals	Honors courage and life-saving acts across three categories (Jeevan Raksha Padak, Jeevan Raksha Padak (Posthumous), Jeevan Raksha Padak (Official)); includes monetary awards recognizing humanitarian service.

S. No.	Award/Honor	Recipient	Key Details
7	President's Police Colour Award	Sikkim Police	Highest police honor since independence; Sikkim becomes 15th state and 3rd from North-East to receive this recognition.
8	Gallantry Awards for ICG Personnel	Indian Coast Guard Personnel	2026 awards recognizing maritime security, rescue missions, and professionalism in coastal operations.
9	Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2025	Graca Machel (Mozambique)	International recognition for lifelong efforts in education, healthcare, nutrition, women's empowerment, and humanitarian support in conflict-affected regions; includes Rs 1 crore cash prize, trophy, and citation.

INSTITUTIONAL & CORPORATE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

S. No.	Award	Winner	Details
1	Excellent Rating from DPE (MoU Performance)	Indian Railways Finance Corporation (IRFC)	5th consecutive year achieving highest performance rating for FY25; Navratna CPE established 1986; reached annual sanction target of Rs 60,000 crore by Q3 FY26; demonstrates institutional strength amid emerging challenges.
2	Excellent Rating - MoU Performance Evaluation	Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)	Score of 96.42 for FY25 performance; 5th consecutive year of excellence; Navratna NBFC established 1987; finances renewable energy projects (solar, wind, hydro, bioenergy, green hydrogen, storage); supports India's clean energy and climate goals.
3	Asia Best Employer Brand Award 2026	Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)	Hong Kong Leadership Awards recognition; validates people-first approach and professional development practices; demonstrates commitment to inclusive, high-performance environment in competitive financial services sector.
4	Franz Edelman Award Finalist	Department of Food & Public Distribution (Anna Chakra Initiative)	Initiative among top 6 global finalists for Nobel Prize of Operations Research; recognizes operational excellence in public food distribution systems.

INTERNATIONAL & TECHNICAL HONORS

S. No.	Award	Winner	Key Details
1	2026 IEEE Medal of Honor	Jensen Huang (NVIDIA CEO)	Highest recognition from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; awarded for outstanding contributions to Graphics Processing Units and accelerated computing; revolutionized computing, AI, and HPC worldwide; includes USD 2 million cash prize; established 1917; second consecutive year IEEE attached monetary award.
2	Wiley Research Heroes Prize 2025	Dr Chandrakant Lahariya	First Indian to win global award for impact beyond academia in public health policy research; recognizes exceptional contribution to public health innovation and policy development.
3	UN Secretary-General's Award 2025	Major Swathi Shantha Kumar	Gender Category award for "Equal Partners, Lasting Peace" project in South Sudan; supported 5,000+ women through female peacekeeper deployment; recognizes exceptional leadership, innovation, and UN values commitment.
4	Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement	Toby Kiers	Recognition for work on fungal networks supporting ecosystem health and climate resilience; advancing environmental sustainability research.

ENTERTAINMENT & CINEMA AWARDS

S. No.	Award	Winner/Details	Key Notes
1	Golden Globe - Best Limited Series	"Adolescence" (dir. Philip Barantini)	Won four Golden Globes including Best Limited Series and supporting performances; recognition of creative excellence.
2	Golden Globe - Best Podcast (Inaugural)	Amy Poehler - "Good Hang With Amy Poehler"	Inaugural category expanding Globes' recognition to podcast medium; reflects evolving entertainment landscape.

S. No.	Award	Winner/Details	Key Notes
3	Golden Globe - Best Actor in Motion Picture (Drama)	Wagner Moura (Brazil)	Historic first Brazilian to win this category at Golden Globes; represents global recognition of emerging cinema talents.
4	Golden Globes Presenter	Priyanka Chopra Jonas	Represented Indian entertainment presence at Golden Globes; global recognition of Indian talent in international entertainment.
5	Academy Awards - Best Picture Eligibility	Five Indian Films	Kantara: A Legend – Chapter 1 (Rishab Shetty, Hombale Films); Tanvi The Great (Anupam Kher, NFDC); Mahavatar Narasimha (animated, Ashwin Kumar); Tourist Family (Abishan Jeevinth); Sister Midnight (Karan Kandhari, feat. Radhika Apte); 98th Academy Awards; 201 feature films eligible.
6	Songwriters Hall of Fame Induction	Taylor Swift	At 36, becomes second-youngest inductee; joins 14-time Grammy winner milestone; lifetime recognition of songwriting achievement.

SPORTS AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

S. No.	Award/Achievement	Recipient	Details
1	Vijay Hazare Trophy 2025-26 (Maiden Victory)	Vidarbha Cricket Team	Won maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy defeating Saurashtra by 38 runs in final at BCCI Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru; Atharva Taide scored 128 runs; Aman Mokhade won Player of Tournament with 814 runs.
2	Career Achievement - Seven Summits Milestone	Aritra Roy (Indian Mountaineer)	Summited Mount Aconcagua (6,967.15m) - highest peak outside Asia; fourth Seven Summits milestone; sponsored by HAL; completed 44km climb in -40°C with 10.5-hour summit push; previously summited Kilimanjaro (Africa), Elbrus (Europe), Everest (Asia).
3	Career Retirement Honor	Saina Nehwal (Badminton Legend)	Retired after iconic 21-year career; first Indian woman to achieve World No. 1 ranking; Olympic bronze medallist (2012 London); left lasting legacy in popularizing women's badminton.
4	Republic Day Parade - Best Marching Contingent	Indian Navy	Won Best Marching Contingent recognition at Republic Day Parade 2026; demonstrates excellence in ceremonial performance and military precision.
5	Republic Day Parade - Best State Tableau	Maharashtra	Won Best State Tableau for Ganeshotsav (Ganesh Festival) themed presentation; recognition of cultural representation and artistic excellence.

GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONAL HONORS

S. No.	Award/Recognition	Recipient	Key Details
1	"52 Weeks, 52 Reforms" Roadmap 2026	Indian Railways	Major comprehensive modernization initiative; implements changes in customer service, maintenance, quality management; demonstrates commitment to institutional renewal and service enhancement.
2	100 Years of Rail Electrification Milestone	Indian Railways	Milestone achievement in sustainable transportation; electrified 68,700+ route kilometers; 72%+ work completed; demonstrates long-term commitment to green railway infrastructure.
3	70th Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar	100 Railway Officers & 26 Railway Zones	Conferred by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw; recognizes exceptional railway service and performance; highest railway honor celebrating institutional excellence.
4	Sukhatme National Award in Statistics	Eligible Indian Statisticians (Nominations Invited)	Invites nominations from eminent Indian statisticians aged 45+ years; to be presented on Statistics Day – June 29, 2026; prestigious national statistical recognition.

MAJOR CONFERENCES & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

S. No.	Event	Host/Organizer	Key Details
1	28th Commonwealth Speakers Conference (CSPOC)	India	Hosted from January 14-16 at Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan; 61 Speakers from 42 Commonwealth countries participated; chairmanship handed over to UK's Lindsay Hoyle for 29th CSPOC in London 2028.
2	Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference 2026	Gujarat (PM Modi Inauguration)	Held January 11-15 at Rajkot; investment commitments: Reliance Industries doubled to Rs 7 lakh crore, Adani Group Rs 1.50 lakh crore; 5,492 MoUs worth Rs 5.78 lakh crore for Saurashtra and Kutch economic development.
3	Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM) 2026 - 25th Edition	National School of Drama (NSD)	Largest international theatre festival in world; scheduled January 27 - February 20, 2026; held in 40 locations across India; first time all seven continents represented with international productions; most inclusive and expansive celebration in Indian theatre history.
4	21st NDRF Raising Day	National Disaster Response Force	Observed January 19, 2026 commemorating NDRF establishment (January 19, 2006); PM Modi and Union Minister Amit Shah extended greetings; NDRF organized blood donation camp highlighting humanitarian service commitment.

SUMMARY OF KEY AWARDS BY CATEGORY

CIVILIAN HONORS (131 Total Awards)
• **Padma Vibhushan**: 5 recipients - Highest civilian honor
• **Padma Bhushan**: 13 recipients - Second-highest honor
• **Padma Shri**: 113 recipients - Third-highest honor
• **State-wise Leadership**: Maharashtra leads with 15 awardees
• **Jeevan Raksha Padak Awards**: 30 individuals honored for life-saving acts

MILITARY & SECURITY HONORS
• **Ashoka Chakra**: 1 personnel - Highest peace-time military honor
• **Kirti Chakra**: 3 personnel - Second-highest military honor
• **Sikkim Police**: President's Police Colour Award - 15th state recipient, 3rd from North-East
• **Indian Coast Guard**: 2026 Gallantry Awards for maritime professionalism

INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE (5 Years Consecutive)
• **IRFC**: 5th consecutive Excellent Rating; Rs 60,000 crore annual sanction target achieved
• **IREDA**: 5th consecutive Excellent Rating; Score 96.42 for FY25
• **Indian Railways**: 100 Years Electrification Milestone; 68,700+ route km electrified

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION
• **Jensen Huang (NVIDIA)**: 2026 IEEE Medal of Honor - USD 2 million prize
• **Graca Machel**: Indira Gandhi Prize - Rs 1 crore cash prize
• **Dr Chandrakant Lahariya**: First Indian - Wiley Research Heroes Prize
• **Major Swathi Kumar**: UN Secretary-General Award - Gender Category

CINEMA & ENTERTAINMENT
• **Five Indian Films**: Academy Awards Best Picture Eligibility for 98th Oscars
• **Taylor Swift**: Songwriters Hall of Fame - Second-youngest at 36
• **Priyanka Chopra Jonas**: Golden Globes Presenter - Indian talent recognition

SPORTS EXCELLENCE
• **Vidarbha Cricket**: Maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy Victory - Aman Mokhade 814 runs
• **Aritra Roy**: Seven Summits Mountaineer - Mount Aconcagua conquest
• **Saina Nehwal**: Badminton Legend Retirement - 21-year iconic career
• **Indian Navy**: Best Marching Contingent - Republic Day Parade 2026

KEY STATISTICS

Category	Count	Details
Total Padma Awards (2026)	131	5 Vibhushan + 13 Bhushan + 113 Shri across India
Military Honors	4	1 Ashoka Chakra + 3 Kirti Chakra
Jeevan Raksha Awards	30	Life-saving acts recognition across 3 categories
Railway Excellence Awards	100+	100 officers + 26 zones recognized for service
Indian Films (Oscar Eligible)	5	98th Academy Awards Best Picture category
CSPOC Participation	61	Speakers from 42 Commonwealth countries
Vibrant Gujarat MoUs	5,492	Worth Rs 5.78 lakh crore investment commitments
Bharat Rang Mahotsav Locations	40	Across India; all 7 continents represented
Conference/Event Participation	1000+	Multiple major national and international events

MAJOR MILESTONES CELEBRATED (January 2026)

Milestone	Organization	Achievement
100 Years Rail Electrification	Indian Railways	68,700+ route km electrified; 72%+ completion
21 Years NDRF Service	NDRF	Established January 19, 2006; 21st Raising Day
5th Consecutive Excellence	IRFC & IREDA	Sustained institutional performance recognition
25th Edition Festival	Bharat Rang Mahotsav	Largest international theatre festival globally
First Seven Summit	Aritra Roy	Mountaineer completing continents climbing
Maiden Trophy Victory	Vidarbha Cricket	First Vijay Hazare Trophy championship

INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNERS FROM INDIA

Award	Winner	Origin	Global Recognition
Indira Gandhi Prize	Graca Machel	Mozambique (Honored in India)	International peace and development recognition
Wiley Research Heroes	Dr Chandrakant Lahariya	India	First Indian global public health research award
UN Secretary-General Award	Major Swathi Kumar	India	Gender equality and peacebuilding leadership
Tyler Prize	Toby Kiers	International (Fungal Research)	Environmental sustainability recognition
IEEE Medal of Honor	Jensen Huang	International (NVIDIA CEO)	Technology and computing leadership
Songwriters Hall of Fame	Taylor Swift	International (US Musician)	Musical composition excellence

SUMMITS, EVENTS & CONFERENCE

Comprehensive Summits, Events & Conferences Consolidated Table - January 2026

MAJOR SUMMITS (2026)

S. No.	Summit Name	Venue	Dates	Key Details
1	Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (RSDI) 2026	New Delhi	March 5-7, 2026	Jointly launched by Office of Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) and Observer Research Foundation (ORF); announced by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood and Dr. Samir Saran; operates alongside Raisina Dialogue; strengthens connection between science, technology, and diplomacy; new institutional effort for science-based foreign policy.
2	Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	January 9-12, 2026	Hosted by PM Modi for interaction with young leaders; focused on ten national priority themes including Fit Bharat, Start-up India, Women-Led Development, Cultural Diplomacy, Aatmanirbhar Bharat; developing next-generation leadership across sectors and governance.

S. No.	Summit Name	Venue	Dates	Key Details
3	Bharat Electricity Summit 2026	Yashobhoomi, New Delhi	March 19-22, 2026	Focusing on clean power transition; addressing renewable energy adoption, grid modernization, and electrical infrastructure; strengthening India's sustainable energy framework.
4	56th World Economic Forum Annual Meeting	Davos, Switzerland	January 19-23, 2026	Held in Davos with 3,000 leaders from 130 countries; discussing global cooperation, innovation, and economic development; major international platform for multilateral dialogue.

MAJOR EVENTS (January 2026)

S. No.	Event Name	Venue	Dates	Key Details
1	National Textiles Ministers' Conference 2026	Guwahati, Assam	January 8-9, 2026	Organized by Ministry of Textiles with Government of Assam; Theme: "India's Textiles: Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation"; brings together Textile Ministers and officials from all States/UTs; deliberates on strategic future direction; positions India as global textile hub by 2030; critical mechanism for aligning federal-state policies; commitment to economic development and cultural preservation.
2	Special Conclave on North-Eastern Textiles	Guwahati, Assam	January 8-9, 2026	Part of National Textiles Ministers' Conference; focused on silk handloom, handicrafts, bamboo-based textiles; emphasizing Eri, Muga, Mulberry silk production; highlighting North-Eastern textile potential and heritage.
3	3rd Indian Lighthouse Festival	Visakhapatnam	January 9-10, 2026	Inaugurated by former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu; Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal present; launched Lighthouse Museum development at Visakhapatnam Port Authority via DGLL MoU; celebrating maritime heritage and coastal tourism.
4	Port Infrastructure Projects Launch	Visakhapatnam	January 9-10, 2026	Total investment: Rs 230 crore including LPG berth upgradation (Rs 52.24 crore), Dry Dock upgradation (Rs 35.87 crore), new AOB construction (Rs 97.70 crore), Harbour Park residential apartments (Rs 44.20 crore); modernizing port facilities and infrastructure.
5	Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference 2026	Rajkot, Gujarat	January 11-15, 2026	PM Modi inaugurated conference for Kutch-Saurashtra region; investment commitments: Reliance Industries doubled to Rs 7 lakh crore, Adani Group Rs 1.50 lakh crore; 5,492 MoUs worth Rs 5.78 lakh crore; boosting investment and industrial growth in western region.
6	Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference for Kutch-Saurashtra (Extended)	Marwadi University, Rajkot	January 11-12, 2026	Regional component focusing on Kutch-Saurashtra development; attracting business opportunities and supporting local industrial growth initiatives.
7	India-Germany CEO Forum	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	January 12-13, 2026	Attended by PM Modi and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz; reviewing 25-year strategic partnership progress; strengthening bilateral economic and technological cooperation; advancing trade and investment dialogue between nations.
8	Indusfood 2026	India (Multiple Locations)	January 2026	Featured World Culinary Heritage Conference organized by Indian Federation of Culinary Associations; 2,200 exhibitors from 30+ countries; 15,000+ buyers from 120+ countries; showcasing food, beverages, and culinary heritage.

S. No.	Event Name	Venue	Dates	Key Details
9	World Culinary Heritage Conference 2026	Part of Indusfood 2026	January 2026	Organized by Indian Federation of Culinary Associations; celebrating culinary heritage and international food trade; promoting wellness and premium food products; strengthening global food sector connections.
10	28th Commonwealth Speakers Conference (CSPOC)	Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi	January 14-16, 2026	Hosted by India with 61 Speakers from 42 Commonwealth countries; chairmanship handed over to UK's Lindsay Hoyle for 29th CSPOC in London 2028; strengthening Commonwealth parliamentary cooperation and democratic governance.
11	Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference	Rajasthan	January 6, 2026	Major milestone in India's journey towards inclusive, ethical, responsible AI; brought together national and state leadership, policymakers, industry experts, startups, and academia; deliberated on AI's transformative role in governance, infrastructure, innovation, workforce development.
12	National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day	National	January 19, 2026	21st NDRF Raising Day commemorating establishment on January 19, 2006; PM Modi and Union Minister Amit Shah extended greetings; NDRF organized blood donation camp highlighting humanitarian service commitment.
13	Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM) 2026 - 25th Edition	National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi & 40 Locations	January 27 - February 20, 2026	Largest international theatre festival in world; held in 40 locations across India bringing theatre to big cities and remote areas; first time all seven continents represented with international productions; most inclusive and expansive celebration in Indian theatre history.

MAJOR CONFERENCES (January 2026)

S. No.	Conference Name	Venue	Dates	Key Details
1	India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM) 2026	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	January 21-23, 2026	Hosted by Election Commission of India (ECI); three-day international event; positions India as global hub for dialogue on democratic governance; sharing rich democratic experiences with international community; advancing global cooperation on electoral systems and democratic institutions; Delhi Declaration 2026 adopted on five pillars of electoral integrity; ECINET digital platform launched integrating 40+ election services in 22 Indian languages.
2	86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) 2026	Uttar Pradesh	January 19-21, 2026	Theme: "Strong Legislature-Prosperous Nation"; participation of 36 Presiding Officers from 24 States/UTs; adopted six key resolutions on governance, transparency, and democratic traditions; strengthening legislative institutions and parliamentary democracy.

EVENT STATISTICS & PARTICIPANTS

Event	Location	Participants	Scale
Vibrant Gujarat Conference 2026	Rajkot, Gujarat	Major Industries (Reliance, Adani)	Rs 5.78 lakh crore investment MoUs
IICDEM 2026	New Delhi	International delegates	Global democratic governance hub
Indusfood 2026	Pan-India	2,200 exhibitors; 15,000+ buyers	30+ countries exhibitors; 120+ countries buyers
CSPOC 2026	New Delhi	61 Speakers	42 Commonwealth countries
VBYLD 2026	New Delhi	Young leaders across sectors	10 national priority themes
Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2026	40 locations	Theatre troupes globally	7 continents represented
Rajasthan AI Conference	Rajasthan	Policymakers, startups, academia	State-level transformation initiative
AIPOC 2026	Uttar Pradesh	36 Presiding Officers	24 States/UTs represented

SUMMARY BY CATEGORY

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL SUMMITS (4)

- **Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (RSDI) 2026**: March 5-7, New Delhi; jointly launched by PSA and ORF; strengthening science-technology-diplomacy nexus for foreign policy
- **Bharat Electricity Summit 2026**: March 19-22, Yashobhoomi, New Delhi; clean power transition focusing on renewable energy and grid modernization
- **World Economic Forum 2026**: January 19-23, Davos; 3,000 leaders from 130 countries; global cooperation and innovation platform
- **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026**: January 9-12, New Delhi; PM Modi's youth leadership dialogue on ten national priority themes

MAJOR NATIONAL EVENTS (13)

- **National Textiles Ministers' Conference**: January 8-9, Guwahati; "Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation" theme; federal-state textile policy alignment
- **Vibrant Gujarat Conference 2026**: January 11-15, Rajkot; Rs 5.78 lakh crore investment MoUs; Reliance doubling to Rs 7 lakh crore; Adani Rs 1.50 lakh crore
- **3rd Indian Lighthouse Festival**: January 9-10, Visakhapatnam; maritime heritage celebration; Lighthouse Museum launch via DGLL partnership
- **India-Germany CEO Forum**: January 12-13, Ahmedabad; PM Modi and Chancellor Merz reviewing 25-year strategic partnership
- **Indusfood 2026**: January 2026; 2,200 exhibitors from 30+ countries; 15,000+ buyers from 120+ countries; World Culinary Heritage Conference
- **28th Commonwealth Speakers Conference (CSPOC)**: January 14-16, New Delhi; 61 Speakers from 42 Commonwealth countries; chairmanship to UK's Lindsay Hoyle
- **Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference**: January 6, Rajasthan; policymakers, startups, academia deliberating on AI for governance and infrastructure
- **NDRF Raising Day**: January 19, National; 21st commemoration (since January 19, 2006); blood donation drive; humanitarian service recognition
- **Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM) 2026**: January 27 - February 20; 40 locations across India; 7 continents represented; largest international theatre festival
- **Port Infrastructure Launch**: January 9-10, Visakhapatnam; Rs 230 crore investment; LPG berth, Dry Dock, AOB, Harbour Park upgrades
- **North-Eastern Textiles Conclave**: January 8-9, Guwahati; Eri, Muga, Mulberry silk; handicrafts and bamboo-based textiles focus

MAJOR NATIONAL CONFERENCES (2)

- **India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM) 2026**: January 21-23, New Delhi; ECI hosted; Delhi Declaration 2026 adopted; ECINET platform launched (40+ services, 22 Indian languages)
- **86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) 2026**: January 19-21, Uttar Pradesh; Theme "Strong Legislature-Prosperous Nation"; 36 presiding officers; 6 resolutions on governance

KEY CONFERENCE & SUMMIT OUTCOMES

IICDEM 2026 - Delhi Declaration 2026

- **Five Pillars of Electoral Integrity**: Adopted as framework for global electoral cooperation
- **ECINET Platform Launch**: Integrating 40+ election services in 22 Indian languages; digital transformation of electoral processes
- **Global Hub Status**: India positioned as international center for democracy and election management dialogue

Vibrant Gujarat 2026 - Investment Commitments

- **Reliance Industries**: Doubled investment to Rs 7 lakh crore
- **Adani Group**: Rs 1.50 lakh crore investment commitment
- **Total MoUs**: 5,492 agreements worth Rs 5.78 lakh crore
- **Regional Focus**: Kutch-Saurashtra economic development

National Textiles Conference 2026
- **Theme**: "Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation"
- **Federal-State Alignment**: Critical mechanism for policy coordination across 28 States/8 UTs
- **Global Target**: Positioning India as global textile manufacturing hub by 2030
- **Cultural Preservation**: Simultaneous economic development and heritage conservation commitment

AIPOC 2026 - Six Key Resolutions
- Adopted six resolutions on governance, transparency, and democratic traditions
- Theme: "Strong Legislature-Prosperous Nation"
- 36 Presiding Officers from 24 States/UTs participation
- Strengthening legislative institutions and parliamentary democracy

VBYLD 2026 - Ten Priority Themes
- Fit Bharat (Health and Fitness)
- Start-up India (Entrepreneurship)
- Women-Led Development (Gender Equality)
- Cultural Diplomacy (Heritage & Arts)
- Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliance)
- Plus five additional strategic national priority themes

GLOBAL & REGIONAL REACH

Conference/Event	Countries/States Represented	Global Presence
IICDEM 2026	International delegates	Global democratic hub
Indusfood 2026	30+ countries (exhibitors); 120+ countries (buyers)	Largest culinary trade event
CSPOC 2026	42 Commonwealth countries	Commonwealth parliamentary cooperation
Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2026	All 7 continents	First truly global theatre festival
India-Germany CEO Forum	India-Germany bilateral	Strategic partnership review
AIPOC 2026	24 States/8 UTs (36 officers)	Pan-India legislative platform
Vibrant Gujarat 2026	Major global industries	International investment hub

INSTITUTIONAL & SECTORAL FOCUS

Sector	Conference/Event	Institutional Focus
Democratic Governance	IICDEM 2026, AIPOC 2026, CSPOC 2026	Electoral systems, parliamentary institutions, Commonwealth cooperation
Economic Development	Vibrant Gujarat 2026, India-Germany CEO Forum	Investment, bilateral partnerships, regional growth
Science & Technology	RSDI 2026, Bharat Electricity Summit, Rajasthan AI Conference	Science diplomacy, clean energy, AI adoption
Culture & Heritage	Bharat Rang Mahotsav, 3rd Lighthouse Festival, Indusfood 2026	Theatre, maritime heritage, culinary traditions
Industry & Textiles	National Textiles Ministers' Conference, Special North-Eastern Conclave	Manufacturing hub, traditional crafts, federal alignment
Youth Leadership	VBYLD 2026	Next-generation leaders, national priorities, sectoral development
Emergency Response	NDRF Raising Day	Disaster management, humanitarian service, community health

INDEX

RANKINGS & REPORTS - JANUARY 2026

NATIONAL RANKINGS & REPORTS

Rank	Report Name	Entity/Category	Score/Details	Key Notes
1st	Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System 2.0 (ICJS 2.0) Rankings	Uttarakhand Police	93.46	Released on January 8, 2026 by **National Crime Records Bureau** under **Ministry of Home Affairs**; **2nd edition rankings**; promotes **real-time data sharing**, **"One Data, One Entry" principle**; makes **investigations faster** and **evidence-based**; enables **digital case tracking from FIR to conviction**
2nd	ICJS 2.0 National Rankings	Haryana Police	93.41	Strong performance in digital case management and criminal justice integration; advancing e-governance in law enforcement
3rd	ICJS 2.0 National Rankings	Assam Police	93.16	Demonstrating effective criminal justice system modernization; supporting transparent law enforcement

CITY RANKINGS - WOMEN INCLUSION 2025

Rank	City	Overall Score	Key Characteristics
1st	Bengaluru	53.29	**Best city for women in India (2025)**; combines **strong social infrastructure** with **robust industrial opportunities**; supportive ecosystem for **women's safety, employment, and long-term career growth**
2nd	Chennai	49.86	Strong women empowerment initiatives, industrial and service sector opportunities, safety infrastructure
3rd	Pune	46.27	Growing tech hub, women-friendly policies, educational opportunities, quality of life
4th	Hyderabad	Not specified	IT and business hub, women workforce development, emerging innovation ecosystem
5th	Mumbai	Not specified	Largest financial hub, diverse opportunities, women entrepreneurship, global connectivity

EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX 2024 (NITI Aayog)

Rank	Category	State/Region	Score	Key Details
1st	Large States	Maharashtra	68.01	Released by **NITI Aayog - 4th Export Preparedness Index 2024**; assesses **export readiness** across states; structured around **4 pillars, 13 sub-pillars, 70 indicators** evaluating **policy support, infrastructure, business ecosystem**
2nd	Large States	Tamil Nadu	64.41	Strong manufacturing base, port infrastructure, textile exports, IT services
3rd	Large States	Gujarat	64.02	Major industrial state, agricultural exports, diamond industry, SEZs
1st	Smaller States	Uttarakhand	52.07	Leading smaller states in export preparedness; supporting India's goal of **₹1 trillion merchandise exports by 2030** through **competitive federalism**

Index Framework: Evaluates policy support, infrastructure development, business ecosystem strength, human capital, and innovation capacity for export promotion.

HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX 2026

Rank	Country	Visa-Free/On-Arrival Destinations	Key Details
1st	Singapore	192	**Top ranking for 3rd consecutive year**; highest passport power globally; extensive global access
2nd	Japan, South Korea	188	Strong diplomatic relations, visa exemption agreements with major economies worldwide
3-5th	Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland	186-187	**Europe dominates top 10**; strong EU membership benefits, international agreements
8th	Canada, Iceland, Lithuania	181	Strong international standing, visa reciprocity agreements, global partnerships

Rank	Country	Visa-Free/On-Arrival Destinations	Key Details
9th	Malaysia	180	Growing regional influence, ASEAN connectivity, international access
10th	USA	179	Major global power, significant international relationships and agreements
80th	India	55	Ranked 80th (up from 85th in previous year); accessing **55 visa-free/on-arrival destinations**; improved from **Algeria and Niger additions**; steady progress in international mobility
Lowest	Afghanistan	24	**Lowest ranking**; limited global access; creates **168-country gap** in passport power rankings between highest and lowest

Other Low Rankings: Syria (26), Iraq (29), Pakistan-Yemen (31), Somalia (33), Nepal (35), Bangladesh (37)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) - DECEMBER 2025 (NSO)

Metric	December 2025	November 2025	Change	Key Notes
Retail Inflation	1.33%	0.71%	+0.62%	Released by **National Statistics Office (NSO)**; retail inflation climbed to **3-month high**; rising from November; remains **below RBI's 2% threshold**; benign inflation environment
Food Inflation	-2.71%	-3.91%	+1.20%	**7th consecutive month of negative growth**; deflationary trend in food prices; declining from November level; supporting overall price stability
Core Inflation	4.45%	4.23%	+0.22%	**27-month high**; surging from November; emerging inflation pressure in non-food, non-fuel categories; raising monitoring concerns

STATE-WISE INFLATION DATA - DECEMBER 2025

Rank	State	YoY Inflation Rate	Key Details
Highest	Kerala	9.49%	Highest state-level inflation; significantly above national average; regional price pressures
2nd	Karnataka	2.99%	Above national average; reflecting state-specific cost pressures
3rd	Andhra Pradesh	2.71%	Close to national average; moderate inflation levels
4th	Tamil Nadu	2.67%	Below national average; relatively stable prices; well-managed inflation

KEY REPORT INSIGHTS

- **ICJS 2.0 Implementation** - Uttarakhand Police leads with 93.46 score; advancing digital criminal justice system; promoting real-time data sharing and evidence-based investigations
- **Women's Urban Inclusion** - Bengaluru ranks first (53.29) combining social infrastructure with industrial opportunities; creating supportive ecosystem for women's employment and safety
- **Export Preparedness** - Maharashtra leads large states (68.01); supporting India's ₹1 trillion merchandise exports target by 2030; competitive federalism driving export growth
- **Passport Power** - India ranks 80th (up from 85th) with 55 visa-free destinations; steady improvement in global mobility; Singapore leads with 192 destinations
- **Inflation Dynamics** - Retail inflation at 1.33% (December 2025); food inflation negative for 7th consecutive month at -2.71%; core inflation surges to 27-month high of 4.45%
- **Regional Inflation Variations** - Kerala shows highest YoY inflation at 9.49%; Tamil Nadu most stable at 2.67%; state-level variations requiring targeted policy responses
- **Criminal Justice Modernization** - ICJS 2.0 enabling digital transformation from FIR to conviction; Uttarakhand, Haryana, Assam leading in implementation; improving investigation speed and evidence management
- **Urban Development** - Top 5 women-inclusion cities show Bengaluru's leadership; Chennai (49.86), Pune (46.27), Hyderabad, Mumbai following; highlighting urban gender equity advancement
- **India Ranked 6th in Asia Manufacturing Index 2026** - Asia Manufacturing Index 2026 shows India mid-tier ranking with gaps in execution and innovation depth.

- **Global IT Services Brand Valuation Report 2026** - Accenture leads at $42.3 billion; Indian IT companies hold 36% of top 25 brands' value at $60.4 billion.
- **RBI Releases Report on State Finances 2025–26** - State consolidated fiscal deficit at 3.3% of GDP, with demographic transition impacting state finances.
- **SEBI Survey: Only 9.5% of Indian Households Invest in Securities** - Out of 33.72 crore households, just 3.21 crore participate in securities markets, indicating significant under-penetration.
- **Responsible Nations Index 2026 Released**: **Former President Ram Nath Kovind launched inaugural Responsible Nations Index (RNI)** at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre with **India ranked 16th globally** scoring **0.551513** ahead of **France, Albania, Poland** while **Singapore topped with 0.61945** followed by **Switzerland (0.58692)**.
- **Asia Manufacturing Index 2026 Released**: **Dezan Shira & Associates released Asia Manufacturing Index 2026** showing **India retained 6th rank among 11 Asian countries** with **China leading, Malaysia 2nd, Vietnam 3rd** highlighting need for **stronger reforms and faster execution** in Indian manufacturing.
- **WEF Global Risks Report 2026**: **World Economic Forum published 21st edition Global Risks Report** identifying **geoeconomic confrontation as top global threat** followed by **state-based conflict, extreme weather, social protection gaps, misinformation** with **India facing cyber insecurity as major risk**.
- **NITI Aayog Reports on Green Transition**: **NITI Aayog released three decarbonization roadmaps** for **cement, aluminium, and MSME sectors** targeting **reduction of carbon intensity** and **adoption of green technologies** aligned with **Net Zero by 2070 goal**.

DEFENCE

S. No.	Initiative / Project	Organization / Entity	Category	Amount / Scale	Key Details & Purpose
1	**Bharat Forge Aerospace Contracts**	Bharat Forge Limited	Defence Procurement – Unmanned Systems	**₹300 crore**	Emergency Procurement-VI contracts for **Omega One & Omega Nine ISR drones** and **Bayonet/Cleaver loitering munitions** for Army & Navy
2	**Close Quarter Battle (CQB) Carbines**	Ministry of Defence	Ground Force Modernization	**₹2,770 crore**	Advanced carbines for close combat; enhances infantry firepower
3	**Heavy Weight Torpedoes**	Ministry of Defence	Naval Modernization	**₹1,896 crore**	Submarine-based underwater warfare capability boost
4	**Total MoD Procurement Contracts**	Ministry of Defence	Combined Defence Procurement	**₹4,666 crore**	Sum of CQB carbines + torpedoes contracts
5	**Medium Calibre Ammunition Facility – Nagpur**	Solar Defence & Aerospace Ltd (SDAL)	Defence Manufacturing	Not Disclosed	Produces **30mm ammunition**; supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat**
6	**Helicopter MRO Hub – Missamari, Assam**	HAL & Indian Army	Maintenance Infrastructure	Not Disclosed	Reduces repair time; improves fleet readiness
7	**Pinaka Rocket Facility & Export**	SDAL	Manufacturing & Export	Not Disclosed	Guided Pinaka rockets export to **Armenia**
8	**LR-AShM Hypersonic Missile**	DRDO	Advanced Missile Technology	**1,500 km; Mach 5+**	Long-range air-to-ship hypersonic strike capability
9	**Omega One ISR Drone**	Bharat Forge	Unmanned Aerial Systems	Indigenous	ISR for battlefield reconnaissance
10	**Omega Nine ISR Drone**	Bharat Forge	Advanced ISR Drone	Indigenous	Enhanced situational awareness for land & sea ops
11	**Bayonet/Cleaver Loitering Munitions**	Bharat Forge	Precision Strike Systems	Indigenous	Tactical loitering precision strike weapons
12	**V-BAT Autonomous Drones**	Shield AI (USA) & JSW Defence (India)	Drone Manufacturing	Production from **Dec 2025**	VTOL autonomous drones; **US–India tech transfer**

S. No.	Initiative / Project	Organization / Entity	Category	Amount / Scale	Key Details & Purpose
13	**Military Quantum Mission Framework**	CDS Gen. Anil Chauhan	Defence Policy & Strategy	National Framework	Quantum computing, sensing & communication adoption
14	**3D Flex Aqueous Angiography with iStent**	Army Hospital Delhi Cantt	Defence Medical Innovation	First in India	Advanced glaucoma surgery imaging breakthrough
15	**INS Sagardhwani – Sagar Maitri V**	Indian Navy	Maritime Scientific Cooperation	8 Nations	Ocean research mission across Indian Ocean region
16	**Indian Navy First Training Squadron (1TS) Deployment**	Indian Navy	Naval Diplomacy	4 Ships	Maritime cooperation with IONS nations & Indonesia
17	**AI Defence System MoU**	IISc & Indian Army	Defence–Academia Partnership	Joint Development	Indigenous AI for digital & cyber warfare
18	**Military Quantum Mission Implementation**	CDS Office	Defence Strategy Execution	Policy Rollout	Step-by-step quantum integration roadmap

Technology	Developer	Capability	Significance
LR-AShM Hypersonic Missile	DRDO	Mach 5+ speed; 1,500 km range	Long-range naval strike superiority
Omega ISR Drone Series	Bharat Forge	Indigenous ISR drones	Real-time battlefield intelligence
Bayonet/Cleaver Munitions	Bharat Forge	Precision loitering weapons	Tactical strike capability
V-BAT Drones	JSW Defence & Shield AI	VTOL autonomous drones	Tech transfer + domestic production

Facility	Location	Organization	Purpose
Medium Calibre Ammunition Plant	Nagpur	SDAL	Indigenous 30mm ammunition production
Helicopter MRO Hub	Missamari, Assam	HAL & Indian Army	Maintenance & overhaul of helicopters
Pinaka Rocket Production	Nagpur	SDAL	Guided rocket manufacturing & export

Initiative	Scale	Partner Nations	Objective
Sagar Maitri V	Research Vessel Deployment	Oman, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Myanmar	Ocean research & maritime cooperation
1TS Naval Deployment	4 Naval Ships	Indonesia & IONS partners	Naval diplomacy & regional engagement

Partner Country	Project	Nature of Cooperation
USA	V-BAT Drones	Technology transfer & manufacturing
Armenia	Guided Pinaka Rockets	Defence export
Indian Ocean Rim Nations (8)	Sagar Maitri V	Scientific maritime cooperation
Indonesia	Naval Training Deployment	Bilateral maritime engagement

Metric	Value
Total Defence Procurement	₹4,666 crore
CQB Carbines	₹2,770 crore
Heavy Weight Torpedoes	₹1,896 crore
Aerospace/Drone Contracts	₹300 crore
Hypersonic Missile Range	1,500 km
Hypersonic Speed	Mach 5+
Naval Ships in Deployment	4
Participating Ocean Nations	8

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SATELLITE LAUNCHES - NATIONAL

- **EOS-N1 (Anvesha) Earth Observation Satellite - January 12, 2026**: Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched EOS-N1 hyperspectral Earth observation satellite via PSLV-C62 (64th PSLV flight, 5th PSLV-DL variant) from Sriharikota developed by DRDO for advanced surveillance and strategic monitoring capabilities supporting national security and climate observation.

- **PSLV-C62 Mission - 9th NSIL Commercial Launch**: PSLV-C62 conducted 9th dedicated commercial launch by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) on January 12, 2026 launching EOS-N1 and 15 co-passenger satellites including AayuISAT, KID, and Brazilian payloads advancing multi-purpose space utilization and commercial space operations.

- **PSLV-C62 Third Stage Anomaly**: PSLV-C62 mission encountered critical anomaly during third stage (PS3) operations necessitating investigation into launch vehicle performance and mission success assessment for Indian space program.

- **AayuISAT - India's First On-Orbit Satellite Refueling Demonstrator**: OrbitAID Aerospace developed AayuISAT as co-passenger on PSLV-C62 advancing satellite servicing and sustainability technologies demonstrating India's emerging capability in space infrastructure services and satellite sustainability.

- **15 Co-Passenger Satellites on PSLV-C62**: Launched alongside EOS-N1 with diverse applications including AI processing in orbit, store-and-forward communications, IoT services, radiation measurement, and agricultural data collection advancing India's multi-purpose space utilization capability.

SATELLITE LAUNCHES - INTERNATIONAL

- **COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation-Flight Model 3 - January 2, 2026**: SpaceX Falcon 9 successfully launched COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation-Flight Model 3 from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California representing first SpaceX mission globally in 2026 for Italian Space Agency and Ministry of Defence with mass ~2,205 kg.

- **COSMO-SkyMed Advanced Imaging Capabilities**: Launched satellite carries advanced Synthetic Aperture Radar sensors and improved imaging capabilities supporting dual-use civilian and defense applications including real-time natural disaster tracking supporting national security, maritime surveillance, and strategic planning 24/7 in all weather conditions.

SPACE RESEARCH & DISCOVERY

- **NASA's Hubble Telescope Discovers Starless Gas Cloud 'Cloud-9'**: Hubble Space Telescope discovered rare 'Cloud-9' starless gas cloud located 14 million light-years from Earth near Messier 94 representing fossil from universe's early days published in The Astrophysical Journal Letters.

- **Cloud-9 Composition & Mass**: Reionization-Limited HI Cloud (Cloud-9) containing neutral hydrogen with mass of 1 million solar masses dominated by dark matter with approximately 5 billion solar masses across 4,900 light-year diameter representing unprecedented astronomical discovery of large starless structure.

- **Cloud-9 Discovery Timeline**: Cloud-9 initially discovered in 2023 via China's FAST radio telescope with confirmation through 2025 VLA/GBT observations and 2026 Hubble Space Telescope verification revealing no stars within boundaries of massive gas cloud.

- **Indian Scientists Develop Supercomputer-Powered Mpemba Effect Simulation**: Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru under Ministry of Science and Technology published in Communication Physics first-ever supercomputer-powered molecular-level simulation revealing how non-equilibrium thermodynamics, molecular rearrangements, and energy dissipation enable hotter water to freeze faster than colder water.

- **Mpemba Effect Technical Insights**: Simulation offers technical perspective on material relaxation phenomena resulting from abrupt temperature variations advancing understanding of thermodynamic anomalies through supercomputer modeling and molecular dynamics.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Weather & Environmental Technology

- **3D-Printed Automatic Weather Stations - Indian Initiative**: Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune under Ministry of Earth Sciences via Make in India initiative developed 3D-printed automatic weather stations for Mission Mausam project providing low-cost, lightweight, quick-to-deploy stations for enhanced weather observation and forecasting.

- **Automatic Weather Stations Deployment**: First batch of 50 automatic weather stations set for February 2026 deployment in Delhi followed by Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai with 80 more units planned featuring solar power for urban and remote deployment providing real-time temperature, wind speed, humidity, and rainfall transmission.

Water Purification & Defence Technology

- **DRDO Portable Water Purification System 'SWaDeS'**: Defence Laboratory Jodhpur under DRDO developed SeaWater Desalination System (SWaDeS) in manual and engine-driven variants representing critical defence technology for water-scarce operations.

- **SWaDeS Engine-Operated Variant**: Engine-operated variant desalinates seawater with TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) up to 35,000 mg/L to below 500 mg/L supporting 20-25 soldiers within 2-3 minutes setup demonstrating rapid deployment capability for naval and field operations.

- **SWaDeS Manual Unit Capability**: Manual SWaDeS unit supports 10-12 personnel with both variants featuring Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) water purification modules making system suitable for naval operations, inland saline lakes, and water-scarce regions.

Biodiversity & Species Discovery

- **Two New Slender-Armed Frog Species Discovered - Arunachal Pradesh**: Indian scientists discovered two new slender-armed frog species from Leptobrachium genus in Arunachal Pradesh advancing understanding of Himalayan biodiversity.

- **Soman's Slender Arm Frog (Leptobrachium somani)**: Discovered at Tiwarigaon in Lower Dibang Valley measuring 55mm and named after late journalist E. Somanath representing new species addition to Indian herpetofauna published in peer-reviewed journal PeerJ.

- **Mechuka Slender Arm Frog (Leptobrachium mechuka)**: Identified near Mechuka town in Shi Yomi district measuring 60mm and inhabiting evergreen forests and grasslands representing second new species from genus with findings published in PeerJ through University of Delhi collaboration with Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology.

- **Leptobrachium Genus Global Status**: Leptobrachium genus comprises 39 species worldwide with only 4 previously documented in India from family Megophryidae containing 366 recognized species demonstrating India's rich amphibian diversity requiring conservation attention.

- **Brahmaputra River Biogeographic Barrier**: Brahmaputra River acts as major biogeographic barrier with newly discovered species found north of river and other Indian Leptobrachium species south of river reflecting distinct species distribution patterns.

- **New Crustacean Genus from Lakshadweep**: Researchers from Cusat discovered 'Indiaphonte bijoyi' new genus and species of microscopic harpacticoid copepod from Kavaratti lagoon in Lakshadweep with semi-cylindrical body and antennae-like appendages published in international journal Zootaxa.

- **Two New Ant Fly Species in India**: Researchers discovered two new rare ant fly species 'Metadon ghorpadei' and 'Metadon reemeri' in Delhi's Northern Ridge forest and Siruvani Hills respectively marking first discovery in over 100 years showing importance of protecting urban forest areas.

- **New Rare Caecilian Species - Maharashtra**: Zoological Survey of India unveiled Gegeneophis valmiki new rare caecilian species discovered in Maharashtra's Western Ghats after 10+ year gap in genus discoveries advancing understanding of underground amphibian biodiversity.

- **Austrian Brown Swiss Cow Veronika Uses Tools**: Scientists documented Veronika Austrian brown Swiss cow as first verified tool-using cattle challenging assumptions about cattle intelligence and cognition demonstrating unexpected behavioral complexity in livestock species.

Hypersonic & Advanced Propulsion

- **DRDO Long-Duration Scramjet Engine Test**: DRDO conducted scramjet engine test lasting over 12 minutes validating sustained supersonic combustion at Mach 5+ speeds (6,100 km/h) representing air-breathing technology with active cooling enabling hypersonic flight with high maneuverability and low-altitude capability.

- **Scramjet Technology Development**: Air-breathing scramjet technology indigenously designed by DRDL Hyderabad with support from industry and academia strengthening regional deterrence and hypersonic flight capability for advanced aerospace systems.

- **Scramjet Progressive Testing**: Scramjet testing included 120-second run in January 2025 and 1,000-second endurance test in May 2025 followed by 12-minute validation test scaling up technology gradually demonstrating sustained progress in hypersonic propulsion.

LABORATORY & FACILITY INAUGURATIONS

CSIR-NPL World-Class Laboratories

- **National Environmental Standard Laboratory (NSEL) - Asia's First**: Union MoS Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated National Environmental Standard Laboratory on January 5, 2026 during CSIR-NPL's 80th Foundation Day celebrations as Asia's first and world's second pollution monitoring facility testing, calibrating, and certifying air pollution monitoring devices.

- **NSEL Supporting Clean Air Agenda**: National Environmental Standard Laboratory supports National Clean Air Programme through comprehensive pollution monitoring device certification enabling accurate air quality assessment and environmental compliance across India.

- **National Primary Standard Facility for Solar Cell Calibration**: CSIR-NPL inaugurated world's fifth-of-its-kind solar cell calibration facility developed with Germany's PTB using Laser-based Differential Spectral Responsivity system achieving world's lowest calibration uncertainty of 0.35%.

- **Solar Cell Calibration Reducing Foreign Dependence**: National Primary Standard Facility for Solar Cell Calibration reduces India's dependence on foreign certification for solar energy equipment supporting indigenous renewable energy technology development and self-reliance.

IIT-Madras Supercomputing Facility

- **PARAM Shakti Supercomputing Facility at IIT-Madras - January 2026**: MeitY inaugurated 'Param Shakti' state-of-the-art supercomputing facility at IIT-Madras in Chennai powered by PARAM RUDRA supercomputing system representing entirely India-developed supercomputing infrastructure.

- **PARAM RUDRA Performance & Specifications**: PARAM RUDRA supercomputing system delivers 3.1 petaflops peak performance developed and built entirely in India by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) with 24×7 power backup and advanced cooling systems.

- **PARAM Shakti Research Applications**: Supercomputing facility accelerates research in aerospace engineering, materials science, climate and weather modelling, drug discovery, advanced manufacturing, and computational fluid dynamics supporting advanced scientific research and innovation.

IIT Delhi Regulatory Affairs Centre

- **Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Affairs in Power Sector - IIT Delhi**: Union Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Affairs in Power Sector at IIT Delhi jointly established with Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and Grid India to strengthen regulatory research and capacity building in India's electricity sector.

TECHNOLOGY & INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVES

Live Events Development

- **Live Events Development Cell (LEDC) - Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**: Ministry of Information & Broadcasting established Live Events Development Cell in January 2026 constituted in July 2025 under Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw boosting India's concert and live entertainment economy.

- **LEDC Composition & Function**: Live Events Development Cell comprises officials from Centre, states, industry bodies, and event companies streamlining approvals and coordinating large-scale live events positioning India as leading global destination for live events by 2030.

- **India's Live Events Market Growth**: India's organized live events market valued at Rs 20,861 crore in 2024 projected to grow at 18% CAGR through 2030 representing significant economic opportunity and cultural development potential.

Digital Commerce & Logistics

- **India Post ONDC First Order Delivery**: India Post delivered first Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) order enabling digital logistics expansion and last-mile delivery strengthening for MSMEs integrating traditional postal network with ONDC supporting e-commerce growth for small businesses.

Artificial Intelligence & Innovation Hub

- **Tamil Nadu Sovereign AI Park - Chennai**: Tamil Nadu partnered with Sarvam AI to establish India's first Sovereign AI Park in Chennai with Rs 10,000 crore investment generating 1,000+ high-skilled jobs featuring dedicated AI district with high-performance computing infrastructure and secure data frameworks.

- **Sovereign AI Park Components**: AI Park features research labs, innovation clusters, Institute for AI in Governance developing public-sector AI applications with data security, ethics, and accountability focus supporting AI adoption across governance, education, healthcare, agriculture, and citizen services.

- **Tamil-First AI Models Initiative**: Sovereign AI Park supports Tamil-first AI models reflecting local language and culture in education, healthcare, agriculture, and citizen services projects advancing linguistic diversity in artificial intelligence development.

Creative Industry & Skilling

- **'Inspiring Innovators – Naye Bharat Ki Nayi Pehchaan' Initiative**: Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Principal Scientific Adviser launched skilling initiative with Netflix Fund for Creative Equity featuring eight short animated films created by 26 students from diverse regions (50% women) from eight universities highlighting 8 Indian social-impact start-ups.

- **Voicebox Netflix-NFDC Collaboration**: 'Inspiring Innovators' initiative features Voicebox Netflix-led collaboration for voiceover production with NFDC partnership supporting creative skill development in Indian film industry.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS

Pakistan Defence Capabilities

- **Pakistan Taimoor ALCM Flight Test - January 2026**: Pakistan conducted successful flight test of indigenously developed Taimoor Air-Launched Cruise Missile deployed from Mirage IIIE fighter aircraft during live-trial exercise developed by Air Weapons Complex.

- **Taimoor Missile Specifications**: Turbojet-powered subsonic cruise missile with 600 km strike range carries conventional high-explosive warhead featuring state-of-the-art navigation and guidance system for very low altitude operation enabling evasion of hostile air defenses and missile interception systems.

Deep-Sea Discovery

- **Giant Black Coral Near New Zealand - 300–400-Year-Old**: Researchers discovered giant black coral in deep sea near New Zealand measuring as largest recorded in country emphasizing importance of deep-sea ecosystem conservation highlighting biodiversity and environmental protection.

Global AI Translation

- **Google TranslateGemma Open AI Model Launch**: Google launched TranslateGemma open AI translation model supporting 55 languages built on Gemma 3 enabling efficient multilingual translation across mobile, local, and cloud platforms advancing accessibility and communication globally.

ADDITIONAL MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

Climate & Global Security

- **2026 Doomsday Clock Set at 85 Seconds to Midnight**: Doomsday Clock reached closest-ever point to midnight reflecting heightened nuclear, climate, and artificial intelligence risks globally representing grim assessment of global security threats.

Nuclear Energy Advancement

- **Japan Restarts Reactor No. 6 at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Plant**: Japan advanced nuclear energy return after 15 years with reactor restart planning 50% nuclear energy share by 2030 supporting decarbonization goals and energy security.

Space Exploration Milestones

- **NASA Artemis II Mission Preparation**: US space agency preparing to launch Artemis II historic mission sending astronauts around Moon for first time in over 50 years with globally symbolic feature allowing people worldwide to send names to Moon aboard spacecraft.

- **NASA Space Launch System Rollout**: NASA rolled out Space Launch System (SLS) 322-foot rocket ready for first crewed lunar fly-around mission in 50+ years with February 2026 launch window representing major milestone in human space exploration.

- **First Medical Evacuation from ISS - January 15, 2026**: NASA successfully completed first-ever medical evacuation from International Space Station with SpaceX Crew-11 mission returning early after non-critical medical issue affected astronaut marking major milestone in space healthcare and astronaut safety protocols.

Sustainable Energy & Storage

- **Ola Electric BIS Certification for Residential Battery System**: Ola Electric received BIS certification for Ola Shakti 6kW residential battery energy storage system with indigenously developed 4680 Bharat Cells receiving BIS approval supporting indigenous energy storage innovation.

Transport & Aviation

- **Embraer-Adani Defence Partnership for Regional Aircraft**: Embraer signed MoU with Adani Defence & Aerospace for 90-seat regional transport aircraft manufacturing with Final Assembly Line in India supporting UDAN scheme and regional aviation connectivity.

Railway Safety Innovation

- **Kavach 4.0 Automatic Train Protection System Launch**: India launched Kavach 4.0 automatic train protection system commissioned on Bajwa-Ahmedabad 96 km railway section with SPAD (Signal Passed at Danger) prevention and automatic speed control enhancing railway safety.

Climate & Disaster Management

- **IIT Guwahati Glacier Lake Risk Assessment Framework**: IIT Guwahati developed framework identifying 492 potential glacial lake sites using Bayesian Neural Network model for high-risk glacier locations in Eastern Himalayas enabling early warning systems for glacial lake outburst flood prevention.

Enterprise Solutions

- **Zoho ERP Platform for India's SMEs**: Zoho launched new affordable easy-to-deploy ERP platform targeting underserved small and medium enterprise sector supporting digital transformation for Indian SME growth.

Steel Technology Promotion

- **Steel Slag Road Technology - Minister Recommendation**: Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh recommended faster adoption of steel slag-based road technology especially in Himalayan states citing proven benefits and limited current usage supporting sustainable infrastructure development.

SPORTS

CRICKET

- **Renowned Australian Cricketer Usman Khawaja Announces Retirement** - Announced in January 2026 following **fifth Ashes Test at Sydney Cricket Ground**; **Pakistan-born Australian cricketer**; **88th Test match** marked his final appearance; scored **6,206 runs in 87 test matches** and **1,554 runs in 40 ODIs**; debuted against **England in 2010-11**; scored **first Ashes century of 171 runs in 2018**; **Australia's first Muslim Test cricketer**; impressive record of **16 hundreds and 28 fifties** in Test cricket

- **Virat Kohli Becomes Second-Highest International Run-Scorer** - Surpassed **Kumar Sangakkara's 28,016 runs** with **28,068 runs**; trailing only **Sachin Tendulkar (34,357)**; scored **match-winning 93 runs against New Zealand in Vadodara**; achieving **second-highest status in international cricket**; cementing legacy as one of cricket's greatest batsmen

- **Australian Women's Cricket Captain Alyssa Healy Announces Retirement** - Announcement in January 2026; retirement after **India series (Feb-Mar 2026)**; ending **15-year career**; won **8 World Cup titles** including **six T20 World Cups (2010, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2020, 2023)** and **two ODI World Cups (2013, 2022)**; retired as **most successful wicketkeeper with 269 dismissals** across **3 formats (24 Tests, 119 ODIs, 126 T20Is)**; scored **7,106 runs in approximately 300 matches**; **third-highest among Australian women** behind **Meg Lanning (8,352)** and **Ellyse Perry (7,607)**

- **South Africa Captain Laura Wolvaardt Named ICC Women's Player of the Month (December 2025)** - Recognized for **record-breaking performances against Ireland**; highlighting exceptional batting and leadership qualities in women's cricket

- **Australian Fast Bowler Mitchell Starc Won ICC Men's Player of the Month (December 2025)** - Honored for **outstanding all-round impact in the Ashes series**; demonstrating exceptional bowling performance and contribution to Australia's success

- **MS Dhoni Named Goodwill Ambassador for Pune Grand Tour 2026** - Named for **Pune Grand Tour 2026 (Jan 19-23)**; **India's first international multi-stage pro road cycling race**; leveraging cricket legend's brand value for sports promotion

- **Nat Sciver-Brunt Becomes First Centurion in Women's Premier League History** - English batter scored unbeaten 100 off 57 balls for Mumbai Indians against Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

- **Vidarbha** won their **first Vijay Hazare Trophy title**. They defeated Saurashtra by 38 runs in the final played in Bengaluru.

- **The Board of Control for Cricket in India** has signed a **₹270 crore sponsorship agreement with Gemini for the Indian Premier League,** starting from the 2026 season.

- **ICC Monthly Awards Recognition** - Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa) - **Women's Player of the Month (December 2025)** for record-breaking performances; **Mitchell Starc (Australia) - Men's Player of the Month (December 2025)** for outstanding Ashes performance; recognizing global sporting excellence and individual achievements across formats

BADMINTON & TENNIS

- **No major badminton or tennis announcements** - January 2026 witnessed focus on other sporting disciplines with limited major announcements in these categories

- **Saina Nehwal** has confirmed **her retirement** from competitive badminton after being inactive for almost two years due to severe knee injuries, including cartilage degeneration and arthritis.

ARCHERY & SHOOTING

- **No major archery or shooting announcements** - January 2026 saw focus on other sports with limited major news in these categories

ATHLETICS & FOOTBALL

- **Asian Games Gold Medalist Runner Jinson Johnson Announces Retirement** - Announced on January 7, 2026; **Olympian and Asian Games gold medalist** middle-distance runner; **15-year international career** conclusion; won **gold in 1500m and silver in 800m** at **2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia**; won **bronze in 1500m** at **2023 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China**; holds **national records of 1:45.65 in 800m (2018)** and **3:35.24 in 1500m (2019 ISTAF Berlin)**; leaving lasting impact on Indian athletics

The **National Paralympic Powerlifting Championship** was inaugurated in January 2026 by Pushkar Singh Dhami. The event highlighted inclusive sports and empowerment of persons with disabilities at the national level.

CHESS

- **Aaryan Varshney Became India's 92nd Chess Grandmaster** - Secured **final GM norm** at **Andranik Margaryan Memorial Tournament in Armenia**; significant achievement highlighting **India's growing global chess strength**; joining elite group of Indian grandmasters advancing nation's chess prowess

VOLLEYBALL

- **PM Narendra Modi Virtually Inaugurates 72nd National Volleyball Tournament** - Inaugurated on January 4, 2026 at **Dr. Sampurnanand Sports Stadium in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh** via **video conferencing**; **72nd National Volleyball Tournament (Senior National Championship)**; scheduled till **January 11, 2026**; expected to witness **participation of over 1,000 players** representing **58 teams across the country**; organized by **Volleyball Federation of India** in collaboration with **UP government**; two mascots: **'Nandu' (Nandi bull for strength)** and **'Neera' (Ganga River Dolphin symbolizing environmental awareness)**

BEACH GAMES

- **Karnataka Emerged Overall Champions of Khelo India Beach Games (KIBG) 2026** - Secured **11 medals (3 gold, 2 silver, 6 bronze)**; KIBG 2026 featured **six medal events**: Beach Volleyball, Beach Soccer, Sepak Takraw, Beach Kabaddi, Pencak Silat, Open Water Swimming; **Tamil Nadu finished second (8 medals)** and **Manipur third (7 medals)**; held at **Ghoghla Beach, Diu**; KIBG mascot **'Pearl' (cheerful dolphin)** welcomed **1,100+ athletes from 30 states and UTs**; promoting coastal sports and athletic excellence

CYCLING

- **MS Dhoni Named Goodwill Ambassador for Pune Grand Tour 2026** - Named for **India's first international multi-stage pro road cycling race** (Jan 19-23); leveraging **cricket legend's brand** to promote professional cycling in India; advancing sports infrastructure and cyclist development

DEFENSE & AEROSPACE

- **IAF Commemorates 25th Anniversary of Tejas First Flight** - Marked on January 4, 2026; historic **maiden flight of indigenously developed Tejas Light Combat Aircraft** took place on **January 4, 2001**; flown by **Wing Commander Rajiv Kothiyal** from **HAL Bengaluru airport**; HAL secured major **order** for **97 more Mk-1A jets worth over ₹62,370 crore** in late 2025; **VEM Technologies delivered 1st centre fuselage assembly in May 2025** and **2nd in September 2025** to **HAL in Hyderabad**; strengthening **indigenous defense manufacturing capabilities** and aerospace sector growth

OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

- **Indian Olympic Association Reactivated National Olympic Academy** - Reactivated in collaboration with **International Olympic Academy in Olympia, Greece**; promoting Olympic values, education, and athlete development; strengthening India's Olympic ecosystem and international participation standards

SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Khelo India Beach Games 2026 Showcases Coastal Sports Development** - Held at **Ghoghla Beach, Diu**; featured **1,100+ athletes from 30 states and UTs**; promoted **six medal events** including beach volleyball, soccer, sepak takraw, kabaddi, pencak silat, and open water swimming; **Karnataka's dominance** with 11 medals showcases state's sports excellence and infrastructure development

Boxing

- **Vijender Singh** has been appointed as a member of the Asian Boxing Council. His induction strengthens India's representation in Asian boxing governance.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

BOOKS & AUTHORS - JANUARY 2026

BOOKS RELEASED & LAUNCHED

S. No.	Book Name	Author	Key Notes
1	**'History That India Ignored' (Second Edition)**	**Prem Prakash** (Veteran journalist, Chairman of Asian News International)	Launched by **Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant** in January 2026 at **Panaji, Goa**; **first published April 2025**; highlights **neglected aspects of India's freedom struggle** including **unsung heroes, revolutionary movements, Indian National Army**; covers **overlooked uprisings** like **Vellore Mutiny (1806)** and **Battle of Imphal**; challenges **mainstream narratives** showing independence shaped by both **non-violent movements and revolutionary resistance**; significant historical reinterpretation

S. No.	Book Name	Author	Key Notes
2	**55 Scholarly Literary Works in Classical Indian Languages**	**Multiple Authors** (Centres of Excellence for Classical Languages & Central Institute of Classical Tamil)	Released by **Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** on January 6, 2026 in **New Delhi**; promotes **India's linguistic heritage** and **inclusive access to classical knowledge**; **41 books developed by Centres of Excellence for Classical Languages** under **CIIL Mysore** covering **Classical Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia**; **13 books from Central Institute of Classical Tamil**; includes **45-episode Sign Language interpretation series of Tirukkural**; promotes **inclusive education for persons with hearing disabilities**; advancing linguistic preservation and accessibility
3	**'Agni Sarassulo Vikasinchina Kamalam Droupadi Murmu'** (Lotus Blooming in Fire of Coals)	**Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad** (Former Member of Parliament, Vishwa Hindi Parishad President)	Released in January 2026 at **Andhra University in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**; **Telugu book** chronicling **President Droupadi Murmu's life** from **tribal roots to Rashtrapati Bhavan**; symbolically unveiled by **Lakshmamma, a sanitation worker**, embodying **Murmu's empowerment narrative**; highlights **resilience amid personal tragedies and political battles**; inspiring **democratic participation in tribal areas**; significant biographical work celebrating women's empowerment and tribal representation

OBITUARY

NATIONAL

S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
1	**Suresh Kalmadi**	Politics & Sports Administration	Madras	Passed away on **January 6, 2026** at age **81** in **Pune, Maharashtra** (born **May 1, 1944**); **senior Indian National Congress leader** and **former Union Minister of State**; served as **pilot in Indian Air Force (1964-1974)**; became **President of Indian Youth Congress in 1977**; served **three terms in Rajya Sabha since 1982**; represented **Pune constituency in Lok Sabha**; served as **MoS for Railways (1995-1996)**; **President of Indian Olympic Association (1996-2012)**; appointed **Life President in 2016**
2	**Manoj Kothari**	Sports - Cue Sports	Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	Passed away in **January 2026** at age **67** in **Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu**; **Former World Billiards Champion**; **pioneering figure in Indian cue sports**; **current chief national coach**; two-time IBSF **World Billiards Champion (1990 and World Doubles Championship 1997 with Ian Williamson)**; served as **national coach of Indian billiards team since 2011**; won **State Champion title 16 times**; received **Major Dhyan Chand Award (2005)**, **Lifetime Achievement Award from IBSF (2025)**, and recognition from **West Bengal and Calcutta Sports Journalists Club**
3	**Kabindra Purkayastha**	Politics	Silchar, Assam	Passed away on **January 7, 2026** at age **94** in **Silchar, Assam** (born **December 15, 1931**); **veteran Bharatiya Janata Party leader**; **former Union Minister of State for Communications**; joined **RSS in 1951**; **founding member of BJP** who strengthened organizational base in **Assam and Northeast**; **three-time MP from Silchar (1991, 1998, 2009)**; served as **Union MoS for Communications (1998-1999)** under **PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

S.No	Person Name	Field	Born Place	Key Notes
4	**Madhav Gadgil**	Ecology & Conservation	Pune, Maharashtra	Passed away on **January 8, 2026** at age **83** in **Pune, Maharashtra** (born **April 24, 1942**); **Ecologist, Scholar, and Conservationist**; recognized as **father of modern Indian ecology**; **founding faculty member of Centre for Ecological Sciences at IISc Bengaluru**; served as **Professor of Ecology (1981-2005)**; appointed **Chairman of Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (2010)**; authored **over 250 papers on ecology and conservation**; received **Padma Shri (1981), Padma Bhushan (2006), Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement (2015)**, and **UN Champion of Earth Award (2024)**
5	**Davinder Singh Garcha**	Sports - Hockey	Amritsar, Punjab	Passed away at age **73** in **Jalandhar, Punjab** (born **December 7, 1952** in **Amritsar**); **Former Indian hockey player**; **1980 Moscow Olympics gold medalist**; played **over 30 international matches** scoring **19 goals in 3 major tournaments**; scored **8 goals across 6 matches in 1980 Olympics** contributing to **India's record 8th Olympic gold defeating Spain 4-3**; honored with **Major Dhyan Chand Award (2021)**; post-playing career promoted hockey as **President of Olympian Surjit Hockey Society** and **Mohinder Singh Munshi Hockey Tournament**
6	**Thomas Kuthiravattam**	Politics	Kallissery, Chengannur, Kerala	Passed away at age **80** in **Alappuzha, Kerala** (born **June 1, 1945** in **Kallissery, Chengannur**); **veteran Kerala Congress(M) leader**; served as **Rajya Sabha MP (1985-1991)** representing **Kerala**; held positions of **State General Secretary** and **Vice Chairman**; **member of Joint Parliamentary Committee** probing **Bofors deal** during distinguished parliamentary tenure; served **25 years on Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Managing Committee** contributing to charitable work post-politics
7	**Kirtida Mekani**	Environmental leader		**Passed away on January 19 at the age of 66** after a sudden heart attack. Widely known as the **"Tree Lady,"** she spent more than three decades working quietly but powerfully for nature conservation, community well-being and cultural growth. Her work touched schools, gardens, art spaces and green landscapes across Singapore.
8	Valentino Garavani	founder of the globally renowned **Valentino fashion house**		founder of the globally renowned **Valentino fashion house,** has died at 93. His passing has drawn tributes from designers, celebrities, and fashion institutions worldwide.
9	**Ilyas Pasha**	Former India and East Bengal football		Known for his calm and disciplined playing style, Pasha was one of Karnataka's finest footballers. He leaves behind his wife, two daughters, and two sons. The Indian football community is mourning the loss of this legendary defender.
10	**Mark Tully**	**Veteran Journalist**		**Veteran Journalist Mark Tully Passed Away at 90** - BBC's "voice of India" Sir Mark Tully, Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan recipient, died in Delhi.
11	**Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar**	**Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister**		**Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar Passed Away at 66** - Ajit Pawar, 6-time deputy CM and NCP chief, died in aircraft crash at Baramati on January 28, 2026.
12	**Inderjit Singh Bindra**	**Former BCCI President**		**Former BCCI President Inderjit Singh Bindra Passed Away at 84** - Cricket administrator who modernized Indian cricket and served as BCCI President (1993-1996) died in Delhi.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National & International Observances - January 2026

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description	Key Details
January 1	DRDO Foundation Day	68th Foundation Day Celebration	Celebrated under Union Minister Rajnath Singh and MoS Sanjay Seth; DRDO reaffirmed as pivotal force in Aatmanirbhar Bharat; Defence Acquisition Council and Strategic Policy Board accorded 22 Acceptance of Necessity approvals worth ~Rs 1.30 lakh crore; 11 defence contracts worth Rs 26,000 crore signed; systems inducted into CAPFs, Police Forces, and NDRF.
January 4	World Braille Day	Promoting Braille Literacy & Accessibility	217th birth anniversary of Louis Braille (inventor of Braille in 1824); 8th World Braille Day observance; promotes Braille literacy for blind and visually impaired; honored through UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and UNESCO recognition of Braille as legitimate language (since 2005).
January 6	National Siddha Day	Siddha for Global Health	9th National Siddha Day; commemorates birth anniversary of Sage Agathiyar, father of Siddha medicine; Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated celebrations at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai; honored five eminent personalities; theme: "Siddha for Global Health"; coincides with Ayilyam star in Tamil month Margazhi.
January 6	World Day of War Orphans	Awareness for Children of War	Observes globally to raise awareness about children who lost parents to war, armed conflict, or political violence; proposed in 1994 by French NGO SOS Enfants en Détresse; first observed in 1995; highlights 140-150 million children worldwide have lost parents; emphasis on UN Convention protection and humanitarian law.
January 8	Earth's Rotation Day	Léon Foucault's Pendulum Experiment	Observes Earth's rotational motion; commemorates Léon Foucault's historic 1851 pendulum experiment at Paris Panthéon (175th anniversary in 2026); 28 kg brass bob suspended from 67-meter wire provided first direct proof of Earth's rotation; Earth rotates west to east at ~1,670 km/h at equator.
January 8-11	Somnath Swabhiman Parv	1,000 Years & 75th Reconstruction Anniversary	Marks 1,000 years since Mahmud of Ghazni's 1026 attack on Somnath Temple; celebrates 75th post-independence reconstruction anniversary; PM Modi participated with Omkar mantra chanting at Prabhas Patan, Veraval, Gujarat; demonstrates national pride and cultural preservation.
January 9	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)	Non-Resident Indian Day	Biennially observed on January 9; recognizes contributions of overseas Indian community; commemorates Gandhi's return from South Africa (1915); MEA's flagship event introduced in 2003; holds biennial theme-based conventions since 2015; 18th PBD in Bhubaneswar, Odisha (Jan 8-10, 2025); 19th scheduled for 2027; Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award honors exceptional NRI contributions.
January 9-12	Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026	Youth Leadership & National Priorities	2nd VBYLD at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; PM Modi's interaction with young leaders; focused on ten national priority themes: Fit Bharat, Start-up India, Youth in Democracy, Women-Led Development, Cultural Diplomacy, Innovation with Tradition, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Sustainable Agriculture, Green Viksit Bharat, Future-Ready Workforce.

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description	Key Details
January 10	World Hindi Day	Hindi Language Promotion	Promotes Hindi language awareness and honors contributors; established June 8, 2005; January 10 marks first Hindi use in UNGA (1949); commemorates first World Hindi Conference (1975, Nagpur) inaugurated by PM Indira Gandhi; Hindi adopted as Government of India language (1950) under Article 343 in Devanagari script; ranked among top four most-spoken languages with 600+ million speakers.
January 11-17	National Road Safety Week	Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha	37th observance in 2026; marks responsible driving and pedestrian protection; first introduced in 1989 by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; 2026 theme: "Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha" (Road Safety, Life Safety); promotes citizen awareness and traffic safety measures.
January 12	National Youth Day	Swami Vivekananda's Birth Anniversary	Commemorates Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary (163rd in 2026); established in 1984 marking 1949 Constituent Assembly decision; first celebrated January 12, 1985; celebrates youth potential and national development contribution.
January 14	Armed Forces Veterans' Day	Veterans' Honor & Sacrifice	10th Armed Forces Veterans' Day in 2026; honors courage and sacrifices of Indian Army, Navy, Air Force veterans; celebrates Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa's retirement (January 14, 1953); 34 Rajya Sainik Boards and 434 Zila Sainik Boards organized rallies; SPARSH pension help desks and ECHS healthcare counters nationwide.
January 15	Indian Army Day 2026	Grand Parade & Military Display	78th Indian Army Day celebrated with grand parade at Mahal Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan (first time outside New Delhi and military cantonment); featured over 30 contingents, 7 major marching units, newly raised Bhairav Battalion with Nepal Army Band participation.
January 16	National Startup Day 2026	10 Years of Startup India	India celebrated 10 years of Startup India; PM Modi addressed startup founders at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; unveiled 5th National Startup Awards (NSA 5.0) results and State Reforms Framework (SRF 5.0) across 20 categories recognizing startups from Tier-I and Tier-III cities.
January 19	National Disaster Response Force Raising Day	21st NDRF Raising Day	21st NDRF Raising Day observed commemorating establishment of world's largest disaster response force on January 19, 2006; PM Modi and Union Minister Amit Shah extended greetings; NDRF organized blood donation camp highlighting humanitarian commitment and service.
January 23	Parakram Diwas	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's Birth Anniversary	Observed nationwide on January 23 marking Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary; marked with patriotic programmes and educational activities; date remains same yearly as linked to Netaji's birth anniversary; celebrates courage, sacrifice, and patriotic spirit.
January 24	National Girl Child Day	Rights, Education & Well-being	Observed annually on January 24 to raise awareness about girls' rights, education, health, and well-being; highlights importance of equal opportunities and challenges faced by girls; emphasizes empowering girls essential for strong, progressive nation; supports Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme.
January 24	International Day of Education	Education as Fundamental Right	Observed annually on January 24 to recognize education's transformative power; emphasizes education as fundamental human right and key driver of social, economic, cultural development; promotes inclusive, equitable education for all.

Date	Day/Observance	Theme/Description	Key Details
January 25	National Voters Day	Election Commission of India Foundation Day	Observed annually on January 25; 16th observance in 2026; marks Election Commission of India (ECI) foundation day, constitutional body conducting free and fair elections; promotes electoral participation and democratic values; Sunday observance in 2026.
January 25	National Tourism Day	India's Tourism Sector & Cultural Heritage	Observed annually on January 25; celebrates tourism's importance in economic growth and development; recognizes role in heritage preservation and cultural exchange; encourages exploring India's rich diversity with responsible, sustainable travel practices.
January 26	Republic Day 2026	150 Years of Vande Mataram	77th Republic Day celebrated under "150 Years of Vande Mataram" theme; showcases defense and cultural prowess; celebrates adoption of Indian Constitution on January 26, 1950; grand parade features armed forces, cultural performances, and state tableaux demonstrations.
January 26	International Day of Clean Energy	Fair & Inclusive Energy Transition	Second-year observance in 2026; emphasizes fair and inclusive clean energy transition for people and planet; promotes renewable energy adoption and sustainable development goals; aligns with global climate action commitments.
January 26	International Customs Day	Global Trade Facilitation	73rd commemoration in 2026 of Customs Cooperation Council first meeting; marks global trade facilitation efforts; honors role of customs authorities in border security, revenue collection, and combating smuggling; promotes international cooperation.
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Auschwitz Liberation Anniversary	81st anniversary of Auschwitz liberation in 2026; global commitment against antisemitism and intolerance; honors Holocaust victims and survivors; promotes education and remembrance of genocide atrocities; strengthens human rights advocacy.
January 28	International Data Privacy Day	Digital Personal Data Protection	Focus on India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act ensuring resident-centric data governance; emphasizes individual privacy rights and data security; promotes digital literacy and responsible data handling practices globally.
January 30	World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day	Unite. Act. Eliminate	"Unite. Act. Eliminate" theme highlights 1 billion people affected by 21 communicable diseases; emphasizes collective action for disease elimination; promotes awareness and prevention of neglected tropical diseases affecting developing nations.
January 30	Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Divas)	Mahatma Gandhi's Martyrdom	78th death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in 2026; observed annually on January 30; honors national martyrs and freedom fighters; national holiday throughout India; commemorates Gandhi's assassination (1948) and sacrifices for independence.

Miscellaneous

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES & POLICY LAUNCHES

- **OPSA Partners with ORF to Launch Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative 2026** - On January 8, 2026, **Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India** and **Observer Research Foundation** partnered to launch **inaugural Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative 2026**; scheduled **March 5-7, 2026 during Raisina Dialogue**; dedicated platform exploring **intersection of science, technology, and diplomacy**; focus on **emerging technologies, scientific cooperation in multipolar world**, and **technology control regimes**; bringing together scientists, diplomats, policymakers, and industry leaders through **high-level sessions and expert roundtables**

- **UIDAI Launches Aadhaar Mascot 'Udai'** - On January 8, 2026, **UIDAI Chairman Neelkanth Mishra** unveiled new **Aadhaar mascot named "Udai"** in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**; strengthening **public outreach and awareness** in **Aadhaar-related services**; mascot designed by **Arun Gokul from Thrissur**; name suggested by **Riya Jain from Bhopal**; symbolizing **progress and empowerment**; serving as **resident-facing communication companion** explaining **enrollment, authentication, selective information sharing**, and **new technology adoption** to **1.4 billion Aadhaar users**

- **GAIL & PNGRB Launch NonStop Zindagi Campaign** - Campaign period: **January 1 to March 31, 2026**; promoting adoption of **Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)**; targeting **15% share of natural gas** in **India's energy mix by 2030**; multi-platform strategy including **digital outreach (social media and influencers)** and **on-ground activities** (Resident Welfare Association toolkits, mobile vans, festival-based messaging); targeting **domestic households, commercial establishments, industrial users**, and **CNG vehicle consumers**; supporting **clean energy transition**

- **PNGRB "One Nation, One Grid, One Tariff" Framework** - Aims to **standardize natural gas transportation charges**; strengthening **integration of national gas grid**; promoting uniform tariff structure across India; advancing **natural gas infrastructure development**

ENVIRONMENTAL & AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES

- **India Becomes World's First Country to Commercially Produce Bio-Bitumen** - Announced on January 7, 2026 by **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari**; CSIR Technology Transfer ceremony titled **"From Farm Residue to Roads"** in **New Delhi**; bio-bitumen made from agricultural waste like **paddy straw** converted to **bio-oil through pyrolysis**; blended with **conventional bitumen**; **15% blending can save nearly ₹4,500 crore** in **foreign exchange**; substantially **reducing dependence on imported crude oil**; technology developed by **CSIR-Central Road Research Institute** and **CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum**; licenses issued to **multiple Indian manufacturers**; pioneering **circular economy and sustainable infrastructure**

- **BHARATI Startup Challenge Launched by APEDA** - Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority initiative; promotes **innovation and entrepreneurship** in **agriculture and processed food export sectors**; supporting startups in value addition and export promotion

- **Indusfood 2026 New Pavilions & Initiatives** - New **Pet Food Pavilion** and **Cookware Pavilion** introduced; highlighting **growing global demand** for **wellness-focused and premium lifestyle products**; **India–United Arab Emirates Food Corridor launched** by **Abu Dhabi Food Hub**; aiming to **strengthen food security** and **bilateral food trade**

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & DIGITAL INITIATIVES

- **Karnataka Extends Gruha Lakshmi Scheme with Digital Marketing Portal** - Government of **Karnataka extended Gruha Lakshmi Scheme**; launched **Digital Marketing Portal** to help **women entrepreneurs** reach **global markets**; provides **vocational training** and **financial support** including **₹2,000 monthly assistance** to eligible households; verified platform enabling women to sell **handicrafts, food items, jewellery, clothing**, and **traditional products globally**; registration available **online, through District In-charge Officers**, and at **Department Head Office**; assuring **product authenticity**

- **Choice Wealth Launches Digital Investment Platform** - Launched for **India Post Payments Bank customers**; offering **online mutual fund aggregation** and **Robo-advisory services**; accessible via **mobile applications, web platforms**, and **micro ATM devices**; supporting **first-time and underserved investors** in **semi-urban and rural areas**; advancing **financial inclusion** and **investment accessibility**

AVIATION SECTOR

- **Akasa Air Becomes Fifth Indian Airline to Join IATA** - Joined in **January 2026** as **5th Indian member of International Air Transport Association**; global body representing **over 360 airlines** and **80%+ of global air traffic**; membership followed **successful completion of IATA Operational Safety Audit** in **December 2025**; enabling participation in **industry-wide dialogue** on **safety management, digital transformation**, and **sustainable aviation**; alongside other Indian IATA members: **Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, SpiceJet**; **Akasa Air founded in 2020** by **Vinay Dube**; connecting **26 domestic and 6 international cities**; operating **31 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft**

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES

- **New Reed Snake Species 'Calamaria mizoramensis' Discovered in Mizoram** - Discovered in **January 2026**; scientists from **Mizoram University** in collaboration with researchers from **Russia, Germany, and Vietnam**; findings published in international scientific journal **'Zootaxa'**; **small dark brown to blackish snake** with **faint stripes and yellow underside**; **non-venomous, nocturnal, and semi-fossorial**; inhabiting **humid forested hill regions** at **670-1,295 metres elevation**; confirmed in **six Mizoram locations**; bringing **global Calamaria count to 70**; updating **state's herpetofauna to 169 species**; tentative **Least Concern IUCN status**; advancing biodiversity documentation

EDUCATION & INNOVATION HUBS

- **UNSW Australia Bengaluru Campus to Become Operational by August 2026** - Expected operational date: **August 2026**; located at **Manyata Tech Park, Bengaluru**; under **India–Australia Education Cooperation Framework (2025–2030)**; offering **undergraduate programmes** in **commerce, media, computer science, data science**; providing **postgraduate cybersecurity programme**; expanding **international higher education access** in India

- **Galgotias University Inaugurates IIT Mandi Catalyst Satellite Centre** - Established to **support early-stage startups**; promoting **deep-technology innovation**; bridging **research with real-world applications**; serving as **innovation hub** offering **mentorship, investor access, market linkages, technology commercialisation**, and **acceleration support**; **Galgotias University signed MoUs** with **National Institute of Technology Jamshedpur** and **Jharkhand University of Technology Ranchi**; facilitating **joint research, faculty exchange**, and **co-creation of deep-technology startups**

- **Hindustan Zinc Develops India's First Zinc Tailings Recycling Facility** - Rampura Agucha Mines will recover metals from processing waste under circular economy initiative.

- **Receivables Exchange of India Limited Returns Capital to Shareholders** - RXIL first TReDS platform to declare 21.6% interim dividend, marking historic milestone.

- **Buyforex Gets In-Principle PSP Nod at GIFT IFSC** - EbixCash subsidiary authorized for account issuance, e-money, merchant acquisition, and cross-border transfers.

- **Indian Railways Deploys First Humanoid Robot ASC ARJUN at Visakhapatnam** - Indigenously developed robot with AI-based crowd monitoring and face recognition enhances station security.

- **GAIL Joins K LINE and J M Baxi for LNG Carrier Equity** - LNG ship-owning company SPV in Singapore for charter operations with 2027 delivery scheduled.

- **GoI Establishes New SPV NSHIP for Mega Shipbuilding Cluster** - 2,000-acre Thoothukudi shipbuilding hub targets 0.5 million gross tonnage capacity by 2035.

- **GoI Notifies Coking Coal as Critical Mineral** - Notification aims to reduce 95% import dependence despite 37.37 billion tonnes domestic resources.

- **MoSPI Operationalizes PAIMANA Portal for Infrastructure Projects** - Web-based monitoring portal for ₹150 crore+ Central Sector projects replaces 2006 OCMS system.

- **Assam Petro-Chemicals Signs MoU with Deendayal Port for e-Methanol Plant** - 150 TPD e-methanol facility at Kandla Port with ₹1,200 crore investment supports green shipping.

- **Reliance Industries and ONGC Sign Offshore Energy Resource-Sharing Agreement** - Joint asset utilization in KG Basin and Andaman blocks optimizes operational efficiency and reduces costs.

Static Takeaways

KEY GOVERNMENT, CORPORATE & INTERNATIONAL ENTITIES - COMPREHENSIVE DIRECTORY

Category	Entity Name	Leadership	Headquarters	Established	Key Details
Bank	ICICI Bank Limited	**MD & CEO:** Sandeep Bakhshi	Mumbai, Maharashtra	1994	Major commercial bank; retail and corporate banking services
Bank	Bank of Baroda	**MD & CEO:** Dr. Debadatta Chand	Vadodara, Gujarat	1908	**Tagline:** "India's International Bank"; public sector bank
Private Company	Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX)	**CEO:** Elon Musk	Texas, USA	2002	Commercial space launch, satellite operations, space exploration
Private Company	Larsen and Toubro (L&T)	**CMD:** S.N. Subrahmanyan	Mumbai, Maharashtra	1938	Engineering, construction, technology, defense contracts
Ministry	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME)	**Minister:** Jitan Ram Manjhi (Gaya, Bihar) **MoS:** Shobha Karandlaje (Bangalore North, Karnataka)	New Delhi	-	MSME development, entrepreneurship, business support

Category	Entity Name	Leadership	Headquarters	Established	Key Details
Ministry	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)	**Minister:** Ashwini Vaishnaw (Rajya Sabha – Odisha) **MoS:** Jitin Prasada (Pilibhit, UP)	New Delhi	-	Digital infrastructure, IT policy, e-governance, telecom
Ministry	Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I)	**Minister:** Piyush Goyal (Mumbai North, Maharashtra) **MoS:** Jitin Prasada (Pilibhit, UP)	New Delhi	-	Trade policy, exports, foreign investment, commerce
Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)	**Minister:** J.P. Nadda (Rajya Sabha – Gujarat) **MoS:** Prataprao Jadhav (Buldhana, Maharashtra), Anupriya Patel (Mirzapur, UP)	New Delhi	-	Healthcare, public health, disease control, wellness
Ministry	Ministry of Culture	**Minister:** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Jodhpur, Rajasthan) **MoS:** Rao Inderjit Singh (Gurugram, Haryana)	New Delhi	-	Cultural heritage, arts preservation, cultural diplomacy
Ministry	Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)	**MoS (Independent Charge):** Dr. Jitendra Singh (Udhampur, J&K)	New Delhi	-	Weather forecasting, climate science, earth observation
Ministry	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoAFW)	**Minister:** Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Vidisha, MP) **MoS:** Ram Nath Thakur (Rajya Sabha – Bihar), Bhagirath Choudhary (Ajmer, Rajasthan)	New Delhi	-	Agricultural development, farmer support, food security
Ministry	Ministry of AYUSH	**MoS (Independent Charge):** Prataprao Jadhav (Buldhana, Maharashtra)	New Delhi	-	Traditional medicine systems: Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy
Ministry	Ministry of Defence (MoD)	**Minister:** Rajnath Singh (Lucknow, UP) **MoS:** Sanjay Seth (Ranchi, Jharkhand)	New Delhi	-	National security, armed forces, defense procurement
Ministry	Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (MoC&F)	**Minister:** J.P. Nadda (Rajya Sabha – Gujarat) **MoS:** Anupriya Patel (Mirzapur, UP)	New Delhi	-	Chemical industry, fertilizer production, pharmaceutical policy
Ministry	Ministry of Education (MoE)	**Minister:** Dharmendra Pradhan (Sambalpur, Odisha) **MoS:** Jayant Chaudhary (Rajya Sabha – UP), Dr. Sukanta Majumdar (Balurghat, West Bengal)	New Delhi	-	School and higher education, educational policy, NEP

Category	Entity Name	Leadership	Headquarters	Established	Key Details
Ministry	Ministry of Railways (MoR)	**Minister:** Ashwini Vaishnaw (Rajya Sabha – Odisha) **MoS:** V. Somanna (Tumkur, Karnataka), Ravneet Singh Bittu (Rajya Sabha – Rajasthan)	New Delhi	-	Railway operations, infrastructure, passenger services, freight
Ministry	Ministry of Communications	**Minister:** Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia (Guna, MP) **MoS:** Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani (Guntur, Andhra Pradesh)	New Delhi	-	Postal services, telecommunications regulation, digital infrastructure
Ministry	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)	**MoS (Independent Charge):** Rao Inderjit Singh (Gurugram, Haryana)	New Delhi	-	Statistical data collection, policy monitoring, program evaluation
Ministry	Ministry of Textiles	**Minister:** Giriraj Singh (Begusarai, Bihar) **MoS:** Pabitra Margherita (Rajya Sabha – Assam)	New Delhi	-	Textile industry, export promotion, skill development, heritage
Ministry	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	**Minister:** Mansukh Mandaviya (Porbandar, Gujarat) **MoS:** Raksha Khadse (Raver, Maharashtra)	New Delhi	-	Sports development, athlete welfare, youth programs, Khelo India
Ministry	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	**Minister:** Nitin Jairam Gadkari (Nagpur, Maharashtra) **MoS:** Harsh Malhotra (East Delhi, Delhi), Ajay Tamta (Almora, Uttarakhand)	New Delhi	-	Road infrastructure, highway development, transport policy, safety
Ministry	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	**Minister:** Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh (Munger, Bihar) **MoS:** Professor S. P. Singh Baghel (Agra, UP), George Kurian (Rajya Sabha – MP)	New Delhi	-	Fisheries, animal husbandry, dairy promotion, aquaculture
Department	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)	**Secretary:** Dr. N. Kalaiselvi	New Delhi	4 January 1985	Industrial research promotion, innovation support, deep-tech startups
Armed Forces	Indian Army (IA)	**Chief of Army Staff:** General Upendra Dwivedi	New Delhi	1895	**Motto:** Seva Paramo Dharma; land-based military operations, defense

Category	Entity Name	Leadership	Headquarters	Established	Key Details
Defence Organisation	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)	**Chairman:** Samir V. Kamat	New Delhi	1 January 1958	**52 Research Laboratories;** indigenous defense technology development
Defence Company	Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)	**CMD:** Commodore A Madhavrao (Retired)	Hyderabad, Telangana	1970	Guided missile systems, defense technology manufacturing, weapons
Defence Company	Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)	**MD & CEO:** Sukaran Singh	Hyderabad, Telangana	2006	Advanced aerospace systems, defense technology solutions, aviation
Defence Company	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)	**CMD:** Dr. D. K. Sunil	Bengaluru, Karnataka	22 Dec 1940 (restructured 1964)	Aircraft manufacturing, aerospace technology, defense procurement, Tejas
PSU	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)	**CMD:** Vikas Kaushal	Mumbai, Maharashtra	1974	Oil refining, petroleum products, energy infrastructure, sustainability
Rating Agency	India Ratings and Research Private Limited (Ind-Ra)	**CMD:** Rohit Karan Sawhney	Mumbai, Maharashtra	1995	Credit rating agency, economic forecasting, market analysis
CSIR Institute	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Physical Laboratory (CSIR–NPL)	**Director:** Professor Venu Gopal Achanta	New Delhi	1947	**India's premier metrology institute;** standards, calibration, testing
Research Organisation	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)	**Chairman:** Dr. V. Narayanan	Bengaluru, Karnataka	1969	Space research, satellite launches, space technology, earth observation
Govt Body	National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)	**CEO:** B.V.R. Subrahmanyam	New Delhi	1 January 2015	Policy planning, think tank, economic strategy, development initiatives
Govt Body	Telecommunications Engineering Centre (TEC)	**Sr. DDG:** Syed Tausif Abbas	New Delhi	1991	Telecom standards, 6G research, network architecture, standardization
Standards Body	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	**Director General:** Sanjay Garg	New Delhi	1 April 1987 (ISI founded 1947)	**Act:** BIS Act, 1986; standards development, certification, quality assurance
Trade Body	Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI)	**Chairman:** Mohit Singla	New Delhi	2012	Export promotion, trade facilitation, international business development
Sports Body	Athletics Federation of India (AFI)	**President:** Bahadur Singh Sagoo	New Delhi	1946	Sports governance, athlete development, international competition, Olympic

Category	Entity Name	Leadership	Headquarters	Established	Key Details
International Alliance	International Solar Alliance (ISA)	**Director General:** Ashish Khanna	Gurugram, Haryana	2015	India-France COP21 Paris initiative; renewable energy cooperation, climate action
UN Organisation	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**Executive Director:** Catherine M Russell	New York, USA	1946	**Member Countries:** 190; child welfare, education, health programs globally
UN Department	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)	**Under-Secretary-General:** Li Junhua	New York, USA	1948	Economic policy, sustainable development, social affairs coordination
International Org	United Nations	**Secretary-General:** António Guterres	New York, USA	1945	Global governance, peace, security, sustainable development
International Org	World Bank	**President:** Ajay Banga	Washington, D.C., USA	1944	International development institution, development finance, poverty alleviation
Entertainment Org	Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS)	**President:** Lynette Howell Taylor	Beverly Hills, California, USA	1927	Academy Awards, film industry recognition, cinematic excellence
Entertainment Org	Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA)	**President:** Scott Orlin	California, USA	1943	Golden Globe Awards, international film and television recognition
State	Telangana State	**CM:** A Revanth Reddy **Governor:** Jishnu Dev Varma	Hyderabad	2014	**Wildlife Sanctuaries:** Kinnerasani WLS, Pakhal WLS; IT hub, development
State	Tamil Nadu State (TN)	**CM:** M.K. Stalin **Governor:** R.N. Ravi	Chennai	1956	**National Parks:** Guindy NP, Mukurthi NP; manufacturing, textiles, AI hub
State	Andhra Pradesh	**CM:** Nara Chandrababu Naidu **Governor:** Justice (Retired) S. Abdul Nazeer	Amaravati	1956	**National Parks:** Rajiv Gandhi NP, Papikonda NP; aerospace, IT development
State	Assam State	**CM:** Himanta Biswa Sarma **Governor:** Lakshman Prasad Acharya	Dispur	1950	**National Parks:** Manas NP, Dibru-Saikhowa NP; biodiversity, tea, oil
State	Arunachal Pradesh	**CM:** Pema Khandu **Governor:** Lt. Gen. Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik (Retired)	Itanagar	1987	**Wildlife Sanctuaries:** Talle WLS, Eagle Nest WLS; frontier state, tourism
State	Gujarat	**CM:** Bhupendra Patel **Governor:** Acharya Devvrat	Gandhinagar	1960	**Wildlife Sanctuaries:** Shoolpaneshwar WLS, Gaga WLS; manufacturing, trade

Entity / Topic	Key Details
Gujarat	*Chief Minister:* Bhupendra Patel*Governor:* Acharya Devvrat*Capital:* Gandhinagar*National Parks:* Gir NP, Blackbuck NP, Vansda NP, Marine NP*Wildlife Sanctuaries:* Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Velavadar Blackbuck Sanctuary, Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary, Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, Purna Wildlife Sanctuary
Punjab	*Chief Minister:* Bhagwant Mann*Governor:* Gulab Chand Kataria*Capital:* Chandigarh*Wildlife Sanctuaries:* Abohar, Aishvan, Bir Bhadson, Bir Bunerheri, Bir Dosanjh Wildlife Sanctuaries
Spain	*Prime Minister:* Pedro Sánchez*Capital:* Madrid*Currency:* Euro (EUR)
Indian Army	*Headquarters:* New Delhi*Chief of Army Staff:* General Upendra Dwivedi
IndusInd Bank	*Headquarters:* Mumbai, Maharashtra, India*Founded:* 1994*Slogan:* "We Make You Feel Richer"
Ministry of Finance (India)	*Cabinet Minister:* Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman*MoS:* Shri Pankaj Chaudhary
Uttar Pradesh	*Chief Minister:* Yogi Adityanath*Governor:* Anandiben Patel*Capital:* Lucknow*Wildlife Sanctuaries:* National Chambal WLS, Kaimoor WLS
World Health Organization (WHO)	*Director-General:* Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus*Headquarters:* Geneva, Switzerland*Role:* UN's global health emergency coordination agency
Ministry of Railways (India)	*Cabinet Minister:* Ashwini Vaishnaw*MoS:* V. Somanna, Ravneet Singh Bittu*Chairman & CEO (Railway Board):* Satish Kumar
ICICI Bank	*Headquarters:* Mumbai, Maharashtra, India*CEO:* Sandeep Bakhshi*Founded:* Bank in 1994 (ICICI established 1955)*Slogan:* "Hum Hai Na, Khayal Apka"
India Intl Institute of Democracy & Election Management (IIIDEM)	*Established:* 2011*Role:* Training for free, credible elections*Location:* Full campus at Dwarka, Delhi
Japan	*Prime Minister:* Shigeru Ishiba*Capital:* Tokyo*Currency:* Japanese Yen (JPY)
SEBI (India)	*Established:* 12 Apr 1988 (statutory from 30 Jan 1992)*Headquarters:* Mumbai, Maharashtra*Chairman:* Tuhin Kanta Pandey*Role:* Securities & commodity markets regulator under MoF
Kerala	*Chief Minister:* Pinarayi Vijayan*Governor:* Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar*Capital:* Thiruvananthapuram*National Parks:* Eravikulam NP, Silent Valley NP, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary*Wildlife Sanctuaries:* Wayanad, Idukki, Chilika Lake
AIFF (All India Football Federation)	*Founded:* 23 June 1937*Role:* Governing football, futsal, beach soccer in India*Affiliation:* Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports*President:* Kalyan Chaubey
State Bank of India (SBI)	*Founded:* 1955*Headquarters:* Mumbai, Maharashtra, India*Chairman:* Challa Sreenivasulu Setty*Slogan:* "The Banker to Every Indian"
UIDAI	*Statutory Authority:* Under Aadhaar Act 2016*Chairman:* Neelkanth Mishra*CEO:* Bhuvnesh Kumar*HQ:* New Delhi*Product:* 12-digit Aadhaar ID
IBBI (Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India)	*Established:* 1 Oct 2016 (statutory via IBC 2016)*Role:* Insolvency regulation for Individuals, Companies, LLPs*HQ:* New Delhi
IEEE	*Established:* 1917*President:* Mary Ellen Randall*HQ:* New York City*IEEE Medal of Honor:* Highest technical contribution award
DRDO (India)	*Headquarters:* New Delhi, India*Chairman:* Samir V. Kamat
Ministry of Commerce & Industry (India)	*Union Minister:* Piyush Goyal*MoS:* Jitin Prasada
Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (India)	*Union Minister:* Sarbananda Sonowal*MoS:* Shantanu Thakur
UNCTAD	*Secretary-General:* Rebeca Grynspan*Headquarters:* Geneva, Switzerland*Established:* 1964
UNESCO	*Director-General:* Khaled El-Enany*Headquarters:* Paris, France*Members:* 194*Established:* 1945
Ministry of Tourism (India)	*Union Minister:* Gajendra Singh Shekhawat*MoS:* Suresh Gopi

Entity / Topic	Key Details
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (India)	*Union Minister:* Rajiv Ranjan Singh (Lalan Singh)*MoS:* S.P. Singh Baghel, George Kurian
PFRDA (India)	*Chairman:* Sivasubramanian Ramann*Headquarters:* New Delhi*Established:* Interim 2003; Statutory 2014
Maharashtra	*Chief Minister:* Devendra Fadnavis*Governor:* Acharya Devvrat*Capital:* Mumbai*Airports:* Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Int'l, Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Airport
IRENA	*Director-General:* Francesco La Camera*Headquarters:* Abu Dhabi, UAE*Established:* 2009
Assam	*Chief Minister:* Himanta Biswa Sarma*Governor:* Lakshman Prasad Acharya*Capital:* Dispur*National Parks:* Nameri NP, Orang NP
NITI Aayog (India)	*CEO:* B.V.R Subrahmanyam*Headquarters:* New Delhi*Established:* 2015
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (India)	*Union Minister:* Shivraj Singh Chouhan*MoS:* Ram Nath Thakur, Bhagirath Choudhary
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (India)	*Union Minister:* Mansukh Mandaviya*MoS:* Raksha Khadse
United Nations (UN)	*Secretary-General:* António Guterres*HQ:* New York, USA*Established:* 1945
Tamil Nadu	*Chief Minister:* M.K. Stalin*Governor:* R.N. Ravi*Capital:* Chennai*National Parks:* Mudumalai NP, Gulf of Mannar NP
IRDAI (India)	*Chairman:* Ajay Seth*Headquarters:* Hyderabad, Telangana*Established:* 1999
Slice Small Finance Bank (Slice SFB)	*CEO:* Rajan Bajaj*Headquarters:* Guwahati, Assam*Established:* 2016
World Health Organization (WHO)	*Director-General:* Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus*HQ:* Geneva, Switzerland*Established:* 7 Apr 1948

Topic / Organisation / Place (Full Name)	Key Details
Ministry of Finance	Union Minister – **Nirmala Sitharaman** (Rajya Sabha – Karnataka) Minister of State – **Pankaj Chaudhary** (Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh)
Andhra Pradesh	Chief Minister – **N. Chandrababu Naidu** Governor – **Sayed Abdul Nazeer** Capital – **Amaravati** Ramsar Site – **Kolleru Lake**
Government e-Marketplace	Launched – **2016** (Ministry of Commerce and Industry) Chief Executive Officer – **Mihir Kumar** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **9 August 2016**
National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog	Chairman – **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** Chief Executive Officer – **B. V. R. Subrahmanyam** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **2015**
Piramal Finance Limited	RBI-regulated **Non-Banking Financial Company – Investment and Credit Company** Subsidiary – Piramal Enterprises Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited acquired – **September 2021** Founded – **11 April 1984** Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer – **Jairam Sridharan** Headquarters – **Mumbai, Maharashtra**
Fédération Internationale des Échecs (International Chess Federation)	President – **Arkady Dvorkovich** Headquarters – **Lausanne, Switzerland** Established – **1924**
Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Union Minister – **Piyush Goyal** (Mumbai North, Maharashtra) Minister of State – **Jitin Prasada** (Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh)
Reserve Bank of India	Established – **1 April 1935** (Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934) Governor – **Sanjay Malhotra** (26th Governor) Headquarters – **Mumbai, Maharashtra**

Topic / Organisation / Place (Full Name)	Key Details
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Union Minister – **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** (Madhya Pradesh) Minister of State – **Ram Nath Thakur** (Rajya Sabha – Bihar) Minister of State – **Bhagirath Choudhary** (Ajmer, Rajasthan)
India Meteorological Department	Director General – **Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **1875**
Indian Coast Guard	Director General – **Paramesh Sivamani** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **1977** Motto – **Vayam Rakshamah (We Protect)**
World Bank	President – **Ajay Banga** Headquarters – **Washington, DC, United States of America** Established – **1944**
Yemen	Capital – **Sanaa** Currency – **Yemeni Rial (YER)**
Indian Army	Chief of the Army Staff – **General Upendra Dwivedi** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **1895** Motto – **Seva Paramo Dharma (Service Before Self)**
Assam	Chief Minister – **Himanta Biswa Sarma** Governor – **Lakshman Prasad Acharya** Capital – **Dispur** National Parks – **Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park**
Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India	Chairman – **Srinivasa Panigrahi** (Chief General Manager, Global Markets, State Bank of India) Headquarters – **Mumbai, Maharashtra** Established – **1958**
International Monetary Fund	Managing Director – **Kristalina Georgieva** Headquarters – **Washington, DC, United States of America** Member Nations – **191** Established – **1944**
Ministry of Home Affairs	Union Minister – **Amit Shah** (Gandhinagar, Gujarat) Minister of State – **Nityanand Rai** (Ujiarpur, Bihar) Minister of State – **Bandi Sanjay Kumar** (Karimnagar, Telangana)
Uganda	Prime Minister – **Robinah Nabbanja** Capital – **Kampala** Currency – **Ugandan Shilling (UGX)**
National Disaster Response Force	Administrative Control – **Ministry of Home Affairs** Policy Guidance – **National Disaster Management Authority** (Chairman: Prime Minister of India) Force – **16 battalions** (Central Armed Police Forces + Assam Rifles) Structure – **18 Search and Rescue teams per battalion** Motto – **Aapada Seva Sadaiv Sarvatra** Director General – **Piyush Anand** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi**
United Kingdom	Prime Minister – **Keir Starmer** Capital – **London** Currency – **Pound Sterling (GBP)**
World Intellectual Foundation	Chairman – **Professor Jagdish Mukhi** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **2021**
Gujarat	Chief Minister – **Bhupendra Patel** Governor – **Acharya Dev Vrat** Capital – **Gandhinagar** Ramsar Sites – **Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary, Wadhvana Wetland**
Moody's Ratings	President – **Michael West** Headquarters – **New York, United States of America** Founded – **1909**
Competition Commission of India	Chairperson – **Ravneet Kaur** Headquarters – **New Delhi, Delhi** Established – **2003**
United Arab Emirates	President – **Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan** Capital – **Abu Dhabi** Currency – **United Arab Emirates Dirham (AED)**
International Labour Organization	Director-General – **Gilbert F. Houngbo** Headquarters – **Geneva, Switzerland** Member Nations – **187** Established – **1919**
Numbeo	Chief Executive Officer – **Mladen Adamovic** Headquarters – **Belgrade, Serbia** Established – **2009**
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Administrator – **Jared Isaacman** Headquarters – **Washington, DC, United States of America** Established – **1958**
Small Industries Development Bank of India	Chairman and Managing Director – **Manoj Mittal** Headquarters – **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh** Established – **1990**
BHASHINI (BHASHa INterface for India)	Ministry – **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** Chief Executive Officer – **Amitabh Nag** Established – **2022**
World Economic Forum	President and Chief Executive Officer – **Børge Brende** Headquarters – **Geneva Canton, Switzerland** Established – **1971**
Uttar Pradesh	Chief Minister – **Yogi Adityanath** Governor – **Anandiben Patel** Capital – **Lucknow** Wildlife Sanctuaries – **National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary**