

1. International News

- **Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk's Visit to India:** Polish PM Donald Tusk paid an official visit to India, marking his second official visit (after 2010). Accompanied by a high-level delegation of top CEOs and ministers, the talks focused heavily on expanding bilateral cooperation in **defense, space, nuclear energy, and emerging technologies**.
- **Academic and Tech Collaboration with Poland:** Expanding international ties, India's **IIIT-Bangalore** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Poland's **AGH University of Krakow** to foster joint academic and research initiatives in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Quantum Technologies.

2. National News

- **Digital Agriculture Mission Milestone:** Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** announced that the **Digital Agriculture Mission** has successfully created **11 crore Farmer IDs**. This massive milestone was achieved five months ahead of its official deadline of March 31, 2027.
- **Cyclone Alert (Storm Arnab):** A deep depression over the Bay of Bengal intensified into **Cyclonic Storm Arnab**, prompting disaster response preparations across Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and coastal Tamil Nadu. Simultaneously, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued red alerts in parts of Kerala due to heavy torrential rains.
- **Rail Infrastructure Expansion in Madhya Pradesh:** Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** inaugurated the **Satna-Devendra Nagar (53 km)** and **Rewa-Churhat (65 km)** rail sections in Madhya Pradesh, designed to

boost connectivity across the Vindhya and Bundelkhand regions as part of the broader Lalitpur-Singrauli rail project.

3. Economics and Banking

- **RBI Revises Bank Leverage Ratio Framework:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officially revised the **Bank Leverage Ratio Framework** in alignment with updated global **Basel III norms**, aiming to build a more resilient banking sector and curb excessive leverage.
- **C-DAC and Bank of India Collaboration:** The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), signed an MoU with **Bank of India (BOI)** to research and integrate quantum technologies and advanced digital infrastructure into modern banking operations.

4. Sports

- **Asian Para Games Javelin Sweep:** India dominated the men's javelin throw event at the Asian Para Games, sweeping all three podium spots. **Sumit** clinched the Gold medal, **Mahendra Gurjar** secured the Silver with a new Games record, and **Sandip Sanjay Sargar** won the Bronze, also registering a Games record.
- **French Open Badminton:** Star Indian shuttler **P.V. Sindhu** advanced to the final of the French Open after defeating Japan's **Hina Akechi** in a hard-fought three-setter (21-10, 20-22, 21-16).

5. Appointments

- **New Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir:** Senior 1995-batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer **Dr. Sajjan Singh Yadav** was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir,

effective November 1, 2026. He succeeded Atal Dulloo, bringing extensive administrative experience from his previous roles in Delhi.

6. Awards and Honors

- **Oskar Klein Medal 2026:** Renowned Indian physicist **Ashoke Sen** (ICTS-Infosys Madhava Chair Professor) made history by becoming the **first Indian physicist to win the prestigious Oskar Klein Medal**. He was honored for his pioneering contributions to string field theory, S-duality, and black hole entropy counting.
- **UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award:** Major **Abhilasha Barak** was honored with the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2026 in recognition of her exemplary service with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

7. Defense News, MoUs, and Government Schemes

- **Indigenous AIP System Development:** The Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL) under the DRDO achieved a major milestone as its indigenous **Air-Independent Propulsion (AIP) system energy module** commenced "Setting to Work Phase-2" at L&T's Hazira complex in Gujarat. AIP technology significantly enhances the underwater endurance of diesel-electric submarines.
- **Civil Defence Master Trainers Training:** The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the Indian Army launched a joint nationwide initiative to train **600 Civil Defence Master Trainers** across 12 States and UTs, bolstering grassroots disaster response capabilities.

- **NLC India Odisha Investments:** NLC India Limited signed major MoUs with IPICOL worth **Rs. 37,000 crore** to build an ultra-supercritical thermal power plant (3,200 MW) and execute coal gasification projects in Odisha.
- **BHASHINI Konkani LLM:** The Digital India BHASHINI division launched the **Konkani LLM** in collaboration with the Government of Goa during the Goa AI Tech Conclave, expanding linguistic AI capabilities for regional Indian languages.

8. Important Days & Anniversaries

- **ITBP Raising Day (25 October):** The nation observed the Raising Day of the **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to all ITBP personnel, acknowledging their vital role in guarding India's high-altitude borders in the Himalayas and handling challenging internal security duties.

Section 1: Defense, Technology & Science

Q1. In October 2026, which indigenously developed Anti-Tank Loitering Munition System was delivered to the Indian Army by Solar Defence & Aerospace Limited?

- [A] Nagastra-1
- [B] Nagastra-2
- [C] Akash-3
- [D] Helina-M

Correct Answer: [B] Nagastra-2

Detailed Explanation: Nagpur-based Solar Defence & Aerospace Limited delivered the indigenously developed **Nagastra-2 Anti-Tank Loitering Munition System** to the Indian Army. Nagastra-2 functions as a precision strike loitering munition combining UAV surveillance with attack capabilities. It boasts an operational

range of 25 km in recover-and-reuse mode and up to 50 km in fire-and-forget mode, carrying a 4 kg tandem shaped-charge warhead designed to defeat heavy armored vehicles.

Q2. Under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) framework, India signed 5 MoUs for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in October 2026 with which neighboring nation?

- [A] Vietnam
- [B] Cambodia
- [C] Myanmar
- [D] Laos

Correct Answer: [C] Myanmar

Detailed Explanation: India and Myanmar signed 5 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) worth USD 247,502 under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) framework in Naypyitaw. The initiative targets grass-roots development in education, healthcare, and community infrastructure.

Q3. Which Indian organization collaborated with the Indian Army to launch a joint training initiative for 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers across 12 States/UTs in October 2026?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
- [B] National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
- [C] Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- [D] Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Correct Answer: [A] Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)

Detailed Explanation:

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the Indian Army launched a joint training framework to train 600 Civil Defence Master Trainers. The first phase aims to bolster India's

disaster response, civil protection mechanisms, and local crisis management capabilities.

Q4. Host state of 'Raksha Expo 2026', India's first state-government-led defense and aerospace exhibition:

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: [B] Telangana

Detailed Explanation: Telangana hosts 'Raksha Expo 2026' in Hyderabad. It marks the first defense and aerospace trade show spearheaded and organized directly by a state government to promote local defense manufacturing ecosystems.

Section 2: Banking, Business & Economy

Q5. Which Indian public sector bank signed an MoU with C-DAC in October 2026 to explore Quantum Technologies and emerging fintech innovations?

- [A] State Bank of India
- [B] Bank of Baroda
- [C] Bank of India
- [D] Punjab National Bank

Correct Answer: [C] Bank of India

Detailed Explanation: Bank of India (BOI) signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). The collaboration explores emerging technologies like quantum computing and advanced encryption solutions tailored for cyber resilience and digital banking applications.

Q6. Under the revised RBI Leverage Ratio framework under Basel III norms, what is the mandatory leverage ratio for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)?



- [A] 3.5%
- [B] 4.0%
- [C] 4.5%
- [D] 5.0%

Correct Answer: [B] 4.0%

Detailed Explanation: Under the updated Basel III Leverage Ratio guidelines released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), **Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)** must maintain a Leverage Ratio of **4.0%**, whereas other commercial banks must maintain a minimum of 3.5%.

Q7. In October 2026, NLC India Limited (NLCIL) signed MoUs worth approximately ₹37,000 crore with IPICOL for power and mineral projects in which Indian state?

- [A] Jharkhand
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Chhattisgarh
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: [B] Odisha

Detailed Explanation: Navratna PSU **NLC India Limited (NLCIL)** signed agreements with IPICOL in **Odisha** worth ₹37,000 crore. The package includes building a 3,200 MW ultra-supercritical thermal power project (₹35,000 crore investment) and coal gasification infrastructure.

Q8. State Bank of India (SBI) was awarded 'World's Best Consumer Bank 2026' by which global publication during the IMF Annual Meeting in Bangkok?

- [A] The Banker
- [B] Global Finance
- [C] Forbes
- [D] Euromoney

Correct Answer: [B] Global Finance

Detailed Explanation: **State Bank of India (SBI)** earned Global Finance magazine's **World's Best Consumer Bank 2026** award for the second consecutive year. The honor was presented at the World's Best Bank Awards ceremony alongside the IMF/World Bank annual meetings in Bangkok.

Q9. In October 2026, India approved the rollover of a ₹3,000 crore currency swap facility under the SAARC framework to which country?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] Maldives
- [C] Nepal
- [D] Bhutan

Correct Answer: [B] Maldives

Detailed Explanation: The Government of India approved the rollover of a **₹3,000 crore** (approx. \$360M) currency swap facility for the **Maldives** under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework to support its balance-of-payments management and foreign reserve stability.

Section 3: State Initiatives & Governance

Q10. Which Indian state launched the 'Thuli' campaign to revive rainwater-harvesting structures ahead of the monsoon season?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: [B] Tamil Nadu

Detailed Explanation: **Tamil Nadu** launched the **'Thuli' campaign** across urban and rural local bodies. Coordinated by the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, it focuses on renovating existing rainwater-

harvesting systems and constructing artificial aquifer recharge shafts.

Q11. The Goa AI Tech Conclave 2026 featured the launch of which regional Konkani Large Language Model (LLM)?

- [A] BHASHINI Konkani
- [B] GoaGPT
- [C] Mandovi AI
- [D] Gomantak-LLM

Correct Answer: [A] BHASHINI Konkani

Detailed Explanation: At the Goa AI Tech Conclave 2026, the state government unveiled its official State AI Policy and launched **BHASHINI Konkani**, an AI language model designed to integrate local language processing into digital governance platforms.

Q12. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) proposed mandatory implementation of Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) for all new passenger car models starting from:

- [A] October 2027
- [B] October 2028
- [C] October 2030
- [D] January 2030

Correct Answer: [C] October 2030

Detailed Explanation: MoRTH issued a draft notification mandating **Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS)** as a standard requirement for all newly manufactured M1 category passenger vehicles (cars) starting **October 2030** to reduce vehicular collisions.

Section 4: Awards, Honors & Appointments

Q13. Who was awarded the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2026 for service in the UNIFIL deployment?

- [A] Major Radhika Sen
- [B] Major Abhilasha Barak
- [C] Captain Surbhi Jakhmola
- [D] Wing Commander Shaliza Dhami

Correct Answer: [B] Major Abhilasha Barak

Detailed Explanation: Indian Army officer **Major Abhilasha Barak** was honored with the **UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2026** for her contributions to peacebuilding and gender inclusivity while serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Q14. Who among the following received the prestigious Hillary Rodham Clinton Award 2026 at Georgetown University for empowering rural women?

- [A] Chetna Sinha
- [B] Reema Nanavaty
- [C] Medha Patkar
- [D] Sunita Narain

Correct Answer: [B] Reema Nanavaty

Detailed Explanation: Padma Shri **Reema Nanavaty**, Director of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) of India, received the **Hillary Rodham Clinton Award 2026** in Washington, D.C., for her leadership in promoting women's economic independence.

Q15. Who was appointed as the part-time Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) in October 2026?

- [A] SCL Das
- [B] Bhanu Pratap Sharma
- [C] Challa Sreenivasulu Setty
- [D] K. V. Kamath

Correct Answer: [A] SCL Das

Detailed Explanation: The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the

appointment of **SCL Das** as the part-time Chairperson of the **Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)**, the headhunter body responsible for selecting board-level executives at state-run banks and financial institutions.

Section 5: International News & Environment

Q16. The world's largest battery-electric passenger vessel, 'China Zorrilla', launched commercial operations between which two South American cities in October 2026?

- [A] Rio de Janeiro and Santos
- [B] Buenos Aires (Argentina) and Colonia (Uruguay)
- [C] Santiago and Valparaíso
- [D] Lima and Callao

Correct Answer: [B] Buenos Aires (Argentina) and Colonia (Uruguay)

Detailed Explanation: The **China Zorrilla**, recognized as the world's largest zero-emission battery-electric vessel, initiated commercial ferry services across the **Río de la Plata**, connecting **Buenos Aires (Argentina)** and **Colonia del Sacramento (Uruguay)**.

Q17. Bangka Island, where the rare nocturnal primate Bangka slow loris (*Nycticebus bancanus*) was recently rediscovered after nearly a century, belongs to which nation?

- [A] Philippines
- [B] Malaysia
- [C] Indonesia
- [D] Vietnam

Correct Answer: [C] Indonesia

Detailed Explanation: **Bangka Island** lies off the coast of **Sumatra, Indonesia**. Researchers confirmed the scientific rediscovery of the

Bangka slow loris on the island, raising awareness for conservation efforts amid habitat degradation caused by tin mining.

Q18. Where was the 6th Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Advanced 6G Quantum Technologies established via an MoU between C-DOT and IIT-BHU?

- [A] IIT Madras
- [B] IIT Varanasi (BHU)
- [C] IIT Delhi
- [D] IIIT Bangalore

Correct Answer: [B] IIT Varanasi (BHU)

Detailed Explanation: **C-DOT** (the telecom R&D arm of **DoT**) partnered with **IIT (BHU) Varanasi** to set up India's **6th CoE** dedicated to **6G and Quantum Communication Technologies**, furthering indigenous research in next-generation network architectures.

Section 6: Sports Current Affairs

Q19. At the Asian Table Tennis Championships 2026 in Tashkent, which Indian mixed doubles pair secured a historic bronze medal, winning India's first medal in this category in 72 years?

- [A] Sharath Kamal & Manika Batra
- [B] Harmeet Desai & Yashaswini Ghorpade
- [C] Sathiyam Gnanasekaran & Manika Batra
- [D] Manav Thakkar & Archana Kamath

Correct Answer: [B] Harmeet Desai & Yashaswini Ghorpade

Detailed Explanation: The pair of **Harmeet Desai** and **Yashaswini Ghorpade** clinched a bronze medal in mixed doubles at the **2026 Asian Table Tennis Championships** in **Tashkent, Uzbekistan**. This was India's first mixed doubles medal at the continental event since 1954.

Q20. Para-athlete Sachin Khilari won the Gold medal in which event at the Asian Para Games 2026?

- [A] Men's High Jump T64
- [B] Men's Shot Put F46
- [C] Men's Club Throw F51
- [D] Men's Javelin Throw F46

Correct Answer: [B] Men's Shot Put F46

Detailed Explanation: World Champion Sachin Khilari retained his **Gold Medal in Men's Shot Put F46** with a season-best mark, leading an all-Indian podium sweep in the event.

Q21. Indian para-athlete Praveen Kumar achieved which feat at the Asian Para Games 2026?

- [A] Won Gold in Men's High Jump T64 with a Games Record
- [B] Won Gold in Men's Long Jump T64
- [C] Won Silver in Men's 100m T64
- [D] Set a World Record in Discus Throw

Correct Answer: [A] Won Gold in Men's High Jump T64 with a Games Record

Detailed Explanation: Paralympics medalist Praveen Kumar successfully defended his **Gold medal in the Men's High Jump T64** event, shattering his own previous Games Record.

Section 7: Important Days, Observances & Schemes

Q22. What is the official date observed annually for World Polio Day?

- [A] October 21
- [B] October 24
- [C] October 25
- [D] October 26

Correct Answer: [B] October 24

Detailed Explanation: World Polio Day is observed every year on **October 24** to raise awareness about global polio eradication efforts and honor the healthcare workers involved in vaccination campaigns.

Q23. Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2026 is designated by UNESCO for which date range?

- [A] October 15–22
- [B] October 20–27
- [C] October 24–31
- [D] October 25–November 1

Correct Answer: [C] October 24 to 31

Detailed Explanation: UNESCO's Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2026 runs from **October 24 to October 31**, emphasizing critical thinking in digital media consumption and combating misinformation.

Q24. Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the upgraded 'NMMS 2.0' mobile application. What does NMMS stand for?

- [A] National Management Information System
- [B] National Mobile Monitoring System
- [C] National Material Movement System
- [D] National Micro-credit Management Scheme

Correct Answer: [B] National Mobile Monitoring System

Detailed Explanation: The National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) app was enhanced to version 2.0 to ensure real-time geotagged attendance tracking and operational transparency under rural employment schemes like MGNREGA.

Q25. Which research initiative was launched by NCISM and CCRAS in October 2026 to foster undergraduate research in Ayurveda?

- [A] CCRAS SPARK 5.0
- [B] AYUSH-PRAGATI 2026
- [C] DHANVANTARI 2.0
- [D] CCRAS VEDA-SCHOLAR

Correct Answer: [A] CCRAS SPARK 5.0

Detailed Explanation: Prof. Maneesha Kothekar (Chairperson, NCISM) launched **CCRAS SPARK 5.0** (Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken) and 'CCRAS Ayurshodh 2026' to encourage clinical and scientific research methodologies among undergraduate Ayurveda students.

Section 8: Science, Culture & Bilateral Agreements

Q26. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk paid an official visit to India in late October 2026. Prior to this, which academic MoU was signed between IIIT-Bangalore and Poland?

- [A] University of Warsaw
- [B] AGH University of Krakow
- [C] Jagiellonian University
- [D] Warsaw University of Technology

Correct Answer: [B] AGH University of Krakow

Detailed Explanation: IIIT-Bangalore signed an agreement with Poland's **AGH University of Krakow** to advance joint academic research in Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Information, and Cyber-Physical Systems.

Q27. The National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) signed a 5-year MoU for capacity building and research collaboration with CAST. CAST is based in which country?

- [A] Australia

- [B] United States of America
- [C] Germany
- [D] Canada

Correct Answer: [B] United States of America

Detailed Explanation: India's NAAS signed a 5-year agreement with the **Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST)**, based in the **USA**, targeting joint initiatives in climate-resilient farming, crop biotechnology, and agricultural policy research.

Q28. A new species of eyeless, subterranean freshwater snail was recently discovered in the cave systems of which region in October 2026?

- [A] Western Ghats, India
- [B] Yunnan Province, China
- [C] Sarawak, Malaysia
- [D] Sumatra, Indonesia

Correct Answer: [B] Yunnan Province, China

Detailed Explanation: Biologists discovered a rare **ghostly eyeless freshwater snail** adapted to absolute darkness within the karst cave aquatic ecosystems of **Yunnan Province, China**.

Q29. Which ministry/body developed the 'SUVIKALP' mine repurposing decision-support tool that won the SKOCH Gold Award 2026?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Coal Controller Organisation (Ministry of Coal)
- [C] Geological Survey of India
- [D] Ministry of Mines

Correct Answer: [B] Coal Controller Organisation (Ministry of Coal)

Detailed Explanation: The **Coal Controller Organisation (CCO)** under the Ministry of Coal won the **SKOCH Gold Award 2026** for its digital tool **SUVIKALP**, designed for ecological

restoration and post-mining land repurposing strategy planning.

Q30. Team Canada Trade Mission visited Karnataka in October 2026, where commercial agreements worth CAD 300 million were signed. The two nations aim to finalize which economic agreement by December 2026?

- [A] Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)
- [B] Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)
- [C] Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)
- [D] Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)

Correct Answer: [A] Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

Detailed Explanation: During the Canada-India Business Ceremony in Karnataka, 34 MoUs worth CAD 300 million (~₹1,800 crore) were signed. Both countries announced target negotiations to complete the **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** by December 2026.

