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MONTHLY

CURRENT Affairs Booster

Jan-2026



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Jan-2026

NEWS CREDIT

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- ❖ Sports
- ❖ Science & Technology
- ❖ Miscellaneous
- ❖ Important Days
- ❖ Let's Recap
- ❖ Quick Bytes
- ❖ Trending Topic of the Month
- ❖ Info-Graphics

Business News, Financial News, Economy News, Politics News, India News, Breaking News, Indian Economy, International News, Sports News, and many more topics covered.....

Important Personalities

- Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of PUMA India? **Ramprasad Sridharan**
- Who has been appointed Chairperson of International IDEA for 2026? **Gyanesh Kumar**
- Who has been sworn in as the transitional president of Guinea-Bissau? **General Horta Inta-A.**
- Who has assumed the additional charge of CMD at THDC India? **Sipan Kumar Garg.**
- What is Sipan Kumar Garg's current role in THDC India besides CMD? **Director Finance.**
- Who assumed charge as the Indian Navy's Controller of Warship Production and Acquisition in November 2025? **Vice Admiral Sanjay Sadhu.**
- Where will India assume the Chairship of International IDEA? **Stockholm, Sweden.**
- Who has become PNB's first female brand ambassador? **Harmanpreet Kaur.**
- Who has been appointed as RBI Executive Director from December 1, 2025? **Usha Janakiraman.**
- Who has Apple appointed as its new VP of AI? **Amar Subramanya**
- Who has been approved as the new CEO of Bank of America India? **Vikram Sahu.**
- Who did Vikram Sahu succeed as Bank of America India CEO? **Kaku Nakhate.**
- Who took charge as Member (Finance), Railway Board effective 1 December 2025? **Aparna Garg**
- Who has been appointed as the permanent chair of HSBC? **Brendan Nelson.**
- Who is the Group Chief Executive of HSBC? **Georges Elhedery.**
- Who has been appointed Pakistan's first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF)? **General Asim Munir.**
- Who was elected President of KSCA in December 2025? **Venkatesh Prasad**
- Who is the new MD & CEO of Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd. (BFIL)? **Tapobrat Chaudhuri.**
- Who is the current MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank? **Rajiv Anand.**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO of BMW AG effective 14 May 2026? **Milan Nedeljković.**
- Who has been appointed as Meta India's new Head of Public Policy? **Aman Jain.**
- Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance Limited? **Ajai Kumar Shukla.**
- Who became the first woman President of the Press Club of India? **Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty**
- Who has been appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner of India? **Raj Kumar Goyal**
- Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of SBI? **Ravi Ranjan.**
- Who was elected President of Chile in 2025? **José Antonio Kast.**
- Who stepped down as head coach of the India women's hockey team? **Harendra Singh.**
- Who has resigned as the Managing Director of Mother Dairy? **Manish Bandlish has resigned as the MD of Mother Dairy.**
- Which president was deposed in the Guinea-Bissau military coup? **Umaro Sissoco Embaló.**
- Who recently resigned as Bulgarian Prime Minister? **Rosen Zhelyazkov.**
- Swaraj Kaushal, who passed away recently, served as Governor of which state? **Mizoram**
- Who was Simone Tata, who passed away recently at age 95? **She was the mother of Noel Tata and former Chairperson of Lakmé.**
- Kalyan Chattopadhyay, who recently passed away, was a veteran actor of which regional cinema? **Bengali**
- Shivraj Patil, who recently passed away, served as the Union Home Minister during which years? **2004–2008.**
- Which political party did Sriprakash Jaiswal belong to? **Indian National Congress.**
- When did Simone Tata become the Chairperson of Lakmé? **1982.**
- Which museum designed by Frank Gehry is globally famous for its sculptural form? **Guggenheim Museum Bilbao**
- Name the iconic concert hall in Los Angeles designed by Frank Gehry. **Walt Disney Concert Hall**
- Which country houses the Guggenheim Museum designed by Frank Gehry? **Spain (Bilbao)**
- Frank Gehry is considered a pioneer in which architectural approach? **Modern sculptural and contemporary architecture**

No one is perfect

– that's why pencils have erasers.



National & International News

- What would applying Article 240 to Chandigarh mean? **Chandigarh would get a standalone Administrator, and the President could directly regulate the UT.**
- What major bill did the Assam Assembly pass in 2025? **The Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025.**
- What is the main objective of the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025? **To curb polygamy and strengthen women's rights.**
- What is the purpose of the new university bills in Assam? **To expand higher-education infrastructure and offerings in Assam.**
- Which bill did the Lok Sabha pass related to GST in Manipur in 2025? **The Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2025.**
- What is the primary purpose of the Manipur GST (Second Amendment) Bill? **To align Manipur's GST rates with the Centre's revised GST slabs.**
- Which country was elected Chair of the International IDEA Council for 2026? **India.**
- What did the Lok Sabha pass regarding tobacco taxation? **The Lok Sabha passed the Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025 to increase excise duty on tobacco products.**
- Who introduced the Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025? **Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.**
- Which new Bill did the Finance Minister introduce to tax demerit goods like pan masala? **Health Security se National Security Cess Bill, 2025.**
- What is the maximum GST rate applicable on pan masala based on consumption? **40 per cent.**
- Which Act was amended to levy excise duty on tobacco products? **Central Excise Act, 1944.**
- Which ministries launched paperless Passport Verification Record (PVR) on DigiLocker? **MeitY and MEA.**
- Which Bill proposes a cess on pan masala for funding health and national security? **Health Security and National Security Cess Bill, 2025**
- Which bill related to taxation of harmful products is being discussed in Parliament Winter Session 2025? **The Sin Goods Taxation Bill.**
- Which Indian company became the world's first e-waste recycler to receive RJC certification? **Attero.**
- What is the name of the new policy approved for coal linkage auctions? **Coalsetu Policy.**
- Which country has been left out of the Pax Silica initiative? **India.**
- Which country led the global wildfire management resolution at UNEA? **India**
- Which reserve is set to become the third cheetah habitat in Madhya Pradesh? **Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve**
- What was the earlier name of Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve? **Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary**

<p>IMPORTANCE To show support for people living with HIV, and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness.</p>	<p>World AIDS Day</p>
<p>MOTTO To raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease.</p>	<p>INCEPTION: 1987 1st OBSERVED: 1988</p>

NOTE
World AIDS Day was the first ever international day for global health.

2025 THEME
Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response.

BY
James W. Bunn and Thomas Netter

01
DECEMBER

- What is the main objective of the Assam Land Ceiling Amendment Bill, 2025? **To grant land ownership to over 3.33 lakh tea garden workers living in labour lines.**
- Who inaugurated the 77-foot Lord Rama statue in Goa? **Prime Minister Narendra Modi.**



- Under which Act is the Central Information Commission established? **Right to Information Act, 2005**
- Which body is proposed to be strengthened through statutory backing in the Nuclear Energy Bill? **The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).**
- Which Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha to strengthen rural employment in 2025? **Viksit Bharat Gramin Employment Bill, 2025.**
- Name the bill that raised the FDI limit in insurance. Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Bill, 2025.
- Which state government has banned the sale of tobacco rolling papers and cones? **Gujarat**
- Why is Russia trying to capture Pokrovsk? **Taking Pokrovsk would open a pathway toward remaining Ukrainian-held cities in Donetsk.**
- What does Canada's new citizenship-by-descent law change? **It allows children born abroad to inherit Canadian citizenship more easily.**
- Which country is the world's largest tea exporter? **China.**
- What mission did India launch to help Sri Lanka after Cyclone Ditwah? **India launched Operation Sagar Bandhu.**
- Which organisation has India been invited to chair for the first time? **The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).**
- What is unique about Canada's participation in SAFE? **Canada is the only non-European country with preferential access.**
- Which country assumed the G20 Presidency on December 1? **The United States.**
- Which country will not be invited to the 2026 G20 Leaders' Summit? **South Africa.**
- Where will the 2026 G20 Leaders' Summit be held? **Miami, United States.**
- Which US agency issued the federal notification for the sonobuoy sale to India? **The Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA).**
- Which country is hosting the 20th UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee session on Intangible Cultural Heritage? **India.**
- Which country received humanitarian assistance from India under Operation Sagar Bandhu? **Sri Lanka**
- Operation Sagar Bandhu was launched in response to which natural disaster? **Cyclone Ditwah**
- Which treaty governs water sharing between the US and Mexico? **The 1944 United States–Mexico Water Treaty.**
- Which rivers are covered under the 1944 Water Treaty? **The Rio Grande, Colorado, and Tijuana rivers.**
- Which country killed the most journalists in 2025 according to RSF? **Israel.**
- How much has the UAE pledged to support the UN's Global Humanitarian Overview 2026? **US\$ 550 million.**
- What is the total funding target of the UN's Global Humanitarian Overview 2026? **About US\$ 33 billion.**
- Deepavali was recently inscribed on which UNESCO list? **UNESCO's List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.**
- Which country became the first in the world to ban social media for children under 16? **Australia.**
- What is the minimum age required to use social media in Australia under the new law? **16 years.**
- Which global body focuses on anti-money laundering and terror financing? **Financial Action Task Force (FATF).**
- India and Malaysia agreed to cooperate in which regional security forum? **ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).**
- What is the age limit set by Austria for the headscarf ban? **Below 14 years.**
- Which country approved the implementation of a 10-point agreement with Gen Z representatives? **Nepal.**
- Which country has approved a \$686 million F-16 upgrade and support package for Pakistan? **The United States.**
- Which UN body adopted India's resolution on global wildfire management? **United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA).**
- Why did the US impose a 5% tariff on Mexico? **For allegedly violating the 1944 Water Treaty by failing to deliver required water.**

fear of the storm is always
worse than the storm
itself.

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Important Projects & Schemes

- What is the financial outlay of the Rare Earth Magnet Manufacturing Scheme? **₹7,280 crore.**
- What does Tex-RAMPS stand for? **Textiles-Focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning and Start-up Scheme.**
- Which ministry launched the Tex-RAMPS Scheme? **Ministry of Textiles.**
- How much funding has the Tourism Ministry approved under PMJUGA for tribal homestays? **Projects worth ₹17.52 crore have been approved.**
- What is the main purpose of the sanctioned PMJUGA projects? **To develop tribal homestays and support village-community needs.**
- What is the funding available for village-level community requirements under PMJUGA scheme? **Up to ₹5 lakh per village.**
- What was inaugurated in Kohima to boost water conservation? **The State-Level Watershed Mahotsav 2025 and Mission Watershed PUNARUTTHAN.**
- Which central scheme supports the Mission Watershed PUNARUTTHAN's implementation in Nagaland? **MGNREGA, through community participation and convergence.**
- What is the total sanctioned cost of the new road projects in Tripura under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) scheme? **₹68.67 crore**
- For how many more years has the FPO scheme been extended by the Indian government? **Five years (2026–2031).**
- Which state launched the Nandini Krishak Samriddhi Yojana? **Uttar Pradesh**
- The Nandini Krishak Samriddhi Yojana is related to which sector? **Dairy development and animal husbandry**
- What does PM-KUSUM stand for? **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan**
- Which ministry implements PM-KUSUM? **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**

<p>IMPORTANCE This day is observed in the memory of those who have lost their lives in the Bhopal Gas tragedy on 2nd December, 1984.</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">National Pollution Control Day</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">INCEPTION: 1984 EDITION: 41st</p>
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MOTTO
To control the industrial disaster and to reduce the level of pollution.

BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY
A gas leak incident on the night of 2–3 December 1984 at the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal(M.P), India. Considered among the world's worst industrial disasters.

DEATHS
Over 16,000 claimed

NON-FATAL INJURIES
At least 558,125

CAUSING AGENT
Methyl isocyanate



02
DECEMBER

<p>IMPORTANCE To mark adoption of the declaration by UNGA for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (Dated 2 December 1949).</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">International Day for the Abolition of Slavery</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">INCEPTION: 2004 EDITION: 21st</p>
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MOTTO
To highlight the importance of eradicating contemporary forms of slavery including trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, child labour, forced marriage, etc.

NOTE
According to the UN, an estimated 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labour and 15.4 million in forced marriage.

ORGANISATION INVOLVED
ILO



02
DECEMBER

Banking & Economy

- Which organization introduced the 'UPI Circle – Full Delegation' feature? **NPCI BHIM Services Limited (NBSL)**
- According to the IMF, what is India's projected GDP growth for FY 2025–26? **6.6%**.
- What is CRISIL's revised GDP growth forecast for India in FY 2025-26? **7 percent**.
- What does CRISIL stand for? **Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited**.
- Which three banks continue as D-SIBs in India? **SBI, HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank**.
- Which company partnered with J.P. Morgan Payments for cross-border payment flows? **Cashfree Payments**
- What FY26 GDP growth rate has Fitch forecast for India? **7.4%**.
- Which authority approved Vikram Sahu's appointment as CEO of Bank of America India? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.
- By how much has the RBI reduced the repo rate in its latest monetary policy review? **25 basis points**.
- What is the current Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate after the latest policy announcement? **5.00 per cent**.
- What is the current Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate after the latest policy announcement? **5.50 per cent**.
- What is the Bank Rate as per the latest RBI policy update? **5.50 per cent**.
- What is the current Fixed Reverse Repo Rate after the latest policy announcement? **3.35 per cent**.
- What is the total value of the US-proposed sonobuoy sale to India? **\$52.8 million**.
- Which payments bank became the first in India to receive RBI's in-principle approval to convert into an SFB? **Fino Payments Bank**.
- In which year did Fino Payments Bank begin operations, making it eligible for SFB conversion? **2017**.
- What new service will Fino be allowed to offer after converting into a Small Finance Bank? **Lending and credit facilities**.
- What is the key regulatory requirement under RBI's "on-tap" SFB licensing guidelines for payments banks? **Minimum five years of operations**.
- Which regulator is set to ban the use of live market data for investor education? **SEBI**
- What is the GST rate on handicraft products after the recent reduction? **5%**.
- What is ADB's revised growth forecast for India for FY 2025–26? **7.2%**.
- Which bank lifted the ban on Indian ₹200 and ₹500 notes in Nepal? **Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB)**.
- Which Indian currency denominations are now allowed in Nepal? **₹200 and ₹500 notes**.
- Which bank received RBI approval to acquire up to 95% stake in IndusInd Bank? **HDFC Bank**.
- Which two organisations signed the new malaria vaccine access agreement? **Gavi and UNICEF**.
- Which two nations agreed to enhance cooperation on consular, visa, and legal matters? **India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**
- Which two companies have announced a new partnership to integrate location-based features into CRM services? **MapmyIndia (C.E. Info Systems) and Zoho CRM**.
- Which helicopters are receiving long-term sustainment support from India-US agreement? **Indian Navy's MH-60R multi-role helicopters**.
- What is the value of the sustainment deal signed between India and the US regarding MH-60R multi-role helicopters? **Over ₹7,900 crore**.
- Which agreement is Russia set to ratify with India ahead of Putin's December 2025 visit? **The Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS)**.
- What is the primary purpose of RELOS? **To deepen military cooperation between India and Russia**.
- Which company did Wipro acquire for \$375 million? **HARMAN's Digital Transformation Solutions (DTS) business unit**.
- Which two countries are part of the RELOS agreement? **India and Russia are part of the RELOS agreement**.
- What equipment has India requested from the US in this recently signed \$52.8 Million deal? **Anti-submarine sonobuoys**.
- Collaboration on the Su-57 may support the advancement of which Indian indigenous fighter programmes? **AMCA and Tejas Mk-2**.
- What is the primary purpose of the India–Russia ITPS agreement? **To enable a cost-effective, trackable, and reliable logistics channel for low-value international consignments**.



- Which sectors are expected to benefit the most from the India–Russia ITPS launch? **MSMEs, artisans, start-ups, and rural entrepreneurs.**
- Which two organisations signed a cooperation agreement to strengthen India–Russia economic ties? **Roscongress Foundation (Russia) and ASSOCHAM (India).**
- What type of visa will be offered free of charge to citizens of India and Russia under the new agreement? **30-day e-Tourist Visa.**
- With which Russian company did Indian firms sign a deal to set up a urea plant in Russia? **URALCHEM.**
- Which company has agreed to acquire Warner Bros Discovery’s studios and streaming division? **Netflix**
- What is the estimated deal value of Netflix’s acquisition of Warner Bros Discovery’s assets? **\$72 billion**
- Which countries’ navies signed a tripartite MoU with MDL for Scorpène-class submarine maintenance? **India and Brazil.**
- India recently signed an MoU on pharmacopoeia with which country? **Liberia.**
- How many MoUs were signed between India and Ethiopia during PM Modi’s visit? **Three**

IMPORTANCE
To commemorate the Operation Trident on 4 Dec 1971, in which Indian Navy attacked Karachi harbour during 1971's Indo-Pakistan war.

Indian Navy Day

MOTTO
To recognize the achievements and role of the Indian Navy to the country.

INDIAN NAVY FACTS

- President is the Commander-in-Chief of Indian Navy.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Bhosle is considered as the "Father of the Indian Navy".
- Navy Day does not commemorate the day the Indian Navy was founded.
- Ezhimala Naval Academy in Kerala is the largest naval academy in Asia.
- INS Viraat was the navy's 1st aircraft as well as carrier and the oldest aircraft carrier in the world.



04
DECEMBER

IMPORTANCE
To mark the birth anniversary of H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand, who was one of the main proponents of this initiative.

World Soil Day

EDITION: 11th
1st OBSERVED: 5 December 2014

MOTTO
To raise awareness of the importance of sustaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being.

ORGANISATION INVOLVED
FAO & United Nation

NOTE
The FAO unanimously endorsed World Soil Day in June 2013 and requested its official adoption. But in December 2013, UNGA responded by designating 5 December 2014 as the first official World Soil Day.

2025 THEME
Healthy Soils for Healthy Cities



05
DECEMBER

Awards & Recognitions

- Which ministry organizes the Gopal Ratna Awards? **Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.**
- Which bank won the “Best Profit-Making Bank in Belagavi District 2025” award? **Rani Channamma Mahila Sahakari Bank.**
- Where was the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025 held? **At Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Goa.**
- Which film won the Golden Peacock for Best Feature Film at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025? **Skin of Youth by Ashleigh Mayfair.**

<p>IMPORTANCE To honor the martyrs and the men in uniform who valiantly fought on our borders to safeguard the country's honor.</p>	<p>Armed Forces Flag Day</p>
	<p>INCEPTION: 1949 EDITION: 77th</p>

MOTTO
To collect funds from people for the betterment of the Armed Forces staff just by selling Indian flags, batches, stickers, and other items.

ARMED FORCES FLAG DAY FUND
Funds for war victims, Kendriya Sainik Board Fund, Ex-servicemen's welfare fund, and other units were united to make a single Armed Forces Flag Day fund in the year 1993 by the Defense Ministry of India.

MANAGED BY
Local arms of the Kendriya Sainik Board in India

ESTABLISHED
Committee of Defense Minister



- Who won the Silver Peacock for Best Director at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025? **Santosh Davakhar for Gondhal.**
- Who received the Special Jury Award at IFFI 2025? **Akinola Davies Junior for My Father's Shadow.**
- Who won Best Actor (Male) at IFFI 2025? **Ubeimar Rios.**
- Who won Best Actor (Female) at IFFI 2025? **Jara Sofija Ostan for Little TroubleGirls.**
- Who was awarded “Indian of the Year 2025”? **Jay Shah, Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC).**
- Who won the World Athlete of the Year (men) in 2025? **Sweden's Armand Duplantis.**
- Who won the World Athlete of the Year (women) in 2025? **USA's Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone.**
- Who received the inaugural 2025 FIFA Peace Prize? **US President Donald Trump.**
- Who presented the 2025 FIFA Peace Prize to Donald Trump? **FIFA President Gianni Infantino.**
- Who received the 2023 Shilp Guru Award for hand-painted textiles? **Ajit Kumar Das (West Bengal).**
- Who won the 2024 Shilp Guru Award for wood carving? **Mohammad Dilshad (Uttar Pradesh).**
- In which year were the National Handicrafts Awards instituted? **1965.**
- Who received the Global Humanitarian Award for wildlife conservation? **Anant Ambani.**
- Which organisation awarded Anant Ambani the Global Humanitarian Award? **Global Humane Society.**
- Ethiopia's highest award recently conferred on Prime Minister Narendra Modi is called: **Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia**
- Which Indian film was shortlisted for Best International Feature Film at Oscars 2026? **Homebound**


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Sports

- How many medals did India win at the ITTF World Youth Championships 2025? **Two medals (1 silver, 1 bronze).**
- Where was the ITTF World Youth Championships 2025 held? **Romania.**
- Who became the youngest-ever FIDE World Cup champion in 2025? **Javokhir Sindarov**
- Who won the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2025? **Belgium**
- Who won the 41st All India Governor's Gold Cup 2025? **Rajasthan United FC.**
- Which record did Kohli surpass by scoring his 52nd century? **Sachin Tendulkar's record for most hundreds in a single format.**
- Whose record did Rohit Sharma surpass for the most ODI sixes? **Shahid Afridi's record.**
- Which federation manages the India women's national hockey team? **Hockey India.**
- Who won the Jerusalem Masters 2025 title? **Arjun Erigaisi.**
- Which countries co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup? **USA, Canada, and Mexico.**
- Who won the women's title at the HCL Squash Indian Tour 4 in Chennai? **Anahat Singh**
- Who won the men's title at the HCL Squash Indian Tour 4? **Velavan Senthilkumar**
- Which country is hosting the Squash World Cup for the third consecutive time? **India.**
- Who won gold in Women's 25m Pistol at ISSF World Cup Final 2025? **Simranpreet Kaur Brar.**
- Who won the Australian Open Golf 2025? **Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen (Denmark).**
- Sarwagya Singh Kushwaha, who has become the youngest rated chess player in history, belongs to which Indian state? **Madhya Pradesh**
- Who won two gold medals for India at the Asian Youth Para Games 2025? **Abdul Quadir Indori.**
- Which Indian brand extended its partnership with the Argentina Football Association as a regional sponsor? **Amul.**
- How many consecutive years has Amul been associated with the Argentina Football Association? **Four years.**

- Which medal did India win at the 2025 FIH Junior Men's Hockey World Cup? **Bronze medal.**
- Who won double gold at the 68th National Shooting Championships? **Raiza Dhillon**
- The National Shooting Championships are organised by which body? **National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)**
- Which Indian shooters won gold medals at the 68th National Shooting Championships? **Manu Bhaker and Simranpreet Kaur Brar.**

IMPORTANCE
To Mark the 50th anniversary of the signing the Convention on International Civil Aviation in 1944.

ABOUT ICAO
ESTABLISHED
7th December 1944

NEED
Securing international cooperation and consistency in civil aviation matters.

ICAO is a UN body that operates in association with other UN members including the WMO, ITU, UPU, WHO and IMO.

NOTE
International Services Transit Agreement and the International Air Transport Agreement were also signed in 1944.

HISTORY BEHIND
In 1994, member countries signed the "Chicago Convention" giving permission to global civil aviation system to develop peacefully and in a manner benefitting all peoples and nations of the world.

NOTE: Currently, the Chicago Convention has 191 state parties including all member states of the UN except Dominica, Liechtenstein and Tuvalu.

International Civil Aviation Day

INCEPTION: 1994
OFFICIAL STATUS BY UN: 1996



07

DECEMBER



Science & Technology

- Where is the Safran Aircraft Engine Services India (SAESI) facility located? **GMR Aerospace & Industrial Park, Hyderabad.**
- Which rocket carried Russia’s new undisclosed military satellites? **Angara-1.2 light launch vehicle.**
- Which rocket will PM Modi unveil at Skyroot’s Infinity Campus? **Vikram-I orbital rocket.**
- Skyroot became the first Indian private company to reach space with which mission? **Vikram-S.**
- Who founded Skyroot Aerospace? **Pawan Chandana and Bharath Daka.**
- Who launched the production version of the Hansa-3 NG aircraft? **Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh.**
- What type of aircraft is Hansa-3 NG? **India’s first all-composite two-seat pilot trainer aircraft.**
- Which company is setting up a ₹150-crore facility to manufacture Hansa-3 NG? **Pioneer Clean Amps.**
- The Su-57, developed by Russia, belongs to which generation of fighter aircraft? **Fifth generation.**
- Which Russian design bureau is responsible for developing the Su-57 fighter jet? **Sukhoi Design Bureau.**

<p>IMPORTANCE To mark the adoption of the Convention against Corruption on 31 Oct 2003, UNGA designated December 9 International Anti-Corruption Day.</p>	<p>International Anti-Corruption Day</p>
	<p>INCEPTION: 2003 EDITION: 22nd CAME INTO FORCE: 2005</p>

MOTTO
To raise awareness of corruption and of the role of the Convention in combating and preventing it.

2025 THEME
Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity

NOTE
As per UN, every year \$1 trillion is paid in bribes while an estimated \$2.6 trillion are stolen annually through corruption.

ORGANISATION INVOLVED
UNDOC

09
DECEMBER

- Which spacecraft carried the US–Russian crew to the ISS in the latest mission? **Soyuz MS-28.**
- Which app was launched for the welfare of tea-industry labourers recently by Piyush Goyal? **The Chai Sahyog app.**

- What is the NATO reporting name assigned to the Su-57 aircraft? **“Felon.”**
- What facility is Lockheed Martin planning to set up in India? **A co-production facility for the C-130J Super Hercules.**
- What is ‘Pax Silica’? **A US-led initiative to secure global supply chains for critical minerals, silicon, semiconductors and AI technologies.**
- Which country reported the first human transmission of Mpox Clade 1b outside Africa? **Spain**
- Mpox is caused by a virus belonging to which genus? **Orthopoxvirus**
- Which helicopter squadron was recently commissioned by the Indian Navy at INS Hansa? **INAS 335 (Ospreys)**

“

Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen.

—Michael Jordan

Prevention

Miscellaneous

- Where is Exercise SURYAKIRAN XIX – 2025 being held? **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.**
- SURYAKIRAN XIX – 2025 is a Joint Military Exercise between which two countries? **India–Nepal**
- On which day is National Milk Day celebrated in India? **26 November.**
- According to the UN DESA report, which city has been named the world's largest city in 2025? **Jakarta, with a population of around 41.9 million.**
- According to the UN DESA report, which city is now the second-largest in the world? **Dhaka, with an estimated 36.6 million people.**
- What rank did India secure in the Asia Power Index 2025? **3rd.**
- Which country topped the Asia Power Index 2025? **The United States**
- Which organisation releases the Asia Power Index? **The Lowy Institute releases the index.**
- Which edition of SITMEX is being held in 2025? **5th**
- Which country hosted SITMEX-25? **Singapore hosted SITMEX-25.**
- What rank does India hold in global tea exports? **India is the world's fourth-largest tea exporter.**
- What phenomenon causes coastal areas to flood even before rainfall during a cyclone? **Storm surge.**
- What rank did India secure in its first participation at the World Skills Asia Competition 2025? **India secured the 8th position among 29 countries.**
- Where is the 14th edition of Exercise EKUVERIN being held? **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.**
- Which countries participate in Exercise EKUVERIN? **India and the Maldives.**
- Which forces are involved from India and Maldives in EKUVERIN? **The Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Forces.**
- Where was Exercise Garuda-VIII conducted? **In France.**
- Which fighter aircraft did the IAF deploy for Exercise Garuda-VIII? **Su-30MKI fighter jets.**
- Which annual Indo-French naval exercise focuses on maritime cooperation? **Exercise Varuna.**
- Which Indo-French army exercise focuses on counter-terrorism operations? **Exercise Shakti.**
- What is the name of the air-force-level exercise between India and France? **Exercise Garuda.**
- What does RELOS stand for? **RELOS stands for Reciprocal Exchange of Logistic Support.**
- Who ratified the RELOS pact in Russia? **Russia's State Duma ratified the RELOS pact.**
- Why was Lakmé created in the 1950s? **To reduce foreign exchange outflow by providing an Indian alternative to imported cosmetics.**
- Where was Exercise SURYAKIRAN-XIX conducted? **Pithoragarh.**
- Which countries, apart from Israel, were among the most dangerous for journalists in 2025? **Mexico, Sudan, and Ukraine.**
- Which city has been ranked the world's most polluted major city in 2025? **Lahore, Pakistan.**
- Which city ranks second on the 2025 list of most polluted cities? **New Delhi, India.**
- Which Pakistani city appears again in the top global pollution rankings besides Lahore? **Karachi.**
- Deepavali is the ___ Indian element added to the UNESCO Intangible Heritage List. 16th.
- What is the total outlay for India's coal gasification programme? **₹85,000 crore.**
- What is the name of the joint military exercise conducted by India and Malaysia in 2025? **Exercise Harimau Shakti 2025.**
- Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar belonged to which dynasty? **Mutharaiyar dynasty**
- What was the title associated with Perumbidugu Mutharaiyar? **Suvaran Maran**
- Which index ranked India ahead of the UK and South Korea in AI competitiveness? **Stanford Global AI Competitiveness Index**
- On which date is Vijay Diwas observed in India? **16 December.**
- Vijay Diwas commemorates India's victory in which war? **The 1971 Indo-Pakistan War.**
- Which two countries conduct the joint military exercise "Ex-Ekuverin"? **India and Maldives.**
- Which US bank is setting up Asia's largest GCC in India? **JPMorgan Chase.**



Important Days of the Month

Date	Observed As	Importance/Motto
January 1	Global Family Day	To promote the idea that the Earth is one Global family and we should live in peace
January 4	World Braille Day	To mark the birth anniversary of Louis Braille.
January 9	NRI Day	To mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community towards the development of India.
January 10	World Hindi Day	To mark the birth anniversary of first World Hindi Conference which was held in 1975.
January 12	National Youth Day	To mark the birth anniversary of the Swami Vivekananda.
January 15	Army day	Field Marshal K. M. Cariappa became the first Indian Army Chief of Independent India on 15 January 1949.
January 24	National Girl Child Day	To increase awareness among the people and ensure every girl gets equal importance as their counterparts.
January 25	National Voters day	To mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India (ECI)
January 26	India's Republic Day	To mark the Declaration of Indian Independence that was proclaimed by the Indian National Congress.
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	To commemorate the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the Second World War.
January 30	Martyrs' Day	To mark the assassination of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Ji.



Let's Recap

- Who set a new Youth World Record and won gold in the girls' 44kg event at the Asian Youth Games 2025? **Priteesmita Bhoi of India.**
- What is the name of the nuclear-powered missile with unlimited range recently tested successfully by Russia? **Burevestnik (SSC-X-9 "Skyfall").**
- Who has been elected as the 10th President of Ireland in 2025? **Catherine Connolly.**
- Under which schemes has the Government extended LC75 and BLC investment options to Central Government employees? **Under the National Pension System (NPS) and Unified Pension Scheme (UPS).**
- Which launch vehicle will carry India's CMS-03 communication satellite into orbit on November 2, 2025? **LVM3 (Launch Vehicle Mark-3)**
- What is the name of the new digital passport system launched by the Indian Embassy in the UAE for issuing e-passports? **Global Passport Seva Programme (GPSP) 2.0**
- Which Hong Kong-based startup is launching the world's first satellite constellation to capture 3D wind data? **Stellerus Technology**
- What is the name of the world's first yen-pegged stablecoin launched in Japan in 2025? **JPYC**
- Tuvalu recently became the 90th State Member of which global environmental organization? **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**
- Which international organization has approved a USD 400 million loan to strengthen Kerala's health system? **The World Bank**
- What is the name of the passenger vessel that completed its maiden voyage to Barren Island, India's only active volcano? **Sindhu**
- Which declaration was adopted at the 20th East Asia Summit to reaffirm commitment to regional peace and stability? **The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Peace and Stability.**
- Which Indian cricketer topped the ICC Women's ODI Batting Rankings in October 2025? **Smriti Mandhana**
- What is the total outlay approved by the Union Cabinet under the Nutrient-Based Subsidy scheme for Rabi 2025-26? **₹37,952 crore**
- Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the 8th Central Pay Commission constituted by the Government of India? **Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai**
- Which two companies signed an agreement to jointly build Landing Platform Docks (LPDs) for the Indian Navy? **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) and Swan Defence and Heavy Industries Ltd (SDHI)**
- Which country recently tested the nuclear-powered underwater drone Poseidon? **Russia**
- The recent US-South Korea trade deal includes an investment of \$150 billion in which sector? **Shipbuilding and industrial cooperation**

IMPORTANCE
To mark the adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights by UNGA on 10 December 1948.

Human Rights Day

INCEPTION: 1948

MOTTO
To improve the physical, social, cultural and spiritual well-being and welfare of the vulnerable group of people globally.

2025 THEME
Our Everyday Essentials.

NOTE
In 2004, International Human Rights Day was sanctioned by the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU) as an official day of human rights celebration.

ORGANISATION INVOLVED
UNESCO



10

DECEMBER

- Which Indian chess players won gold medals at the European Chess Club Cup 2025 in Greece? **D. Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh.**



- Who has won a controversial eighth term as President of Cameroon in 2025? **Paul Biya**
- Chef Sanjeev Kapoor was recently honoured as a “Top Agri-Food Pioneer” by which global organisation? **World Food Prize Foundation**
- Which port is set to become India’s first ship-to-ship LNG bunkering facility? **Vizhinjam International Seaport, Kerala**
- Who has been appointed as the 53rd Chief Justice of India (CJI)? **Justice Surya Kant**
- Which organization released the Hindi translation of Lithuanian novel “The Last Day”? **Sahitya Akademi**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched development projects worth how much during the 150th birth anniversary celebration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel? **₹1,140 crore**
- Which company has partnered with Google to accelerate AI adoption in India? **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)**
- What is the name of the tri-Service exercise conducted along India’s western border in October–November 2025? **Exercise Trishul**
- Which port authority signed MoUs worth ₹39,216 crore at India Maritime Week 2025? **Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA)**
- Which state signed an MoU with Abu Dhabi Ports Group in 2025 to boost maritime cooperation? **Maharashtra**
- Who has been appointed as the new Additional Director General of NCC Directorate (Punjab, Haryana, HP & Chandigarh)? **Major General Bharat Mehtani**
- Where is India’s first digital museum dedicated to tribal freedom fighters located? **Chhattisgarh (Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Memorial and Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum)**
- What type of UAVs will be manufactured under the L&T–GA–ASI collaboration? **Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) UAVs.**
- What is the duration of the new India–US defence framework? **Ten years.**
- Where is Adani’s award-winning Ammunition Complex located? **In Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.**
- From whom did Vice Admiral B Sivakumar receive the baton of Chief of Materiel? **He received it from Vice Admiral Kiran Deshmukh.**
- Who won the ICC Women’s ODI World Cup 2025? **India**
- Who has been appointed as the 40th Chief of Materiel (COM) of the Indian Navy in 2025? **Vice Admiral B. Sivakumar**
- Which scheme has been launched by the Government of India in 2025 to bring uncovered employees under EPF coverage? **Employee’s Enrolment Scheme 2025**
- Which tri-services military exercise led by the Indian Navy is being conducted to enhance joint operational readiness across land, air, and sea domains? **Exercise Trishul 2025**

IMPORTANCE

To highlight the opportunities and constraints in mountain development, and to build alliances that will bring positive change to mountain peoples and environments around the world.

International Mountain Day

INCEPTION: 2002
1st OBSERVED: 2003

MOTTO

To increase awareness on the importance of mountains for the health of the planet and well-being of billions of people.

2025 THEME

Glaciers matter for water, food and livelihoods in mountains and beyond

NOTE

Mountains cover nearly 27% of Earth’s land & play a crucial role in sustainable economic growth.

11
DECEMBER

- Who recently assumed charge as Commandant of Army Hospital (Research & Referral), New Delhi? **Lt Gen Avinash Das**
- What is the name of Russia’s newly launched nuclear-powered submarine? **Khabarovsk**
- Who won the gold medal in the Women’s 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 event at the 2025 Para Shooting World Cup in Dubai? **Avani Lekhara**
- Who was sworn in for a second term as the President of Tanzania in 2025? **Samia Suluhu Hassan**



- Which tech giant has signed a \$38 billion, seven-year cloud services deal with OpenAI to power its AI models? **Amazon (via Amazon Web Services - AWS)**
- Who was the North Korean leader who served as the country's ceremonial head of state from 1998 to 2019 and died in November 2025? **Kim Yong Nam**
- Who won the Best Actor award at the Kerala State Film Awards 2024? **Mammooty (Bramayugam)**
- Which Indian state has launched the Telangana Artificial Intelligence Innovation Hub (TAIH) to become one of the top 20 AI hubs in the world by 2035? **Telangana**

<p>IMPORTANCE To focus the attention of decision makers in directing resources towards energy generation through non-conventional sources on a larger scale.</p>	<p>World/National Energy Conservation Day</p> <p>INCEPTION: 1991</p>
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MOTTO

To drive mass awareness about importance of energy efficiency and conservation.

BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

FOUNDED: 1 March 2002.

HEADQUARTERS: New Delhi, India.

TYPE: Government Agency
Area served: India.

PURPOSE: Development of policies and strategies, with an emphasis on self-regulation and market principles.

14
DECEMBER

- Name the Chairman of the Hinduja Group who recently passed away in London? **Gopichand P. Hinduja**
- Who will oversee Birla Opus's paints business until a new CEO is appointed? **Managing Director Himanshu Kapania**
- To whom did Mehli Mistry address his resignation letter? **Tata Trusts Chairman Noel Tata and all trustees.**
- Who has been appointed as the new CEO and Executive Director of Britannia Industries? **Rakshit Hargave**
- What is the tenure of Rakshit Hargave's appointment at Britannia Industries? **5 Years**
- Which company launched Project Suncatcher? **Google.**
- Who built the survey vessel SVL Ikshak? **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE), Kolkata**
- What is the primary role of SVL Ikshak? **To conduct hydrographic surveys of ports, harbours, and coastal as well as deep waters**
- Which state became the first in India to partner with Starlink for satellite internet services? **Maharashtra**
- Who owns Starlink, the company partnering with Maharashtra for satellite internet? **Elon Musk**
- What is the global conservation status rating given by IUCN to Khangchendzonga National Park? **"Good."**
- What was the first major trade framework agreement between India and Ecuador? **The 2015 JETCO Protocol**
- Who has been conferred with the 2025 World Leader for Peace and Security Award? **Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.**
- Who was Nelliath C. Shyamalan? **He was an eminent Indian-origin cardiologist based in the United States.**
- Horizon Industrial Parks is backed by which investment group? **Blackstone Real Estate funds.**
- India recently discussed promoting its space start-ups in European markets during a meeting with which country? **Luxembourg**
- Who released the commemorative coin marking the Golden Jubilee of NHPC in 2025? **Union Power Minister Manohar Lal**
- Which proposed constitutional amendment in Pakistan aims to formalise the rank of Field Marshal and expand military powers in governance? **The 27th Constitutional Amendment (also referred to as the Munir Amendment).**
- Which two Indian cooperatives have been ranked among the world's top cooperatives in the ICA World Cooperative Monitor 2025? **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul).**
- Who knighted former England footballer David Beckham? **King Charles III**



- Which Indian university has partnered with Airbus to develop Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) from waste? **Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV)**
- Who won the Manohar Parrikar Yuva Scientist Award 2025 for his work in computational materials science at IISc Bengaluru? **Dr Sai Gautam Gopalakrishnan**
- Which company has signed an agreement with General Electric (GE) for 113 F404-GE-IN20 engines to power the Tejas Mk-1A aircraft? **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**
- Who was recently conferred the Honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Karnataka State Law University? **S. Abdul Nazeer, Governor of Andhra Pradesh.**
- Who became India's 91st Chess Grandmaster? **Raahul V S from Tamil Nadu.**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Myntra? **Kannan Ganesan**
- Which company is Myntra a part of? **Flipkart Group.**
- What does JAI stand for in Exercise TRISHUL? **JAI stands for Jointness, Atmanirbharta, and Innovation.**
- How many submarines are included in the Hangor-class deal between China & Pakistan? **8 submarines in total.**
- Where is Ayni Airbase located? **Ayni Airbase is near Dushanbe, Tajikistan, about 20 km from the Afghanistan border.**
- How much did India invest in upgrading the Ayni Airbase? **India invested around \$80–100 million to modernize the airbase.**
- Who became the first Indian individual pistol shooter to win a medal at the ISSF World Championships 2025? **Anish Bhanwala**
- What is the maximum punishment proposed under the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025? **Up to 7 years' imprisonment**
- Who has been appointed as the new U.S. Ambassador to Singapore in 2025? **Dr. Anjani K. Sinha**
- Which ISRO payload mapped the Moon's polar regions using L-band in full-polarimetric mode? **Dual Frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (DFSAR)**
- Which Indian state is set to launch the country's first 'Women's Wellness on Wheels' vehicles for women's cancer screening? **Tamil Nadu**
- Who became the first Indian to win an individual air pistol world title at the ISSF World Championship 2025? **Samrat Rana**
- Who won the 2025 Booker Prize for the novel *Flesh*? **David Szalay**
- Which Indian city ranked 3rd globally in the list of top billionaire cities for 2025? **Mumbai**
- What protections will the upcoming India–Russia pact provide to workers? **It will ensure legal safeguards, transparent recruitment, and fair wages for Indian workers in Russia.**
- What is the main goal of the India–Bahrain fintech collaboration? **To enable instant and secure cross-border remittances between the two countries.**

IMPORTANCE

To commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in Indo–Pakistani War of 1971 for the liberation of Bangladesh from Pakistan.

Vijay Diwas

INCEPTION: 1971
EDITION: 55th

MOTTO

To pay tribute to the Indian martyrs who laid down their lives for liberating Bangladesh from Pakistan.

HISTORY BEHIND

In 1971, the chief of the Pakistani forces, General AA Khan Niazi, along with 93000 troops, had surrendered to Indian Army and Mukti Bahini.

The end of the war also resulted in subsequent secession of East Pakistan into Bangladesh.

NOTE

On the same day Bangladesh observed as Bijoy Dibos.



16
DECEMBER

- What were the main provisions of the U.S.-brokered peace deal? **The deal included the removal of heavy weapons and the release of Cambodian prisoners of war (POWs).**
- What recent agreement did Syria sign with the U.S.-led coalition? **Political cooperation declaration**
- Which company has Tech Mahindra signed a licensing agreement with? **AT&T**
- UIDAI recently partnered with which research firm to boost Aadhaar biometric updates for children? **Behavioural Insights Limited**



- In which country is the Asian Archery Championship 2025 being held? **Bangladesh (Dhaka)**
- The 6th edition of India–Vietnam Army Exercise VINBAX 2025 is being held in which country? **Vietnam (Hanoi)**
- Which ministry has initiated the base revision of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)? **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**
- Where was India's first MWh-scale Vanadium Redox Flow Battery (VRFB) installed? **NTPC NETRA, Greater Noida**

IMPORTANCE United Nations on 18 December, 1992 adopted and broadcast the Statement on the individual's Rights belonging to religious or Linguistic National or Ethnic Minorities.	Minorities Rights Day in India 1 st OBSERVED: 2013 EDITION: 13 th
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MOTTO

This day focuses on bringing a better understanding and educating people about the issues related to minorities and their safety.

NOTE

The minorities in India include Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains.

Minorities in India constitute about 19% of the total population.



- Who has been sworn in as the new U.S. Ambassador to India in 2025? **Sergio Gor**
- Which new scheme approved by the Union Cabinet offers 100% credit guarantee to exporters, including MSMEs? **Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)**
- The Cabinet recently revised royalty rates for which category of minerals? **Critical minerals like caesium, graphite, rubidium, and zirconium**
- How many members are there in the Joint Parliamentary Committee constituted to examine the

- three key amendment bills — the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025; and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025? **31 members**
- What is the main aim of the CSIR–NICDC MoU? **To enhance R&D expertise and foster innovation-led industrial ecosystems**
- Which African country will donate eight cheetahs to India under Project Cheetah? **Botswana**
- When were cheetahs declared extinct in India? **1952**
- Which organisation implements Project Cheetah? **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**
- In which year was Exercise Malabar first conducted? **1992**
- Who has been given the additional charge of Secretary (Security)? **Parag Jain**
- Who signed the legislation ending the longest U.S. government shutdown? **Former President Donald Trump**
- What is India's long-term rank (1995–2024) in CRI 2026? **9th**
- What is the full form of NASA's ESCAPE mission? **Escape and Plasma Acceleration and Dynamics Explorers**
- What are the names of the two spacecraft launched under ESCAPE mission? **Blue and Gold**
- Under which NASA program is the ESCAPE mission launched? **Small Innovative Missions for Planetary Exploration (SIMPLEX)**
- What is the name of the mineral discovered inside the fern that contains rare-earth elements? **Monazite**
- Which Indian ports will now allow cargo movement to Nepal via the amended protocol? – **Kolkata & Visakhapatnam**
- The recent MoD–BDL missile deal was signed under which category? **Buy (Indian)**
- What is the key objective of the Seeds Bill 2025? **Ensure quality seeds and protect farmer rights**
- WHO launched a Pandemic Preparedness site in India at which institution? **AIIMS New Delhi**
- Garuda-2025 is a bilateral air exercise between India and which country? **France**
- Which country hosted the 24th Asian Archery Championships 2025? **Bangladesh (Dhaka)**
- Which country recently passed the 27th Constitutional Amendment granting sweeping powers to its Army Chief? **Pakistan**
- The 27th Amendment in Pakistan significantly weakens which institution? **Judiciary**



- Who received the award for Punjab's implementation of the Bharat Net Scheme? **KAP Sinha (Chief Secretary of Punjab)**
- Veteran actress Kamini Kaushal, who passed away recently, made her debut with which film? **Neecha Nagar (1946)**
- Where was the 24th Asian Archery Championships 2025 held? **Dhaka, Bangladesh.**
- How many gold medals did India win at the 2025 Asian Archery Championships? **6 gold medals.**
- Which alliance won the Bihar Assembly Elections 2025? **National Democratic Alliance (NDA)**
- What is the edition number of Exercise Garuda 25? **8th edition.**
- Who will replace Doug McMillon as the new CEO of Walmart? **John Furner.**
- Which district's diamonds recently received the GI tag? **Panna district, Madhya Pradesh.**
- Which Act governs GI registration in India? **The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.**
- GI tags are part of which international agreement? **WTO's TRIPS Agreement.**
- Which international body awards the Blue Flag certification? **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).**
- Who won the GT Open Indoor World Series 2025 title in the Men's Compound category? **Kushal Dalal**
- Dhanush Srikanth set a World Record score of how many points in the 2025 Deaflympics? **252.2 points**
- The GCC has approved a one-stop travel system to streamline travel among member states. The pilot will begin between which two nations in December 2025? **UAE-Bahrain**
- Which company launched the Sentinel-6B satellite? **SpaceX launched the satellite.**
- Which country has Ukraine signed a gas import agreement with? **Greece.**
- Which organisation hosted the Son of the Soil Awards Assam 2025? **Care Luit.**
- Who received the Emerging Achiever Award in Media & Communication? **Sukrita Baruah.**
- Which organizations are hosting the 10th Global Economic Summit in Mumbai? **World Trade Centre (WTC) Mumbai and All-India Association of Industries (AIAI)**
- India has signed a one-year deal to import 2.2 million tonnes of LPG from which country? **United States**
- Which Indian ministry announced the LPG import agreement with the US? **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**
- Ajeya Warrior is a bilateral military exercise between India and which country? **United Kingdom**
- What is the name of India's first nitric oxide-releasing wound dressing launched by DAE? **ColoNoX**
- Which Indian shooter won silver in the 25 m Centre Fire Pistol event at the ISSF World Championships in Cairo? **Gurpreet Singh**

IMPORTANCE

To mark the adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by UNGA on 18 Dec 1990.

International Migrants Day

INCEPTION: 1990
EDITION: 36th

MOTTO

To recognize the rights, protection, and respect for migrants.

2025 THEME

Migrants, missionaries of hope.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT

A person who moves to a another country that his/her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his/her new country of usual residence.



18
DECEMBER

- Who co-chaired the India-Denmark FOC from the Indian side? **Sibi George (Secretary West, MEA)**
- Which Indian state received its first-ever investment approval under ECMS? **Jammu & Kashmir**
- Which organisation is providing USD 300 million in assistance to Sri Lanka? **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**
- Which state launched MeeSeva on WhatsApp to deliver G2C services? **Telangana.**



- Who won the gold medal for India in the 10m air rifle mixed team event at the Deaflympics 2025? **Dhanush Srikanth and Mahit Sandhu won the gold.**
- Which major defence sale did the US approve for Saudi Arabia? **Future deliveries of advanced F-35 fighter jets.**
- Where was CAC48 held? **Rome.**
- What award did Sagar Defence win at the Dubai Airshow 2025? **Sagar Defence won the "Accelerating the Autonomous Robotics Revolution" challenge under the VISTA Track.**
- What is the core innovation Sagar Defence showcased? **They presented "Genesis," an AI-powered, platform-agnostic autonomy module for vessels.**
- What was the total value of Bajaj's KTM acquisition deal? **800 million euros.**
- How many winners were honoured across all categories? **A total of 46 winners were honoured.**
- Who is the BJP Legislature Party leader in Bihar? **Samrat Choudhary.**
- What key technology will HAL and HENSOLDT co-develop? **A LiDAR-based Obstacle Avoidance System (OAS) for helicopters.**
- What is the purpose of NITI Aayog's AIM partnering with CFA Institute India? **To strengthen India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.**
- What ship represented India in the sea phase of Exercise Malabar 2025? **INS Sahyadri.**
- Which four countries participate in the Malabar Exercise? **India, USA, Japan, and Australia.**
- What major weapon systems are included in this defence sale? **Javelin anti-tank missiles and Excalibur precision artillery rounds.**
- Name India's first indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy for Sickle Cell Disease? **BIRSA 101**
- Which brand became India's most valuable in the 2025 Kantar BrandZ rankings? **HDFC Bank, with a brand value of \$44.9 billion.**
- Which companies signed a contract to supply BvS10 Sindhu vehicles to the Indian Army? **L&T and UK-based BAE Systems.**
- Which is the smallest nation ever to qualify for the FIFA World Cup? **Curaçao**
- Who won three gold medals in the S11 category at the National Para Swimming Championship 2025? **Himanshu Nandal.**
- What is the main purpose of the ToR? **To launch formal negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement.**
- How many gold medals were won by Indian women? **Seven gold medals.**
- What defence system did Egypt buy from South Korea in 2022? **K9 self-propelled howitzers.**
- Which organisations signed the MoU on 20 November 2025? **GeM and UN Women.**
- Who crowned Fatima Bosch? **Victoria Kjaer Theilvig of Denmark.**
- For which film is DiCaprio being honoured at the Palm Springs Festival? **One Battle After Another.**
- Which book won the Poetry Prize? **The Intentions of Thunder by Patricia Smith.**
- When did Anurag Arora join Dell? **In 2020.**
- Which IndiGo subsidiary will receive the investment? **InterGlobe Aviation Financial Services IFSC Pvt. Ltd.**

IMPORTANCE
It commemorates the freeing of Goa from Portuguese rule by the Indian Armed Forces on 19 December 1961 and the complete independence of the Indian subcontinent.

Goa's Liberation Day

INCEPTION: 1961

MOTTO
To pay tribute to the soldiers who lost their lives in "Operation Vijay" which is aimed to free Goa from Portuguese rule.

GOA FACTS

- Smallest State with Highest per capita Income.
- India's very first printing press was set up in Goa.
- The Se Cathedral church in Old Goa is the largest in Asia.
- The first medical school of India was established in Panaji, Goa in 1842.
- This state has two official languages – Konkani and Marathi!

NOTE
On 30 May 1987, Goa got the statehood status and became one of the richest and top per capita income states of India.



19

DECEMBER

- Which multinational naval exercise will Germany participate in? **MILAN.**
- What national rank did Rajasthan secure in the water conservation award? **Third place.**



- Which organisation handles international expansion of UPI? **NIPL (NPCI International Payments Ltd.)**
- Which region received the largest share of UAE's humanitarian aid? **Palestine (Gaza)**
- Who has been appointed as the new Secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG)? **Neeraj Mittal**
- What is Moody's GDP forecast for India for 2026? **6.4%**
- IWAI signed an MoU with which company for transporting Methanol and Formalin via water routes? **Assam Petro-Chemicals Ltd. (APL).**
- How many old labour laws were replaced by the new codes? **A total of 29 old labour laws were replaced.**
- How much is the U.S. NASAMS missile sale to Taiwan worth? **The sale is worth nearly \$700 million.**
- Which company manufactures the NASAMS system? **NASAMS is manufactured by RTX (formerly Raytheon).**
- Which ministry released the discussion paper on GDP revision? **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**
- Which scheme recently approved ₹7,712 crore investment for electronics component manufacturing? **Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)**
- What is the retirement age of the Chief Justice of India? **65 years**
- Which team won the first-ever Women's T20 World Cup for the Blind? **Indian Women's Blind Cricket Team**
- Who won the Australian Open 2025 men's singles title? **Lakshya Sen**
- Whom did Lakshya Sen defeat in the Australian Open 2025 final? **Yushi Tanaka of Japan.**
- Which body approved Grahaa Space's first nano-satellite mission? **IN-SPACE approved the mission.**
- Which rocket will carry Solaras S2? **The Hanbit-Nano rocket built by InnoSpace.**
- Who are the executive directors of KWIL? **Chitrank Goel and Prashant Premrajka.**
- What has the Indian Navy commissioned in Mumbai? **INS Mahe, the first Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.**
- What partnership did IFFI form in 2025 to promote children's cinema? **IFFI partnered with UNICEF to showcase films focused on childhood.**
- Which countries are represented in the children-focused films at IFFI 2025? **India, Kosovo, Egypt, and South Korea.**
- What is the total outlay of the newly approved Export Promotion Mission (EPM)? **₹25,060 crore**
- Which film marked Dharmendra's debut? **His debut film was Dil Bhi Tera Hum Bhi Tere (1960).**
- What was Dharmendra's political party? **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).**
- Which two companies signed a joint venture to produce HAMMER in India? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Safran Electronics & Defence (SED).**
- Who will handle final assembly and testing of HAMMER in India? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).**
- How many consecutive World Cup titles has India won? **India has now won two consecutive titles.**
- Where were the 25th Summer Deaflympics held? **Tokyo.**
- How many Davis Cup titles does Italy have now? **Italy now has four Davis Cup titles.**
- What water-saving model was promoted in Barmer under Tina Dabi? **The underground rainwater "Tanka Model."**
- Who has been appointed as Executive Director of Canara Bank? **Sunil Kumar Chugh.**
- Who is the new Executive Director of Bank of Maharashtra? **Prabhat Kiran.**
- Who has been appointed as Executive Director of Punjab National Bank? **Amit Kumar Srivastava.**
- What growth rate does S&P expect for India in FY27? **6.7% in FY27.**
- Why was the Shenzhou-22 spacecraft launched? **It was launched to rescue three astronauts stranded on the Tiangong space station.**
- Who became the first Ukrainian to win a top-division sumo title? **Aonishiki**



Quick Bytes

- India ranks 8th in debut World Skills Asia, earning 1 Silver, 2 Bronze and 3 Medallions for Excellence.
- Dr. Kenichi Iga honoured for pioneering development and practical application of Vertical-Cavity Surface-Emitting Laser (VCSEL).
- Hansa-3 NG Trainer Aircraft Unveiled & SARAS Mk-2 Aircraft Reviewed
- RITES Wins CEAI Award for USBRL Engineering Innovation
- Vice Adm. Sanjay Sadhu Assumes Charge as CWP&A
- SIM-Linking Now Mandatory for Messaging Apps: DoT Tightens Cybersecurity Norms
- India Re-Elected to IMO Council with Highest Votes
- India and ADB Seal \$800 Million Loan Deal to Power Various Projects
- Crisil Revises India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 7%
- Paschal Donohoe Appointed MD and CKO of the World Bank Group
- Indian Navy Receives 'Taragiri': Fourth Nilgiri-Class (Project 17A) Stealth Frigate
- Vice Admiral Sanjay Sadhu Assumes Charge as Controller of Warship Production & Acquisition
- Andre Russell Retires from IPL, Joins KKR Support Staff
- Virat Kohli Surpasses Sachin Tendulkar With Record-Breaking 52nd ODI Century
- Oscar-Winning British Playwright Tom Stoppard Dies at 88
- Andhra Pradesh Renames Raj Bhavan as Lok Bhavan
- Aparna Garg Assumes Charge as Railway Board Member (Finance)
- India-Maldives Joint Exercise 'Ekuverin' Begins in Kerala
- India to Chair International IDEA for the First Time
- R. Chander Takes Over as LIC Managing Director
- Former England Cricketer Robin Smith Passes Away at 62
- Lok Sabha Passes Central Excise (Amendment) Bill 2025
- Government Withdraws Mandatory Pre-Installation of Sanchar Saathi App
- Bharat Taxi, a driver-owned cooperative ride-hailing platform, has launched pilot operations in Delhi and Gujarat under the Sahakar Se Samridhhi initiative.
- Haryana's Lado Lakshmi Yojana to Offer Financial Aid Quarterly from December 2025
- SEBI Launches SWAGAT-FI to Simplify Access for Low-Risk Foreign Investors in India
- India's Insolvency Regime Upgraded to Group B by S&P
- Brendan Nelson Appointed Chairman of HSBC, Succeeding Mark Tucker
- RBI Approves Vikram Sahu as CEO of Bank of America India for Three-Year Term
- Jeyandran Venugopal Appointed as President & CEO of Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd
- Armand Duplantis and Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone Named World Athletes of the Year 2025
- MEITY & MEA Enable Paperless Passport Verification via DigiLocker
- Australia's Victoria University to Open First India Campus in Gurugram by 2026
- Asim Munir Formally Appointed Pakistan's First Chief of Defence Forces
- Fitch Ups India's FY26 Growth Forecast to 7.4% Amid Strong Consumer Demand
- Sunil Narine Makes T20 History With 600-Wicket Milestone
- Swaraj Kaushal, Former Mizoram Governor Passes Away at 73
- Veteran Producer AVM Saravanan Passes Away
- Dr. Shardul S. Shroff Wins ACES 2025 Lifetime Honour
- Prateek Madhav Wins National Individual Excellence Award
- Netflix to Acquire Warner Bros Discovery Studios and Streaming Business for \$72 Billion
- RBI Raises India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 7.3%
- Dr Renuka Iyer Appointed Chief Medical Officer of NCCN
- Roman Gofman Appointed as Next Mossad Chief



- Cristiano Ronaldo Joins Perplexity AI as Investor and Brand Ambassador
- Microsoft Store Awards 2025: ChatGPT, Perplexity, Notion Among Top App Winners
- Donald Trump Awarded First FIFA Peace Prize at 2026 World Cup Draw Ceremony
- India–Malaysia Launch 5th Edition of Exercise Harimau Shakti in Rajasthan
- Simone Tata: The Visionary Behind Lakmé and Westside Passes Away at 95
- India Opens World’s Highest War Memorial at Galwan
- Rajasthan Becomes First to Fully Digitise Voter Rolls
- Mission Watershed PUNARUTTHAN Launched in Nagaland
- Tata Electronics and Intel Sign MoU to Explore Chip Manufacturing and Packaging in India
- Anant Ambani Becomes Youngest Recipient of Global Humane Society’s Animal Welfare Award
- Tata–Lockheed Martin to Build New MRO Facility for C-130J Super Hercules in India
- Veteran Bengali Actor Kalyan Chatterjee Passes Away at 81
- Veteran Social Activist Baba Adhav Passes Away at 95
- Right to Disconnect Bill 2025 Introduced in Parliament: A Step Towards Work-Life Balance
- DHRUVA: India’s Digital Hub for Reference and Unique Virtual Address Launched
- Rohit Sharma Became 4th Indian To Enter 20000 Runs Scored Club
- Lando Norris Wins 2025 Formula 1 World Championship in Dramatic Abu Dhabi Finale
- Frank Gehry, Iconic Architect Behind Guggenheim Bilbao, Dies at 96
- Dr. Renuka Iyer Appointed CMO of National Comprehensive Cancer Network
- Fino Becomes First Payments Bank to Get SFB Approval
- Deepavali Enters UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage List, Boosting India’s Global Presence
- Lithuania Declares State of Emergency Over Balloon Incursions From Belarus
- Andrej Babis Sworn In as Czech Republic’s New Prime Minister
- Indian-Origin Neal Mohan Named TIME’s 2025 CEO of the Year
- A’ja Wilson Named TIME’s 2025 Athlete of the Year
- Leonardo DiCaprio Named TIME’s 2025 Entertainer of the Year
- Indian-Origin Arkin Gupta Named in Forbes Under-30 List for Financial Innovation
- Jasprit Bumrah made history on 9 December 2025 by becoming the first Indian bowler to claim 100 wickets in all three formats—Tests, ODIs, and T20Is—reaching the milestone during the 1st T20I vs South Africa in Cuttack.
- India to Host 1st Commonwealth Kho Kho Championship (2026)
- BMW Names Milan Nedeljković as New CEO
- Author Sophie Kinsella Passes Away at 55
- Kohli Climbs to No.2 in ODI Rankings, Rohit Sharmas Retains Top Spot
- Cipla Launches Tirzepatide-Based Obesity & Diabetes Drug
- Sujalam Bharat App for Real-Time Rural Water Data
- IOA & Italy’s Italian National Olympic Committee signed an MoU to enhance bilateral sports cooperation with emphasis on training, infrastructure access & sports science.
- Amul Extends Sponsorship with Argentina Football Team
- Veteran Socialist Leader Baba Adhav Passes Away at 95
- Plan for Conducting Census of India 2027 Approved By Union Cabinet
- Cabinet Nod to Atomic Energy Bill Unlocks Opportunities for Private Nuclear Projects
- Insurance Amendment Bill 2025: Cabinet Approves 100% FDI in Indian Insurance Firms
- PNB Housing Finance Appoints Ajai Kumar Shukla as New MD & CEO
- MSME Ministry Signs MoU with Amazon For Vishwakarma Artisans
- Department of Posts and BSE Sign MoU to Expand Mutual Fund Access Across India
- Sikkim Opens Cho La & Dok La for Border Tourism
- Maharashtra Launches a Project Mahadev for Football Talent
- Innoviti Wins Hurun Future Unicorn SaaS Award



- Raj Kumar Goyal Sworn in as Chief Information Commissioner
- C-DOT Wins IEEE SA Corporate Award 2025
- Former MP Ram Vilas Das Vedanti Passes Away
- India Wins Historic WSF Squash World Cup 2025
- National Makhana Board Launched with ₹1,476 Cr Development Scheme
- Google's Project Suncatcher to Build Solar AI Data Centres in Space
- Cabinet Clears Insurance Amendment Bill Allowing 100% FDI
- Ponduru Khadi Awarded Geographical Indication (GI) Tag
- Right-Wing Leader José Antonio Kast Becomes Chile's President
- Google Launches Its First-Ever Credit Card in India on RuPay
- Government Extends Tenure of SBI MD Ashwini Kumar Tewari by Two Years
- PM Modi Becomes First World Leader to Receive Ethiopia's Top Award
- India's Homebound Enters Oscar 2026 Shortlist for Best International Feature
- Italy Becomes First Country to Get UNESCO Recognition for Its National Cuisine
- Ravi Ranjan Takes Charge As SBI New Managing Director (MD)
- HDFC Bank Gets RBI Nod to Acquire Up to 9.5% Stake in IndusInd Bank
- Ex-Justice Secretary Raj Kumar Goyal Appointed Chief Information Commissioner
- B. Sairam Appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Coal India
- Suresh Goyal Appointed as NCAER Director General
- Miyana Railway Station Receives National Energy Conservation Award 2025
- India and Brazil Sign Tripartite MoU on Maintenance of Scorpene Submarines
- Shafali Verma Wins ICC Women's Player of the Month for November
- Simon Harmer Named ICC Men's Player of the Month for November 2025
- India Launches Its First 1.0 GHz, 64-bit Dual-Core Indigenous Microprocessor DHRUV64'
- India and Saudi Arabia Sign Visa Waiver Agreement to Facilitate Official Travel
- Air India Bags Best Domestic Airline Title at Travel + Leisure Awards 2025
- Singapore Changi Airport Wins World's Best Airport Title 2025
- José Antonio Kast Elected President of Chile
- Nvidia Tops Hurun Global 1000 as World's Most Valuable Company
- Viksit Bharat G RAM G Bill Passed in Lok Sabha
- Parliament Passes SHANTI Bill, AERB Gets Statutory Status
- India to Get Its First Forest University in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh
- Jharkhand Clears Landmark Law for Gig Workers Welfare
- India & Oman CEPA Signed to Boost Trade and Investment
- Brazil Hands Over BRICS Presidency to India
- Shashwat Sharma Appointed As MD & CEO of Airtel India
- Exercise Desert Cyclone II Begins: India&U.A.E. Joint Military Exercise
- Deepinder Goyal Tops Hurun Rich List 2025 for India's Self-Made Entrepreneurs
- Jharkhand Clinched The Maiden Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2025
- India&UAE Joint Military Exercise Desert Cyclone
- India and Oman signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement in Muscat during PM Narendra Modi's visit to deepen trade, investment and services cooperation.
- Indian Navy Commissions INAS 335 MH-60R Squadron
- Veteran War Correspondent Peter Arnett Dies at 91
- Statue of Unity Sculptor Ram Vanji Sutar Dies at 100
- India and the Netherlands Set Up Joint Trade and Investment Committee (JTIC)
- Operation Hawkeye: US and Jordan Strike ISIS Sites in Syria
- RBI Slaps ₹62 Lakh Penalty on Kotak Mahindra Bank
- Scottish artist Nnena Kalu has become the first artist with a learning disability to win the prestigious Turner Prize, making history in British art.



- PGIMER Chandigarh Retains Top Spot as India's Best Health Technology Assessment Institute
- Michaela Benthaus to Make History as First Wheelchair User in Space
- RITES Ltd. Signs MoU with Botswana for Transport Modernisation
- PM Inaugurates First Global Aircraft Engine MRO Facility in Hyderabad
- World Bank Approves \$776 Million for Reforms in Punjab and Maharashtra
- MapmyIndia Partners with Zoho CRM to Power India's First Indigenous Location Intelligence
- PUMA Appoints Ramprasad Sridharan as New Managing Director for India
- CEC Gyanesh Kumar to Chair International IDEA in 2026
- Javokhir Sindarov Crowned 2025 FIDE World Cup Champion
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Bust Unveiled at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on Constitution Day
- Assam Passes Strict Anti Polygamy Bill, 2025 "Major Legal Shift in Marriage Laws"
- Jakarta Becomes World's Most Populous City, Surpassing Tokyo: UN Report 2025
- Asian Paints Becomes Team India's Official Colour Partner in 3-Year BCCI Deal
- Camikara Becomes First Indian Rum to Win "Global Brand of the Year"
- India's Economy to Grow at 6.6% in 2025-26, Says IMF
- CBDT Unveils 'NUDGE' Campaign: A Push for Voluntary Tax Compliance
- Government Approves Tex-RAMPS to Boost Innovation & Data in India's Textile Sector
- 10-Year-Old Giovanna de Sequeira Wins Bronze for India at World Jiu-Jitsu Championship
- Indian Scientists Develop "OncoMark" AI Framework for Personalised Cancer Therapy
- PM Modi Unveils 77 FT Statue Of Rama & Inaugurates Ramayana Theme Park in Goa
- Operation Sagar Bandhu — India's Aid Mission to Sri Lanka After Cyclone Ditwah
- India to Lead Emerging Market Growth with 7% GDP Rise in 2025: Moody's
- Sipan Garg Takes Additional Charge as CMD of THDC India Ltd
- Temasek Appoints Former DBS CEO Piyush Gupta as India Chairman
- Jay Shah Honoured with "Indian of the Year 2025"
- India Signs ₹7,900 Crore Deal with US for MH-60R Navy Helicopter Support

IMPORTANCE

To mark the birth anniversary of Chaudharicharan singh on 23 Dec 1902, Who was the 5th PM of India.

**Kisan
Diwas**

INCEPTION: 2001
EDITION: 24th

MOTTO

To improve the lives of the Indian farmers.

FACT

Chaudhary Charan Singh never visited the Lok Sabha.

**OTHER WORLD WIDE
CELEBRATIONS**

Ghana: 1st Friday of Dec.
Pakistan: 18 Dec
USA: 12 Oct
Zambia: 1st Monday of Aug

23
DECEMBER



Trending Topics of the Month

How New Pilot Safety Rules and Other Factors Led to Major IndiGo Flight Disruptions in India: Explained

In December 2025, India's busiest airline, IndiGo, faced one of the worst operational crises in its history, with hundreds — and even thousands — of flights cancelled, delayed, and disrupted nationwide. This shook the aviation sector, stranded passengers at airports, and raised questions about airline safety rules, staffing planning, and how changes in pilot regulations were handled.



To understand what happened, we need to break it down into three core parts:

1. What the new pilot safety rules actually are,
2. Why IndiGo in particular was hit so hard,
3. Other contributing factors besides the rules, Responses, temporary fixes, and what lies ahead.

1. What Are the New Pilot Safety Rules?

India's aviation regulator — the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) — updated rules on how long pilots can fly, how much rest they need, and what counts as night flying. These rules are collectively known as Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL).

Here's what changed and why:

Key Safety Changes

Weekly Rest Increase: Pilots must now get at least 48 continuous hours of rest each week (up from 36). This gives pilots more time to recover from fatigue.

Night Flying Definition Expanded: Night time is now counted from midnight to 6 a.m., instead of midnight to 5 a.m. This captures more flights under fatigue-sensitive hours.

Night Landings Reduced: Pilots are now allowed only two landings per roster period between midnight and early morning (down from six). This is important because night landings are more tiring.

Duty Time Caps: Pilots can't fly for more than 10 hours on flights stretching into the night.

Rest Rules Tied to Leave: Pilots can no longer count personal leave as part of the required rest under the weekly rest rule.

Fatigue Reports: Airlines must submit regular reports to DGCA about pilot fatigue management actions.

Purpose of the Rules

The main goal of FDTL rules is to reduce pilot fatigue — tired pilots can be dangerous because fatigue affects judgement and reaction time. The DGCA studied global safety standards and fatigue data before tightening rules.

How the Rules Were Rolled Out

The FDTL changes were not sudden. They were first proposed in early 2024, and DGCA spread implementation in two phases:

1. Phase 1 started on July 1, 2025 — longer weekly rest was introduced.
 2. Phase 2 took effect on November 1, 2025 — stricter night limits and other parts of the rules.
- This phased approach was meant to give airlines time to adjust.

2. Why IndiGo Was Affected So Badly

All Indian airlines are required to follow the same pilot safety rules. But IndiGo — being the biggest airline — was disproportionately affected. Here's why:

Huge Operations and Few Buffer Resources:

IndiGo operates over 2,200 flights daily, far more than any other Indian airline. Because its network is huge, even small problems affect many flights.

Lean Crew Planning: Instead of hiring extra pilots as a cushion, IndiGo reportedly ran with a very tight staffing model. This meant there was little slack in crew availability once the new rules took effect — pilots couldn't be scheduled as flexibly as before.



Pilot Shortages When Needed Most: With the weekly rest requirement increasing and night landings capped, many pilots became unavailable for additional flying (even if they wanted to). IndiGo did not recruit or schedule additional pilots fast enough to meet these new requirements. Industry experts say airlines had more than a year's notice to prepare, but IndiGo's planning didn't match the scale of these changes.

3. Other Contributing Factors Beyond Safety Rules

While pilot safety rules were a big trigger, they were not the only cause of cancellations and delays.

Winter Weather and Fog: Northern India often experiences fog in winter. This reduces visibility at airports like Delhi, slowing down flight operations and creating congestion.

Technical Glitches: IndiGo also faced computer system issues at some airports, which slowed departures and added delays that rippled across the network.

Heavy Airport Traffic: During the peak holiday travel season, airports are busier than usual. This means even small delays or cancellations can quickly cascade, causing large-scale disruption.

Aggressive Schedule Growth: IndiGo expanded its winter season flying schedule — meaning slower recovery from delays and less ability to adjust crew rosters on the fly.

4. What Happened Once Chaos Hit?

Mass Flight Cancellations: In early December alone, thousands of flights were cancelled nationwide as crews hit legal duty limits and no replacement crews were available. Most major airports, such as Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Chennai, were affected. At times, on-time performance dropped to extremely low levels — in some airports under 10% of flights were on schedule.

Passengers Stranded: Millions of passengers faced long lines, delays, and uncertainty as flights were abruptly cancelled or rescheduled. Some travelers had to make alternative plans, pay high fares on other carriers, or face overnight waits.

Criticism from Pilots and Flyers: Pilot groups criticised IndiGo for failing to hire enough staff and said the airline's lean manpower strategy was to blame. Some argued the disruption should not be used to weaken safety norms, while others blamed DGCA for poor oversight in planning.

Government and DGCA Response

The DGCA temporarily eased some rules for IndiGo until February 10, 2026. This included relaxing the strict night landing limits and allowing personal leave to count toward rest periods again — but only temporarily.

The DGCA also sent inspectors into IndiGo's offices to monitor operations and crew planning daily as the airline works to stabilise operations.

Regulators required IndiGo to cut its winter schedule by about 5% and submit a revised flight plan to make scheduling more manageable.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation ordered a high-level inquiry into what went wrong.

5. What Happens Next?

Stabilising Operations: IndiGo says it plans to restore stable operations by February 10, 2026, when full compliance with the FDTL norms is expected to resume.

Hiring More Pilots: The airline is expected to speed up pilot hiring and adjust crew rosters to meet the safety rules and avoid future disruptions.

Stronger Planning Ahead: Many aviation experts now argue that improved planning, more buffer staffing, and flexible crew scheduling will be required across the industry — not just at IndiGo — especially during peak travel seasons.

Way Forward:

Hire More Pilots and Create Buffers: Airlines must build a larger standby pilot pool so new rules or disruptions don't collapse the schedule.

Use Smarter Rostering Systems: Advanced digital tools should predict fatigue, balance duty hours, and avoid last-minute crew shortages.

Better DGCA–Airline Coordination: Future rule changes should involve joint planning, impact assessment, and phased trials to prevent sudden chaos.

Clear Passenger Contingency Plans: Automatic rebooking, early SMS alerts, and on-ground support should be standard during disruptions.

Improve Airport and Air-Traffic Capacity: Better fog-handling systems, more night runway capacity, and tighter slot management will reduce cascading delays.

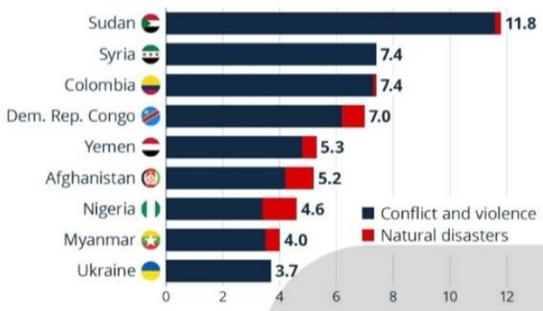
Strengthen Safety Culture: Prioritise pilot rest and fatigue reporting instead of pushing tight rosters to maximise flights.



Infographics

Sudan Has by Far the Most Internally Displaced Persons

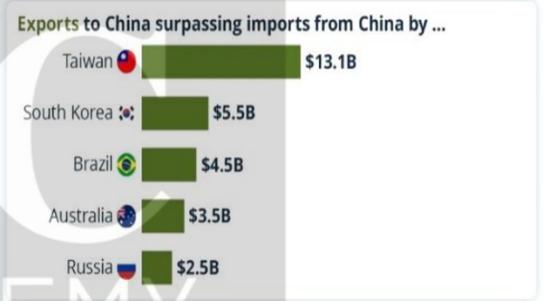
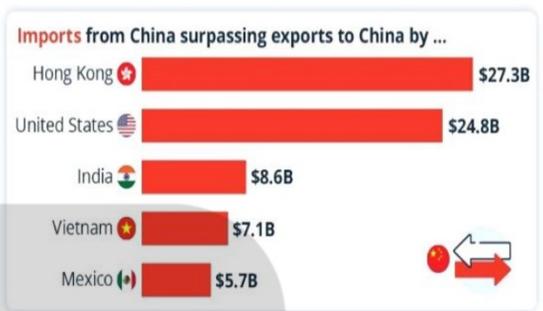
Countries with the largest estimated number of internally displaced persons in 2024, by reason (in million)



As of December 2024
Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Center

Where China Has the Biggest Trade Surpluses and Deficits

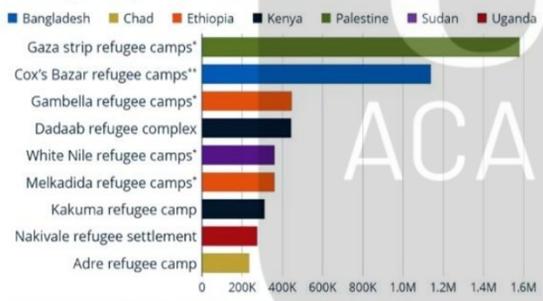
Countries/regional economies with the biggest trade surpluses/deficits with China in October 2025



Source: China Customs Administration

Refugees Hotspots Around The World

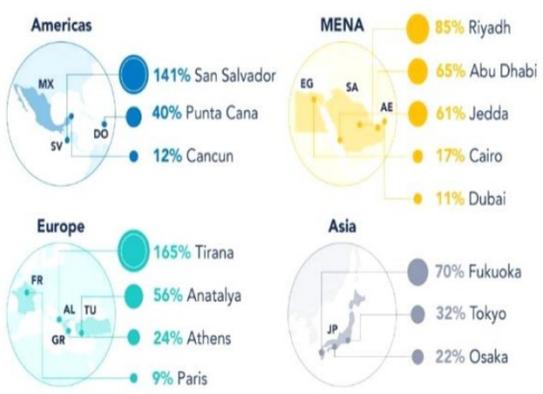
Number of refugees registered with UNHCR in selected refugee camps/regions as of November 2025



* Gaza: 6 camps (refugees registered with UNRWA), White Nile: 10 camps, Melkadida & Gambella districts: 6 & 7 camps
** Cox's Bazar: 33 camps (each between 10k-66k people) spread across the city's district
Sources: UNHCR, UNRWA

The world's leading tourism growth cities

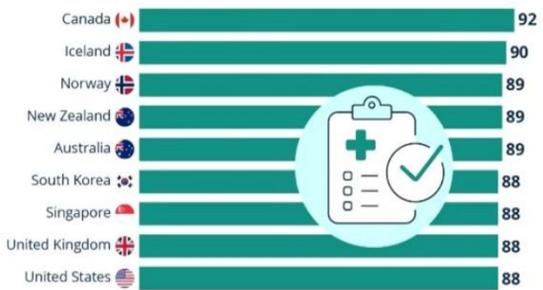
Change in the number of flight bookings in 2024 compared to 2019



Note: Cities depicted represent the top 15 growth cities in terms of net passenger growth from 2019 to 2024
Source: OAG, Mastercard Economics Institute

The Countries With the Best Healthcare Coverage

UHC service coverage index in 2023, by country (100=best possible score)*



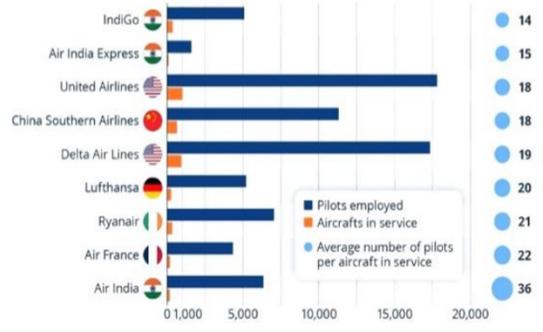
India's Aircraft Fleet Is Expanding Rapidly

Airlines that ordered the most commercial jets from Boeing and Airbus in 2023 and 2024



How Are Airlines Staffed Relative to Their Fleet Size?

Number of pilots/co-pilots employed and number of aircrafts in service for selected major airlines



Venezuela Sits on a Fifth of the World's Oil

Countries with the largest proven crude oil reserves in 2024 (in billion barrels)



Who's Glued to the TV?

Share of respondents who watch TV* for at least 11 hours per week in selected countries (in percent)



Warner Deal Supercharges Netflix's Content Library

Selected TV/movie franchises owned by Netflix and Warner Bros. Discovery

NETFLIX

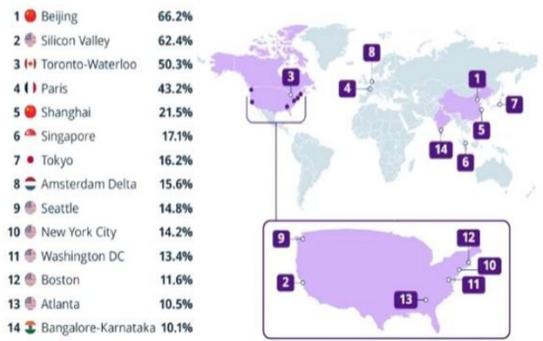
- Stranger Things
- Squid Game
- KPop Demon Hunters
- The Witcher
- Bridgerton
- The Crown
- Adolescence
- Money Heist
- Orange Is the New Black
- Wednesday
- House of Cards
- The Diplomat
- Monster

WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY

- Harry Potter
- The Lord of the Rings
- Game of Thrones
- The Sopranos
- DC Universe
- The Big Bang Theory
- Friends
- The Wire
- Casablanca
- The Wizard of Oz
- Looney Tunes
- Scooby-Doo
- Tom and Jerry

The World's Leading AI Investment Hubs

Cities/regions where AI companies received more than 10 percent of local VC funding in 2023 and 2024





UC ACADEMY



UC Academy



9900088975/76



UC Academy CAPF



ucAcademyOfficial



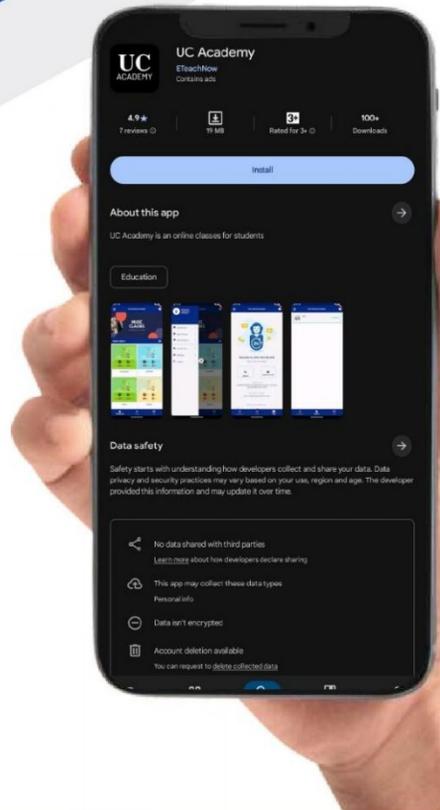
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