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## National News

### Government & Policy

**Finance:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated that India will continue to purchase oil from sources that suit the country's national interests, including Russia.

**Infrastructure:** The government plans to invest an estimated ₹80 lakh crore to transform India's maritime sector by 2047, with a focus on enhancing port capacity, shipping, shipbuilding, and inland waterways.

**Taxation:** The GST Council has approved a new two-tier tax structure of 5% and 18%, replacing the previous four-tier system. It has also introduced a special demerit rate of 40% for select items like tobacco and luxury goods. The government also introduced a digital hallmarking system with a unique identification (HUID) for silver jewelry.

**Disaster Management:** A central team is visiting the Reasi and Udhampur districts in Jammu and Kashmir to assess the damage caused by recent heavy rains and landslides. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Chouhan will submit a detailed report on the flood losses in Punjab to the Prime Minister.

**Foreign Relations:** The Prime Minister of Mauritius, Navinchandra Ramgoolam, is scheduled to visit India from September 9 to 16.

### Events & Celebrations

**Festivals:** The ten-day Ganesh Chaturthi festival is culminating today with the immersion of

Ganesh idols (Ganesh Visarjan) in various parts of the country.

**Bank Holidays:** Banks are closed in Sikkim today for the celebrations of Id-e-Milad and Indraajatra.

**School Closures:** Due to heavy rainfall and flooding, school holidays have been extended in states like Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

### Other Notable News

**Military:** The Chief of the Army Staff, General Uppendra Dwivedi, launched a new book titled "Operation Sindoor: The Untold Story of India's Deep Strikes Inside Pakistan."

**Space:** A total lunar eclipse, also known as a "Blood Moon," will be visible in India on the night of September 7.

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### MCQS

1. What is the estimated investment the government plans to make to transform India's maritime sector by 2047?

- A. ₹8 lakh crore
- B. ₹18 lakh crore
- C. ₹80 lakh crore
- D. ₹47 lakh crore

**Answer:** C. ₹80 lakh crore

The news brief states, "The government plans to invest an estimated ₹80 lakh crore to transform India's maritime sector by 2047."

2. What is the new two-tier tax structure approved by the GST Council that is replacing the previous four-tier system?

- A. 10% and 20%
- B. 5% and 18%
- C. 12% and 28%
- D. 6% and 22%

**Answer:** B. 5% and 18%

The news brief mentions, "The GST Council has approved a new two-tier tax structure of 5% and 18%, replacing the previous four-tier system."

3. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Chouhan is set to submit a report to the Prime Minister regarding flood losses in which state?

- A. Jammu and Kashmir
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Punjab
- D. Sikkim

**Answer:** C. Punjab

The news brief specifies, "Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Chouhan will submit a detailed report on the flood losses in Punjab to the Prime Minister."

4. Which ten-day festival is culminating today with the immersion of idols?

- A. Durga Puja
- B. Diwali
- C. Ganesh Chaturthi
- D. Navaratri

**Answer:** C. Ganesh Chaturthi

The news brief states, "The ten-day Ganesh Chaturthi festival is culminating today with the immersion of Ganesh idols (Ganesh Visarjan)."

5. Which country's Prime Minister is scheduled to visit India from September 9 to 16?

- A. Nepal
- B. Bhutan
- C. Mauritius
- D. Sri Lanka

**Answer:** C. Mauritius

The news brief notes, "The Prime Minister of Mauritius, Navinchandra Ramgoolam, is





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