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## National News

**UNESCO Nomination:** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has nominated the ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List for the 2025-26 cycle.

**Banking:** AU Small Finance Bank has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to transition from a small finance bank to a universal bank.

**Infrastructure:** The Parliament passed The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025, aimed at modernizing the country's shipping sector.

**Digital Initiatives:** Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal unveiled new digital maritime initiatives, including a revamped DGS website and the e-Samudra Platform, to enhance governance in the ports and shipping sector.

**National Festivals & Holidays:** Banks were closed in many states due to Raksha Bandhan, which falls on August 9, 2025, and also because it is the second Saturday of the month.

**Meteorological News:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued heavy rainfall alerts for several districts in Telangana, and a red alert for parts of Delhi-NCR due to torrential downpours.

**Government Schemes and Policies:** The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) with the Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) to promote vernacular innovation.

**Defense:** The Lok Sabha passed the Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

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## MCQS

1. Which ancient Buddhist site was nominated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for the UNESCO World Heritage List?

- A. Bodh Gaya
- B. Nalanda
- C. Sarnath
- D. Kushinagar

**Answer:** C. Sarnath

The news states that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has nominated the ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List for the 2025-26 cycle.

2. Which bank received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to become a universal bank?

- A. HDFC Bank
- B. State Bank of India
- C. AU Small Finance Bank
- D. ICICI Bank

**Answer:** C. AU Small Finance Bank

According to the provided information, AU Small Finance Bank received in-principle approval from the RBI to transition from a small finance bank to a universal bank.

3. What legislative bill was passed by the Parliament to modernize India's shipping sector?

- A. The Maritime Modernization Bill, 2025
- B. The Ports and Harbors Bill, 2025
- C. The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025
- D. The Seafarers Welfare Bill, 2025

**Answer:** C. The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025

The news states that "The Parliament passed The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025, aimed at modernizing the country's shipping sector."

4. What two new digital maritime initiatives were unveiled by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal?

- A. DigiPort and SeaConnect
- B. e-Maritime and ShipLink
- C. DGS website and the e-Samudra Platform
- D. PortNet and MaritimeHub

**Answer:** C. DGS website and the e-Samudra Platform

The news mentions that Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal unveiled new digital maritime initiatives, including a revamped DGS website and the e-Samudra Platform.

5. What were two reasons cited for the closure of banks in many states on August 9, 2025?

- A. Independence Day and a public holiday.
- B. A bank strike and a festival.
- C. Raksha Bandhan and it being the second Saturday of the month.
- D. A natural disaster and a government order.

**Answer:** C. Raksha Bandhan and it being the second Saturday of the month.

The news explicitly states that "Banks were closed in many states due to Raksha Bandhan, which falls on August 9, 2025, and also because it is the second Saturday of the month."

6. Which government body issued heavy rainfall and red alerts for parts of Delhi-NCR and Telangana?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- C. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- D. Central Water Commission (CWC)

**Answer:** B. Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)







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The news states that "The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued heavy rainfall alerts for several districts in Telangana, and a red alert for parts of Delhi-NCR."

**7. Which two organizations signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to promote vernacular innovation?**

- A. NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Education
- B. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD)
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
- D. Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) and the Ministry of Culture

**Answer:** B. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD)  
The news reports that "The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) with the Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) to promote vernacular innovation."

**8. What two bills were passed by the Lok Sabha related to Manipur?**

- A. The Manipur Land Reform Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Public Safety Bill, 2025
- B. The Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025
- C. The Manipur Statehood Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025
- D. The Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Reorganization Bill, 2025

**Answer:** B. The Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025 and the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025

The news states that "The Lok Sabha passed the Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025 and the

Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025."

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