

RBI Penalties on NBFCs

- **Total Penalty:** ₹76.6 lakh on four NBFCs for non-compliance with peer-to-peer lending regulations.
 - **Fairassets Technologies India:** ₹40 lakh.
 - **Bridge Fintech Solutions:** ₹10 lakh.
 - **Rang De P2P Financial Services:** ₹10 lakh.
 - **Visionary Financepeer:** ₹16.6 lakh.
- **Reason:** Non-compliance with 'Non-Banking Financial Company – Peer-to-Peer Lending Platform (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2017'.
- **Clarification:** Penalties based on regulatory compliance deficiencies, not on transaction validity.

Digital Payments Awareness Week 2025

- **Inauguration:** By RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra.
- **Dates:** March 10-16, 2025.
- **Theme:** "India Pays Digitally".
- **Focus Areas:**
 - Promoting soft-touch regulations for innovation.
 - Increasing awareness of digital payments.
 - Improving efficiency in cross-border transactions.
- **India's Share:** 48.5% in global real-time payments by volume.
- **Remittances Projection:** USD 130 billion in 2024.

Financial Literacy Campaigns

- **Initiative:** By RBI and National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE).
- **Campaigns:** "RBI Kehta Hai" public awareness campaign.
- **Target Groups:** Various age groups, including senior citizens.
- **Programs:** Financial Education (FE) programs for individuals under 18 and over 60 years.
- **Strategy:** National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE).

Framework for SROs in Account Aggregator Ecosystem

- **Introduction:** RBI's framework for recognizing Self-Regulatory Organizations (SROs) for Account Aggregators (AAs).
- **Requirements:**
 - Not-for-profit companies under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.
 - Minimum net worth of ₹2 crore within one year.
 - Diversified shareholding.
 - Robust IT capabilities.

- Independence and impartiality.

Appointment of Ajit Ratnakar Joshi

- **Position:** Executive Director of RBI, effective March 3, 2025.
- **Previous Role:** Principal Adviser in the Department of Statistics and Information Management (DSIM).
- **Responsibilities:** Overseeing statistical data accuracy and financial stability measures.

Ceiling on Small Value Loans for UCBs

- **Increase:** Ceiling on small-value loans for urban cooperative banks (UCBs).
- **Requirements:**
 - At least 50% of aggregate loans as small-value loans by March 31, 2026.
 - Small-value loans: Not exceeding ₹25 lakh or 0.4% of Tier-I capital, up to ₹3 crore per borrower.
- **Revised Limits:**
 - **Tier-I UCBs:** Up to ₹60 lakh per dwelling unit.
 - **Tier-II UCBs:** Up to ₹1.40 crore per dwelling unit.
 - **Tier-III UCBs:** Up to ₹2 crore per dwelling unit.
 - **Tier-IV UCBs:** Up to ₹3 crore per dwelling unit.
- **Exposure Caps:**
 - Residential mortgages: 25% of total loans and advances.
 - Real estate sector: 5% of total loans and advances.

Financial Literacy Week 2025

- **Theme:** "Financial Literacy: Women's Prosperity".
- **Dates:** February 24-28, 2025.
- **Launch:** Attended by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra and other key officials.
- **Focus:** Empowering women to drive inclusive economic growth.
- **Activities:** Multimedia campaigns and outreach efforts by banks.
- **Goal:** Promote financial literacy and gender equality in financial participation.

Reduction in Risk Weights on Bank Loans to NBFCs and MFIs

- **Action:** RBI reduced risk weights on bank loans to NBFCs by 25 percentage points.
- **Purpose:** Boost credit availability and support economic growth.
- **Impact:** Lower capital requirements for banks, potentially reducing loan interest rates.

Restrictions on New India Co-Operative Bank

- **Reason:** Supervisory concerns.
- **Restrictions:** No new loans, renewals, fresh deposits, or withdrawals for six months.
- **Administrator:** Shreekant, with a committee of advisors.
- **Deposit Insurance:** Eligible depositors can claim up to ₹5,00,000 from DICGC.

Extension for Vakrangee's White Label ATMs

- **Authorization:** Extended until March 31, 2026.
- **Current ATMs:** 6,035, with 76% in Tier 4 and 6 locations.
- **Services:** Banking, insurance, ATM, financial services, and assisted e-commerce.

RBIDATA App Launch

- **Purpose:** Access to macroeconomic and financial statistics.
- **Features:**
 - Over 11,000 economic data series.
 - Interactive graphs/charts and downloadable datasets.
 - Popular Reports section and enhanced search functionality.
 - Banking Outlet locator within a 20 km radius.

Prohibition on Foreclosure Charges for Floating Rate Loans

- **Draft Circular:** RBI allows foreclosure or prepayment of all floating rate loans for individuals without fees or penalties.
- **Business Loans:** No charges for business-related floating rate loans to individuals and MSEs (threshold: ₹7.5 crore).
- **Policy:** Charges must adhere to a board-approved policy and be based on the outstanding amount or sanctioned limit.

Penalties on Citibank, Asirvad Micro Finance, JM Financial Home Loans

- **Citibank:** ₹39 lakh for delays in reporting breaches and data corrections.
- **Asirvad Micro Finance:** ₹6.20 lakh for multiple deficiencies, including reporting and customer service issues.

- **JM Financial Home Loans:** ₹1.50 lakh for not disclosing risk gradation and interest rate rationale.

Norms for Forward Contracts in G-secs

- **Effective Date:** May 2, 2025.
- **Participants:** Residents and non-residents eligible under FEMA regulations.
- **Market Makers:** Scheduled commercial banks and standalone primary dealers.
- **Requirements:** At least one party must be a market maker or authorized central counterparty.

Consideration of ATM Cash Transaction and Interchange Fees

- **Proposed Increase:** Cash transaction fee from ₹21 to ₹22; interchange fee from ₹17 to ₹19 for cash transactions and from ₹6 to ₹7 for non-cash transactions.
- **Current Free Transactions:** Five in non-metro areas and three in metro locations.

6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy 2025

- **Policy Rate:** Reduced by 25 basis points to 6.25%.
- **GDP Growth Estimate:** 6.7% for FY26.
- **Inflation Estimate:** 4.2% for FY26.
- **Current Account Deficit:** Expected to remain under control.
- **Rates:**
 - **SDF Rate:** 6%.
 - **MSF Rate and Bank Rate:** 6.50%.

Voluntary Amalgamation of Urban Co-operative Banks

- **Approval:** RBI approved the voluntary amalgamation of two urban cooperative banks.
 - **Citizen Cooperative Bank (Goa)** merging with **TJSB Sahakari Bank (Thane)**.
 - **Pune Commercial Cooperative Bank (Satara)** merging with **Pimpri Chinchwad Sahakari Bank (Pune)**.
- **Effective Date:** February 10, 2025.
- **Purpose:** Strengthen and consolidate the urban cooperative banking sector.

Penalties on Federal Bank and Karur Vysya Bank

- **Total Penalty:** ₹35.60 lakh.
 - **Federal Bank:** ₹27.30 lakh for non-compliance related to interest rates on deposits.
 - **Karur Vysya Bank:** ₹8.30 lakh for failing to adhere to specific RBI directions concerning the loan system.
- **Reason:** Regulatory compliance deficiencies.

Working Group to Review Trading and Settlement Timings

- **Formation:** 9-member Working Group chaired by Radha Shyam Ratho.
- **Objective:** Review trading and settlement timings, assess electronification of trading, and synchronize market timings.
- **Focus:** Enhance price discovery and liquidity optimization.

Pre-approved Credit Lines on UPI

- **Expansion:** RBI allows small finance banks to offer pre-sanctioned credit lines on UPI.
- **Consent:** Users must provide explicit consent to use these credit lines.
- **Purpose:** Facilitate transactions through linked accounts and additional funding sources.

Lifting Restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank

- **Action:** RBI lifted restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank, allowing it to issue new credit cards and onboard customers.
- **Reason:** Deficiencies in IT management addressed through remedial measures and external audit.
- **Focus:** Improving core banking resilience and digital transformation.

Liquidity Injection in Banking System

- **Amount:** ₹2.5 lakh crore through Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auction.
- **Frequency:** Daily VRR auctions on all working days in Mumbai.
- **Purpose:** Enhance liquidity and support the economy.
- **Additional Measures:** Potential Open Market Operations (OMO) purchases and foreign exchange swaps.

Name Lookup for NEFT and RTGS

- **Introduction:** RBI announced a name lookup facility for RTGS and NEFT systems.

- **Purpose:** Reduce fraud and errors by allowing remitters to verify the beneficiary's name before transactions.
- **Implementation:** By April 1, 2025, developed by NPCI, free for users.

Merger of National and Cosmos Co-operative Banks

- **Effective Date:** January 6, 2025.
- **Purpose:** Simplify operations and improve service delivery.

Master Direction on Credit Information Reporting

- **Date:** January 5, 2025.
- **Requirement:** CICs must send alerts to customers when their Credit Information Report (CIR) is accessed.

Lifting Restrictions on Asirvad Microfinance and DMI Finance

- **Date:** January 8, 2025.
- **Reason:** Companies adhered to regulatory guidelines.

Daily VRR Auctions

- **Purpose:** Ease liquidity tightness in the banking system.
- **Amount:** ₹50,000 crore daily.

Outward Remittances under LRS

- **Increase:** 3.6% in November 2024 to \$1.95 billion.
- **Period Comparison:** \$7.1 billion (Sep-Nov 2024) vs. \$7.5 billion (same period in 2023).

Net FDI Inflow

- **Decrease:** \$0.5 billion (Apr-Nov 2024) from \$8.5 billion (same period in 2023).
- **Gross Inward FDI:** Increased to \$55.6 billion (Apr-Nov 2024).

RBI's Forex Market Intervention

- **Record Sale:** \$20.2 billion in November to contain rupee volatility.
- **Net Short Position:** \$58.9 billion by November end.

New Advisory Committee for Bank Licensing

- **Formation Date:** January 20, 2025.
- **Chair:** Former RBI Deputy Governor M. K. Jain.
- **Purpose:** Assess applications for Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks (SFBs).

Penalties on Canara, BOI, and J&K Bank

- **Total Penalty:** Various amounts for non-compliance with regulatory norms.
 - **Jammu and Kashmir Bank:** ₹3.31 crore.
 - **Bank of India:** ₹1 crore.
 - **Canara Bank:** ₹1.63 crore.
 - **Datson Exports:** ₹1 lakh.

Surge in Complaints to RBI Ombudsman

- **Increase:** 32.81% surge in complaints, reaching 9.34 lakh in the year ended March 2024.
- **Implication:** Indicates a decline in customer service standards within the banking sector.

Alignment of HFCs' NCD Private Placement Rules with NBFC Regulations

- **Announcement:** RBI aligned regulations for private placement of NCDs by HFCs with those for NBFCs.
- **Guidelines:** Effective immediately, with minimum subscription per investor set at ₹20,000.

Partial Devolution of 10-Year Green Bond

- **Devolution:** ₹3,945 crore worth of green bonds to primary dealers.
- **Acceptance:** ₹1,054 crore worth of green bonds at the auction.

Penalties on Equitas SFB and India Post Payments Bank

- **Equitas SFB:** ₹65 lakh for non-compliance with foreclosure charges and agricultural loan directions.
- **India Post Payments Bank:** ₹26.70 lakh for non-compliance with customer service directions.

Increase in UPI Lite Wallet and Transaction Limits

- **Wallet Limit:** Increased from ₹2,000 to ₹5,000.
- **Transaction Limit:** Increased from ₹500 to ₹1,000 per transaction under the offline framework.

Policy Repo Rate Unchanged

- **Rate:** 6.50%, unchanged for the 11th consecutive time.
- **Outlook:** Neutral, prioritizing inflation alignment and growth support.

Introduction of Podcast Facility

- **Purpose:** Improve communication and share public interest information.

Increase in Collateral-Free Agricultural Loan Limit

- **New Limit:** Raised from ₹1.6 lakh to ₹2 lakh, effective January 1 next year.
- **Goal:** Address inflation impact and rising agricultural input costs.

Name Lookup for NEFT and RTGS

- **Feature:** Allows remitters to verify the beneficiary's name before transactions.
- **Implementation:** By April 1, 2025, developed by NPCI.

Awareness on Cyber Frauds

- **Report:** RBI report emphasizes increasing awareness about cyber frauds and identifying mule accounts.

SBI's Collateral-Free Digital SME Loan for Women Entrepreneurs

- **Product:** 'SBI Asmita' for women entrepreneurs.
- **Features:** Streamlined lending process using APIs, entrepreneurial training, and a 'Nari Shakti' platinum debit card.

India's Industrial Production Growth

- **Growth:** Likely surged to 3.7% year-on-year in January 2025, up from 3.2% in December 2024.
- **Comparison:** Lower than 4.2% in January 2024.
- **Indicators:** Broad-based optimism, increased e-way bill generation, toll collections, and petroleum consumption.
- **Sector Recovery:** Automobile sector recovery with increased sales.

LIC Ranked World's 3rd Strongest Insurance Brand

- **Ranking:** Third strongest insurance brand globally.
- **BSI Score:** 88 out of 100.
- **Top Brands:** Poland-based PZU (1st), China Life Insurance (2nd).
- **Brand Value:** LIC ranked 12th globally, SBI Life ranked 76th.

HDFC Bank, Indian Army, and CSC Academy MoU for Project NAMAN

- **Purpose:** Support Army veterans and their families.
- **Implementation:** At 26 DIAV locations.
- **Services:** Pension-related, G2C, and B2C services.
- **Expansion:** Second phase includes multiple states.

Bank of Baroda's Savings Account for Women NRIs

- **Product:** 'bob Global Women NRE & NRO Savings Account'.
- **Features:**
 - Auto-Sweep Facility.
 - Concessional Loan Rates.
 - Locker Rent Waiver.
 - Customized Debit Card.
 - Insurance Coverage.
- **Enhanced Account:** 'bob Premium NRE & NRO Savings Account' with additional benefits.

NaBFID in Talks with ADB and WB for Counter-Guarantees

- **Objective:** Reduce financing costs for infrastructure projects.
- **Partnership:** Share credit risk and enhance corporate bond ratings.
- **Mandate:** Guarantee up to 20% of corporate bonds.
- **FY26 Union Budget:** Allows Partial Credit Enhancement (PCE) facilities.
- **Goal:** Improve credit ratings and attract investors.

NHB Report on Housing in India

- **Growth:** Individual housing loans reached ₹33.53 lakh crore, a 14% increase.
- **Loan Distribution:**
 - MIG: 44%
 - EWS & LIG: 39%
 - HIG: 17%
- **Regional Distribution:** Southern (35%), Western (30%), Northern (28%), Eastern (5.4%), North Eastern States (0.68%).
- **Housing Loans:** 81% by banks, 19% by HFCs.

- **NHB-RESIDEX:** Housing price index grew by 6.8%.
- **Government Initiatives:** PMAY-G, PMAY-U, UIDF, ARHC.

Paytm Launches UPI Trading Blocks

- **Feature:** Automatic payment deductions for stock trading.
- **Availability:** Axis Bank and Yes Bank, with plans for SBI and HDFC Bank.
- **Other Features:** 'Receive Money QR Widget' and real-time payment notifications.

Indian Overseas Bank Offers Green Finance

- **Agreement:** With Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).
- **Purpose:** Financial assistance for IGBC-certified green buildings.
- **Target:** Developers and homebuyers of IGBC-rated projects.

NSDL and CDSL Launch Unified Investor App

- **Collaboration:** With SEBI.
- **Features:** Consolidated view of financial holdings, simplified portfolio management, and transaction cum holding statements.

Paytm Launches Solar-Powered Soundbox

- **Device:** Solar-powered soundbox for merchants.
- **Features:** Dual charging capabilities, real-time audio confirmations in 11 languages, integrates QR code technology.
- **Target:** Hawkers, street vendors, artisans, and small shop owners.

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

PNB Signs MoU with ITBP

- **Purpose:** Provide exclusive financial benefits and insurance for ITBP personnel, pensioners, and their families.
- **Key Benefits:**
 - Personal Accidental Insurance: ₹100 lakh.
 - Air Accidental Insurance: ₹150 lakh.
 - Permanent/Partial Disability Coverage: ₹100 lakh.
 - Additional cover for death during operations: ₹10 lakh.
 - Cost of imported medicines: ₹10 lakh.
 - Air ambulance cost coverage: ₹10 lakh.

IndusInd Bank Partners with Professional Golf Tour of India

- **Focus:** Ultra High Net worth Individuals (UHNIs) and High Net worth Individuals (HNIs) through PIONEER banking program.
- **Support:** PGTI events, enhancing professional golf in India.
- **Investment Products:** Mutual Funds, Alternate products, Sovereign Gold bonds, and legacy planning.

HDFC Bank Launches Anmol Savings Account

- **Target:** PSU employees.
- **Features:**
 - Cyber Fraud Protection: Coverage up to ₹25,000.
 - Family Benefits: Zero balance salary accounts for up to five family members.
 - Insurance Coverage: Health insurance, OPD coverage, top-up plans up to ₹30 lakh, accident insurance over ₹15 lakh.
 - Exclusive Offers: Free Platinum Debit Card with airport lounge access.
 - Home Loan Benefits: Supplementary home loans for Maharatna PSU employees.

UPI Transactions Reach All-Time High

- **Volume:** 16.99 billion transactions in January 2025.
- **Value:** ₹23.48 lakh crore.
- **Contribution:** 80% of retail payments in India.
- **P2M Transactions:** 62.35% of overall UPI volume.
- **P2P Transactions:** 37.65% of overall UPI volume.

Bank of Baroda Pilots Merchant Loyalty/Cashback Programme

- **Purpose:** Boost CBDC adoption and foster customer loyalty.
- **Eligibility:** Local retail shops, grocery stores, and pharmacies.
- **Customer Benefits:** Cashback in the form of programmable CBDC.

Yes Bank Tops S&P Global's Sustainability Rankings

- **Recognition:** Highest-rated bank in sustainability for the third consecutive year.
- **CSA Score:** 72 out of 100.
- **Inclusion:** Only Indian bank in the S&P Global Sustainability Yearbook 2025.
- **Goals:** Achieve net-zero emissions for Scope 1 and Scope 2 by 2030.

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

SIDBI Signs MoU with Tata Capital

- **Purpose:** Enhance financing options for MSMEs.
- **Focus Areas:**
 - Machinery and equipment financing.
 - Working capital.
 - Business loans.
 - Loans against property.
- **Collaboration:** Risk-sharing and co-lending to improve credit access.

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Applies for Universal Banking Licence

- **Objective:** Enhance services and market position.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
 - Minimum net worth of ₹1,000 crore.
 - Scheduled bank status.
 - Satisfactory track record of at least five years.
 - Gross NPA ratio of 3% or less.
 - Net NPA ratio of 1% or less over the past two financial years.
 - Only listed small finance banks are eligible.

Airtel Payments Bank Partners with Karnataka Bulldozers for CCL 2025

- **Purpose:** Promote safe digital banking solutions to fans.
- **Engagement:** Connect with cricket and entertainment fans.

L&T Finance Launches AI-based Virtual Home Loan Advisor 'KAI'

- **Features:**
 - Instant EMI calculations and loan estimates.
 - Expert answers to home loan queries.
 - Conversational and easy-to-understand responses.
 - Downloadable EMI schedules and bookmark preferences.

FIU-IND Imposes Penalty on Bybit Fintech Limited

- **Penalty:** ₹9.27 crore for violations related to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).
- **Reason:** Expanded services in India without necessary registration.

Public Sector Banks Show Strong Performance

- **Net Profit:** ₹1,29,426 crore for April-December 2024, a 31.3% year-on-year growth.
- **Operating Profit:** ₹2,20,243 crore.
- **Net NPA Ratio:** Historic low at 0.59%.
- **Credit Growth:** 12.4%, with significant expansions in retail, agriculture, and MSME credit.

IDFC FIRST Bank Launches Special Banking Services for Senior Citizens

- **Key Features:**
 - Additional interest on Fixed Deposits.
 - No penalty for premature FD closure.
 - Cyber insurance coverage.
 - Health benefits and wellness program.
 - Simplified mutual fund investments.
 - User-friendly mobile banking app.

These notes should help you remember the key points more easily. If you need further assistance or more detailed notes, feel free to ask!

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Launches 'HERizon Care'

- **Focus:** Women's healthcare needs.
- **Coverage:**
 - **Vita Shield:** 34 critical illnesses.
 - **Cradle Care:** Medical expenses for surrogate mothers.
 - **Optional Covers:** Infertility treatments, adoption expenses, egg-freezing, assisted reproductive technologies, prenatal techniques.
 - **Prophylactic Surgeries Cover:** Preventive mastectomy and hysterectomy.
 - **Legal Expense Support:** For cases involving sexual assault, kidnapping, and acid attacks.
- **Wellness Services:** Diet consultations, emotional wellness programs, teleconsultations, preventive check-ups.

Angel One AMC Launches NFO on Nifty Total Market Index

- **Products:** Angel One Nifty Total Market Index Fund and ETF.
- **Coverage:** Approximately 750 stocks across 22 sectors.
- **Investment:** Minimum ₹1,000, no exit load, SIP options available.
- **Objective:** Simple passive investment strategies.

SIDBI and AFD Sign \$100M Deal for Green Finance in MSMEs

- **Purpose:** Scale up Green Finance solutions for MSMEs.
- **Focus:** Energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy solutions, climate-friendly business practices.
- **Goal:** Support sustainable growth and transition to a low-carbon economy.

Axis Bank Allows FD Opening Through UPI from Non-Axis Accounts

- **Feature:** Open Fixed Deposits directly from non-Axis Bank accounts.
- **Process:** Use UPI or Net Banking for funds transfer.
- **Benefit:** Quick and hassle-free FD opening experience.

Easebuzz Receives RBI Nod as Online Payment Aggregator

- **Approval:** Operate as an Online Payment Aggregator.
- **Services:** Payment collections, disbursements, automated reconciliation, vendor payments, sub-merchant management.
- **Expansion:** B2B payments platform in partnership with NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd.

Bank of Maharashtra Gets RBI Approval for GIFT City Branch

- **Branch:** International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) Banking Unit in GIFT City, Gandhinagar.
- **Focus:** Offshore banking operations, foreign currency funding products.
- **Goal:** Expand global operations and serve clients in India.

SEBI Launches RPT Portal

- **Purpose:** Enhance transparency and governance in corporate India.
- **Features:** Track and analyze Related Party Transactions (RPTs), integrate supply chain data.
- **Goal:** Ensure fair and transparent corporate transactions.

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Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

PhonePe Launches Device Tokenisation

- **Feature:** Tokenisation for credit and debit cards.
- **Benefits:** Enhanced security, no need to save card details on merchant platforms, improved transaction success rates.
- **Support:** Visa credit and debit cards, accessible to online merchants integrated with PhonePe's payment gateway.
- **Future Plans:** Expand to more card payment networks.

Eurobank and LTIMindtree Partner for Global Delivery Centre

- **Location:** Pune, India.
- **Objective:** Enhance customer experience through improved banking operations and innovative IT services.
- **Focus:** Technology modernization and maintaining critical banking applications.

Govt and Intel Launch AI for Entrepreneurship Initiative

- **Aim:** Skill 100,000 young innovators across India.
- **Focus:** Demystify AI and promote entrepreneurial thinking.
- **Partners:** Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Intel, and NSDC.

Karnataka Bank Launches New Products

- **Products:** 'KBL Stri' (savings account for women) and 'KBL One Family Banking Programme' (family banking benefits).
- **Objective:** Enhance technology and digital infrastructure, improve processes, products, and service culture.

NAV Capital Launches India-Focused AIF Fund

- **Fund:** Close-ended AIF Fund (Category 2).
- **Target:** Pre-IPO stage companies in high-growth sectors and SMEs.
- **Goal:** Raise ₹500 crore in the first round.

Cred Rolls Out Access to CBDC e-Rupee

- **Feature:** e-rupee wallet for select users.
- **Facilitation:** Issuance of e-rupee tokens by YES Bank.
- **Objective:** Expand access to India's central bank digital currency.

MobiKwik Launches Full-Scale CBDC Wallet

- **Feature:** e-rupee (e₹) wallet for Android users.
- **Transactions:** Peer-to-peer (P2P) and peer-to-merchant (P2M) using UPI QR codes.

NPCI Guidelines for UPI Transactions

- **Directive:** Decline UPI transactions with special characters in transaction IDs starting February 1, 2025.

- **Objective:** Ensure compliance with UPI technical specifications and uniformity in transaction processing.

These notes should help you remember the key points more easily. If you need further assistance or more detailed notes, feel free to ask!

HERE'S A CONCISE SUMMARY OF THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU PROVIDED:

SEBI LAUNCHES ISPOT PORTAL

- **PURPOSE:** REPORT TECHNICAL GLITCHES FOR MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE INSTITUTIONS (MIIs) LIKE STOCK EXCHANGES AND CLEARING CORPORATIONS.
- **INTEGRATION:** INTO THE SEBI INTERMEDIARY (SI) PORTAL.
- **IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** FEBRUARY 3, 2025.

IRDAI CAPS SENIOR CITIZENS' HEALTH PREMIUM INCREASE

- **DIRECTIVE:** INSURERS CANNOT REVISE HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS BY MORE THAN 10% ANNUALLY WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL.
- **EFFECTIVE:** IMMEDIATELY.

HDFC BANK SECURES RBI APPROVAL TO ACQUIRE STAKES

- **APPROVAL:** ACQUIRE UP TO A 9.5% STAKE IN KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK, AU SMALL FINANCE BANK, AND CAPITAL SMALL FINANCE BANK.
- **VALIDITY:** UNTIL JANUARY 2, 2026.

BHARATPE TO SELL 25% STAKE IN UNITY SMALL FINANCE BANK

- **OBJECTIVE:** RAISE APPROXIMATELY \$800 MILLION.
- **REGULATORY REQUIREMENT:** REDUCE STAKE TO 10% BY 2029.

EXIM BANK INDIA RAISES \$1 BILLION VIA 10-YEAR BONDS

- **PURPOSE:** FUND ONGOING AND NEW INITIATIVES GLOBALLY.
- **ACHIEVEMENT:** RAISED AT THE TIGHTEST SPREAD EVER FROM INDIA.

SEBI MODIFIES CREDIT RATING AGENCY RULES

- **CHANGE:** INTRODUCED "WORKING DAYS" INSTEAD OF "DAYS" FOR COMPLIANCE DEADLINES.

INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK TO SELL NPAs

- **AMOUNT:** ₹11,500 CRORE.
- **PURPOSE:** BOOST ASSET QUALITY.

SKYDO RECEIVES IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL AS PA-CB ENTITY

- **APPROVAL:** OPERATE AS A PAYMENT AGGREGATOR-CROSS BORDER (PA-CB) ENTITY.
- **CURRENT APPROVED ENTITIES:** ADYEN INDIA TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, AMAZON PAY (INDIA), CASHFREE PAYMENTS, INDIAIDEAS.COM, AND PAY10 SERVICES.

PFC TO GET YEN-DENOMINATED LOAN FROM JBIC

- **AMOUNT:** JPY 120 BILLION (APPROXIMATELY ₹6,500 CRORE).
- **PURPOSE:** FINANCE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN INDIA.

THE EPLANE COMPANY SECURES DGCA TYPE CERTIFICATION

- **AIRCRAFT:** EVTOL AIRCRAFT, THE E200X.
- **GOAL:** LAUNCH EVTOL SERVICES BY 2026.

OUTWARD FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT RISES

- **INCREASE:** 17% TO \$37.68 BILLION IN 2024.
- **MAJOR COUNTRIES:** SINGAPORE, US, UK, UAE, SAUDI ARABIA, OMAN, MALAYSIA.

BOBCARD LAUNCHES TIARA CREDIT CARD

- **EVENT:** INTRODUCED AT PINKATHON, HONORING WOMEN'S STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE.

ELON MUSK REACHES \$400 BILLION MILESTONE

- **ACHIEVEMENT:** FIRST PERSON TO REACH A NET WORTH OF \$400 BILLION.
- **DRIVER:** VALUATION BOOST OF SPACEX TO AROUND \$350 BILLION.

THESE NOTES SHOULD HELP YOU REMEMBER THE KEY POINTS MORE EASILY. IF YOU NEED FURTHER ASSISTANCE OR MORE DETAILED NOTES, FEEL FREE TO ASK!

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

Public Sector Banks Record Net Profit

- **Net Profit:** ₹85,520 crore in the first half of FY 2024-25, a 26% increase from ₹67,850 crore last year.

Indian Banks' Profitability Improves

- **Improvement:** Sixth consecutive year of improved profitability.
- **NPAs:** Dropped to a 13-year low of 2.7%.
- **Net Profit:** Scheduled commercial banks' net profit rose by 32.8%, reaching ₹3.5 lakh crore.

NBFCs' Loan Growth Moderates

- **Growth:** Moderated to 6.5% in H1FY25 due to increased risk weights on certain consumer credit categories.

SBI Introduces New Deposit Schemes

- **Schemes:** 'Har Ghar Lakhpati' and 'SBI Patrons'.
- **Objective:** Foster financial inclusion and empower customers.

HDFC Bank Secures RBI Nod for Stake Acquisition

- **Approval:** Acquire up to 9.5% stake in AU Small Finance Bank.

Sun Pharma to Acquire Checkpoint Therapeutics

- **Acquisition:** Up to \$355 million.
- **Focus:** Novel cancer treatments, FDA-approved drug Unloxcyt.

CCI Approves ONGC-NTPC Green's Acquisition

- **Acquisition:** 100% equity share capital of Ayana Renewable Power.

Bharti Airtel Transfers Stake in Airtel Payments Bank

- **Transfer:** 69.94% stake to Airtel Limited.
- **Turnover:** ₹1,835.8 crore for FY 2023-24.

India Becomes Top Source of FDI into Dubai

- **FDI:** ₹3.018 billion in 2024, a five-fold increase from ₹589 million in 2023.
- **Top Investor:** India, accounting for 21.5% of total FDI.

These notes should help you remember the key points more easily. If you need further assistance or more detailed notes, feel free to ask!

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

India's Economic Growth Forecast by Moody's

- **Growth:** Expected to exceed 6.5% in FY26, up from 6.3% in FY25.
- **Drivers:** Increased government capital expenditure, tax cuts, interest rate reductions.
- **Banking Sector:** Stable outlook, moderate asset quality deterioration.
- **Inflation:** Predicted to decline to 4.5% in FY26 from 4.8% in FY25.

- **Loan Growth:** Projected to slow to 11-13% in FY26.

Amul Ranked 3rd Most Valued Brand in India

- **Ranking:** Third in YouGov India Value Rankings 2025.
- **Top Brands:** Amazon and Flipkart.
- **Consumer Trust:** High ranking among male and female consumers, leading in tier-2 cities.

SEBI Launches Centralized Database for Corporate Bonds

- **Portal:** Bond Central.
- **Purpose:** Create a single, authentic source of information on corporate bonds.
- **Features:** Unified view of corporate bonds, price comparisons with G-Secs, detailed risk assessments.

Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) – January 2025 Report

- **Growth:** Increased by 4.6% in January 2025 compared to January 2024.
- **Positive Growth:** Cement, Refinery Products, Coal, Steel, Fertilizers, Electricity.
- **Decline:** Crude Oil, Natural Gas.

Amazon Web Services Investment in Maharashtra

- **Investment:** \$8.2 billion by 2030.
- **Purpose:** Deploy latest technology and cloud management solutions.
- **Impact:** Significant job creation, support for India's digital economy and AI adoption.

Crisil Projects FY26 GDP Growth

- **Growth:** Steady at 6.5%, slower than the previous fiscal's 9.2%.
- **Factors:** Normal monsoon, soft commodity prices, private consumption recovery, private capex increase.

IRCTC and IRFC Granted 'Navratna' Status

- **Status:** Awarded by the Government of India.
- **Benefits:** Enhanced financial autonomy, ability to invest up to ₹1,000 crore or 15% of net worth in a single project without central government approval.

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Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided:

Coal Production Growth

- **Production:** 167.36 million tonnes (MT) in FY 2024-25, a 32.53% increase year-on-year.
- **Dispatch:** 170.66 MT, a 32.86% increase year-on-year.
- **New Production:** Bhaskarpara Coal mine commenced production with a Peak Rated Capacity (PRC) of 15 MT.

CCI Approves JSW Energy's Acquisition

- **Acquisition:** 100% shareholding in KSK Mahanadi Power Company Limited by JSW Energy Limited.
- **Structure:** Through JSW Thermal Energy One Limited.

CCI Approves Ambuja Cements' Acquisition

- **Acquisition:** Up to 72.8% shareholding in Orient Cement Limited.
- **Process:** Two-step acquisition involving promoter and public shareholders.

Schneider Electric Plans New Plants

- **New Plants:** Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Ahmednagar.
- **Investment:** ₹3,200 crore to expand industrial footprint.

SEBI Penalty on Axis Securities

- **Penalty:** ₹10 lakh for violating stock brokers rules and regulatory norms.
- **Issues:** Reporting discrepancies, improper handling of client funds, failure to settle clients' funds and securities.

NTPC and EDF India Collaboration

- **Partnership:** Establish pumped hydro storage and hydro projects combined with renewable energy initiatives.
- **Joint Venture:** 50:50 ownership structure.

Flipkart-backed Super.money Acquires BharatX

- **Acquisition:** Checkout financing platform BharatX.
- **Focus:** Enhance payment and credit offerings, leveraging UPI for EMI and BNPL options.

SEBI Penalty on ICCL

- **Penalty:** ₹5.05 crore for non-compliance with cyber security and system audit rules.
- **Violations:** Network audit report issues, IT asset inventory maintenance, unresolved cyber audit issues, disaster recovery system non-compliance.

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Summary of Key Points

AMFI Initiatives

- **Chhoti SIP:** A systematic investment plan allowing investments from ₹250, targeting first-time investors and underserved segments.
- **Tarun Yojna:** Focuses on integrating financial literacy into school curricula to educate young minds about finance early on.
- **MITRA:** A platform designed to identify and recover inactive mutual fund holdings, ensuring rightful asset ownership.

ADB Loan for Kolkata

- **Loan Amount:** \$200 million.
- **Purpose:** Development of climate- and disaster-resilient sewerage and drainage infrastructure.
- **Project Components:**
 - 84 km of combined trunk and secondary sewerage and drainage pipelines.
 - 176 km of combined lateral sewerage and drainage pipelines.
 - 50,000 household sewer connections.
 - One sewage treatment plant.
 - Five pumping stations.
- **Beneficiaries:** Over 277,000 residents in Kolkata.

FDI Limit Increase for Insurance

- **New Limit:** Increased from 74% to 100%.
- **Conditions:** Applies to insurance companies that invest the entire premium collected in India.
- **Objective:** Attract more foreign capital to the sector.

SEBI Proposals and Initiatives

- **Unique UPI IDs:** For market intermediaries to help investors identify legitimate SEBI-registered entities.
- **Increased UPI Transaction Limit:** Proposed increase from ₹2 lakh to ₹5 lakh for capital market transactions.
- **MITRA Platform:** Helps investors track and reclaim inactive or unclaimed mutual fund folios.

TCS and UPM Partnership

- **Objective:** Drive end-to-end IT transformation with an AI-first operating model.
- **Services:** Service desk support, workspace and onsite services, business and platform application services, network and connectivity solutions, hybrid cloud services, and Service Integration and Management (SIAM).

Meta's Project Waterworth

- **Scope:** 50,000 km subsea internet cable project.
- **Objective:** Enhance connectivity for the U.S., India, Brazil, South Africa, and other regions.
- **Investment:** Billions of dollars over several years.
- **Features:** Cables laid at depths of up to 7,000 meters, measures to protect cables in high-risk areas.

ePlane's \$1 Billion Deal

- **Agreement:** Supply 788 eVTOL air ambulances to ICATT.
- **Objective:** Address traffic congestion in Indian cities.
- **Production:** Commercial operations to start in the latter half of 2026, with an initial target of 100 units per year.
- **Range:** Initial range of 110 kilometers, extendable to over 200 kilometers.
- **Prototypes:** Three prototypes designed to accommodate a pilot, a paramedic, and a patient with a stretcher.
- **Additional Funding:** \$100 million needed for further prototype development, achieving type certification, and commencing production.

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Summary of Key Points

India's Top 500 Private Sector Companies

- **Valuation:** \$3.8 trillion, surpassing India's GDP and the combined GDPs of the UAE, Indonesia, and Spain.

- **Job Creation:** Added nearly 1.4 million jobs in 2024, total workforce of 8.4 million (16% of India's total workforce).
- **Leading Groups:** Tata Group (15 companies, 10% of total value), Adani Group (9 companies).
- **State Representation:** Haryana joined the top three states, while Mumbai and Bangalore saw declines in company numbers.
- **Valuation Threshold:** All companies valued at over \$1 billion for the first time.

India's First Road Train by Volvo Trucks

- **Launch:** Introduced by Nitin Gadkari in Nagpur.
- **Collaboration:** Developed with Delhivery Ltd.
- **Features:** Vehicle lengths up to 25.25 meters, 144 cubic meters cargo capacity (50% more than traditional semi-trailers).
- **Safety Features:** Electronic Braking System (EBS), Electronic Stability Program (ESP), 360-degree camera system, self-steerable axle, dashboard load monitor, downhill cruise control, stretch brake.
- **Certification:** Approved by MoRTH and ARAI.

Google's Ananta Campus

- **Location:** Mahadevapura, Bengaluru.
- **Capacity:** Accommodates over 5,000 employees.
- **Sustainability:** Water waste recycling, on-site rainwater harvesting, smart photochromic glass.
- **Design:** Accessibility-focused, locally sourced materials.
- **Amenities:** Gym, daycare facilities, cafeteria, mini forest (Aranya).

Amazon's Nova Foundation Models

- **Technology:** Advanced AI models for diverse tasks like natural language processing and image recognition.
- **Features:** Flexibility, scalability, integration across Amazon's ecosystem.
- **Applications:** Shopping recommendations, Alexa's conversational capabilities.

S&P Global Ratings Economic Forecast

- **Global Growth:** 3% in 2025.
- **India's Growth:** Projected at 6.8% for the fiscal year, supported by infrastructure initiatives, easing inflation, and financial inclusivity.
- **Global Conditions:** Easing inflation, policy rate cuts, resilient consumer spending.

Google Safety Engineering Centre in Hyderabad

- **Partnership:** Google and Telangana government.
- **Significance:** Second in the Asia Pacific region, fifth globally.

Morgan Stanley's GDP Forecast for India

- **Revised Growth:** Lowered to 6.3% for FY25 from 6.7%.
- **Recovery:** Expected in the second half of FY25, with an average growth rate of 6.6%.

Tesla's Robotaxi Service

- **Launch Plan:** Company-owned fleet with human teleoperators for safety.
- **Target Locations:** California and Texas.
- **Vehicle Launch:** Cheaper vehicle in the first half of next year, other models later in the year.

FDI Equity Flows

- **Increase:** 45% jump to \$29.8 billion in H1FY25.
- **Previous Contraction:** Followed three consecutive years of declining inflows.
- **Gross FDI:** 29% rise to \$42.3 billion during April-September.

India's Smartphone Export Growth

- **Ranking:** From 23rd in 2019 to 3rd in 2024.
- **Exports:** Exceeded ₹20,000 crore in November 2024.
- **Factors:** Effective use of government initiatives, strong domestic production base.

ADB Loan for Sustainable Infrastructure

- **Loan Amount:** \$500 million.
- **Purpose:** Fund sustainable infrastructure projects aligning with India's climate objectives.
- **Target Sectors:** Energy, urban development, healthcare.

Blinkit's 10-Minute Ambulance Service

- **Launch:** In Gurugram, with plans to expand across India within two years.
- **Features:** Equipped with medical gear, emergency medicines, staffed by a paramedic, an assistant, and a trained driver.

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Summary of Key Points

Indian Railways Joins Mission Amrit Sarovar

- **Objective:** Aid in water conservation by constructing and rejuvenating ponds across the country.
- **Tasks:** Desilting, excavating, or creating water bodies in collaboration with district authorities and the Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Progress:** Over 68,000 ponds completed as of October 2024.
- **Goal:** Construct or rejuvenate 75 ponds per district.
- **Collaboration:** Involves schemes like MGNREGA, 15th Finance Commission Grants, PMKSY, and state programs.

India's Foreign Satellite Launch Revenue

- **Revenue:** \$143 million from launching foreign satellites between 2015 and 2024.
- **Satellites Launched:** 393 foreign satellites and three Indian customer satellites.
- **Countries:** 34 countries, including the US (232 satellites) and the UK (83 satellites).
- **Recent Successes:** Chandrayaan-3 soft landing, Aditya-L1 solar mission.
- **Future Plans:** Gaganyaan mission, Bharatiya Antariksha Station by 2035, first Indian on the Moon by 2040.

Madhav National Park Becomes India's 58th Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** Madhya Pradesh, between Panna and Ranthambore tiger reserves.
- **Area:** Over 37,000 hectares.
- **Significance:** Enhances the regional tiger corridor, boosts tourism, and creates jobs.
- **Conservation Efforts:** Part of Project Tiger, launched in 1973.

Government Initiatives for Gas-Based Power Generation

- **Challenges:** Low Plant Load Factor (PLF) for gas-based power plants.
- **LNG Classification:** Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) under the Open General License (OGL) category.
- **Imports:** 9.58 million metric standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD) of gas imported from April to January 2024-25.
- **Initiatives:**
 1. Expansion of the National Gas Grid Pipeline.
 2. Expansion of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) network.
 3. Establishment of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals.
 4. Priority allocation of domestic gas to CNG and PNG.
 5. Marketing and pricing freedom for gas from high-pressure, high-temperature areas, deep water, ultra-deep water, and coal seams.

6. SATAT initiative promoting Bio-CNG.

World's Most Polluted Cities

- **Report:** IQAir's 'World Air Quality Report 2024'.
- **India's Ranking:** Fifth most polluted country in 2024, improved from third place in 2023.
- **Top Polluted Cities:** Six of the top ten most polluted cities globally are in India, with New Delhi as the most polluted capital city.
- **Notable Cities:** Byrnihat (most polluted globally), Delhi, Mullanpur, Faridabad, Loni, New Delhi, Gurugram, Ganganagar, Greater Noida, Bhiwadi, Muzaffarnagar, Hanumangarh, and Noida.
- **Global Comparison:** Chad has the worst air quality, while Oceania has the cleanest air.

Vividhta Ka Amrit Mahotsav

- **Inauguration:** By President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
- **Focus:** Celebrating the cultural heritage of five states (Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh) and two UTs (Lakshadweep and Puducherry).
- **Structure:** Seven distinct editions dedicated to different regions of India.
- **Activities:** Cultural performances, handicraft and handloom exhibitions, literary enclave, informative workshops, food courts.

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Summary of Key Points

Aadhaar Good Governance Portal

- **Launch:** By the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- **Objective:** Streamline the approval process for Aadhaar authentication requests, enhancing accessibility for the public.
- **Features:** Detailed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for entities seeking Aadhaar authentication, guidance on application and onboarding processes.
- **Future Updates:** Integration of face authentication into apps used by private entities for 24/7 verification.
- **Commitment:** Improve living conditions by increasing service accessibility.

India's \$1 Million Grant to Lao PDR

- **Purpose:** Strengthening Large-Scale Food Fortification: The Case of Investing in Rice Fortification.
- **Implementation:** By the World Food Programme.

- **Focus:** Long-term nutrition-specific strategies, strengthening food systems, increasing nutritional diversity, overcoming micro-nutrient deficiencies.
- **India-UN Development Partnership Fund:** Established in June 2017, emphasizes South-South cooperation, national ownership, sustainability, and local capacity development.

Workshop on Sustainability and Circularity in Dairy Sector

- **Date:** 3rd March 2025.
- **Location:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Inauguration:** By Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah.
- **Organizers:** Ministry of Cooperation and Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying.
- **Focus:** Sustainable dairy farming, circularity in the dairy sector, eco-friendly practices, waste management, sustainable livestock farming.

PM Modi's Visit to Somnath Temple

- **Location:** Gir Somnath district, Gujarat.
- **Purpose:** Prayed for the health and prosperity of the countrymen at the first of the 12 Jyotirlingas.
- **Activities:** Visited Vantara, an animal rescue, conservation, and rehabilitation center, and proceeded to Sasan in Junagadh district.

Sashakt Panchayat-Netri Abhiyan

- **Launch Date:** 4th March 2025.
- **Location:** Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **Organizers:** Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- **Focus:** Empowering women elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- **Participants:** Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, Union Minister of Women and Child Development Smt. Annpurna Devi.

Post-Budget Webinar on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity

- **Speaker:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- **Focus:** Continuity in policies and expansion of the vision for Viksit Bharat.
- **Objective:** Emphasize participation in the post-budget webinar.

Swavalambini Women Entrepreneurship Programme

- **Launch:** By Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in collaboration with NITI Aayog.
- **Location:** Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut.

- **Objective:** Empower female students in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with entrepreneurial mindset, resources, and mentorship.

Cities Coalition for Circularity (C-3)

- **Launch:** By India.
- **Objective:** Foster city-to-city collaboration and partnerships for sustainable urban development.
- **Focus:** Sustainable solutions for waste management and resource efficiency in the Asia-Pacific region.
- **MoU for CITIIS 2.0:** Signed at the launch event in Jaipur, benefiting 18 cities across 14 States.

PM Modi Inaugurates Vantara Wildlife Centre

- **Location:** Gujarat.
- **Features:** Home to over 2,000 species and more than 1.5 lakh rescued, endangered, and threatened animals.
- **Facilities:** Advanced veterinary facilities including MRI, CT scans, and ICUs.
- **Departments:** Wildlife Anesthesia, Cardiology, Nephrology, Endoscopy, Dentistry, Internal Medicine.

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Summary of Key Points

Prakriti 2025 Conference

- **Event:** International conference on carbon markets held in New Delhi.
- **Focus:** Promoting resilience, awareness, knowledge, and resources for climate initiatives.
- **Inauguration:** By Union Minister for Power and Housing, Shri Manohar Lal.
- **Objective:** Transition to renewable energy, reduce fossil fuel dependence, meet emissions targets.
- **Significance:** Facilitates collaboration and innovative climate solutions.

Roots Foundation's Project Parali

- **Objective:** Tackle stubble burning, particularly in Haryana.
- **Impact:** Stopped environmentally harmful practice on over 3 lakh hectares of land in the past 3 years.

- **Initiatives:** Training women to make household products from stubble, promoting sustainable agriculture practices.

National Tribal Festival 'Aadi Mahotsav'

- **Inauguration:** By President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu.
- **Objective:** Highlight and promote tribal heritage, provide opportunities for tribal entrepreneurs, artisans, and artists.
- **Features:** Crafts, food, dress, jewelry, medical practices, household equipment, sports.
- **Development:** Tribal Development Budget increased fivefold, Tribal Welfare Budget Allocation tripled.

India's Renewable Energy Growth

- **Projection:** Renewable energy share to increase from 21% in 2024 to 27% by 2027.
- **Solar PV Contribution:** Expected to rise over 28% from 2025 to 2027.
- **Government Initiatives:**
 - **PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana:** Launched in February 2024, aims for 300 kWh per month for 10 million households, adding 30 GW of capacity.
 - **Financial Outlay:** ₹700 billion, up to 60% in capital subsidies and incentives for distribution companies.
 - **Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules:** Streamlined electricity connections and solar installations.
 - **National Electricity Plan (Transmission):** Enable transmission of 500 GW of renewable capacity by 2030 and 600 GW by 2032, including battery storage and green hydrogen infrastructure.
 - **Wind Energy:** Expected to grow at 11% from 2025 to 2027, ₹74.5 billion approved for offshore wind projects.
 - **Hydropower:** Projected to grow at 7% CAGR from 2025-2027.
 - **Nuclear Power:** Capacity to triple from 8.2 GW to 22.5 GW by 2032.

First-Ever Sea Shipments of Pomegranates to Australia

- **Facilitation:** By Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).
- **Collaboration:** With AgroStar and Kay Bee Exports.
- **Shipments:** First sea shipment departed on December 6, 2024, arrived in Sydney on January 13, 2025, with 5.7 metric tons of pomegranates.
- **Second Shipment:** Arrived in Brisbane on January 6, 2025.

- **Integration:** Into India's traceability system, ANARNET, ensuring transparency and consumer confidence.
- **Response:** Positive reception in Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne, leading to immediate requests for more shipments.
- **Timing:** Coincided with Australia's non-producing season, optimizing market opportunities for Indian exporters.

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Summary of Key Points

MoU Between Ministry of Labour & Employment and APNA

- **Objective:** Enhance employment prospects for young job seekers and promote a dynamic job ecosystem.
- **Job Opportunities:** Bring over 10 lakh job opportunities annually to the National Career Service (NCS) portal.
- **Focus:** Broader employment options across metro and non-metro cities, equal opportunities for women and persons with disabilities.
- **Integration:** APNA will access NCS's extensive candidate database, MoLE will assist in integrating services through user-friendly online and offline interfaces.
- **NCS Portal:** Over 40 lakh registered employers, mobilized 4.40 crore vacancies since its launch, around 10 lakh vacancies available at any given time.

Reliance Agreement for 10 GWh Battery Storage

- **Program:** Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Program for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC).
- **Capacity:** 10 GWh, contributing to a cumulative allocation of 40 GWh among four companies.
- **Initial Allocation:** 50 GWh awarded in March 2022 to Ola Electric Mobility, Hyundai Global Motors, Reliance New Energy, and Rajesh Exports.
- **Tender:** Issued in April 2024 to allocate remaining 10 GWh, attracting bids totaling 70 GWh.
- **Budget:** ₹36.2 billion (~\$416.71 million).
- **Requirements:** Establish ACC manufacturing facility with minimum 25% value addition in 2 years and 60% in 5 years, set up 5 to 10 GWh of manufacturing capacity.
- **Subsidy Disbursements:** Begin upon achieving committed capacity and value addition levels, payments occurring quarterly over five years.

India's First Open-Air Art Wall Museum

- **Inauguration:** By Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh at Mausam Bhawan.

- **Features:** 38 unique murals created in collaboration with Delhi Street Art, showcasing India's meteorological advancements and impact of weather science.
- **Objective:** Bridge science and creativity, enhance public engagement and understanding of meteorology.
- **Themes:** Significant meteorological events, advancements in technology, IMD's role in providing early warnings, literary heritage references.

Digital Pilot Licenses

- **Launch:** Electronic Personnel License (EPL) for pilots.
- **Objective:** Modernize civil aviation sector, enhance security and transparency.
- **Accessibility:** Via eGCA Mobile Application.
- **Alignment:** With India's "Ease of Doing Business" and "Digital India" vision.
- **Transformation:** Over 62,000 smart card licenses previously issued by DGCA, reliance on physical licenses to be phased out.
- **Broader Digital Transformation:** Includes eGCA platform, Digital Sky Platform for drones, Electronic Flight Folder (EFF) for airline operations.

NITI Aayog Panel for Transforming AIIMS

- **Objective:** Develop a roadmap for transforming AIIMS, New Delhi, into a leading medical research and practice institution.
- **Committee Head:** V K Paul.
- **Key Objectives:** Streamline patient inflow, establish Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for clinical, academic, and research outcomes, enhance governance and financial sustainability.
- **Consultations:** Extensive consultations with government and stakeholders to identify customized strategies for India.
- **Healthcare Evolution:** Supported by Ayushman Bharat scheme launched in 2018, addressing need for affordable treatments for rare diseases.

Aero India 2025

- **Event Dates:** 10th to 14th February 2025 at Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru.
- **Focus:** Aerospace and defence technology.
- **Activities:** Curtain raiser event, inaugural event, Defence Ministers' Conclave, CEOs' Round-Table, iDEX start-up event, air shows, exhibition area.
- **Theme:** 'BRIDGE - Building Resilience through International Defence and Global Engagement'.
- **Significance:** Asia's Largest Air Show, premier aerospace and defence exhibition, brings together global industry leaders, government officials, technology experts, and defence strategists.

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Summary of Key Points

Fort William Renamed 'Vijay Durg'

- **Renaming:** Fort William, the headquarters of the Indian Army's Eastern Command in Kolkata, has been renamed Vijay Durg.
- **Decision Date:** Mid-December 2024.
- **Historical Significance:** Named after Vijay Durg, a historic fort in Maharashtra associated with the Marathas under Chhatrapati Shivaji.
- **Objective:** Reflect India's acknowledgment of its military heritage over colonial symbols.
- **Government Efforts:** Aligns with efforts to decolonize names of landmarks and institutions, including renaming Rajpath to Kartavya Path.

India Achieves 100 GW Solar Energy Capacity

- **Milestone:** Achieved target of 100 GW solar energy production.
- **Initiatives:** Solar panels, solar parks, and rooftop solar projects.
- **Future Goal:** 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity by 2030.
- **Growth:** Solar power sector increased from 2.82 GW in 2014 to 100 GW in 2025.
- **Top-Performing States:** Rajasthan, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh.
- **Rooftop Solar:** Significant growth in 2024, adding 4.59 GW of new capacity.

Fourth India-UK Energy Dialogue

- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Co-Chairs:** Shri Manohar Lal (India) and Mr. Ed Miliband (UK).
- **Focus:** Reviewing progress in energy sectors, commitment to a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive energy future.
- **Phase-2 of ASPIRE Programme:** Technical support for round-the-clock power supply, expanding renewable energy initiatives, accelerating industrial energy efficiency and de-carbonization.
- **UK-India Offshore Wind Taskforce:** Enhance offshore wind ecosystem and financing models.

India's First Indigenous Automated Bio Medical Waste Treatment Plant

- **Launch:** By Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh at AIIMS New Delhi.

- **Technology:** Developed by CSIR-NIIST.
- **Features:** Disinfects harmful biomedical waste without incinerators, daily capacity of managing 400 kg of waste.
- **Objective:** Promote sustainability, minimize human exposure to hazardous waste.
- **Validation:** Equipment validated for antimicrobial efficacy.
- **Vision:** Aligns with India's vision of becoming a global leader in environmental and healthcare solutions by 2047.

Ellie, Asia's First Life-Sized Animatronic Elephant

- **Unveiling:** At St Joseph's School in Bengaluru.
- **Tour:** Part of a nationwide awareness tour by PETA India.
- **Objective:** Help children understand that animals have emotions and deserve to live peacefully.
- **Reach:** Over 165,000 students across various schools in India since May 2023.

New Delhi World Book Fair 2025

- **Inauguration:** By President Droupadi Murmu on February 1, 2025.
- **Focus:** Emphasize reading as a transformative experience connecting different cultures and communities.
- **Features:** Stalls showcasing various Indian languages and languages from other countries.
- **Encouragement:** President encouraged school children to read beyond their syllabi and highlighted the importance of creating and promoting children's literature.

MCA21 Platform Records

- **Form Filings:** 80.26 lakh form filings from April 2024 to January 2025, an increase from 73.29 lakh filings in the same period the previous year.
- **MCA21 Version 3 (V3):** 53.08 lakh forms filed during this period, showcasing improved efficiency and stakeholder confidence.
- **Objective:** Facilitate Ease of Doing Business, introduce web-based forms, real-time validation of data, enhance user identification and authentication.

India's First White Tiger Breeding Centre

- **Approval:** By Central Zoo Authority (CZA) in Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Location:** Govindgarh, near the last known wild white tiger's habitat.
- **Objective:** Enhance wildlife tourism, create job opportunities for the local community.

- **Historical Significance:** Traces back to the discovery of a white tiger named Mohan in 1951 by the last maharaja of Rewa.

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Summary of Key Points

Watershed Yatra Campaign

- **Launch:** By Union Minister of Rural Development Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- **Objective:** Promote participation and awareness of Watershed Development activities.
- **Activities:** Bhoomi Poojan, Lokarpan, Watershed Mahotsav, Panchayat discussions, recognition of Watershed Margdarshaks.
- **Initiatives:** 'Watershed - Janbhagidari Pratiyogita' for 2025 & 2026 to promote community-led watershed management.
- **Funding:** Rs 70.80 crore to benefit 177 projects annually.
- **Duration:** 60-90 days, covering 805 projects across 26 states and 2 UTs, engaging with 6673 Gram Panchayats.
- **Educational Talks:** On sustainable practices, honoring around 8,000 individuals for their contributions.
- **Learning Management System (LMS):** Developed for watershed education, linked to the MY Bharat portal.
- **Mega Event:** Mobilize youth volunteers for Shramdaan activities to strengthen community participation in watershed projects.

India's First AI University in Maharashtra

- **Location:** Maharashtra.
- **Task Force:** Led by IT Minister Ashish Shelar, includes experts from academia (IIT Mumbai, IIM Mumbai), industry (Google India, Mahindra Group, L&T), and government officials.
- **Objective:** Enhance research innovation, foster industry partnerships, create a center of excellence for AI.
- **Meetings:** Two meetings conducted, working on finalizing the roadmap for the university's establishment.
- **Commitment:** Government's commitment to making Maharashtra a hub for technology and innovation.
- **Global Comparison:** Similar AI education systems exist in countries like the US, UK, France, and China.

H1B Visas Issued to Indians

- **Percentage:** Indian nationals received 72.3% of all H1B visas issued by the United States for the period between October 2022 and September 2023.
- **Source:** Data shared by Minister of State for External Affairs, Kirti Vardhan Singh, citing figures from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Shatavari – For Better Health Campaign

- **Launch:** By Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Ayush.
- **Objective:** Raise awareness about the health benefits of medicinal plants, specifically Shatavari.
- **Previous Campaigns:** Successful campaigns for Amla, Moringa, Giloe, and Ashwagandha.
- **Impact:** Spread knowledge of the health benefits of medicinal plants across the country.

India's Coffee Exports

- **Record High:** \$1.14 billion from April to November in FY24, a 29% increase compared to the same period last year.
- **Growth Drivers:** Rising global demand for Robusta coffee, supply chain challenges in key coffee-producing countries such as Brazil.

2025: Year of Defence Transformation

- **Objective:** Transform the Armed Forces into a technologically-advanced combat-ready force capable of multi-domain integrated operations.
- **Decision:** Unanimously decided to observe 2025 as the 'Year of Reforms' in the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

SAIL's Great Place to Work Recognition

- **Recognition:** Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) honored as a 'Great Place to Work' by the Great Place to Work Institute, India, for the period from January 2025 to January 2026.

7th Meeting of Islands Development Agency

- **Chair:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- **Attendees:** Andaman and Nicobar LG Devendra Kumar Joshi, Lakshadweep Administrator Praful Patel, and senior officials.
- **Objective:** Holistic development of India's islands.
- **Establishment:** IDA established in 2017.

Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules 2025

- **Release:** By the Centre, inviting public consultation.

- **Announcement:** By Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- **Act:** Follows the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.
- **Proposal:** Mandatory parental consent for children to open social media accounts.

Amendments to Foreign Trade Policy

- **Changes:** Introduced Para 1.07A and 1.07B, requiring consultations with stakeholders before formulating or amending the policy.
- **Objective:** Enhance the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in India by promoting stakeholder participation in decision-making.
- **Mandate:** Providing reasons for not accepting stakeholder feedback.

These summaries provide a concise overview of the key points and initiatives mentioned in the document. If you need more detailed information on any specific topic, feel free to ask!

Summary of Key Points

EPFO's Centralized Pension System

- **Shift:** From decentralized pension disbursement system to Centralized Pension Payments System (CPPS).
- **Current System:** Each EPFO zonal or regional office has separate agreements with only three or four banks.

Prime Minister Modi's Railway Projects

- **Inauguration Date:** January 8, 2025.
- **Projects:** New Jammu Railway Division, Rayagada Railway Division Building of East Coast Railway, Charlapalli New Terminal Station in Telangana.

Global Maha Kumbh 2025

- **Location:** Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Significance:** Historical and spiritual importance, described by Chinese traveler Xuanzang.
- **Celebration:** Kumbh Mela celebrated four times over 12 years in Haridwar, Ujjain, Nashik, and Prayagraj.

Indusfood 2025

- **Inauguration Date:** January 8, 2025.
- **Location:** India Exposition Mart Ltd, Gautam Budh Nagar, Greater Noida.
- **Organizer:** Trade Promotion Council of India with support from the Department of Commerce, Government of India.
- **Significance:** Asia's premier annual F&B trade exhibition.

NGEL's Green Hydrogen Hub

- **Foundation Stone Date:** January 8, 2025.
- **Location:** Pudimadaka near Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Project:** NTPC Green Energy Ltd's (NGEL) green hydrogen hub.

5G Use Case Test Lab

- **Inauguration Date:** By Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy.
- **Location:** Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), Ranchi.
- **Objective:** Advance the coal sector's digital transformation and technological landscape.

Delhi's Per Capita Income

- **Income:** ₹4,61,910 in 2023-24, third highest in India after Goa and Sikkim.
- **Comparison:** More than double the national level per capita income of ₹1,84,205.

Swiggy's Snacc App

- **Launch:** New standalone app for 15-minute food delivery.
- **Objective:** Deliver snacks, drinks, and meals in under 15 minutes.

Bhashini-Enabled e-Shram Portal

- **Launch Date:** January 7, 2025.
- **Objective:** Make the portal available in all 22 Scheduled Languages.

PM Surya Ghar Payment Methods

- **New Methods:** Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO) and utility-led aggregation models.
- **Objective:** Ensure payment security and subsidy grants for households adopting these models.
- **Funding:** Rs 100 crore allocated for Payment Security Mechanism (PSM).

INS Surat, Nilgiri, Vaghsheer Commissioning

- **Commissioning Date:** January 15, 2025.
- **Location:** Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- **Significance:** Boost to India's maritime history and commitment to self-reliance in defense.

Bharat Cleantech Manufacturing Platform

- **Launch Date:** January 10, 2025.

- **Objective:** Enhance India's cleantech value chains in solar, wind, hydrogen, and battery storage sectors.

National Turmeric Board

- **Launch Date:** January 14, 2025.
- **Objective:** Enhance production and export of turmeric.
- **Chairperson:** Palle Ganga Reddy, headquartered in Nizamabad.

8th Pay Commission

- **Approval Date:** January 16, 2025.
- **Objective:** Establish the eighth Pay Commission for central government employees.

PRABHAAV Factbook and Bharat Startup Challenge

- **Launch Date:** On the 9th Foundation Day of Startup India.
- **Objective:** Mobilize private capital to support startups in Tier II and Tier III cities.

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Summary of Key Points

Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025

- **Inauguration Date:** January 17, 2025.
- **Location:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Significance:** Largest mobility expo in India.
- **Expansion:** Expo expanded to two other venues in the National Capital Region, with increased participation from 800 exhibitors and 2.5 lakh visitors last year.

Z-Morh Tunnel Inauguration

- **Inauguration Date:** January 2025.
- **Location:** Srinagar-Leh National Highway.
- **Project Cost:** Rs 2,700 crore.
- **Significance:** Provides all-weather connectivity to the Ladakh region, part of a 12-km-long tunnel project including the upcoming Zoji La tunnel, expected to be completed in 2028.

Watershed Development Projects

- **Approval Date:** January 13, 2025.
- **Projects:** 56 new Watershed Development Projects.

- **Cost:** Rs 700 crore.
- **Objective:** Enhance watershed development under the PMKSY-WDC 2.0 scheme in the ten best-performing states.

The Art of India 2025 Exhibition

- **Inauguration:** By Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh.
- **Location:** Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre.
- **Features:** Over 250 artworks from distinguished masters, emerging artists, and indigenous creators, showcasing India's artistic evolution.

National Broadband Mission 2.0

- **Launch Date:** January 2025.
- **Objective:** Provide broadband internet connectivity to the remaining 170,000 villages across the country.
- **NBM 1.0:** Launched in 2019, targeted broadband access to all villages by 2022 through the laying of 30 lakh km of optical fibre cable and increasing tower density.

DPIIT and ITC Partnership

- **Objective:** Promote entrepreneurship and innovation in India.
- **Focus Areas:** Digital platforms for Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES), renewable energy integration, energy storage systems.
- **Alignment:** With Government of India's flagship programs like Startup India, Make in India, and AatmaNirbhar Bharat.

SATRC Workshop on Spectrum

- **Inauguration:** By TRAI Chairman Mr. Anil Kumar Lahoti.
- **Location:** Hotel Double Tree by Hilton, Goa.
- **Objective:** Address the critical importance of effective spectrum management in the rapidly evolving telecommunications landscape.

AI Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM) Consultation

- **Organizers:** UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Ikigai Law.
- **Location:** IIIT Bangalore and Nasscom AI office.
- **Objective:** Stakeholder consultation on AI Readiness Assessment Methodology in India.

Target for GI Products

- **Announcement:** By Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.
- **Target:** Register 10,000 GI (geographical indication) products by 2030, up from the current 605.

National Health Mission Extension

- **Approval:** By Union Cabinet.
- **Extension:** For another five years, until 2026.
- **Objective:** Continue the significant impact on public health, progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Parliamentary Consultative Committee Meeting on CAMPA

- **Chair:** Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav.
- **Location:** Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- **Focus:** Implementation of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).
- **Outcome:** Appreciation of efforts to enhance forest cover and maintain ecological balance, suggestions for further improvement.

These summaries provide a concise overview of the key points and initiatives mentioned in the document. If you need more detailed information on any specific topic, feel free to ask!

National News

- **Union Minister Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh** inaugurated projects to boost the livestock sector in the North East Region (NER) in Shillong on January 23, 2025.
 - Event: Conclave on Dialogue for Holistic Development of Livestock Sectors.
 - Attendees: Minister of State Shri George Kurian, NER state ministers, officials, industry representatives, entrepreneurs, researchers, and stakeholders.

Economy & Finance

- **GeM Procurement:**
 - Government e-Market (GeM) portal procurement crossed ₹4 trillion during April-January FY25.
 - Launched on August 9, 2016, for online purchases by central government ministries and departments.

Infrastructure Development

- **86th Meeting of Network Planning Group (NPG):**

- Evaluated four projects (2 railways, 2 highways) for multimodal connectivity under PM GatiShakti.
- Focus: Integrated development, last-mile connectivity, intermodal connectivity, synchronized project implementation.

Trade & Commerce

- **DGFT Enhanced eCoO 2.0 System:**
 - Launched to simplify certification for exporters and enhance trade efficiency.
 - Features: Multi-user access, Aadhaar-based e-signing, integrated dashboard for eCoO services, FTA information, trade events.

Energy Sector

- **NHPC and Andhra Pradesh Government Partnership:**
 - Building 6-8 GW pumped storage projects (PSPs).
 - Joint venture ANGEL assigned two PSPs with a total capacity of 2 GW.

Government Initiatives

- **National Critical Mineral Mission:**
 - Approved by the Cabinet with a budget of ₹34,300 crore.
 - Aim: Acquire critical mineral assets abroad, enhance trade, establish a stockpile.
 - Implementation: Ministry of Mines until FY31, with ₹16,300 crore budgetary support and ₹18,000 crore investment from PSUs.

Technology & Innovation

- **BIMTECH Launches BIMCOIN:**
 - India's first campus blockchain currency for secure transactions within BIMTECH's ecosystem.
 - Collaboration with Kalp Decentra Foundation to launch a Blockchain Learning Centre.

Legal & Social Awareness

- **'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman' Portal:**
 - Launched to promote constitutional values and awareness.
 - Features: Knowledge hub, online competitions with MyGov.

Cultural Events

- **30th Kolkata International Film Festival:**

- Featuring 175 films from 41 countries, with a special focus on French cinema.

Transportation

- **Uber Shikara Service in Srinagar:**
 - Asia's first water transport service launched in Dal Lake.
 - Enables pre-booking of shikara rides via the Uber app.

Taxation

- **Windfall Tax Removal:**
 - Government removed windfall profit tax on domestically-produced crude oil and fuel exports.

Consumer Protection

- **eMaap Portal:**
 - National Legal Metrology Portal to support fair trade practices and improve consumer protection.

Education

- **PM e-VIDYA DTH Channel for Indian Sign Language:**
 - Launched to promote ISL as a language and school subject.
 - Provides learning content on career guidance, skill training, mental health, communication skills, and class-specific curricula.

Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided, organized into easy-to-read notes:

Current Affairs Summary

National News

- **Health Minister JP Nadda:**
 - Launching a 100-day intensified TB campaign in Panchkula, Haryana.
 - Covers 347 districts across 33 states and UTs.
 - Focus: Improving diagnostics, targeted screening, care for high-risk groups, and nutritional support under the National TB Elimination Programme.
 - Attendees: Haryana CM and Health Minister Arti Singh Rao, officials, and civil society representatives.
- **Senior National Wrestling Championships 2024:**

- Begins at Bengaluru's Koramangala Indoor Stadium.
- Features top wrestlers from 24 states and UTs, with over 700 entries.
- Key participants: U-23 Asian Champion Y Minakshi Devi, Cadet Asian medalist Jyoti, Arjuna Awardee Sunil Dabarpurya, and World Police Games gold medalist Sunny.
- **2nd Edition of Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam:**
 - Three-day celebration of Carnatic music, crafts, and culinary heritage in Vijayawada.
 - Organized by Ministries of Tourism, Culture, and Textiles with Andhra Pradesh Tourism.
 - Features 35 performances by 140 artists, honoring Telugu composers.
 - Inaugurated by Union Minister Suresh Gopi.
- **Pralhad Joshi Launches 'Anna Chakra' and SCAN Portal:**
 - 'Anna Chakra': Advanced supply chain tool for the Public Distribution System (PDS).
 - Covers 4.37 lakh Fair Price Shops and 6,700 warehouses.
 - Integrated with Railways' Freight Operations and PM Gati Shakti.
 - Projected to save ₹250 crore annually.
- **Google to Launch Safety Engineering Centre in Hyderabad:**
 - Partnership with Telangana government.
 - Second GSEC in the Asia Pacific region and fifth globally.
- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh:**
 - Attending the 21st Inter-Governmental Commission meet in Russia.
 - Co-chairing with Russian counterpart Andrey Belousov.
 - Commissioning Indian Navy's stealth frigate 'INS Tushil' in Kaliningrad.
 - Honoring WWII Soviet soldiers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- **National Mental Health Survey-2:**
 - Launched at JIPMER, Puducherry.
 - Assessing mental health conditions and treatment gaps across India.
 - Led by Ministry of Health and NIMHANS, Bengaluru.
 - Surveying 1,530 households in Puducherry.
- **India to Chair UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs:**

- Ambassador Shambhu Kumaran appointed Chair of the 68th Session.
- First time India is leading the CND.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi:**
 - Launched LIC's Bima Sakhi Yojana in Panipat, Haryana.
 - Laid the foundation stone of Maharana Pratap Horticultural University, Karnal.
 - Emphasized women empowerment and financial inclusion.
- **Smart India Hackathon 2024:**
 - PM Modi to interact with participants on December 11, 2024.
 - 7th edition with over 1300 student teams.
 - Software Edition: 36-hour nonstop event.
 - Hardware Edition: December 11-15, 2024.
- **India-Australia CCEA Stocktake Visit:**
 - Concluded in New Delhi on December 6, 2024.
 - Strengthening trade and strategic partnership.
 - Indian delegation led by Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Australian delegation by Shri Ravi Kewalram.
- **ULIP Launch:**
 - Simplifies industry access to data through API-based integration.
 - Part of National Logistics Policy 2022.
 - Focus: Integrated development, standardization of assets, process digitalization.
 - 26 States and UTs have formulated and notified their logistics policies.

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Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided, organized into easy-to-read notes:

Current Affairs Summary

National News

- **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh:**
 - Addressed the 16th Annual Convention of the Central Information Commission on December 10, 2024.

- Theme: “Contribution of RTI in journey towards Viksit Bharat”.
- Emphasized transparency in governance under PM Modi’s mantra of “Minimum Government, Maximum Governance”.
- **7th Smart India Hackathon:**
 - Held across nine institutions in Karnataka, featuring a 36-hour Software Edition and a five-day Hardware Edition.
 - Bengaluru hosts 66 teams with 428 students; other centers in Mysuru, Mangaluru, Belagavi, and Hubballi host 268 teams with 1,008 students.
- **Gita Jayanti 2024:**
 - Bhopal set a Guinness World Record with over 5,000 Acharyas reciting ‘Karma Yog’ from the Bhagavad Gita.
 - Kurukshetra saw 18,000 children leading a Gita chant, joined by 1.5 crore participants worldwide online.
- **Britain Joins CPTPP:**
 - Britain became the first European nation to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
 - The bloc includes nations like Canada, Japan, and Australia, representing over 15% of global GDP.
- **India’s First Diabetes Biobank:**
 - Launched in Chennai by ICMR in collaboration with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF).
- **‘Jalvahak’ Scheme:**
 - Launched to boost cargo transport via inland waterways on National Waterways 1 (Ganga), 2 (Brahmaputra), and 16 (Barak).
- **Uttarakhand’s Yoga Policy:**
 - Aims to make Uttarakhand a global yoga hub, integrating Ayurveda and Yoga into healthcare, boosting wellness tourism, and creating jobs.
- **India Maritime Heritage Conclave 2024:**
 - Celebrated India’s rich maritime legacy and its global impact on trade, culture, and innovation.
- **VIRAASAT Sari Festival 2024:**
 - Hosted by the Ministry of Textiles from December 15-28, 2024, at Handloom Haat, New Delhi.

- Focuses on handloom saris, bringing together weavers, designers, and enthusiasts.
- **CBIC Initiatives:**
 - Launched by CBIC Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal to enhance taxpayer services, including a revised citizen's charter and a revamped citizen's corner.
- **GSI Geoscience Museum:**
 - Inaugurated by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Masali Village:**
 - Became India's first fully solar-powered border village under the PM Suryaghar Yojana.
- **Ganges River Dolphin Tagging:**
 - First-ever tagging conducted in Assam under Project Dolphin to study migratory patterns and habitat use.
- **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025:**
 - Featuring 1,500 exhibitors and 500,000 visitors, focusing on the future of the automotive value chain and sustainable mobility solutions.
- **Bio-Bitumen Highway Stretch:**
 - Inaugurated by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, featuring a bio-bitumen blended surface near the Kamptee milestone on the Jabalpur-Nagpur route.

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Here's a concise summary of the additional information you provided, organized into easy-to-read notes:

Current Affairs Summary

National News

- **Centre Ends No Detention Rules in Schools:**
 - Discontinued the 'no-detention policy' for students in Classes 5 and 8.
 - At least 18 states and UTs have already abolished the policy after the 2019 amendment to the Right to Education Act (RTE).
- **PM Modi Launches Ken-Betwa River-Linking Project:**
 - Criticized Congress for overlooking BR Ambedkar's contributions to water resource development.

- Highlighted Ambedkar's vision during the foundation laying of the project, first planned during Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure.
- **Defence Ministry Launches Rashtraparv Website & App:**
 - Launched on Good Governance Day, December 25, 2024.
 - Provides information on national events, live streaming, ticket sales, seating arrangements, and route maps.
 - Features a Tableau Management Portal for Republic Day tableaux design.
- **UP CM Inaugurates Atal Yuva Maha Kumbh:**
 - Inaugurated a two-day Atal Health Fair and Yuva Kumbh in Lucknow.
 - Launched and laid the foundation for 181 projects worth ₹662 crore.
- **Country Records Highest-Ever Coal Production:**
 - Achieved 997.826 million tonnes (MT) in 2023-24, an 11.71% growth from 2022-23.
 - Domestic raw coking coal production projected to reach 140 MT in five years.
- **'Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi' Initiative:**
 - Launched on Good Governance Day to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).
 - Aims to provide elected representatives and officials with skills and knowledge for effective governance.
- **India to Host World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025:**
 - Announced by PM Modi to showcase India's creative talent.
 - Highlights the role of young creators in India's growing creator economy.
- **India Achieves 36% Reduction in GDP Emission Intensity:**
 - Achieved a 36% reduction in emission intensity of GDP by 2020 compared to 2005 levels.
 - Significant growth in renewable energy capacity, aiming for 50% from non-fossil sources by 2030.

International News

- **Ex-IMF Chief Rato Faces New Prison Sentence for Corruption:**
 - Rodrigo Rato sentenced to nearly five years in prison by a Madrid court on corruption charges.
 - Denied the allegations.
- **Britain Joins CPTPP:**
 - First European nation to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
 - The bloc represents over 15% of global GDP.
- **UN Launches UN80 Initiative:**
 - Announced by UN Secretary-General António Guterres to reform the organization.
 - Focuses on improving operational efficiency, reviewing mandates, and addressing financial challenges.

Technology & Innovation

- **India Gets Its First Glass Bridge at Kanyakumari:**
 - Inaugurated by Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin.
 - Links Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Thiruvalluvar Statue, providing spectacular views.

Environment & Energy

- **India's Clean Energy Capacity:**
 - Installed capacity crossed 200 GW, with investments projected to double to over \$32 billion in 2025.
 - Annual renewable capacity additions expected to increase significantly through 2030.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need more details or further assistance, feel free to ask!

Summary of Key Points

Japan and India Renew Bilateral Swap Arrangement

- **Effective Date:** February 28, 2025.
- **Objective:** Strengthen financial safety nets and enhance cooperation.
- **Details:** Allows swapping local currencies for US dollars, up to \$75 billion.

EPIC World Launches EHI Index

- **Launch Date:** February 25, 2025.
- **Objective:** Benchmark companies solving for entrepreneurial households.
- **Details:** Tracks 34 publicly listed Indian companies with a total market cap of \$115 billion.

Denmark Announces Green Transition Alliance India (GTAI)

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Enhance collaboration on sustainable energy and global carbon neutrality.
- **Details:** Led by Denmark's Embassy and Consulate General in India, with strategic partners like GWEC and IIT Madras Energy Consortium.

Australia to Invest \$16 Million in Joint Trade and Investment Fund with India

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Enhance and diversify trade and investment relationship.
- **Details:** Establishment of Australia-India Trade and Investment Accelerator Fund, focusing on clean energy, education, agribusiness, and tourism.

Government to Explore Copper, Cobalt Block in Zambia

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Secure critical mineral assets.
- **Details:** 9,000 square kilometers of greenfield land in Zambia for exploration, conducted by Geological Survey of India (GSI).

Brazil to Join OPEC

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Finance transition to green energy while advocating for environmental protection.
- **Details:** Brazil is the world's seventh-largest oil producer, contributing about 4.3 million barrels daily.

Oman and India Sign Executive Programme for Cooperation in Archives

- **Agreement Period:** 2025-2028.
- **Objective:** Deepen historical and cultural ties.
- **Details:** Collaboration between National Archives of India and National Records and Archives Authority of Oman.

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Summary of Key Points

UK to Criminalise AI Child Abuse Tools

- **Announcement Date:** February 1, 2025.
- **Objective:** Combat AI-generated child sexual abuse material (CSAM).
- **Details:** New legislative measures to be part of a broader Crime and Policing Bill; illegal to possess, create, or distribute AI tools for generating CSAM; penalties up to five years in prison.

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- **Effective Date:** January 23, 2025.
- **Objective:** Conserve seven big cat species globally.
- **Details:** Treaty-based inter-governmental organization; launched by PM Modi; headquartered in India; aims to foster collaboration and consolidate conservation practices.

Trump Sanctions on ICC

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Respond to ICC investigations of Israel.
- **Details:** Executive order imposing sanctions; ICC issued arrest warrants for Israeli PM Netanyahu and former defense minister Yoav Gallant.

First-Ever Kangaroo Embryo Using IVF

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Advance conservation of native marsupials.
- **Details:** Created by Australian researchers using intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI); published in the journal Reproductive, Fertility and Development.

Panama Withdraws from China's Belt and Road Initiative

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Limit Chinese influence in the Panama Canal.
- **Details:** Submitted 90-day statutory notice to Beijing; influenced by US pressure; significant shift in Panama's foreign policy.

Russia Imposes New Tourist Tax

- **Effective Date:** Starting at 1% in 2025, increasing to 3% by 2027.
- **Objective:** Support regional tourism infrastructure.
- **Details:** Replaces previous resort fee; part of amendments to the Tax Code.

Romania and Bulgaria Join Schengen Zone

- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Eliminate land border controls and allow free travel.
- **Details:** Austria dropped its opposition; Schengen Zone includes 29 countries.

India-Nepal "Surya Kiran" Military Exercise

- **Start Date:** January 1, 2025.
- **Objective:** Strengthen military cooperation.
- **Details:** 18th edition; battalion-level exercise in Saljhandi, Nepal; continues until January 13, 2025.

Switzerland Enforces Facial Covering Ban

- **Effective Date:** January 1, 2025.
- **Objective:** Implement significant legal, economic, and social reforms.
- **Details:** Includes changes to inheritance laws, pension hikes, and stricter banking regulations.

Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) Outbreak in China

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Address rise in HMPV infections.
- **Details:** Surge in infections among children under 14 in northern provinces; increased screening, detection, and isolation measures.

Nascent Galaxy Discovered

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Understand galaxy evolution.
- **Details:** Discovered in the Leo constellation, 430 million light years from Earth; forming at the end of the tidal tail of galaxy NGC 3785.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Summary of Key Points

Nato Launches New Mission to Protect Undersea Cables

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Increase surveillance of ships in the Baltic Sea.
- **Details:** Mission dubbed "Baltic Sentry"; involves more patrol aircraft, warships, and drones; announced at a summit in Helsinki.

India Joins UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Investigate benefits and challenges of Big Data for monitoring and reporting on sustainable development goals.
- **Details:** India joins the prestigious UN-CEBD.

Donald John Trump Sworn-in as 47th President of US

- **Swearing-in Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Officially assume the presidency.
- **Details:** Ceremony held at the Capitol Rotunda; JD Vance sworn-in as the 50th Vice President.

OpenAI Announces \$500 Billion 'The Stargate Project'

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Develop AI infrastructure over the next four years.
- **Details:** Focus on building data centres dedicated to OpenAI; initial \$100 billion deployed immediately.

NIFTEM-K Hosts Delegates of International South-South Learning Programme on Food Fortification

- **Event Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Study India's successful food fortification initiatives.
- **Details:** Hosted by NIFTEM-K; delegates from Burkina Faso, Senegal, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, and Madagascar.

India's Participation in International Travel Trade Exhibition at FITUR, Madrid

- **Event Date:** January 22-26, 2025.
- **Objective:** Position India as a leading destination in Spain and Latin America.
- **Details:** Ministry of Tourism participated in FITUR; global meeting point for tourism professionals.

Advent of Chinese AI Firm DeepSeek Shakes Up US-Based Silicon Valley

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Advance AI capabilities.
- **Details:** New AI model DeepSeek-R1; matches performance of leading American AI models at a fraction of the cost.

India to Join 197 Nations at UNCCD COP16 in Riyadh

- **Event Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Combat desertification.
- **Details:** 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification; first time West Asia hosts the event.

Australia Bars Under-16s from Social Media

- **Legislation Date:** November 28, 2024.
- **Objective:** Restrict social media access for children under 16.
- **Details:** Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Bill 2024; requires social media companies to ensure compliance.

UAE Leads Global Rankings in Sustainable Development & Economic Innovation

- **Report Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Achieve Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Details:** UAE ranks first in Global Trade, Maritime Protection, Wastewater Reuse, and Green Hydrogen Production; fourth in Economic Performance.

Romania and Bulgaria to Join EU's Schengen Area

- **Effective Date:** January 1, 2025.
- **Objective:** Strengthen safety and unity in Europe.
- **Details:** Schengen Area allows free movement for over 425 million EU citizens; abolishes internal border checks.

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Summary of Key Points

Switzerland Suspends 'Most Favoured Nation' Status to India

- **Effective Date:** January 1, 2025.
- **Objective:** Suspension of the MFN clause in the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with India.

World's Richest Families 2024

- **Top Family:** Walmart Waltons with a \$432.4 billion fortune.
- **Indian Families:** Ambanis ranked 8th (\$99.6 billion), Mistrys 23rd (\$41.4 billion).

OPEC Fund Approves Nearly \$1 Billion in Development Financing

- **Approval Date:** Final quarter of 2024.
- **Objective:** Support infrastructure, food security, renewable energy, and economic resilience.
- **Beneficiary Countries:** Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Türkiye, Kenya, El Salvador.

Italy Grants Citizenship to Argentina's President

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Due to heritage; applications fast-tracked.
- **Details:** Granted to President Javier Milei and his sister Karina.

Sri Lanka to Offer Visa-Free Travel to Indian Nationals

- **Effective Date:** January 2025.

- **Objective:** Strengthen cultural and economic ties.
- **Details:** Free visas for nationals from 39 countries, including India.

Japan and India Collaborate to Address Space Debris

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Address space debris using laser technology.
- **Details:** Focus on debris removal and lunar exploration.

India and France Collaborate to Establish World's Largest Museum

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Upgrade the Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum.
- **Details:** Spanning 1,55,000 square meters across Parliament's North and South Blocks.

Largest Clove Producer in the World by 2024

- **Top Producer:** Indonesia with 109,600 metric tons.
- **Contribution:** Over 70% of global output.

Bald Eagle Officially Designated as the United States National Bird

- **Legislation Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Official designation.
- **Details:** Signed by President Joe Biden; symbol of the nation's strength.

Azerbaijan Airline Crashes in Kazakhstan

- **Crash Date:** December 25, 2024.
- **Casualties:** 38 deaths, 29 survivors.
- **Details:** Embraer 190 aircraft; dramatic footage recorded by a passenger.

Russia Declares Federal Emergency Over Black Sea Oil Spill

- **Incident Date:** December 15, 2024.
- **Objective:** Address oil spill caused by storm.
- **Details:** Two tankers struck; significant environmental impact; over 10,000 involved in cleanup efforts.

Karnataka to Implement Horticulture Development Scheme

- **Implementation Date:** Financial year 2025-26.
- **Objective:** Advance technology developments for farmers.

- **Details:** ₹95 crore outlay; initiatives include a Knowledge Cell, seed bank, and Organic and Millet Hub.

Assam to Launch Its Satellite 'ASSAMSAT'

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Improve data access for socio-economic initiatives and enhance border surveillance.
- **Details:** Collaboration with IN-SPACe and ISRO; involves college students in building experimental satellites.

Telangana Govt Ropes in Thomas Piketty to Analyse Caste Census Data

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Provide evidence-based policy recommendations.
- **Details:** 11-member expert committee; includes renowned economist Thomas Piketty.

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Summary of Key Points

Uttarakhand Cabinet Approves Unified Pension Scheme

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Ensure assured payouts post-retirement for state officers and employees.
- **Details:** Implementation of the Central Government's Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) under the National Pension System (NPS); operational from April 1, 2025.
- **Additional Approvals:** New Excise Policy 2025, stricter controls on liquor sales, and increased excise revenue target.

Kerala Govt Allocates Additional ₹300 Crore for Integrated Healthcare Scheme

- **Allocation Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Provide health coverage for over 64 lakh poor and vulnerable people.
- **Details:** Total allocation for Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASAP) now ₹978.54 crore; offers ₹5 lakh annual health coverage per family.

West Bengal Government Launches "Nodi Bandhan" Scheme

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Develop riverine areas and address erosion along the Ganga.

- **Details:** Budget allocation of ₹200 crores; focus on preventing floods and enhancing opportunities for pisciculture and irrigation.

Maharashtra Unveils Roadmap for Zero-Waste Textile Industry by 2047

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Achieve zero waste in India's textile industry by 2047.
- **Details:** Report titled 'Making India a Zero-Waste Fashion Country'; structured framework for sustainability and circular economy principles.

Arunachal Cabinet Approves Schemes for Women, Youth, and State Development

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Enhance support for women, youth, and state development.
- **Details:** Increased financial support for girl children under Dulari Kanya Scheme; establishment of Institute for Transforming Arunachal (ITA); new GST Amendment Bill.

Jharkhand Government Bans Gutkha, Pan Masala for a Year

- **Ban Effective Date:** February 18, 2025.
- **Objective:** Address health concerns related to nicotine and tobacco.
- **Details:** Complete ban on production, distribution, sale, and storage of gutkha and paan masala containing nicotine and tobacco.

CM Stalin Opens India's Largest Single-Location Solar Plant

- **Inauguration Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Boost renewable energy production.
- **Details:** 4.3-GW solar cell and module manufacturing plant by TP Solar Ltd in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu; investment of ₹3,800 crore; potential expansion to 8 GW.

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Summary of Key Points

Odisha Govt Approves Antyodaya Gruha Yojana

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Provide housing for eligible households excluded from existing initiatives.
- **Details:** Financial assistance of ₹1.2 lakh for constructing a 25-square-meter house; targets victims of disasters, development project displacees, differently-abled primary earners, and Forest Rights Act beneficiaries.

Maharashtra Government Launches Maitri 2.0 Portal

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Streamline the investment process and reduce administrative delays.
- **Details:** Integrates 119 services from 16 departments; features real-time tracking, proactive escalation of delays, and an online query resolution mechanism.

Haryana Government Approves Culling of Male Nilgais

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Manage Nilgai population viewed as a threat to agriculture.
- **Details:** New Wildlife (Protection) Rules allow shooting of male Nilgais; sparked protests from environmentalists and the Bishnoi community.

Telangana's Rythu Bharosa Scheme Expansion

- **Effective Date:** January 2025.
- **Objective:** Provide financial support to farmers.
- **Details:** Offers ₹7,500 per acre for every crop season to 70 lakh farmers; replaces the Rythu Bandhu scheme.

Chhattisgarh's Green GDP Initiative

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Foster sustainable development.
- **Details:** Incorporates the economic value of forest ecosystem services into financial planning and policy-making.

Union Minister Launches India's First Organic Fisheries Cluster in Sikkim

- **Launch Date:** January 7, 2025.
- **Objective:** Promote organic fisheries.
- **Details:** Inaugurated and laid the foundation for 50 projects worth ₹50 crores under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

Shahid Madho Singh Haath Kharcha Scheme Launched in Odisha

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Reduce dropout rate among Scheduled Tribe (ST) students.
- **Details:** Provides a one-time incentive of ₹5,000 for ST students enrolling in Class IX and Class XI.

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Launches Special FM Channel 'Kumbhvani'

- **Launch Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Dedicated to Maha Kumbh 2025.
- **Details:** Special FM channel of All India Radio (103.5 MHz); also inaugurated 'Kumbh Mangal Dhvani'.

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Haryana's Declining Sex Ratio at Birth

- **Current Ratio:** 910 girls per 1,000 boys in 2024.
- **Concern:** Lowest in eight years, alarming activists and civil society.
- **Government Stance:** Described as a minor fluctuation.
- **National Context:** India's national sex ratio at birth was 929 girls per 1,000 boys (NFHS-5, 2021).

Uttarakhand Announces Implementation of UCC

- **Implementation Date:** January 27, 2025.
- **Objective:** Bring uniformity in personal civil laws.
- **Details:** First state to implement Uniform Civil Code (UCC); necessary preparations completed.

Odisha's Green Economy Potential

- **Study Release Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Generate 1 million new jobs by 2030.
- **Details:** Focus on energy transition, circular economy, and bio-economy; potential investment of ₹3.5 lakh crore.

Gujarat Declares First Biodiversity Heritage Site

- **Site:** Inland Mangrove Guneri in Kutch.
- **Objective:** Preserve rare mangrove ecosystem.
- **Details:** Covers 32.78 hectares; significant achievement in biodiversity conservation.

UNESCO Declares West Bengal a Top Heritage Tourism Destination

- **Recognition Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Enhance heritage tourism.
- **Details:** Focus on developing iconic places of worship like Dakshineswar Temple and Kalighat Temple.

UP Declares Maha Kumbh Area a New District

- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Streamline administration for Maha Kumbh Mela 2025.
- **Details:** New district named Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj.

Ratapani Declared as 8th Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh

- **Approval Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Enhance tiger conservation.
- **Details:** Affirming Madhya Pradesh's status as the true Tiger State.

Devendra Fadnavis to Become Maharashtra CM for the Third Term

- **Oath Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Assume office as Chief Minister.
- **Details:** Grand ceremony at Azad Maidan, Mumbai; attended by PM Narendra Modi.

Gadkari Announces Nine Road Projects for Rajasthan

- **Announcement Date:** December 10, 2024.
- **Objective:** Improve road infrastructure.
- **Details:** Projects worth ₹30,000 crore; 800 km of road network.

Madhya Pradesh CM to Inaugurate 10th International Forest Fair

- **Event Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Focus on women empowerment through minor forest produce.
- **Details:** Representatives from Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Australia; 300 stalls and exhibitions.

38th National Games Uttarakhand Unveils Mascot, Logo, Anthem, and Tagline

- **Unveiling Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Promote traditional sports.
- **Details:** Inclusion of yoga and mallakhamb; announced by IOA President PT Usha.

Madhya Pradesh Builds Over 8,000 Homes in Shivpuri Under PM-JANMAN

- **Achievement Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Provide housing with essential amenities.
- **Details:** Shivpuri district leads with over 8,000 houses built; first house completed for tribal woman Lalita.

Madhya Pradesh Recognized as 'Go-To Global Destination for 2025'

- **Recognition Date:** Recently.
- **Objective:** Highlight rich heritage, wildlife, and natural beauty.
- **Details:** UNESCO World Heritage Sites like Khajuraho, Panna, and Bandhavgarh.

Gujarat CM Launches SWAR Platform

- **Launch Date:** December 25, 2024.
- **Objective:** Bridge language barriers and enhance ease of living.
- **Details:** Citizen-centric initiative; launched on Good Governance Day.

Awards and Honours

Mauritius PM Bestows Country's Highest Honour on PM Modi

- **Award:** Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GCSK).
- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** First Indian and fifth foreign national to receive this recognition; acknowledges contributions to strengthening ties between Mauritius and other nations.

Forbes India Leadership Awards 2025

- **Event Date:** Recently.
- **Location:** Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai.
- **Key Awards:**
 - **CEO of the Year:** Rajesh Jejurikar (Mahindra & Mahindra).
 - **Emerging Innovator Award:** BugWorks Research.
 - **Outstanding Startup Award:** BrowserStack.
 - **Icons of Excellence:** Ajay Singh (SpiceJet), Katrina Kaif (Kay Beauty), Jay Shah (ICC), Shyam Srinivasan, Mohit Joshi (Tech Mahindra).
 - **Promising Startup:** Minimalist.
 - **Regional Goliath:** MTR Foods.
 - **Grassroots Philanthropists:** Rizwan and Rekha Koita (Koita Foundation).
 - **Climate Warrior:** Indra Water.
 - **Turnaround Star:** Indian Hotels Co Ltd (IHCL).
 - **Next-Gen Entrepreneur:** Varun Jaipuria (Varun Beverages).
 - **Institution Builder:** Ashish Dhawan (Central Square Foundation, Ashoka University).
 - **Entrepreneur of the Year:** Supam Maheshwari (FirstCry).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Conferred 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados' Award

- **Award:** Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados.
- **Announcement Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Recognized for exemplary work during the Covid-19 pandemic; dedicated to the 1.4 billion Indians.

Bhaker Named BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2024

- **Award:** BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year.
- **Achievement:** Won two bronze medals at the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- **Details:** First Indian woman to win an Olympic medal in shooting; significant financial growth through endorsements.

Indian Biologist Purnima Devi Barman Among Time Magazine's 2025 List of 'Women of the Year'

- **Award:** Time Magazine's 'Women of the Year'.
- **Achievement:** Conservation work for greater adjutant storks in Assam.
- **Details:** Leads the "Hargila Army"; only Indian woman on the list.

India Receives Top Global Award for Enhancing Road Safety Standards

- **Award:** Prince Michael Decade of Action Road Safety Award.
- **Achievement:** Enhancing vehicle safety standards over the past decade.
- **Details:** Shared with Morocco; recognized at the 4th Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Marrakech.

Varsha Bharath's Bad Girl Wins NETPAC Award at International Film Festival Rotterdam

- **Award:** NETPAC Award.
- **Event:** International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2025.
- **Details:** Tamil debut for music director Amit Trivedi; significant recognition for the film.

Rakesh Roshan to Receive Outstanding Achievement Award at IIFA 2025

- **Award:** Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema.
- **Event:** IIFA 2025.
- **Details:** Expressed excitement and gratitude for the recognition.

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Awards and Honours

University of Sussex Awards Honorary Doctorate to Noel Tata

- **Award:** Honorary Doctorate.
- **Recipient:** Noel Tata, business leader within the Tata Group.

- **Details:** Graduated from the University of Sussex in 1978 with a degree in economics; holds several leadership positions across the Tata Group; appointed Chairman of Tata Trusts in 2024.

Chandrika Tandon's 'Triveni' Wins Grammy for Best New Age Album

- **Award:** Grammy for Best New Age Album.
- **Recipient:** Chandrika Tandon.
- **Details:** Album blends ancient Vedic chants with world music; collaboration with South African flautist Wouter Kellerman and Japanese cellist Eru Matsumoto.

2025 Grammy Awards Highlights

- **Event Date:** Recently.
- **Key Winners:**
 - **Album of the Year:** "Cowboy Carter" – Beyoncé.
 - **Song of the Year:** "Not Like Us" – Kendrick Lamar.
 - **Record of the Year:** "Not Like Us" – Kendrick Lamar.
 - **Best New Artist:** Chappell Roan.
 - **Best Pop Solo Performance:** "Espresso" — Sabrina Carpenter.
 - **Best Pop Vocal Album:** "Short n' Sweet" — Sabrina Carpenter.
 - **Best Rock Performance:** "Now and Then" — The Beatles.

National Sports Awards 2024 Announced

- **Event Date:** January 17, 2025.
- **Key Awards:**
 - **Arjuna Awards:** Jyothi Yarraji, Annu Rani, Rakesh Kumar, Hokato Hotozhe Sema.
 - **Lifetime Arjuna Awards:** Sucha Singh, Murlikant Petkar.
 - **Dronacharya Awards:** Subhash Rana, S. Muralidharan.
 - **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy:** Chandigarh University.

IREDA Achieves 'Excellent' Rating for Fourth Consecutive Year

- **Rating:** 'Excellent' for MoU performance with MNRE.
- **Details:** Score of 98.24 for the financial year 2023-24; showcases commitment to operational excellence and corporate governance.

New Delhi-Based Short Film 'Anuja' Earns Nomination for Oscars 2025

- **Nomination:** Live Action Short category at the 97th Academy Awards.
- **Details:** Directed by Adam J Graves and Suchitra Mattai; competing against other notable films.

India's Divith Reddy Crowned U-8 World Champion

- **Achievement:** Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship.
- **Details:** Gold medal with a score of 9/11 points.

India Wins ISSA Good Practice Award for Asia and Pacific 2024

- **Award:** ISSA Good Practice Award.
- **Recipient:** EPFO.
- **Details:** Recognized for reforms to strengthen social security systems; presented at the Regional Social Security Forum in Riyadh.

Ang Lee to Receive DGA Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Award:** DGA Lifetime Achievement Award.
- **Recipient:** Ang Lee.
- **Details:** Taiwanese American filmmaker; two-time Oscar winner.

National Panchayat Awards 2024

- **Event Date:** December 11, 2024.
- **Details:** Recognized 45 outstanding Panchayats for contributions to rural development; attended by President Droupadi Murmu and Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh.

Indian Film "The Kumbaya Story" Wins the Global Sustainability Film Award

- **Award:** Transforming Society Short Film award.
- **Event:** 13th the Global Sustainability Film Awards.
- **Details:** Held at London's BAFTA venue.

Indian Heritage Conservation Projects Shine at UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards 2024

- **Award:** UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage.
- **Recipients:** Abathsahayeswarar Temple in Tamil Nadu and BJPCI in Maharashtra.

Honorary General of Indian Army

- **Recipient:** Nepal's Chief of Army Staff, General Ashok Raj Sigdel.
- **Details:** Honored by President Droupadi Murmu; served as Reviewing Officer at the Indian Military Academy's passing out parade.

Ayodhya Ram Temple Wins Global Safety Excellence Award

- **Award:** Sword of Honour.
- **Details:** Awarded by the British Safety Council.

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Awards and Honours

Suryabala's Novel Wins 34th Vyas Samman 2024

- **Award:** 34th Vyas Samman.
- **Recipient:** Suryabala for "Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu Ki Diary".
- **Details:** Published in 2018; selected by a committee led by Prof. Ramji Tiwari.

Chennai-Born Caitlin Sandra Neil Crowned Miss India USA 2024

- **Award:** Miss India USA 2024.
- **Recipient:** Caitlin Sandra Neil.
- **Details:** 19-year-old student at the University of California, Davis; crowned at the annual pageant in New Jersey.

Tansen Samaroh 2024: Swapan Chaudhuri, Sanand Nyas Honored

- **Event:** Tansen Sangeet Samaroh 2024.
- **Awards:**
 - **Rashtriya Tansen Samman 2023:** Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri.
 - **Raja Mansingh Tomar Samman 2023:** Sanand Nyas Sanstha from Indore.

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2024 Announced

- **Award:** Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award 2024.
- **Recipients:**
 - **Kannada:** K.V. Narayana for "Nudigala Alivu".
 - **Marathi:** Sudhir Rasal.
 - **Telugu:** Penugonda Lakshminarayana.

PM Modi Honoured with Kuwait's Top Civilian Award

- **Award:** Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer.
- **Recipient:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **Details:** Conferred by Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah during his state visit.

Jaishankar Receives Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Award for Leadership

- **Award:** Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award for Public Leadership.
- **Recipient:** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.
- **Details:** Recognized for contributions to India's foreign policy.

President Droupadi Murmu Awards Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar to 17 Exceptional Children

- **Award:** Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024.
- **Recipients:** 17 children from 14 states and UTs.
- **Details:** Recognized for achievements in Art and Culture, Bravery, Innovation, and more.

SAIL Certified as Great Place to Work for the Second Time

- **Certification:** Great Place to Work.
- **Recipient:** Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).
- **Details:** Certification for January 2025 to January 2026; second consecutive certification.

Appointments and Resignations

RBI Approves Re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as IndusInd Bank Chief for 1 Year

- **Position:** MD and CEO of IndusInd Bank.
- **Recipient:** Sumant Kathpalia.
- **Details:** Extension from March 24, 2025, to March 23, 2026; shorter than the requested three-year term.

Saina Nehwal Joins Naarica as Investor and Brand Ambassador

- **Position:** Investor and Brand Ambassador.
- **Recipient:** Saina Nehwal.
- **Details:** Promotes sustainable menstrual care solutions; Naarica specializes in absorbent menstrual underwear.

Government Appoints Vikas Kaushal as CMD of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

- **Position:** Chairman and Managing Director (CMD).
- **Recipient:** Vikas Kaushal.
- **Details:** First private sector executive to lead a state-run oil refinery in India; five-year term.

Mark Carney Appointed as the New Leader of Canada's Liberal Party and Next PM

- **Position:** Leader of Canada's Liberal Party and Prime Minister.
- **Recipient:** Mark Carney.
- **Details:** Won leadership race with 85.9% of the votes; replaces Justin Trudeau.

Federal Bank Appoints Vidya Balan as Brand Ambassador

- **Position:** Brand Ambassador.
- **Recipient:** Vidya Balan.
- **Details:** First brand ambassador for Federal Bank; multi-year association includes marketing initiatives.

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Appointments and Resignations

Takashi Nakajima Appointed as Honda Cars India's New President & CEO

- **Position:** President and CEO of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL).
- **Effective Date:** April 1, 2025.
- **Details:** Succeeds Takuya Tsumura; over 30 years of experience with Honda; previously served as President of Honda Motor, Russia.

Atul Kumar Goel Assumes Charge as Chief Executive of IBA

- **Position:** Chief Executive (CE) of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB); qualified Chartered Accountant with over three decades of banking experience.

Intel Appoints Lip-Bu Tan as New CEO

- **Position:** Chief Executive Officer of Intel Corporation.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former CEO of Cadence Design Systems; follows departure of former CEO Pat Gelsinger.

Arun Mammen Elected as New ATMA Chairman

- **Position:** Chairman of Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Vice Chairman and Managing Director of MRF Ltd; aims to position Indian tyre industry as a major global supplier.

N Ganapathy Subramaniam Appointed as Chairman of Tata Communications

- **Position:** Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tata Communications Ltd.
- **Effective Date:** March 14, 2025.
- **Details:** Over 40 years of experience in the IT industry; former Chief Operating Officer of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth Gets Additional Charge of Revenue Dept

- **Position:** Secretary, Department of Revenue.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Additional charge following the appointment of Tuhin Kanta Pandey as SEBI Chairman.

Levi's Ropes in Diljit Dosanjh as Global Ambassador

- **Position:** Global Brand Ambassador.
- **Recipient:** Diljit Dosanjh.
- **Details:** First Punjabi artist to join Levi's; follows success of Dil-Luminati Tour and debut performance at Coachella.

Ajay Bhadoo Appointed as CEO of Government e Marketplace

- **Position:** Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Government e Marketplace (GeM).
- **Effective Date:** March 3, 2025.
- **Details:** Continues as Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce; 1999 batch IAS officer from the Gujarat cadre.

Himanshu Pathak Assumes Charge as ICRISAT Director-General

- **Position:** Director-General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former Union Secretary of the Department of Agriculture Research and Education; aims to build agricultural resilience in dryland regions.

Shaktikanta Das to Be Second Principal Secretary to PM

- **Position:** Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former RBI Governor; unique experience in monetary and fiscal policy.

Finance Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey Appointed New SEBI Chairperson for 3-Year Term

- **Position:** Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- **Effective Date:** February 27, 2025.
- **Details:** 11th chairperson of SEBI; replaces Madhabi Puri Buch.

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Gyanesh Kumar Takes Charge as Chief Election Commissioner

- **Position:** Chief Election Commissioner.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** 1988-batch IAS officer from Kerala cadre; emphasizes voting as the first step for nation building; succeeds Rajiv Kumar.

SBI Cards Appoints Salila Pande as CEO for Two Years

- **Position:** Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd.
- **Effective Date:** April 1, 2025.
- **Details:** Two-year term; replaces Abhijit Chakravorty; extensive experience in various banking roles.

Rekha Gupta Will Be the New Chief Minister of Delhi

- **Position:** Chief Minister of Delhi.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** First-time BJP MLA from Shalimar Bagh; fourth woman Chief Minister of Delhi; oath-taking ceremony at Ramlila Maidan.

Indian-Origin Kash Patel Confirmed as FBI Director by US Senate

- **Position:** Director of the FBI.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Confirmed by President Donald Trump; narrow Senate vote; committed to making the FBI transparent and accountable.

Kotak Mahindra Prime Appoints Shahrukh Todiwala as New MD, CEO

- **Position:** Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kotak Mahindra Prime.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Vyomesh Kapasi; expertise in vehicle financing.

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh Resigns

- **Position:** Chief Minister of Manipur.
- **Resignation Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Resigned amidst growing dissent within BJP; submitted resignation to Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla.

Greece Elects Former Parliament Speaker as New President

- **Position:** President of Greece.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Constantine Tassoulas elected; succeeds Katerina Sakellariopoulou; supported by conservative government.

Bart De Wever Sworn in as New Prime Minister of Belgium

- **Position:** Prime Minister of Belgium.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** First Flemish nationalist to hold the position; appointed by King Philippe; replaces Alexander De Croo.

Appointments and Resignations

Citibank Appoints Balasubramanian as India Head

- **Position:** Head of Citibank India.
- **Effective Date:** Subject to regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Details:** Oversees India subcontinent sub-cluster and banking operations; succeeds Ashu Khullar.

Manish Singhal Appointed Secretary General of ASSOCHAM

- **Position:** Secretary General of ASSOCHAM.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Deepak Sood; associated with several Indian multinational companies.

Bhuvnesh Kumar Appointed UIDAI CEO

- **Position:** CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- **Effective Date:** January 1, 2025.
- **Details:** Responsible for managing Aadhaar.

Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati Sworn in as 27th Governor of Odisha

- **Position:** Governor of Odisha.

- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Raghubar Das; previously served as Governor of Mizoram.

Arif Mohammad Khan Takes Oath as Bihar's New Governor

- **Position:** Governor of Bihar.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar; ceremony attended by CM Nitish Kumar and other dignitaries.

Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar Sworn in as Kerala Governor

- **Position:** Governor of Kerala.
- **Effective Date:** January 2, 2025.
- **Details:** Succeeds Arif Mohammad Khan; ceremony attended by CM Pinarayi Vijayan and other dignitaries.

Faiz Ahmed Kidwai Appointed as DGCA Director General

- **Position:** Director General of DGCA.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Previously Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture.

State Bank of India Appoints Baldev Prakash as Group Chief Risk Officer

- **Position:** Deputy Managing Director and Group Chief Risk Officer.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Previously MD and CEO of Jammu and Kashmir Bank.

V Narayanan Appointed as ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space

- **Position:** Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space.
- **Effective Date:** January 14, 2025.
- **Details:** Succeeds S Somanath; two-year tenure.

Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank Get New Chief Executive Officers

- **Positions:** MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Indian Bank.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Ashok Chandra appointed as MD and CEO of PNB; Binod Kumar appointed as MD and CEO of Indian Bank.

Saikia and Bhatia Officially Named BCCI Secretary, Treasurer

- **Positions:** Secretary and Treasurer of BCCI.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Elected unopposed.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Appointments and Resignations

IPS Gyanendra Pratap Singh Appointed Director General of CRPF

- **Position:** Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- **Effective Date:** January 18, 2025.
- **Details:** 1991-batch IPS officer from Assam-Meghalaya cadre; tenure until November 30, 2027, or until further orders.

JP Singh Appointed India's New Ambassador to Israel

- **Position:** Ambassador to Israel.
- **Effective Date:** January 24, 2025.
- **Details:** 2002-batch IFS diplomat; previously joint secretary in the Pakistan-Afghanistan-Iran division of MEA.

LTIMindtree Appoints Venugopal Lambu as CEO

- **Position:** Chief Executive Officer (CEO designate) and Whole-time Director.
- **Effective Date:** January 24, 2025.
- **Details:** Based in London; succeeds Debashis Chatterjee.

Nakul Jain Steps Down as Paytm Payments CEO

- **Position:** Chief Executive Officer of Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL).
- **Resignation Date:** March 31, 2025.
- **Details:** Pursuing own entrepreneurial venture; company looking for a replacement.

Vedanta Resources Appoints Deshnee Naidoo as First CEO

- **Position:** Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- **Effective Date:** January 20, 2025.
- **Details:** Spearheads fresh growth phase; appointment coincides with Vedanta Ltd's demerging of businesses.

Jay Shah Becomes Youngest ICC Chairman in History

- **Position:** Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** At 36, youngest and fifth Indian to lead ICC; succeeds New Zealand's Greg Barclay.

Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah Becomes Namibia's First Female President

- **Position:** President of Namibia.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Secured over 57% of the vote; extensive leadership experience including serving as foreign minister.

French President Macron to Name New PM in Coming Days

- **Position:** Prime Minister of France.
- **Effective Date:** Soon.
- **Details:** Following resignation of Michel Barnier after a no-confidence vote in Parliament.

Eurogrip Tyres Appoints M.S. Dhoni as Brand Ambassador

- **Position:** Brand Ambassador.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Promotes Eurogrip brand and its full range of products.

Burkina Faso Junta Names New Prime Minister

- **Position:** Prime Minister of Burkina Faso.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Rimtalba Jean Emmanuel Ouedraogo appointed; follows dismissal of Apollinaire Joachim Kyelem de Tambela.

Devajit Saikia Appointed Acting Secretary of BCCI

- **Position:** Acting Secretary of BCCI.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Jay Shah; currently serves as BCCI joint secretary.

Sanjay Malhotra Appointed as New RBI Governor

- **Position:** Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Effective Date:** Soon.
- **Details:** 1990-batch IAS officer from Rajasthan cadre; three-year term.

Syrian Fighters Name Mohammed al-Bashir as Interim Prime Minister

- **Position:** Interim Prime Minister of Syria.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Holds position until March 1, 2025.

Bhavesh Jain Appointed as MD & CEO of TransUnion CIBIL

- **Position:** Managing Director and CEO of TransUnion CIBIL.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Focus on advancing financial inclusion; replaces Rajesh Kumar.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Appointments and Resignations

Mikheil Kavelashvili Becomes Georgia's New President

- **Position:** President of Georgia.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former Manchester City footballer; backed by the ruling Georgian Dream party; elected amid pro-EU protests.

Rama Mohan Rao Amara Appointed as SBI's New Managing Director

- **Position:** Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI).
- **Effective Date:** December 18, 2024.
- **Details:** Previously served as Deputy Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer at SBI.

Iceland's New Government Takes Office Under PM Kristinn Freyr

- **Position:** Prime Minister of Iceland.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Kristinn Freyr of the Social Democratic Alliance (SDA); youngest Prime Minister at 35; leads a three-party coalition.

Trump Appoints Sriram Krishnan as Senior AI Policy Advisor

- **Position:** Senior White House Policy Advisor on Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Indian-American entrepreneur and venture capitalist; responsible for shaping and coordinating AI policy across the government.

V. Ramasubramanian Appointed NHRC Chairperson

- **Position:** Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Former Supreme Court judge; position vacant since June 1.

Justice Madan Lokur Appointed Chairperson of UN Internal Justice Council

- **Position:** Chairperson of the United Nations Internal Justice Council (IJC).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Four-year term concluding on November 12, 2028.

Maia Sandu Sworn in for 2nd Term as President of Moldova

- **Position:** President of Moldova.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Re-elected in November 2024; priorities include European integration, national security, and economic growth.

Aisake Valu Eke Elected as New Prime Minister of Tonga

- **Position:** Prime Minister of Tonga.
- **Effective Date:** February 2025.
- **Details:** Former finance minister; serves until national elections in November 2025.

Justice GS Sandhawalia Appointed Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court

- **Position:** Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Justice Narender G appointed Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court.

IAS Officer Arunish Chawla Appointed as Revenue Secretary in Ministry of Finance

- **Position:** Revenue Secretary, Ministry of Finance.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Previously Secretary, Pharmaceuticals; several other new appointments in various departments.

Amitava Chatterjee Appointed as MD & CEO of J&K Bank

- **Position:** Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Bank.
- **Effective Date:** December 30, 2024.

- **Details:** Three-year term.

President Appoints New Governors for Five States

- **Positions:** Governors of Manipur, Bihar, and other states.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Ajay Kumar Bhalla named Governor of Manipur; Arif Mohammed Khan transferred to Bihar.

BFI Chief Ajay Singh Joins Asian Body Board

- **Position:** Board Member of Asian Body.
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain joins Athletes' Commission.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Appointments and Resignations

Justice V Ramasubramanian Appointed NHRC Chairperson

- **Position:** Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
- **Effective Date:** December 30, 2024.
- **Details:** Former Supreme Court Judge; appointed by President Droupadi Murmu; welcomed alongside Justice (Dr.) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi and Priyank Kanoongo.

Vitul Kumar Appointed Officiating DG of CRPF

- **Position:** Officiating Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- **Effective Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Succeeds Anish Dayal Singh; serves as acting chief until a permanent successor is appointed.

Science and Technology

SpaceX, NASA Launch Mission to Bring Back Sunita Williams, Butch Wilmore

- **Mission:** Crew-10.
- **Objective:** Return U.S. astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore from the International Space Station (ISS).
- **Details:** Includes transportation of four new crew members to the ISS; marks the 10th crew rotation mission under SpaceX's human space transportation system.

NASA's IM-2 Mission Brings Ice Mining, Mobile Robots, and More on Moon

- **Mission:** Intuitive Machines' second lunar delivery mission (IM-2).
- **Objective:** Create a sustainable human presence on the Moon.
- **Details:** Includes a drill, mass spectrometer, cellular network, and drone for terrain exploration; landing site in the lunar South Pole region.

NASA and Nokia Unveil the Moon's First Mobile Network with Intuitive Machines

- **Mission:** IM-2.
- **Objective:** Enhance communication capabilities for future Moon missions.
- **Details:** Lunar Surface Communication System (LSCS) developed by Nokia; supports high-definition video streaming, telemetry data exchange, and command-and-control communications.

NASA's Lunar Trailblazer for Mapping the Moon's Water Launched

- **Launch Date:** February 26, 2025.
- **Objective:** Explore and map the presence of different forms of water on the lunar surface.
- **Details:** Part of NASA's CLPS initiative; Intuitive Machines' lunar lander set to land on March 6.

ISRO and IIT Madras Jointly Develop Indigenous Semiconductor Chip for Space-Based Applications

- **Project:** Indigenous RISC-V Controller for Space Applications (IRIS).
- **Objective:** Enhance indigenous semiconductor development for space-based applications.
- **Details:** Based on the SHAKTI processor; led by V Kamakoti from IIT Madras.

ISRO's NVS-02 Satellite Faces Orbit-Raising Challenge

- **Launch Date:** January 29, 2025.
- **Objective:** Achieve geostationary orbit.
- **Details:** Technical issue with a malfunctioning valve preventing the Liquid Apogee Motor (LAM) from firing; satellite remains in an elliptical Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

IIT Madras Unveils Genome Database to Advance Cancer Research in India

- **Project:** Bharat Cancer Genome Atlas (BCGA).
- **Objective:** Provide insights into cancer causes and facilitate early interventions.
- **Details:** India-specific cancer genome database; analysis of 960 whole exome sequencing from 480 breast cancer patient tissue samples.

Science and Technology

ISRO's EOS-06 Satellite Captures Phytoplankton Growth on Global Scale

- **Satellite:** EOS-06.
- **Sensor:** Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM).
- **Objective:** Capture phytoplankton concentration globally.
- **Details:** Captures chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) concentration every 2 days; data for Jan-Dec 2024 at 1 km resolution.

SpaceX Polaris Dawn Crew Returns to Earth After Historic Commercial Spacewalk

- **Mission:** Polaris Dawn.
- **Objective:** First commercial spacewalk.
- **Details:** Dragon capsule splashed down off the coast of Florida; significant advancement for the commercial space industry.

Cabinet Clears 'One Nation, One Poll' and Major Agriculture-Space Proposals

- **Policy:** 'One Nation, One Poll'.
- **Objective:** Simultaneous elections.
- **Details:** Approved over ₹60,000 crore in various sectors; revised PM-AASHA scheme with ₹35,000 crore outlay.

India's Own Space Station for Scientific Research to Be Established by 2028

- **Project:** Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS-1).
- **Objective:** Develop India's first space station.
- **Details:** First module targeted for launch by December 2028; total funding of ₹20,193 crore; operational by 2035.

ISRO's PSLV-C60 Launch: SpaDeX Deployed Successfully

- **Mission:** Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX).
- **Objective:** Demonstrate space docking technology.
- **Details:** Launched on December 30, 2024; docking operation completed on January 16, 2025.

IIT Madras Inaugurates Asia's Largest Shallow Wave Basin Research Facility

- **Facility:** Shallow Wave Basin Research Facility.
- **Location:** Discovery satellite campus, Thaiyur.
- **Objective:** Meet research and industry requirements in coastal engineering and port management.

Cabinet Approves Establishment of Third Launch Pad

- **Project:** Third Launch Pad (TLP) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
- **Objective:** Support Next Generation Launch Vehicles and future human spaceflight missions.
- **Details:** Enhances launch capacity; serves as standby for the Second Launch Pad.

Sarla Aviation Unveils Prototype Air Taxi

- **Prototype:** Shunya.
- **Objective:** Introduce electric flying taxis by 2028.
- **Details:** Speeds up to 250 km per hour; optimized for short trips of 20-30 km.

IIT Ropar's iHub AWaDH Unveils Cost-Effective Bluetooth Low Energy Gateway

- **Project:** Bluetooth Low Energy Gateway and Node System.
- **Objective:** Revolutionize IoT applications.
- **Details:** Connects Bluetooth-enabled sensors to cloud platforms; enables real-time environmental monitoring and advanced analytics.

Google's Quantum Leap: Unveiling the Revolutionary 'Willow' Chip

- **Project:** Willow Chip.
- **Objective:** Perform complex calculations in minutes.
- **Details:** Significant milestone in quantum computing.

India to Launch Bharat Antariksha Station by 2035

- **Project:** Bharat Antariksha Station.
- **Objective:** Establish India's own space station.
- **Details:** Operational by 2035; crewed lunar mission planned by 2040.

India's Data Centre Industry Set to Surpass \$100 Billion by 2027

- **Market Projection:** Exceed \$100 billion in investments by 2027.
- **Details:** Major growth centers include Mumbai and Chennai; driven by industries such as BFSI, technology, and generative AI.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Science and Technology

ISRO to Launch SPADEX Mission on Dec 30

- **Launch Date:** December 30, 2024, at 9:58 PM.
- **Rocket:** PSLV-C60.
- **Objective:** Demonstrate in-space docking technology.
- **Details:** Involves two 220 kg satellites, SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target); placed in a 470 km orbit; crucial for lunar missions, sample returns, and building a space station.

Nvidia Unveils the Jetson Orin Nano Super Generative AI Supercomputer

- **Product:** Jetson Orin Nano Super Developer Kit.
- **Price:** \$249 (approximately ₹21,146).
- **Performance:** Delivers up to 67 trillion operations per second (TOPS) of AI performance.
- **Details:** Available globally; initially announced in 2023 at \$499; reduced price with boosted performance.

India Launches UG Minor in Quantum Technologies

- **Program:** Undergraduate Minor Programme in Quantum Technologies.
- **Launch Date:** Next academic session.
- **Details:** Includes subjects like quantum mechanics, computing, and cryptography; hands-on learning with quantum simulators and labs.

ISRO's PSLV-C60 Launch: SpaDeX Deployed Successfully

- **Mission:** Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX).
- **Launch Date:** December 30, 2024.
- **Details:** Successful launch of PSLV-C60 rocket; deployed two spacecraft—SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target); set to launch NVS-02 satellite in January 2025.

Defence News

CDS Gen Anil Chauhan Embarks on an Official Visit to Australia

- **Visit Dates:** March 4 to 7, 2025.
- **Objective:** Bolster diplomatic and military collaboration.
- **Details:** Discussions with senior officials from the Australian Department of Defence and military leaders; visit to Force Command Headquarters and Australian Defence College; round table discussion at the Lowy Institute.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Defence News

DRDO Conducts High-Altitude Trials of Indigenous Integrated Life Support System for LCA Tejas

- **Date:** March 4, 2025.
- **Objective:** Test Indigenous On-Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS)-based Integrated Life Support System (ILSS).
- **Details:** Generates and regulates breathable oxygen for pilots; tested on LCA-Prototype Vehicle-3 aircraft at altitudes up to 50,000 feet; features 10 Line Replaceable Units; 90% indigenous content.

DRDO and Indian Navy Successfully Test Fire Deadly Anti-Ship Missile

- **Missile:** NASM-SR.
- **Test Date:** Recently.
- **Details:** Test-fired from a Sea King Mk.42B helicopter; range of approximately 55 kilometers; equipped with imaging infrared (IIR) seeker; supports "Lock On After Launch" (LOAL) and sea-skimming capabilities.

India, Japan to Hold 6th Edition of Joint Military Exercise 'Dharma Guardian'

- **Exercise Dates:** February 25 to March 9, 2025.
- **Location:** Mount Fuji, Japan.
- **Objective:** Enhance interoperability between the two forces; joint urban warfare and counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate.
- **Details:** Personnel exchanges to share best practices; focus on operational readiness for various security challenges.

Goa Shipyard Showcases Indigenous Naval Vessels at NAVDEX 2025

- **Event:** NAVDEX 2025.
- **Location:** Abu Dhabi.
- **Objective:** Highlight India's naval innovation and self-reliance under the "Make in India" initiative.
- **Details:** Showcasing Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) and Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs); FPV capable of speeds up to 35 knots; GSL established in 1957.

India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise Cyclone-III Begins in Rajasthan

- **Exercise Dates:** February 10 to 23, 2025.
- **Location:** Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.
- **Objective:** Promote military-to-military relationship; enhance interoperability, jointness, and mutual exchange of special operations tactics.

- **Details:** Indian contingent represented by troops from two Special Forces Battalions; Egypt contingent represented by Special Forces Group and Task Force.

These notes should help you quickly review and remember the key points for your current affairs preparation. If you need further assistance or more details, feel free to ask!

Absolutely! Here are short, easy-to-remember notes for your SBI Prelims:

DRDO VSHORADS Trials:

- What: Successful trials of indigenous Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD).
- Where: Chandipur, Odisha.
- Purpose: Intercepting low-altitude drone threats.
- Key Points:
 - Fourth-generation, miniaturized system.
 - Successful target destruction.
 - Designed for Army, Navy, Air Force.

DRDO-IIT Hyderabad LAAM System:

- What: Large Area Additive Manufacturing (LAAM) system.
- Where: IIT Hyderabad.
- Purpose: Fabricating large aerospace and defense components.
- Key Points:
 - Uses Powder-based Directed Energy Deposition (DED).
 - Significant advancement in metal additive manufacturing.

TROPEX-25 Exercise:

- What: Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise.
- Who: Indian Navy, Army, Air Force, Coast Guard.
- Where: Indian Ocean Region.
- Purpose: Inter-service coordination and combat readiness.
- Key Points:
 - Biennial maritime exercise.
 - INS Vikrant participation.
 - Focus on Indo-Pacific strategy.

India-Maldives Exercise 'Ekuverin':

- What: Joint military exercise.
- Meaning: "Friends" in Dhivehi.
- Where: Maldives.
- Purpose: Counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism, humanitarian aid.
- Key Points:
 - Bilateral annual exercise.
 - Held alternately between India and Maldives.

India-Cambodia Exercise CINBAX:

- What: Joint tabletop exercise.
- Who: Indian Army and Cambodian Army.
- Where: Pune, India.
- Key points:
 - Inaugural edition.

INS Tushil Commissioning:

- What: Commissioning of INS Tushil (F 70).
- Type: Multi-role stealth-guided missile frigate.
- Where: Kaliningrad, Russia.
- Key Points:
 - India-Russia maritime cooperation.
 - Significant boost to Indian Navy's strength.

Okay, let's expand those notes a bit to provide a more informative context, while still keeping them concise for SBI Prelims:

INS Nirdeshak Commissioning:

- What: Commissioning of INS Nirdeshak, a state-of-the-art survey vessel.
- Type: Survey Vessel (Large), designed for deep-sea and coastal hydrographic surveys.
- Where: Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam.
- Builder: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), highlighting India's shipbuilding capabilities.

- Significance: Enhances the Indian Navy's ability to map and chart maritime territories, crucial for navigation and defense.

Indian Navy Mental Health Workshop:

- What: Workshop on "Self-transformation and Inner-awakening," focusing on mental resilience.
- Purpose: Part of a 60-day Resilience programme addressing mental health and inner harmony within the Navy.
- Where: Dr DS Kothari Auditorium, DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Importance: Acknowledges the importance of mental well-being in demanding military environments.

Fast Patrol Vessels for Indian Coast Guard:

- What: Launch of Fast Patrol Vessels Amulya and Akshay.
- Builder: Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), a key player in India's defense shipbuilding.
- For: Indian Coast Guard (ICG), strengthening coastal security capabilities.
- Focus: Aligns with the "Aatmanirbharta" (self-reliance) initiative in defense production.

DRDO HIMKAVACH Clothing System:

- What: HIMKAVACH multi-layer cold weather clothing system.
- Developer: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Purpose: Provides thermal protection for soldiers operating in extreme Himalayan conditions (-60°C to +20°C).
- Significance: Crucial for maintaining operational effectiveness in high-altitude regions.

Exercise Devil Strike:

- What: Joint exercise of Indian Army's elite airborne soldiers and the Indian Air Force.
- Purpose: To enhance operational readiness and validate critical drills in challenging environments.
- When: January 16-19.
- Focus: Seamless integration and rapid deployment capabilities.

L&T Multi-Purpose Vessel INS Utkarsh:

- What: Launch of INS Utkarsh, a multi-purpose vessel.
- Builder: Larsen & Toubro (L&T), Kattupalli Shipyard, demonstrating private sector involvement in defense.

- For: Indian Navy, contributing to its logistical and operational support.
- Significance: Adds to the navy's capacity to conduct various missions.

DRDO Scramjet Engine Ground Test:

- What: Ground test of Active Cooled Scramjet Combustor.
- Developer: DRDO's Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL).
- Purpose: Development of next-generation hypersonic missiles, a critical defense technology.
- Significance: Marks a milestone in India's hypersonic technology development.

SANJAY - Battlefield Surveillance System:

- What: "SANJAY" Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS) flagged off.
- Purpose: Integrates data from ground and aerial sensors for a comprehensive battlefield picture.
- Enhances: Battlefield transparency and decision-making for the Indian Army.
- Significance: Modernizes battlefield surveillance and information sharing.

India's Suicide Death Rate (Lancet):

- Decline: 30% decline from 1990 to 2021, showing progress in addressing mental health.
- Global Context: While declining, suicide rates remain a serious global concern.
- Key Points: Female suicide rates saw a more significant decrease, but family related issues are still a leading cause.

World Reputation Rankings 2025:

- Top: Harvard University, maintaining its global academic reputation.
- Indian Institutions: IISc, IIT Delhi, IIT Madras, and Shiksha 'O' Anusandhan ranked, but saw a decline, indicating increased global competition.
- Note: IIT Bombay's absence highlights the dynamic nature of these rankings.

Superbillionaires (WSJ):

- Top: Elon Musk, leading the list of the world's wealthiest individuals.
- Indian Presence: Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani included, reflecting India's growing economic influence.
- Definition: "Superbillionaires" refers to those with a net worth of \$50 billion or more.

Rural Development Budget:

- Key Schemes: MGNREGS (46%) and PMAY-G (29%) constitute the majority of the budget, highlighting focus on rural employment and housing.
- Increase: PMAY-G's significant increase signifies a push for rural housing development.
- Significance: Provides insights into the government's priorities for rural development.

Devolution Index (Panchayat Raj):

- Top: Karnataka, indicating effective decentralization of power.
- Report: Prepared by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).
- Focus: Measures the devolution of functions, finances, and functionaries to Panchayats.
- Significance: Crucial for strengthening local self-governance.

FT MBA Ranking 2025:

- Top Global: Wharton School, a leading global business school.
- Top Indian: ISB (27th globally), establishing its position as a top Asian business school.
- Other Indian Institutions: IIMs and XLRI also ranked, demonstrating the quality of Indian management education.
- Significance: Reflects the global competitiveness of Indian business schools.

It looks like you've shared some interesting updates! Here are the key points:

Global Business School Rankings

- **University of Pennsylvania: Wharton (US)** is ranked first globally.
- **Columbia Business School (US)** is second.
- **IESE Business School (Spain), Insead (France), and SDA Bocconi School of Management (Italy)** are ranked third, fourth, and fifth respectively.

Forbes Top 10 Richest Women in the World (2025)

- **Alice Walton** tops the list with a net worth of \$112.5 billion.
- **Françoise Bettencourt Meyers** is second with \$74.4 billion.
- **Julia Koch and Family, Jacqueline Mars, and Rafaela Aponte-Diamant** follow.
- **Savitri Jindal & Family** from India is also featured on the list.

BofA Survey on Asia Pacific Markets

- **India** is ranked as the second-least favored market in the Asia Pacific region.
- **Japan and Taiwan** are the most favored markets.

- Fund managers are currently overweight in markets like Japan, Taiwan, China, and Singapore.

BPCL's New Polypropylene Unit in Kochi

- **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** is setting up a new polypropylene unit in Kochi with an investment of ₹5,000 crore.
- The unit will have an annual capacity of 400,000 tonnes and is expected to be commissioned by October 2027.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to dive deeper into?

You've shared some fascinating updates! Here are the highlights:

2025 Henley Passport Index

- **Singapore** has the world's most powerful passport, with visa-free access to 193 destinations.
- **India** ranks 80th, sharing this spot with Algeria, Equatorial Guinea, and Tajikistan.
- **Japan** and **South Korea** are in second place, each with access to 190 countries.

NITI Aayog's Policy Report on Higher Education

- NITI Aayog released a report titled “Expanding Quality Higher Education through States and State Public Universities.”
- The report provides a comprehensive analysis of State Public Universities (SPUs) over the past decade, focusing on quality, funding, governance, and employability.

Corruption Perceptions Index 2024

- **India** ranks 96th out of 180 countries, with a score of 38 out of 100.
- **Denmark** is the least corrupt country, followed by Finland, Singapore, and New Zealand.

Logistics Performance Index 2023

- **India** ranks 38th overall and 22nd in the International Shipments category.
- Improvements are attributed to policy reforms, technology-driven initiatives, and infrastructure enhancements.

Asia's Richest Families 2025

- The **Ambani family** of Reliance Industries is the richest in Asia, with a net worth of \$90.5 billion.
- Other notable families include the Chearavanont family (Thailand), Hartono family (Indonesia), and Mistry family (India).

India's 4th Biennial Report to UNFCCC

- India submitted its 4th Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC, including the National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory for 2020.

Is there a particular topic you'd like to explore further?

You've shared some insightful updates! Here are the key points:

Decline in Student Enrolment: UDISE+ Report 2023-24

- **Student enrolment** in India dropped to 24.8 crore in 2023-24, a 6% decrease from 26.02 crore in 2018-19.
- **Boys' enrolment** decreased by 4.87%, from 13.53 crore in 2018-19 to 12.87 crore in 2023-24.
- **Girls' enrolment** saw a 4.48% decline, from 12.49 crore in 2018-19 to 11.93 crore in 2023-24.

India's Economic Growth Projections

- **HSBC** projects India's real GDP growth at 6.2% for FY25 and 6.5% for FY26.
- **UN** forecasts India's economy to grow by 6.6% in 2025 and 6.7% in 2026.
- **FICCI** estimates India's GDP growth between 6.5-6.9% for FY26.
- **IMF** retains India's growth outlook at 6.5% for FY26 and FY27.
- **Crisil** projects India's GDP growth to reach 6.7% in FY25.

Adani Ports in S&P Global Sustainability Rankings

- **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)** ranks among the top 10 transportation and transportation infrastructure companies in the S&P Global corporate sustainability assessment (CSA) rankings for 2024.

Henley Passport Index 2025

- **India's** ranking dropped to 85th in the Henley Passport Index, while **Singapore** tops the list for the second consecutive year.

India's Foreign Borrowings and Fiscal Conditions

- **India Inc's foreign borrowings** declined by 20.2% in 2024, totaling \$23.33 billion.
- **Moody's** indicates India's fiscal conditions will constrain credit growth in 2025 but may benefit from shifts in trade and investment flows from China.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Oxfam Report on Billionaire Wealth

- **Billionaire wealth** surged by \$2 trillion in 2024, reaching a total of \$15 trillion.
- The number of people living in poverty has barely changed since 1990, despite the increase in billionaire wealth.
- **Asia** saw an increase of \$299 billion in billionaire wealth, with 204 new billionaires.
- The report calls for governments to tax the wealthy to reduce inequality and dismantle what they consider a new aristocracy.

Banks' NPAs and Retail Loan Stress

- **Fitch** projects that Indian banks' gross non-performing assets (NPAs) may decline to 2.4% by March 2025.
- Stress in retail loans is rising, particularly in unsecured credit, but growth, recoveries, and write-offs are expected to offset new bad loans.

Indian Food Services Market

- The market is projected to grow from \$80 billion in 2024 to \$144-152 billion by 2030, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10-11%.

Household Food Expenditure

- **Assam** and **Bihar** households are the biggest spenders on food, with monthly per-capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) on food items being the highest in these states.

Economic Growth and Viksit Bharat Goal

- India needs to achieve an average growth rate of around 8% to become a developed nation by 2047.
- The investment rate must rise to around 35% of GDP, and there should be further development in manufacturing and emerging technologies.

IndiGo's Ranking in AirHelp Report

- **IndiGo** was ranked 103rd out of 109 airlines in AirHelp's 2024 list of the world's worst airlines.
- **Air India** was ranked 61st.

FDI Inflows and Global Investment Status

- India's foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows surpassed \$1 trillion between April 2000 and September 2024.

IIT Kharagpur's QS World University Rankings

- **IIT Kharagpur** ranked 2nd in India and 202nd globally in the QS World University Rankings Sustainability 2025.

India's Smartphone Exports

- India has become the world's 3rd largest smartphone exporter, with exports exceeding ₹20,000 crore in November 2024.

Travel and Tourism Development Index

- India climbed to 39th position in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024.

Malaria Reduction Progress

- The WHO highlighted India's significant progress in reducing malaria cases and deaths, with a 69% drop in cases from 2017 to 2023.

UNICEF Report on Gaza

- UNICEF reported 14,500 child deaths in Gaza since the conflict began, with one child killed every hour.

Network Readiness Index

- India improved its position to 49th in the 2024 Network Readiness Index.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

- India's foreign exchange reserves surpassed \$700 billion, placing the country 4th globally.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

RBI Report on Cyber Frauds and Mule Accounts

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) emphasized the need to raise awareness about cyber frauds and identify mule accounts amid rising digital transactions.

NBFCs' Loan Growth

- Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) saw their loan growth moderate to 6.5% in H1FY24 due to increased risk weights on certain consumer credit categories and bank lending to NBFCs.

India's Clean Energy Capacity

- India has surpassed 200 GW of clean energy capacity, with investments expected to double to over \$32 billion in 2025. The International Energy Agency (IEA) projects rapid growth in India's renewable capacity additions through 2030.

India's Manufacturing Growth

- India has emerged as a global manufacturing hub, driven by initiatives like "Make in India" and Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, attracting significant investments and creating jobs.

Return of ₹2,000 Notes

- The RBI reported that 98.12% of ₹2,000 notes have been returned to the banking system, with ₹6,691 crore worth still in circulation.

Sports News

- **Mahmudullah**, a veteran Bangladeshi cricketer, announced his retirement from international cricket.
- **Hockey Jharkhand** won the 15th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship, defeating Hockey Haryana in a penalty shootout.
- **Sunil Chhetri**, legendary Indian footballer, has come out of retirement and will play in the March FIFA International Window.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some exciting updates! Here are the key points:

India Wins ICC Champions Trophy 2025

- **India** won the ICC Champions Trophy for the third time, defeating New Zealand in the final by chasing down a target of 252 runs.
- **Rohit Sharma** was declared Player of the Match, and **Rachin Ravindra** from New Zealand was named Player of the Tournament.

Khelo India Winter Games 2025

- The Khelo India Winter Games 2025 will take place from March 9 to 12 in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir, featuring sports like Alpine Skiing, Ski Mountaineering, Snowboarding, and Nordic Skiing.

Steve Smith's Retirement from ODI Cricket

- **Steve Smith** announced his retirement from ODI cricket after Australia's defeat to India in the semi-final of the Champions Trophy 2025. He will continue to play in Test and T20 formats.

Sharath Kamal's Retirement from Table Tennis

- **Achanta Sharath Kamal**, India's iconic table tennis star, announced his retirement from professional table tennis. His final competition will be the WTT Star Contender event in Chennai from March 25 to 30, 2025.

Mushfiquir Rahim's Retirement from ODI Cricket

- **Mushfiquir Rahim**, a long-serving cricketer for Bangladesh, announced his retirement from ODI cricket following the team's exit from the ICC Champions Trophy 2025.

Virat Kohli's Milestone

- **Virat Kohli** became the fastest batter to reach 14,000 ODI runs during the Champions Trophy 2025 match against Pakistan, achieving the feat in only 287 innings.

Vishvaa Rajakumar Wins Memory League World Championship 2025

- **Vishvaa Rajakumar**, a 20-year-old Indian student, won the Memory League World Championship 2025 by memorizing the order of 80 random numbers in 13.50 seconds and 30 images in 8.40 seconds.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

IOA Forms Ad Hoc Committee for Boxing

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) formed a five-member ad hoc committee to manage boxing affairs in India due to the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) failing to hold timely elections.
- The committee is led by Madhukant Pathak and includes Rajesh Bhandari, DP Bhatt, Shiva Thapa, and Virendra Singh Thakur.

Freestyle Chess Players Club

- Members of the Freestyle Chess Players Club plan to form an independent association to represent their interests in response to conflicts with FIDE, the international chess governing body.

Kyrian Jacquet Wins Chennai Open Tennis Title

- Kyrian Jacquet of France won the 2025 Chennai Open Tennis men's singles title, defeating Elias Ymer of Sweden.

Meghalaya to Host National Games 2027

- Meghalaya will host the National Games in 2027, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of its statehood.

Pankaj Advani Wins Indian Snooker Championship

- Pankaj Advani won his 36th national title and 10th men's snooker crown at the Yashwant Club.

Kevin Durant Scores 30,000 Points in NBA

- Kevin Durant became the eighth player in NBA history to score 30,000 points, achieving this milestone against the Memphis Grizzlies.

Vanshita Verma Wins Weightlifting Title

- Vanshita Verma from Chandigarh won the 81kg champion title at the National Games in Dehradun.

Marcus Stoinis Retires from ODI Cricket

- Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis announced his immediate retirement from ODI cricket to focus on T20 cricket.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some exciting updates! Here are the key points:

Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers Win Hockey India League

- The Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers won the 6th Men's Hockey India League 2024-25, defeating the Hyderabad Toofans 4-3 in the final.
- The Odisha Warriors clinched the inaugural Women's Hockey India League title by beating the Soorma Hockey Club 2-1.

BCCI New Secretary and Treasurer

- Devjit Saikia and Prabhtej Singh Bhatia are set to become the new secretary and treasurer of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

West Bengal Wins Santosh Trophy

- West Bengal secured its 33rd Santosh Trophy title with a 1-0 victory over Kerala.

ICC Players of the Month for December 2024

- Jasprit Bumrah won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award.
- Annabel Sutherland won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award.

Karnataka Wins Vijay Hazare Trophy

- Karnataka clinched its fifth Vijay Hazare Trophy title by defeating Vidarbha.

Melie Kerr Wins ICC Women's Player of the Year Award

- Melie Kerr won the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for her outstanding performance in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup.

Pavan Kampelli Wins Bronze in eFootball at Asian Esports Games

- Pavan Kampelli won a bronze medal in the eFootball event at the 2024 Asian Esports Games in Bangkok.

World Chess Championship

- Indian Grandmaster Dommaraju Gukesh and defending champion Ding Liren played to a draw in the World Chess Championship.

Asian Women's Handball Championship

- The 20th Asian Women's Handball Championship kicked off in New Delhi, with India defeating Hong Kong China 31-28.

Women's Junior Hockey

- India's Women's Junior Hockey team defeated Bangladesh 13-1 in the Asia Cup.

Norris Wins Abu Dhabi GP

- Lando Norris won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, securing McLaren's first Formula 1 constructors' title in 26 years.

Aarit Kapil Beats Chess Grandmaster

- Nine-year-old Aarit Kapil became the youngest Indian to beat a chess Grandmaster.

Saudi Arabia to Host 2034 Men's Football World Cup

- FIFA announced Saudi Arabia as the host of the 2034 Men's Football World Cup.

Khelo India Winter Games 2025

- The Khelo India Winter Games 2025 will take place in two phases: Ladakh will host ice events, and Jammu & Kashmir will host snow events.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

FIFA World Cup Hosts Unveiled

- **Saudi Arabia** will host the 2034 World Cup.
- **Spain, Portugal, and Morocco** will co-host the 2030 edition.

Khelo India Winter Games 2025

- The games will be held from January 23-27 in Ladakh (ice events) and February 22-25 in Jammu & Kashmir (snow events).

Shaheen Shah Afridi's Milestone

- Shaheen Shah Afridi became the youngest and first Pakistani bowler to take 100 wickets in all three cricket formats.

World Squash Championships

- India is leading 1-0 in the Men's match against Hong Kong-China for a fifth-place finish.

Riya Shirish Thatte Wins Gold

- Riya Shirish Thatte won gold in the women's 25m pistol final at the 67th National Shooting Championship.

India Wins Women's Junior Asia Cup

- India clinched the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2024 title in Muscat, Oman, defeating China in a penalty shootout.

Gukesh Withdraws from FIDE Championship

- Newly crowned World Chess Champion D. Gukesh has withdrawn from the FIDE World Rapid and Blitz Championship.

Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships

- The championships begin today in Doha, Qatar, featuring 40 categories.

Pranav Venkatesh Wins Chess Titles

- Pranav Venkatesh won the FIDE World Under-18 Youth Rapid and Blitz titles in Slovenia.

R Ashwin Retires from International Cricket

- Ravichandran Ashwin announced his retirement from international cricket but will continue playing T20 tournaments.

India Men's Hockey Team Ranking

- India ranked 5th in the latest FIH rankings for 2025.

U-19 Women's T20 Asia Cup Final

- India will face Bangladesh in the final of the Under-19 Women's T20 Asia Cup.

Joao Fonseca Wins Next Gen ATP Finals

- Joao Fonseca won the 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals in Jeddah.

Anahat Singh Wins PSA Challenger Title

- Anahat Singh won her ninth PSA Challenger title of 2024.

Delhi to Host Para Athletics World Championships

- India will host the 2025 Para Athletics World Championships at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.

Nusrath Fatima Wins Silver in Pencak Silat

- Nusrath Fatima won a silver medal at the 5th Junior World Pencak Silat Championship in Abu Dhabi.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Sairaj Pardeshi's Success at Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships

- **Sairaj Pardeshi** won one gold and two silver medals in the 81kg men's category, setting national youth records with a total lift of 310kg.
- **Sanjana** secured five silver medals in the women's 76kg category.

78th Senior Men's National Football Championship

- **Odisha** and **Delhi** secured the last two quarter-final spots for the Santosh Trophy.
- Odisha will face West Bengal, and Delhi will play Manipur in the quarter-finals.

Ganemat Sekhon's Victory in National Shooting Championship

- **Ganemat Sekhon** retained her women's skeet title at the 67th National Shooting Championship.
- **Bhavtegh Singh Gill** claimed his first senior national title in men's skeet.

India Squad for Champions Trophy 2025

- **Joe Root** returns to England's ODI squad, while **Ben Stokes** was not selected due to a hamstring injury.

Maheshwari Chauhan and Anantjeet Singh Naruka Win Skeet Mixed Team Title

- The duo from Rajasthan won the skeet mixed team title at the National Shooting Championship.

Torch Rally for 38th National Games

- The torch rally for the 38th National Games begins in Uttarakhand, covering 3,823 km across 99 locations.

India to Compete in Physical Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy

- India will participate in the Physical Disabled Cricket Champions Trophy 2025 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Martina Devi Wins Silver in Asian Junior Weightlifting Championship

- **Martina Devi** won silver in the women's junior +87kg category at the Asian Junior Championships in Doha.

Sachin Tendulkar Accepts MCC Membership

- **Sachin Tendulkar** accepted the Honorary Cricket Membership of the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC).

Jasprit Bumrah's Milestone

- **Jasprit Bumrah** became the fastest Indian to reach 200 Test wickets.

Kerala Wins Senior National Men's Handball Championship

- **Kerala** won their first-ever Senior National Men's Handball Championship title by defeating Chandigarh.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

World Blitz Chess Championship 2024

- **Magnus Carlsen** and **Ian Nepomniachtchi** shared the title after a tied final match.
- **Ju Wenjun** won the Women's section, defeating Lei Tingjie.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- The scheme has achieved over 10 lakh installations, equating to approximately 3 GW of rooftop solar capacity.
- Subsidies and collateral-free loans are provided to facilitate rooftop solar installations.

National Green Hydrogen Mission

- Five pilot projects have been initiated to use hydrogen in buses and trucks.
- Major companies like TATA Motors, Reliance Industries, and NTPC have been awarded the projects.

Revision of Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)

- The Union Cabinet approved the revision, including components like NADCP, LH&DC, and Pashu Aushadhi.
- The programme aims to address livestock diseases and improve livestock health.

PM-KISAN Scheme

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the 19th installment, benefiting over 9.8 crore farmers with financial assistance exceeding ₹22,000 crore.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Government Credit Guarantee Scheme for e-NWRs

- The government has allocated ₹1,000 crore towards the Credit Guarantee Scheme for electronic-Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (e-NWRs) to boost adoption and post-harvest credit finance in agriculture.
- The e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi (e-KUN) program aims to provide farmers with low-interest loans through e-NWRs.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

- PMFBY marks its nine-year anniversary, offering comprehensive protection against crop losses due to natural hazards.
- The scheme uses advanced technology like satellite imagery and drones for precise estimation of crop loss.

Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)

- The scheme has been approved for continuation till 2025-26, ensuring remunerative prices for farmers through effective procurement and price support.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- The scheme celebrated its first anniversary, aiming to provide free electricity through rooftop solar panel installations.
- It has achieved over 8.46 lakh installations, with a goal to supply solar power to one crore households by March 2027.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

National Manufacturing Mission

- The central government will set a mission for small, medium, and large industries with a focus on clean tech manufacturing.
- The mission aims to increase the share of manufacturing in India's GDP to 25% from the current 17%.

Coal Sector Growth

- The coal sector experienced notable growth of 5.3% in December 2024, the highest among the eight core industries.

Agricultural Technology Upgrades

- The government has launched key schemes to upgrade agricultural technology, including the Digital Agriculture Mission and initiatives like e-NAM, Kisan Rail, and Kisan Udan.

Extension of National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

- The Union Cabinet extended the tenure of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis for three additional years, aiming to improve the socio-economic conditions of sanitation workers.

Continuation and Restructuring of Skill India Programme

- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation and restructuring of the Skill India Programme until 2026, integrating demand-driven, technology-enabled, and industry-aligned training.

Swavalambini Programme for Women Entrepreneurship

- The Swavalambini Programme was launched to promote women entrepreneurship in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram, providing entrepreneurial skills, resources, and mentorship.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

10th Anniversary of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the BBBP scheme, marking a decade of efforts to protect, educate, and empower the girl child in India.
- The inaugural event will be held on January 22, 2025, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Diamond Imprest Authorization (DIA) Scheme

- The Department of Commerce launched the DIA Scheme to support exporters and strengthen India's position in the global diamond trade.
- The scheme will come into effect on April 1, 2025.

Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana

- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister launched this scheme to provide ₹10,000 annual aid to over 5.62 lakh landless agricultural laborers.

PM YASASVI Scheme

- The PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (YASASVI) aims to empower students from OBC, EBC, and DNT communities.
- Benefits include pre-matric and post-matric scholarships, top-class education support, and hostel construction for OBC students.

Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs

- The Centre approved the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme to strengthen the MSME sector by providing 60% guarantee coverage for loans up to ₹100 crore.

Bima Sakhi Yojana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Bima Sakhi Yojana in Haryana on December 9, aimed at empowering women.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- The scheme has seen significant growth, with 6.3 lakh installations in 9 months, and aims to reach 1 crore installations by 2027.

Positive Trends Under BBBP Scheme

- The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme has raised the Sex Ratio at Birth from 918 in 2014-15 to 930 in 2023-24 and boosted the Gross Enrollment Ratio of girls in secondary education from 75.51% to 79.4%.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Enhancement of Material Cost under PM POSHAN Scheme

- The PM POSHAN Scheme provides one hot cooked meal to 11.70 crore students in government and government-aided schools.
- The Labour Bureau provides data on inflation for items under the PM POSHAN basket based on the Consumer Price Index – Rural Labourers (CPI-RL).

Distribution of Property Cards under SVAMITVA Scheme

- PM Narendra Modi will distribute over 58 lakh property cards under the SVAMITVA scheme, providing property ownership records to rural residents.

Dr. Ambedkar Samman Yojana

- AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal announced the Dr. Ambedkar Samman Scholarship to fully fund tuition, travel, and living expenses for Dalit students from Delhi studying at top international universities.

Agreements and MoUs

- **Kalyani Powertrain and Compal Electronics:** Partnered to manufacture servers in India.
- **Coal India Limited (CIL) and IIT-H:** Signed an MoU to establish the Centre of Clean Coal Energy and Net Zero (CLEANZ) in Hyderabad.
- **Tata Power Renewables and Andhra Pradesh Government:** Signed an MoU for renewable projects worth ₹49,000 crore.

- **NTPC Green Energy and Chhattisgarh Power Company:** Formed a joint venture to develop renewable energy projects in Chhattisgarh.
- **SJVN and Chhattisgarh Government:** Signed an MoU to develop an 1800 MW Pumped Storage Project at Kotpali, Chhattisgarh.
- **Jio and SpaceX:** Partnered to provide Starlink satellite internet services across India.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

NHLML and IWAI MoU for Multi-Modal Logistics Park

- National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) signed an MoU to develop a state-of-the-art Multi-Modal Logistics Park in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

Airtel and SpaceX Partnership

- Bharti Airtel signed an agreement with SpaceX to introduce Starlink's high-speed Internet services in India, pending necessary government authorizations.

MoD Contract with BEL for Radars

- The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹2,906 crore contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the procurement of the Ashwini Low-Level Transportable Radar (LLTR) system for the Indian Air Force.

IWAI MoU with J&K for River Cruise Tourism

- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) signed an MoU with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to enhance river cruise tourism on three National Waterways.

Tata Electronics and Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing Agreement

- Tata Electronics and Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing signed a Fiscal Support Agreement to establish India's first commercial semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat.

India-EU Free Trade Agreement

- India and the EU agreed to conclude a bilateral Free Trade Agreement by the end of 2025, focusing on enhancing trade, digital technologies, and clean energy.

Japan-India Bilateral Swap Arrangement

- Japan and India renewed the Bilateral Swap Arrangement for up to \$75 billion, effective February 28, 2025.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

IIFT MoU with APEC – Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center

- The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) signed an MoU with APEC – Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center, Belgium, to enhance academic collaboration in international trade, logistics, and supply chain management.

India-Nepal MoU in WASH Sector

- India and Nepal signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, focusing on improved access to clean drinking water and sanitation.

Bisleri MoU with ASI

- Bisleri International partnered with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to revive water bodies at heritage sites across India under the 'Adopt a Heritage 2.0 Programme'.

SECI MoU with Government of MP

- The Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) signed an MoU with the Government of Madhya Pradesh to establish a 200 MW Solar Project in Dhar and a 1000 MWh Battery Storage Project.

AISEF and ASTA MoU

- The All India Spices Exporters Forum (AISEF) and the American Spice Trade Association (ASTA) signed an MoU to enhance collaboration in the spice trade, focusing on food safety, regulatory compliance, and industry best practices.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

CAG and IIT Madras MoUs

- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) and IIT Madras signed MoUs to enhance audit skill sets and improve sustainable audit practices.
- Focus areas include data governance, big data, academic collaboration, advanced auditing practices, sustainability, and joint research initiatives.

Paytm and DPIIT Partnership

- Paytm partnered with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to support fintech and manufacturing startups with mentorship, funding, and infrastructure support.

Paytm and Perplexity Partnership

- Paytm partnered with AI startup Perplexity to integrate AI-powered search features into its app, enhancing user experience and accessibility of information.

HAL and BEML MoU

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) signed an MoU to collaborate on leadership and technical training programs.

Nasscom and KITS Partnership

- Nasscom partnered with the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS) to enhance innovation and intellectual property growth in Karnataka's tech sector.

DRDO and MIDHANI MoU

- The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and MIDHANI signed an MoU for the indigenous development of special grade steel "MDN100" for aeronautical applications.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

NMDC Group PJSC MoU for Vadhvan Port Development

- NMDC Group PJSC signed an MoU with Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) for a ₹21,000 crore investment to develop offshore land at Vadhvan Port in Maharashtra.

CAAR, IIT Madras, and SAEINDIA MoU

- The Centre of Excellence in Advanced Automotive Research (CAAR) and the Society of Automotive Engineers India (SAEINDIA) signed an MoU to enhance collaboration in automotive R&D and professional development.

TRIFED MoUs for Tribal Entrepreneurship

- TRIFED signed MoUs with Reliance Retail, HCL Foundation, and Torajamelo Indonesia to promote tribal entrepreneurship and economic inclusion.

India-Argentina MoU for Lithium Exploration

- India and Argentina signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in lithium exploration and mining, focusing on resource development and sustainable mining practices.

EaseMyTrip and Korea Tourism Partnership

- EaseMyTrip signed an MoU with the Korea Tourism Organization (KTO) to promote South Korea as a key destination for Indian tourists.

Fraunhofer Institute MoUs with IIT Ropar and BITS Pilani

- The Fraunhofer Institute signed MoUs with IIT Ropar and BITS Pilani to collaborate on sustainability and circular economy, focusing on the water-energy-food nexus.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace MoU

- Tata Elxsi and Garuda Aerospace signed an MoU at Aero India 2025 to establish a Centre of Excellence for indigenised UAV design, engineering, and certification.

IEPFA and ACCA MoU

- The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) signed an MoU with ACCA to develop a digital program promoting financial literacy among school children.

IICA and CMAI MoU

- The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and the Carbon Market Association of India (CMAI) signed an MoU to enhance capacity for decarbonisation through training, research, and policy advocacy.

MoD Contracts for PINAKA MLRS

- The Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth ₹10,147 crore with Economic Explosive Limited (EEL), Munitions India Limited (MIL), and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for rockets and software upgrades for the PINAKA Multiple Launch Rocket System.

ISLRTC and NBT MoU

- The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) and the National Book Trust (NBT) signed an MoU to make NBT books accessible in Indian Sign Language.

FIU-IND and IRDAI MoU

- The Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) signed an MoU for enhanced coordination and information exchange.

AWBI and NALSAR University MoU

- The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and NALSAR University signed an MoU to train animal welfare representatives.

India-U.S. Collaboration on Sonobuoy Production

- India and the U.S. announced a partnership for the co-production of sonobuoys to enhance Undersea Domain Awareness (UDA) for the Indian Navy.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

C-DOT and IIT Delhi Agreement

- C-DOT and IIT Delhi signed an agreement to develop "Building Blocks for THz Communication Front Ends" for 6G under the Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF).

C-DOT, IIT Mandi, and IIT Jammu Collaboration

- C-DOT partnered with IIT Mandi and IIT Jammu to develop a Wideband Spectrum-Sensor ASIC-Chip to enhance spectrum utilization.

DPIIT and ITC Partnership

- DPIIT entered into a strategic partnership with ITC Limited to deploy startup solutions in areas like digital platforms, renewable energy, and energy storage systems.

C-DOT and IIT Bombay Agreement

- C-DOT signed an agreement with IIT Bombay to develop an "Optical Transceiver Chipset for High-Bandwidth 6G Wireless Links."

FIU-IND and NHB MoU

- The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU-IND) and the National Housing Bank (NHB) signed an MoU for enhanced coordination and information exchange.

Bajaj Finance and Bharti Airtel Partnership

- Bajaj Finance and Bharti Airtel announced a strategic partnership to create a digital platform for financial services.

India-UK Health Partnership

- India and the UK renewed their health and life sciences partnership, signing a five-year MoU to deepen collaboration in critical health sectors.

BEE and TERI MoU

- The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) signed an MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence for Energy Transition in Hyderabad.

DGS and C-DAC MoU

- The Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) signed an umbrella MoU to drive maritime innovation.

DPIIT and JKEDI MoU

- DPIIT and the Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) signed an MoU to strengthen the startup ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir.

DPIIT and Flipkart MoU

- DPIIT partnered with Flipkart to support and empower tech startups across India.

GSI and CNR-IRPI MoU

- The Geological Survey of India will sign an MoU with The Research Institute for Geo-Hydrological Protection of the National Research Council (CNR-IRPI), Italy, for collaboration in landslide prediction and forecasting.

MoEFCC Agreements

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change facilitated MoUs between the Government of Telangana and CSIR to advance circular economy and waste management.

Centre and ADB Loan for Coastal Protection

- The Centre signed a \$42 million loan agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for coastal protection in Maharashtra.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

World Sustainable Development Summit 2025

- Union Minister Sh. Bhupender Yadav addressed the summit, emphasizing the Global South's role in combating climate change and India's commitment to sustainability through initiatives like the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Mission Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE).

12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum

- The forum concluded with the unanimous adoption of the 'Jaipur Declaration,' focusing on waste streams, circular economy goals, resource efficiency, and sustainable material consumption.

Global Investors Summit 2025

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the summit in Bhopal, highlighting India's potential as a critical supply chain hub and Madhya Pradesh's contributions to agriculture and renewable energy.

India Hosts 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum

- India will host the forum in Jaipur, focusing on achieving SDGs and carbon neutrality in the Asia-Pacific region.

Global South Meet on Women in UN Peacekeeping

- India hosted the inaugural conference in New Delhi, promoting female participation and leadership in UN peacekeeping missions.

BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro

- The next BRICS summit will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, focusing on global governance reform and cooperation among Global South countries.

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

15th Aero India International Seminar

- The seminar took place in Bengaluru, focusing on "Futuristic Aerospace Technologies: Challenges in Design Validation."
- Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth, presented Restricted Military Type Certificates for the Astra BVR missile and HTT-40 aircraft.

First Edition of WAVE Summit

- The World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) will be held in Mumbai from May 1-4, 2025, aiming to promote discussions and innovation in the media and entertainment industry.

AI Action Summit in France

- The AI Action Summit will take place in France on February 10-11, co-chaired by French President Emmanuel Macron and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, focusing on global collaborations and governance in AI.

14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum

- The forum, themed "Greening the Blue Growth in Asia-Pacific," will be held in New Delhi from February 12-14, 2025, showcasing sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.

International Conference on Unani Medicine

- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the conference, emphasizing innovations in Unani Medicine for integrative health solutions.

10th International Women's Conference

- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the conference, highlighting the inner strengths and virtues of women and focusing on mental health and self-acceptance.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

5th Joint Working Group Meeting between India and Spain

- The meeting focused on enhancing bilateral defence cooperation, particularly in technology and armament production, and included discussions on the C295 Project, a collaboration between Airbus Spain and Tata Advanced Systems Limited.

BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025

- The summit will be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, from February 7-11, 2025, aiming to facilitate the exchange of experiences and youth-led initiatives among BIMSTEC member countries.

World Maritime Conference 2024

- The conference will take place in Chennai from December 4-6, 2024, uniting industry leaders and experts in maritime technology.

Global ZATCA Summit

- Union Minister of State for Finance, M P Chaudhary, led a delegation to the ZATCA Conference 2024 in Riyadh, focusing on fostering global economic cooperation and discussing India's growth strategies.

30th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF)

- The iconic film "Godfather" was screened in the Centenary Tribute category, along with various other international films and seminars.

50th Foundation Day of IP & TAFS

- Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar emphasized the importance of balancing expression and dialogue in Indian democracy and highlighted the need for self-audit and scrutiny to prevent institutional degeneration.

India Maritime Heritage Conclave 2024

- The conclave highlighted India's rich maritime history and contributions to global trade, culture, and innovation.

45th PRAGATI Meeting

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the meeting, reviewing eight major projects with a combined cost exceeding ₹1 lakh crore, emphasizing the importance of timely project implementation.

You've shared some very detailed updates! Here are the key points:

Regional Conference on Drug Trafficking and National Security

- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah chaired the conference in New Delhi, launching the Drug Disposal Fortnight and inaugurating the new office complex of the Bhopal Zonal Unit of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

SIAM's 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Circularity

- Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav delivered the keynote address at the conference themed 'Nature Positive Recycling,' discussing sustainable development and circularity in the automotive industry.

India Pavilion at WEF's Davos Summit

- Central and state ministers inaugurated the India Pavilion at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, focusing on the challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI) to societies and economies.

Lab Mitra Initiative

- The 'Lab Mitra' initiative received the National e-Governance Gold Award at the 2024 National e-Governance Conference in Mumbai, benefiting over 250,000 patients by providing lab test results via phone.

Global Artificial Intelligence Summit 2024

- Hyderabad is hosting the summit themed "Making AI Work for Everyone," aiming to boost discussions on AI advancements and future opportunities.

Is there a specific topic you'd like to explore further or any other updates you're interested in?