

August Monthly Current Affairs



International
Affairs

National
Affairs

Business

Awards

Important
Days

Sports

Banking

Ranking

Obituary

Sports



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Content

| Title | Page Number |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Important days | 03 |
| Sports | 05 |
| Banking and Finance | 08 |
| Science and Technology | 13 |
| International Affairs | 14 |
| National Affairs | 17 |
| Business and Economy | 29 |
| Ranking | 30 |
| Awards and Honors | 33 |
| Appointments | 39 |
| Books and Authors | 44 |
| Obituary | 44 |
| Defence | 45 |

Current Affairs

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IMPORTANT DAYS**NATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Day</u> | <u>Theme</u> |
|---|--|---|
| August 01 | National Mountain Climbing Day | - |
| August 04 (1 st Sunday of August) | National Friendship Day | - |
| August 07 | 10 th National Handloom Day | - |
| | National Javelin Day | - |
| August 08 | Quit India Movement Day/August Kranti Day/August Movement/Bharat Chodo Andolan | - |
| August 10 | Indian Cost Accounts Service (ICoAS) celebrated its Foundation Day | - |
| August 14 | 4th Partition Horrors Remembrance Day(Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas) | - |
| August 23 | The first-ever National Space Day | "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga". |
| August 29 | 13th National Sports Day/Rashtriya Khel Divas | - |

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Day</u> | <u>Theme</u> |
|-------------|---|---|
| July 31 | 17th World Ranger Day | "30 by 30" |
| August 01 | World Wide Web (WWW) Day | - |
| | World Lung Cancer Day | "Stronger Together: United for Lung Cancer Awareness". |
| August 06 | 79th Hiroshima Day | - |
| August 09 | Nagasaki Day | - |
| | The United Nations (UN) International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (IDWIP) | "Protecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact". |
| August 10 | World Lion Day | |
| | World Biofuel Day | |
| August 11 | The United Nations (UN) World Steelpan Day | "Harmony in Heritage: Celebrating Steelpan's Global Ascendancy". |
| August 12 | The United Nations (UN)'s International Youth Day | "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development". |
| | World Elephant Day | "Be the Reason for Someone's Smile Today!" |
| August 19 | World Humanitarian Day | |

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Day</u> | <u>Theme</u> |
|--|--|--|
| August 21 | The United Nations (UN)'s International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism | "Voices for Peace: Victims of Terrorism as Peace Advocates and Educators". |
| August 22 | 6th International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief | |
| August 23 | International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition | |
| August 29 | The United Nations' International Day Against Nuclear Tests | |
| Last week of August (25 August 2024 to 29 August 2024) | World Water Week | "Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future". |
| 1st week of August (01 to 07) | World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) | "Closing the gap: Breastfeeding support for all". |

SPORTS

Cricket

- ICC Player of the Month July 2024 - ICC Men's Player of the Month: Gus Atkinson (England). ICC Women's Player of the Month: Chamari Athapaththu (Sri Lanka).
- Landmark deal between PB-BCL and Prasar Bharati, India's national public broadcaster to promote the Big Cricket League (BCL)
- Indra Nooyi stepped down from ICC's 1st female independent director after completing her tenure
- Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan (Gabbar) announced his retirement from both domestic and international cricket



- English Cricketer Dawid Malan, the former World No.1 T20I batter has announced his retirement from international cricket

Badminton

- Para shuttler Pramod Bhagat has been suspended by the Badminton World Federation - For a period of 18 months for breaching the anti-doping regulations. Now, Pramod will miss the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.
- Indian Prodigy triumphs at Asian U-15 Junior Badminton Championships 2024 - Tanvi Patri from Odisha, India had clinched the women's singles title at the prestigious Asian U-15 Junior Championships 2024, held in Chengdu, China.

Volleyball

- The 4th CAVA (Central Asian Volleyball Association) Women's Volleyball Nations League -India defeated Nepal with a score of 3-2 sets, marking their 2nd CAVA title to clinch the gold medal.

Hockey

- Hockey India has retired the No.16 jersey from the national senior men's team in honour of Parattu Raveendran (PR) Sreejesh

Tennis

Cincinnati Open 2024

| Category | Winner | Runner |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Men's Singles | Jannik Sinner (Italy) | Frances Tiafoe (United States) |
| Women's Singles | Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus) | Jessica Pegula (United States) |
| Men's Doubles | Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador) and Mate Pavić (Croatia) | Mackenzie McDonald (United States) and Alex Michelsen (United States) |
| Women's Doubles | Asia Muhammad (United States) and Erin Routliffe (New Zealand) | Leylah Fernandez (Canada) and Yulia Putintseva (Kazakhstan) |



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Football

- Germany Captain Ilkay Gundogan announced his International retirement from Football

Shooting

- Para shooter Avani Lekhara created history on, by becoming the 1st Indian woman to win two gold medals at Paralympics

Chess

- GM Karthik Venkataraman of Andhra Pradesh emerged as the winner of the 61st India Chess Championship

Grandprix Dutch Grand Prix 2024

| Rank | Winner | Country |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Lando Norris (McLaren) | United Kingdom |
| 2 | Max Verstappen (Red Bull Racing) | The Netherlands |
| 3 | Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) | Monaco |

Events

- The 1st-ever Global Women's Kabaddi League will commence next month (September) in Haryana
- Lausanne Diamond League 2024 (also known as Athletissima) - Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra finished 2nd at the Lausanne Diamond League 2024 with his season's best throw of 89.49 meter.
- Asian Surfing Championships (ASC) 2024 - The 3rd edition of the ASC organised by the Asian Surfing Federation (ASF) held in Thulusdhoo, Maldives.
- Paris 2024 Summer Olympics - The XXXIII(33rd) Olympiad, is taking place in Paris, France

Top 5 Country in Medal Tally:

| Rank | Country | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|------|----------------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| 71 | India | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | United States of America | 40 | 44 | 42 | 126 |
| 2 | People's Republic of China | 40 | 27 | 24 | 91 |
| 3 | Japan | 20 | 12 | 13 | 45 |
| 4 | Australia | 18 | 19 | 16 | 53 |
| 5 | France | 16 | 26 | 22 | 64 |

BANKING AND FINANCE**RBI**

- RBI's 3rd Bi-Monthly of the FY25 for August 2024
- RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) released 3rd Bi-monthly Monetary Policy of FY 2024-25, which continues to expect India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to grow at 7.2% in the Financial Year 2024-25.
- RBI has canceled the licenses of 78 Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) since 2014
- RBI revised NPA Provisioning Norms for Cooperative Banks - RBI has issued revised instructions for the treatment of Bad and Doubtful Debt Reserve (BDDR) across cooperative banks, aiming for uniformity in the accounting and prudential treatment of non-performing assets (NPAs).
- RBI proposed to create a public repository for digital lending apps (DLAs)
- RBI has proposed to increase the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) limit for tax payments from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.5 lakh - To help the taxpayers to pay higher tax liability quickly.
- RBI flags potential risks and challenges in financial sector - It includes banks taking greater recourse to liabilities such as bulk deposits to meet incremental credit demand, certain segments of personal loans continuing to witness high growth despite an increase in risk-weights, and top-up loans growing at a brisk pace.
- RBI shortens frequency of bank reports to credit information companies - The RBI has decreased the frequency of reporting credit information of borrowers to Credit

Information Companies (CIC) to 15 days from a 30-day period. This will be effective from January 1, 2025.

- RBI proposes continuous clearing of cheques under Cheque Truncation System (CTS)
- RBI issued the revised guidelines to tighten the norms related to public deposit acceptance by Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) - To bring Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) in order to bring them on par with Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)
- RBI Constituted 10-member expert committee to benchmark its statistics with Global Standards -This expert committee was chaired by Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra, Deputy Governor of RBI, to benchmark its regularly disseminated statistics against global standards and best practices.
- RBI granted approval to IndusInd Bank to set up a wholly owned subsidiary to undertake the asset management business of Mutual Funds
- RBI forecasts Private Capex to rise to Rs.2.45 Trillion in FY25, up from Rs.1.59 trillion in FY24
- RBI modified its electronic mandate (e-mandate) framework to include the autoreplenishment of balances in FASTag and the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)
- RBI launched a Scheme for Trading and Settlement of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) in International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in India

Public Sector Banks

Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- PNB has launched 'PNB ANTAH DRISHTI Braille Debit Card', a new initiative designed for Visually Impaired customers

Central Bank of India

- Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd (Piramal Finance) have announced a strategic partnership with the Central Bank of India - To form strategic co-lending partnerships to expand their co-lending business.



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Private Sector Banks

RBL Bank

- RBL Bank has launched a new RuPay Credit card, integrating it with UPI and National Common Mobility Card (NCCM) features
- RBL Bank has introduced a special edition of 'Vijay Fixed Deposits (FD)' to celebrate India's 78th Independence Day

Karnataka Bank

- Karnataka Bank enables GST payment through UPI - The GST-registered users, including Karnataka Bank customers, can make GST payment under this facility. Maximum limit permitted under UPI mode is Rs.1 lakh.
- Karnataka Bank partnered with Navi (a financial services company) to launch 'Credit Line on UPI' -
- Karnataka Bank will offer personal loans on ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce)

Axis Bank

- Pine Labs-owned API infrastructure provider, Setu has launched UPISetu in collaboration with Axis Bank
- Axis Bank and Visa launched an exclusive 'PRIMUS' Credit Card for India's Elite

Bandhan Bank

- Bandhan Bank has introduced a new savings account product "Avni" - To empower women by offering them customized financial and lifestyle solutions, along with various other attractive benefits.

ICICI Bank

- Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd (TPSSL) + ICICI Bank - To offer financial solutions for the purchase of solar panels/units for residential and corporate customers.

HDFC Bank

- HDFC Bank launched DigiPassBook on its SmartWealth App - It will allow users to consolidate and manage all equity investments, Exchange-Traded Fund (ETFs), and demat accounts in one place.

Payments Bank

- Airtel Payments Bank has introduced a new security feature called Face Match, leveraging AI to enhance account protection

Small Finance Bank

- Capital Small Finance Bank (CSFB) entered into a strategic bancassurance partnership with the Edelweiss Life Insurance Company - To enable its customers to access the wide range of value-packed, customized life insurance products from Edelweiss Life Insurance, thereby meeting their need for financial security.
- Fintech company Slice has received approval from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for its merger with North East Small Finance Bank - - To combine Slice's digital expertise with North East Small Finance Bank's banking proficiency.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank launched Inori RuPay Platinum Credit Card in collaboration with NPCI

Insurance News

- PNB MetLife India Insurance Company has launched the Bharat Manufacturing Fund
- Bengaluru-based insurtech startup Covrzy has achieved a significant milestone by obtaining a direct broking (general) license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- Chola MS General Insurance and Mahindra Finance have announced a partnership - To offer comprehensive motor and other non-life insurance solutions to over 10 million MF customers.
- ICICI Lombard General Insurance (ICICI Lombard) has entered into bancassurance partnerships with 7 financial institutions
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC India)
- Tata AIA Life Insurance launched 'Sampoorna Raksha Promise' - This innovative product is designed to provide enhanced financial security to policyholders and their families, addressing various aspects of life insurance needs.
- Future Generali India rolls out GenAI-enabled WhatsApp chatbot 'LEO' to enhance customer experience

SEBI

- SEBI has directed mutual funds to value their investment in the AT-1 bonds issued by banks on Yield to Call basis

Asian Development Bank

- Government of India (GoI) has signed a USD 200 million loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) - To enhance solid waste management and sanitation in 100 cities across 8 states in India.

Others

- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has incorporated NPCI BHIM Services Ltd (NBSL), formerly known as Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), as a wholly-owned subsidiary
- L&T Finance has officially shifted from an NBFC-Core Investment Company (NBFC-CIC) to a Non-Banking Financial Company-Investment and Credit Company (NBFC-ICC)
- Rural-focused Fintech Startup Jai Kisan Secured NBFC Licence from RBI
- National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approved the de-listing scheme of ICICI Securities' shares and quashed a petition against the de-listing scheme filed by minority investors in the company
- PhonePe launched the 'Credit Line On UPI' to revolutionizes Digital Transactions
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has proposed a fresh amendment to the corporate insolvency regulations - To accelerate Micro, Small, or Medium Enterprise (MSME) resolutions under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- Mastercard launched Payment Passkey Service in India - To enhance online shopping security and convenience, initially piloted with Indian payment leaders like Juspay, Razorpay, and PayU, along with banks such as Axis Bank.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had notified the e-Dispute Resolution Scheme, 2022 (e-DRS)
- IFSCA introduced a new unified regulatory framework for listing securities on stock exchanges in GIFT City
- Visa is partnering with fintech company Pine Labs to scale up digital payments acceptance across the country
- Paytm, has received the Finance Ministry's approval for its "downstream investment" into Paytm Payment Services Ltd (PPSL)



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IIT News

- IIT Indore developed a E-Shoes for Live Location Tracking
- IIT Bhubaneswar + IG Drones, a leading drone tech and AI company in India signed a MoU - To establish an Advanced Drone Excellence Centre at the IIT Bhubaneswar Research and Entrepreneurship Park, focused on disaster management R&D.
- India + Israel to establish a 'Center of Water Technology (CoWT)' in Water Resources Management (WRM) and Water Technologies at IIT Madras
- IIT Madras-incubated Start-up Plugzmart obtains Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) certification for indigenously-developed EV Charger

Space News

- North Korean leader Kim Jong Un unveiled a new 'Suicide Drones'

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

- DRDO conducted the maiden flight test of the Long Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) named 'GAURAV'

India in Science & Technology

- UPL University of Sustainable Technology has signed a MoU with the Space Application Centre (SAC) of the ISRO
- India has announced the selection for the upcoming Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station (ISS)
- Indian Space Research and Organisation (ISRO) launched its 3rd and final developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D3)
- American aerospace manufacturing company, Boeing has partnered with with the AI Engineering Services Limited (AIESL) - To provide in-country maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) services for Indian Navy (IN)'s fleet of twelve Boeing P-8I (Poseidon Eight India), maritime surveillance aircrafts.
- Department of Posts (DoP) has signed a MoU with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - To develop and refine a standardized, geocoded addressing system in India, for ensuring simplified addressing solutions for citizen-centric delivery of public and private services.
- India successfully launched its 1st reusable hybrid rocket named "RHUMI-1"
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE) + Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management (VAMNICOM)

signed a MoU - To promote collaboration in cooperative management within the fisheries sector in aligns with the vision of establishing 2 lakh Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Dairy and Fishery Cooperatives in every Panchayat.

- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) and SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Pvt Ltd (SAFHAL) signed an airframer contract - To commence joint design, development, manufacture, supply and support of a new generation high-power engine named "Aravalli".

Environment & Energy

- Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) has signed a MoU with Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) - To develop new variants of zinc materials and propel the commercialization of zinc-based batteries.
- GAIL (India) Ltd has signed a MoU with the New Jersey, the USA-based Petron Scientech Inc (PSI) - To jointly explore the establishment of a 500 Kilo Tons per Annum (KTA) bio-ethylene plant along with its downstream unit(s) in India.
- IREDA secured International Credit Rating from S&P as assigned 'BBB-' long-term and 'A-3' short-term issuer credit ratings

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Australia

- 10th Round of India-Australia CECA Negotiations was held in Sydney

China

- China approved \$31 billion (220 billion yuan) for 11 new Nuclear Reactors across 5 sites to boost its nuclear energy capacity

Germany

- Germany joined US-led United Nations Command in South Korea as 18th Member State

Indonesia

- India and Indonesia have reaffirmed their commitment to combating terrorism

Maldives

- India and the Maldives have signed a MoU to introduce the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in the Maldives - To boost the Maldivian tourism industry, which is crucial to the nation's economy and improve financial inclusion.

Malaysia

- The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) + Public Service Department (PSD) Government of Malaysia signed a MoU - To foster 'Cooperation in the Public Administration and Governance Reforms' for 5 years, with effect from 20th August 2024.
- India And Malaysia signed a MoU for strengthening co-operation in the field of tourism

New Zealand

- India and New Zealand signed the bilateral customs co-operation arrangement agreement, to ease trade between the two countries

Nepal

- Ministry of External Affairs and NewSpace India Ltd (NSIL) have signed a MoU to grant assistance for the launch of Nepal-built Munal satellite
- NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has achieved a milestone by surpassing 100,000 cross-border UPI Person-to-Merchant transactions in Nepal

Poland

- India and Poland have decided to upgrade the India-Poland bilateral relations as a "Strategic Partnership"

Russia

- The 2nd Meeting of the Joint Russian-Indian Commission on Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management was held in Moscow, Russia

Taiwan

- India-Taiwan business ties revive demand for learning Mandarin

United States

- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, of India + Small Business Administration (SBA) of the United States of America (USA) signed a MoU - To promote cooperation on Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and provides a framework for discussing issues concerning MSMEs and explores possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in this sector.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on a 4-day official visit to US

Ukraine

- PM Modi presented four Bharat Health Initiatives for Sahyog Hita and Maitri (BHISHM Cubes) to the Government of Ukraine

Vietnam

- India and Vietnam has signed a MoU to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) in Lothal, Gujarat

Summit/Event

- 5th meeting of ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement Joint Committee held in Jakarta
- India will host the next round of negotiations to review the Asean-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) in November 2024
- 14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue is held in New Delhi
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE 2024) at the National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex in New Delhi
- Ministry of External Affairs of the GoI in association with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) will host the 1st BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi
- Federation of Asian Biotech Associations (FABA), in partnership with the University of Hyderabad (UOH) will organise 'FABA Innovation Summit' in Hyderabad
- The 5th AITIGA Joint Committee meeting, marking a significant milestone in ASEAN-India economic cooperation, took place in Jakarta
- India will host the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit
- The 6th India-Australia Maritime Dialogue took place in Canberra and the 14th Counter-Terrorism Meeting was held in New Delhi
- The 2-Day India-EU Regional Conference held In New Delhi
- Government of India is set to host the inaugural World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES)
- Ministry of Science and Technology Dr.Jitendra Singh chaired the bilateral meeting on US-India Civil Nuclear Commerce
- The 2nd India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) to be held In Singapore
- PM Modi addressed a 5th Global Fintech Festival (GFF 2024) held at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, Maharashtra

Exercise

- India will host its 1st multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024' in two phases starting in Sular, Tamil Nadu
- Indian Navy's frontline frigate, INS Tabar, arrived in St. Petersburg, Russia to participate in the 328th Russian Navy Day Parade celebrations
- Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent participated in the Exercise Udara Shakti 2024, bilateral air exercise with the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) - The exercise held at the RMAF Base Station in Kuantan, Malaysia.
- INS Tabar visited Malaga in Spain to conduct the Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Spanish Navy Ship Atalaya in the Mediterranean Sea
- 3rd Japan-India 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting held in New Delhi

Others

- The 46th session of World Heritage Committee (WHC) inscribed 26 new World Heritage Sites

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Prime Minister; Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; All important policy issues; and All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister : Shri Narendra Modi (Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh)

- Rajya Sabha MP Parimal Nathwani presented the first copy of his new book 'Call of the Gir' to Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- PM Modi unveiled the stamp with a value of Rs.10 to commemorating 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India (SCI)
- PM Modi chaired a 44th edition of the PRAGATI meeting to review the progress of 7 key projects
- PM Modi to flagged off 3 Vande Bharat Trains - These new Vande Bharat trains shall provide the people of the region the world-class means to travel with speed and comfort and will cater to 3 states, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

Ministry News

Ministry of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh (Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh)

- Rajnath Singh inaugurated Indian Coast Guard (ICG)'s new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Chennai
- Rajnath Singh and his Japanese counterpart Mr Kihara Minoru hold delegation-level talks in New Delhi

- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) + Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence - To hold First Certification Programme for preparing Senior Defence Officers as Independent Directors.

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Cooperation: Shri Amit Shah (Gandhinagar, Gujarat)

- Amit Shah launched 4 applications (apps) named, e-Sakshya, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti and e-Summon for the 3 new criminal laws in Chandigarh

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways: Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

- Road Transport ministry launched the Vehicle Scrapping Policy or Voluntary Vehicle Modernization Program (VVMP) - To create an ecosystem for phasing out unfit polluting vehicles across India.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers: Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda (Rajya Sabha- Gujarat)

- J.P. Nadda launched two important digital healthcare tools at the First Policy Makers' Forum in New Delhi
- J.P.Nadda launched the National Medical Register (NMR) Portal of the National Medical Commission (NMC)

Ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs: Smt Nirmala Sitharaman (Rajya Sabha- Karnataka)

- Finance Minister introduces Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024 in the Lok Sabha
- Finance Minister introduced a internship programme for 1 crore youth would intern in the next 5 years
- Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated Udaipur's new GST Bhawan, which will serve 13 districts
- Ministry of Finance has granted "Navratna status" to four Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) - These 4 CPSEs include, Railtel Corporation of India (RCIL), Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (SJVN).

Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Minister of Rural Development: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh)

- Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched 'ASEAN-India Fellowship' for higher education in agricultural sciences at the ICAR in New Delhi
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)
- MoS for MoA&FW, Bhagirath Choudhary launched the Krishi-Decision Support System (DSS), a digital geo-spatial platform

Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs; Minister of Power: Shri Manohar Lal Khattar (Karnal, Haryana)

- Manohar Lal Khattar launched 3 online platforms to boost Power Sector efficiency

Minister of Commerce and Industry: Shri Piyush Vedprakash Goyal (Mumbai North, Maharashtra)

- The Quality Council of India (QCI) introduced the QCI Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework, starting with the August 2024 rankings

| Category | Ranking Framework | States | Union Territory (UTs) |
|----------|---|---|---|
| Shiksha | Highest number of Accreditations, Assessments, and Ratings | Uttar Pradesh | New Delhi |
| Swasthya | Complete Certification in the Ayushman Arogya Yojana (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH)) | Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Manipur | Chandigarh with 100% certification (1st), Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) with 71.43% certification (2nd) |
| | Medical Entry Level Testing Labs (MELT) Rankings (National Accreditation Board) | Tamil Nadu(TN) and Maharashtra | New Delhi (1st) and J&K(2nd) |

| Category | Ranking Framework | States | Union Territory (UTs) |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL)) | | |
| Samridhhi | Highest number of Zero Defect and Zero Effect (ZED) Certifications (Micro category) | Gujarat, Karnataka, and Rajasthan | J&K and New Delhi |
| | MSME(Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) Competitive LEAN(Lean Manufacturing or Lean Production) Scheme [MCLS] | Maharashtra and Bihar | - |

Minister of Panchayati Raj; Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying: Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh (Munger, Bihar)

- Rajiv implementing a e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) with the aim to making Panchayats, more transparent, accountable and effective

Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways: Shri Sarbananda Sonowal (Dibrugarh, Assam)

- Sarbananda Sonowal introduced two Bills Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2024 and the Bills of Lading Bill, 2024 related to shipping
- Sonowal inaugurated three newly rejuvenated freshwater lakes at Jawaharlal Nehru (JN) Port in Navi Mumbai

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**Minister of Civil Aviation: Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu
(Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh)**

- Ministry of Civil Aviation launched UDAN 5.4 and Guidelines for Seaplane Operations in India

Minister of Textiles: Shri Giriraj Singh (Begusarai, Bihar)

- Ministry of Textile implemented National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Raw Material Supply (RMS) Scheme - To provide end to end support for promotion of handloom sector and welfare of handloom workers.
- Rachna Shah, Secretary of Ministry of Textiles chaired the 8th Empowered Programme Committee (EPC) meeting

Minister of Railways; Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology: Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw (Rajya Sabha-Odisha)

- Ministry of Railways is set to fast-track the deployment of the latest version of its indigenous anti-collision system, Kavach 4.0

**Minister of Communications; and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region:
Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia (Guna, MP)**

- Jyotiraditya M Scindia + MoS for Communications and Ministry of Rural Development Dr Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar - Jointly inaugurated the Network Operations Centre (NOC) at the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), New Delhi.
- Jyotiraditya and Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya released a set of commemorative postage stamps on Paris Olympics
- Jyotiraditya Scindia holds 2nd Stakeholders Advisory Committee (SAC) with Telecom Sector Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs)

Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Shri Bhupender Yadav (Alwar, Rajasthan)

- Bhupender Yadav announced that 3 Indian wetlands, 2 from Tamil Nadu and 1 from Madhya Pradesh added to Ramsar List
- MoS for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh inaugurates ASSOCHAM Environment and Carbon Conference in New Delhi

Minister of Women and Child Development: Smt. Annpurna Devi (Kodarma, Jharkhand)

- Annapurna Devi, launched the SHE-Box portal - This centralized platform for managing and tracking complaints of sexual harassment at workplaces.

Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; and Minister of Minority Affairs: Shri Kiren Rijiju (Arunachal West)

- Kiren Rijiju + MoS for Minority Affairs, George Kurian launched the 'Jiyo Parsi Scheme Portal' and 'Haj Applications (app)-2025'

Minister of Labour and Employment; and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya (Porbandar, Gujarat)

- Mansukh Mandaviya has signed a MoU with the Denzil Llewellyn Douglas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saint Kitts and Nevis (SKN) - To enhance cooperation in various sport matters and to improve both countries' sporting capacities by promoting a collaborative approach to sports development, sharing expertise and mutual growth among athletic disciplines.
- Mandaviya launched the 'RetiredSportsperson Empowerment Training' (RESET) Programme on the occasion of National Sports Day

Minister of Coal; and Minister of Mines: Shri G. Kishan Reddy (Secunderabad, Telangana)

- Ministry of Coal in collaboration with the Ministry of Power and Natural Gas has facilitated a Joint Venture agreement between two CPSEs, Coal India Ltd (CIL) and GAIL (India) Ltd (GAIL)

Minister of Jal Shakti: Shri C R Patil (Navsari, Gujarat)

- C.R. Paatil launched the Version 2.0 of the 'FloodWatch India' Mobile Application (App)

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Planning; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture: Rao Inderjit Singh (Gurgaon, Haryana)

- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has launched the e-Sankhyiki portal
- The 28th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO) is held in New Delhi

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space: Dr. Jitendra Singh (Udhampur, J&K)

- Jitendra Singh launched the New Single Simplified Pension Application Form 6-A and Integration e-HRMS with Bhavishya

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Education: Shri Jayant Chaudhary (Rajya Sabha-UP)

- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)+ Flipkart's Supply Chain Operations Academy (SCOA) signed a MoU - upskill thousands of employable youth across India.
- Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) under the aegis of MSDE has signed a MoU with Visa Inc. - To upskill at least 20,000 Indian youths in tourism-relevant skills.

State News Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated 16 industrial projects and signed deals worth Rs.3,683 crore at Sri City

Assam

- Tata Group has inaugurated a Rs.27,000 crore semiconductor assembly and test facility in Jagiroad, Assam

Bihar

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal of AAI for development of New Civil Enclave at Bihta Airport in Patna - This project will be developed at an estimated cost of Rs.1413 crore.

Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh government has established the new tiger reserve named 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve'

Gujarat

- Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel has announced the creation of the Gujarat State Institution for Transformation (GRIT) - GRIT is a state-level think tank modelled after the NITI Aayog.
- Amit Shah Inaugurates INR 1,003 Crore Development Projects in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Mynd IFSC Pvt Ltd has secured approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh Govt launched a new initiative, 'HIM-UNNATI', aimed at promoting natural farming across the state

Maharashtra

- Maharashtra cabinet approved the 426.52-km Wainganga- Nalganga river linking project, with an estimated cost of ₹88,575 crore
- Maharashtra Government approved the Logistics Policy 2024.
- National Health Authority (NHA) and Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS) signed a MoU - For a significant step towards driving Digital Health education across India.
- PM Modi addressed Lakhpati Didi Sammelan in Jalgaon, Maharashtra
- PM Modi visited Mumbai and Palghar in Maharashtra

Nagaland

- Nagaland becomes the 1st state in India to implement a Disaster Risk Transfer Parametric Insurance Solution (DRTPS)

Odisha

- Odisha + United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to launch 'Grain Automated Teller Machine (ATM)'
- Odisha Govt has launched the policy of 1-day paid menstrual leave for women employees
- Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi has announced the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Subhadra scheme



Rajasthan

- Rajasthan secured Rs.5.21 lakh crore (approx USD 62 billion) in Investment Proposals Ahead of the 'Rising Rajasthan' Investment Summit 2024

Tamilnadu

- Google signed a MoU with Tamil Nadu - To drive technological advancement and foster innovation in the state.

Uttar Pradesh

- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) + IIT-Banaras Hindu University (IIT-BHU)+ the Government of Denmark - Jointly launched a Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) Project in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh as part of the Green Strategic Partnership between India and Denmark, which aims to rejuvenate small rivers through innovative and sustainable approaches.

West Bengal

- UNICEF and West Bengal partnered to engage fathers to play an active role in promoting breastfeeding among new mothers
- Union Cabinet approved the proposal of Airports Authority of India (AAI) for development of New Civil Enclave at Bagdogra International Airport in Siliguri, West Bengal

Union Territory News

Ladakh

- Ministry of Home Affairs announced the creation of 5 new districts in the Union Territory of Ladakh - These 5 new districts are named, Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra and Changthang. With the formation of the new districts, Ladakh's total number of districts has increased to 7.

Union Cabinet News

- Union cabinet has approved the 8 National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects of length 936 km entailing investment of Rs.50,655 crore - To improve the logistics efficiency and connectivity across the country.
- Union Cabinet approved 8 railway projects of Ministry of Railways with a cost of Rs.24,657 crore under the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan
- Union Cabinet approved the Bangalore Metro Rail Phase-3 project

- Union Cabinet approved the 29 km-long Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project corridor in Maharashtra
- Union Cabinet has approved the extension of Pune Metro Phase-1 Project from Swargate to Katraj in Maharashtra
- Union Cabinet has approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for central government employees
- Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of 3 umbrella schemes under a new unified central sector scheme " Vigyan Dhara" of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment (BioE3) policy
- Union Cabinet approved the progressive expansion of the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
- Union Cabinet has approved a proposal for 3rd batch of ascending e-auctions to establish 730 Private FM (Frequency Modulation) radio channels across 234 new cities,
- Union Cabinet has approved a proposal from the Ministry of Power to provide Central Financial Assistance (CFA) - To State Governments in the North Eastern Region (NER) for equity participation in Hydro Electric Projects.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved 3 railway projects, 2 new lines and 1 multi-tracking project with a total estimated cost of Rs.6,456 crore
- CCEA has approved 12 new industrial nodes/cities under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme with an estimated investment of Rs.28,602 crore

NITI Aayog

- NITI Aayog released the report titled "Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oil Towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta"

Others

- National Institute of Technology Calicut (NITC) has launched a cutting-edge web portal, 'Nivahika' for data management - inaugurated by Prof. Prasad Krishna, Director of NITC in a ceremony at the Senate Hall, the portal is set to transform how the Institute handles and reports data.
- The Department of Pharmaceuticals is implementing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals with a total financial outlay of Rs.15,000 crore and scheme tenure up to FY 2027-28
- Rs.920 crore Namami Gange Mission 2.0 Projects In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar



- India's 1st GI-Tagged Fig Juice Exported to Poland
- Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) started its 1st executive training program for the aviation sector at the Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD) at Dwaraka, New Delhi
- National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched the Digital Shakti Center to combat rising cybercrimes against women
- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) conducted a roundtable consultation with executive search firms at the IICA campus in Gurugram
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) + National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) - To launch the 'One India -One Ticket' initiative designed to enhance the travel experience for passengers on Indian Railways and Namo Bharat Trains.
- Amazon India and Gentari partnered to expand Electric Vehicle (EV) fleet to 10,000 units by 2025
- Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth inaugurated the 2nd phase of the Cyber Center of Excellence (CCoE)
- 3 Indian Ocean Structures has been named as the Ashoka seamount, the Chandragupt ridge & Kalpataru ridge
- The Engineering Export Promotion Council of India (EEPC India) + Indian Stainless Steel Development Association (ISSDA) signed a MoU - To enhance the export of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) members in the engineering and stainless steel sectors.
- Government slashed Windfall Tax on Crude Oil and the new rates will get effective from August 17
- FSSAI launched a project to address Microplastic Contamination in Indian Food
- The 2nd edition of National Conference of Enforcement Chiefs of State and Central GST Formations held in New Delhi
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) launched Hackathon for students teams across institutes that have signed a MoU with BIS - The BIS Hackathon is a platform to showcase innovative ideas and solutions while gaining valuable experience in tackling real-world issues.
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) signed a MoU with the Department of Posts - To enhance the efficiency of the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) at KVIC's Rajghat office in New Delhi.
- India's 1st Constitution Museum named, "The Constitution Academy and The Rights & Freedoms Museum"



- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and Laghu Udyog Bharati sign MoU - For transfer of CSIR technologies to Micro and Small Entrepreneurs.
- Indian Government has partners with MicroSave to optimise Community Investment Support Fund
- Spices Board launched SPICED Scheme to boost spice exports and productivity
- The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) conducted the 2nd Niveshak Sunwai meet in Ahmedabad
- Rubber Board and the Hyderabad based TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited signed a MoU - This move aligns with the implementation of the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
- The Department of Post has launched the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana
- Union Government launched a new guidelines for effective Public Grievance Redressal
- The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), a National Mission for Financial Inclusion completed 10 years of successful implementation
- The PMJDY was launched on August 28, 2014 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi as implemented by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance.
- PMJDY has integrated millions into the formal banking system, empowering marginalized communities and enhancing financial security.
- The aim of PMJDY is to promote the Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) scheme of the Union Government.
- **PMJDY:** Any people can open PMJDY there is no age restriction for opening PMJDY account, accounts are opened with a zero balance, there is no need to maintain minimum balance in PMJDY account, overdraft facility up to Rs.10,000 to eligible account holders.
- **Achievements:** Total deposits in PMJDY accounts have reached Rs.2,31,236 crore, reflecting a 15-fold increase since 2015, The average deposit per account stands at Rs.4,352, a fourfold increase since 2015, A total of 36.14 crore RuPay cards have been issued to PMJDY account holders.
- The 1st Joint Commanders' Conference (JCC) is set to take place at the Headquarters Central Command in Lucknow



Current Affairs
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BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- Gross GST revenue collection in July 2024 at Rs.1,82,075 crore
- The value of UPI transactions has reached worth Rs.20.64 trillion in July 2024
- India's fiscal deficit for April-June at 8.1% of 2024-25 target
- India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) revised up its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth estimate for fiscal 2024-25 for the country to 7.5% from 7.1%
- Mumbai-based food tech platform Thrive, which is backed by Jubilant Foodworks and Coca-Col joins Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)
- CCI has approved the acquisition of 100% equity, management and control stake in PNC Infratech Ltd and PNC Infra Holdings's 12 Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) by Highway Infrastructure Trust (Acquirer Trust)
- CCI has approved acquisition by 360 ONE Private Equity Fund (360 Fund) in Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (VHFCL)
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the restructuring of Re Sustainability Limited (ReSL) business
- CCI approved the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of ATC Telecom Infrastructure Pvt Ltd (ATC India) by Data Infrastructure Trust (DIT) and certain inter-connected transactions
- Insolvency regulator Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has issued 'Guidelines for Committee of Creditors' - To help conclude Resolutions under the IBC in a time-bound manner and maximise the value of the corporate debtor's (CD) assets.
- Deloitte India Predicts Economic Growth between 7% and 7.2% in FY25
- Agritech hydroponics and growers' company, Brio Agri launched an online fintech investment platform
- Retail Inflation eases to 5-year low of 3.5% in July
- Bharti Global will acquire a 24.5% stake in BT Group plc for about \$4 billion through its subsidiary, Bharti Televentures UK Ltd
- The CCI approved the Advent's Acquisition in Apollo Healthco & Merger of Keimed
- The CCI approved the acquisition of 60% shareholding in each of Invesco Asset Management (India) Pvt Ltd and Invesco Trustee Pvt Ltd (Invesco Trustee) by IndusInd International Holdings Ltd (IIHL)
- Zomato acquired Paytm's Entertainment Ticketing Business for Rs.2,048 crore
- India's Credit Rating Agency, ICRA Limited has projected India's GDP to moderate six quarter low of 6% in Q1 of FY 2024-25 from 7.8% in Q4 of FY24

- Goldman Sachs Group Inc. has lowered India's GDP forecast by 20 bps each for CY24 and CY25, due to a contraction in central government expenditure
- SBI's Economic Research Department (ERD) report 'Ecowrap', India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to grow by 7.0% to 7.1% in Q1 of FY 25
- Wipro and Dell Tech expand partnership to integrate AI enterprise solutions
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has launched its 5th Pace Studio in Manila, Philippines, to drive digital innovation in the Asia-Pacific region
- Mahindra Group and Sentrycs signed a Non-Binding MoU to develop and provide anti-drone solutions in India
- Amazon India signed an agreement with Indian Railways to boost delivery
- Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) + Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) - To develop a commercial vaccine for Viral Nervous Necrosis (VNN) in finfish.
- Indian School of Business (ISB) Online and Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) have introduced a credit-based programme on social and emotional learning
- Raminfo Limited, a BSE-listed company and a leading innovation-led technology solutions-providing company launched aKisan Drones Private Limited

RANKING

National Ranking

National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024

Top 5 in Indian Ranking 2024: Overall

| Rank | Name of the Institute | Score |
|------|---|-------|
| 1 | Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras (Chennai, Tamil Nadu) | 86.42 |
| 2 | Indian Institute of Science (IISc) (Bengaluru, Karnataka) | 83.28 |
| 3 | IIT Bombay (Mumbai, Maharashtra) | 81.37 |
| 4 | IIT Delhi (New Delhi, Delhi) | 80.31 |
| 5 | IIT Kanpur (Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh) | 77.56 |

The 13th edition of the Hurun India Rich List 2024

| Rank | Name | Net Worth (Rs) |
|------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Gautam Adani (Adani Group) | 1,161,800 Cr |
| 2 | Mukesh Ambani (RIL) | 1,014,700 Cr |
| 3 | Shiv Nadar & Family (HCL Technologies) | 3,14,000 Cr |
| 4 | Cyrus S Poonawalla & Family (Serum Institute of India) | 2,89,800 C |
| 5 | Dilip Shanghvi (Sun Pharmaceutical Industries) | 2,49,900 Cr |

International Ranking

- Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024 - The World Economic Forum (WEF) released its Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) for 2024, offering a comprehensive evaluation of India's standing in the global tourism landscape.

| Rank | Country | Score |
|------|----------------|-------|
| 1 | United States | 5.24 |
| 2 | Spain | 5.18 |
| 3 | Japan | 5.09 |
| 4 | France | 5.07 |
| 5 | Australia | 5.00 |
| 6 | Germany | 5.00 |
| 7 | United Kingdom | 4.96 |
| 8 | China | 4.94 |
| 9 | Italy | 4.90 |
| 10 | Switzerland | 4.81 |
| 39 | India | 4.25 |

- India ranked 2nd largest aluminium producer, the 3rd largest lime producer, and the 4th largest iron ore producer in the world
- India retains 8th Position in Global Agriculture Exports in 2023, despite a decline in exports from \$55 billion in 2022 to \$51 billion

Fortune Global 500 List for 2024

| Rank | Company Name | Revenue |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Walmart-USA | USD 648.1 billion |
| 2 | Amazon-USA | USD 574.78 billion |
| 3 | State Grid-China | USD 545.94 billion |
| 4 | Saudi Aramco-United Arab Emirates | USD 494.89 billion |
| 5 | Sinopec Group-China | USD 429.69 billion |

Top 5 Indian Companies in the Fortune Global 500 List for 2024

| | | |
|-----|---|-------------------|
| 86 | Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) | USD 108.8 billion |
| 95 | Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) | USD 103.5 billion |
| 126 | Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) | USD 94.27 billion |
| 178 | State Bank of India (SBI) | USD 71.84 billion |
| 180 | Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) | USD 71.46 billion |

Brand Finance's Food and Drink 2024

Top 5 Most Valuable Food Brands:

| Rank | Brand Name | Brand Value | Rating |
|------|----------------------|------------------|--------|
| 1 | Nestlé (Switzerland) | USD 20.8 billion | AAA |
| 2 | Lay's (USA) | USD 12 billion | AAA- |
| 3 | Yili (China) | USD 11.6 billion | AAA |
| 4 | Tyson (USA) | USD 8.2 billion | AA+ |

| Rank | Brand Name | Brand Value | Rating |
|------|------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 5 | Danove (France) | USD 8 billion | AA |
| 22 | AMUL (India) | USD 3.3 billion | AAA+ |

International Property Consultant Knight Frank published the “Prime Global Cities Index (PGCI) Q2 2024”

| Rank | City | 12-month % change | 3-month % change |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Manila, The Philippines | 26 | 16.4 |
| 2 | Mumbai, India | 13 | 2.5 |
| 3 | Delhi, India | 10.6 | 0.1 |
| 4 | Los Angeles, The USA | 8.9 | 3.5 |
| 5 | Miami, USA | 7.1 | 1.8 |

- India ranked 31st in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index - JLL has released its 'Global Real Estate Transparency Index, 2024', to show that India's tier-I markets have entered into the 'transparent' zone for the first time with a composite score of 2.44. India ranks 31st in the list of 89 countries.

AWARDS

National Awards

- Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2024 Announced - To recognize and honor outstanding contributions to science, technology, and innovation, the Indian government has announced the inaugural Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskars.

| Category | Winner | Field |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Vigyan Ratna Puraskar | Dr. Govindarajan Padmanabhan | Biochemistry |
| Vigyan Shri | Dr. Annapurini Subramanian | Astrophysics |
| | Dr. Anandharamakrishnan C | Agriculture Science |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | Dr. Avesh Kumar Tyagi | Atomic Energy |
| | Prof. Umesh Varshney, Prof. Jayant Bhalchandra Udgaonkar | Biological Sciences |
| | Prof. Syed Wajih Ahmad Naqvi | Earth Sciences |
| | Prof. Bhim Singh | Engineering Sciences |
| | Prof. Adimurthi Adi, Prof. Rahul Mukherjee | Mathematics and Computer Science |
| | Prof. Dr. Sanjay Behari | Medicine |
| | Prof. Lakshmanan Muthusamy, Prof. Naba Kumar Mondal | Physics |
| | Prof. Rohit Srivastava | Technology and Innovation |
| Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar | Krishna Murthy SL, Swarup Kumar Parida | Agricultural Science |
| | Radhakrishnan Mahalakshmi, Prof. Aravind Penmatsa | Biological Sciences |
| | Vivek Polshettiwar, Vishal Rai | Chemistry |
| | Roxy Mathew Koll | Earth Sciences |
| | Abhilash, Radha Krishna Ganti | Engineering Sciences |
| | Purabi Saikia, Bappi Paul | Environmental Science |
| | Mahesh Ramesh Kakde | Mathematics and Computer Science |
| | Jitendra Kumar Sahu, Pragya Dhruv Yadav | Medicine |
| | Urbasi Sinha | Physics |

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Digendranath Swain, Prashant Kumar | Space Science and Technology |
| | Prabhu Rajagopal | Technology and Innovation |
| Vigyan Team | Team Chandrayaan-3 | Space Science |

- MoS for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh conferred the prestigious 'Distinguished Mentor' award by American College of Physicians
- President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Geoscience Awards (NGA) for 2023 of the Ministry of Mines on 21 Geoscientists
- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) in Hyderabad has been recognized as the Best Airport at the prestigious India Travel Awards
- The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) organised its 24th Handicrafts Export Awards Function
- The 7th Anubhav Awards ceremony held in the Plenary Hall of Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
- National Awards for e- Governance 2024 - Dr. Jitendra Singh has conferred 16 National Awards for e- Governance 2024 during the 27th National Conference on e- Governance in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- 11th edition of the Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards - The award honored outstanding individuals across various fields, recognizing both seasoned professionals and emerging talents.
- Jana Small Finance Bank honoured with 4 Awards at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2024 - Jana Small Finance Bank was honoured with 4 awards: Best Small Finance Bank (India), Best Performance on Profitability Runners-up), Best Performance on Asset Quality, and Best Performance on Risk Management.
- EaseMyTrip has been named the 'Best Online Travel Portal of India' at the Prestigious Brands of India 2024 awards



70th National Film Awards 2024**Feature Film Categories:**

| Category | Winner | Film |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Best Feature Film | Aattam | Aattam |
| Best Actor | Rishab Shetty | Kantara |
| Best Actress | Nithya Menen, Manasi Parekh | Tiruchitrabalam, Kutch Express |
| Best Director | Sooraj Barjatya | Uunchai |
| Best Supporting Actress | Neena Gupta | Uunchai |
| Best Supporting Actor | Pawan Malhotra | Fouja |
| Best Feature Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment | Kantara | Kantara |
| Best Debut Film of a Director | Pramod Kumar | Fouja |
| Best Telugu Film | Karthikeya 2 | Karthikeya 2 |
| Best Tamil Film | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 |
| Best Punjabi Film | Baaghi Di Dhee | Baaghi Di Dhee |
| Best Odia Film | Daman | Daman |
| Best Malayalam Film | Saudi Velakka CC.225/2009 | Saudi Velakka CC.225/2009 |
| Best Marathi Film | Vaalvi | Vaalvi |
| Best Kannada Film | KGF: Chapter 2 | KGF: Chapter 2 |
| Best Hindi Film | Gulmohar | Gulmohar |
| Best Tiwa Film | Sikaisal | Sikaisal |
| Best Bengali Film | Kaberi Antardhan | Kaberi Antardhan |
| Best Assamese Film | Emuthi Puthi | Emuthi Puthi |

| Category | Winner | Film |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Special Mention | Manoj Bajpayee, Sanjoy Salil Chowdhury | Gulmohar, Kadhikan |
| Best Action Direction | KGF: Chapter 2 | KGF: Chapter 2 |
| Best Choreography | Tiruchitrabalam | Tiruchitrabalam |
| Best Lyrics | Fouja | Fouja |
| Best Music Director | Pritam (Songs), AR Rahman (Background Score) | Various |
| Best Makeup | Aparajito | Aparajito |
| Best Costumes | Kutch Express | Kutch Express |
| Best Production Design | Aparajito | Aparajito |
| Best Editing | Aattam | Aattam |
| Best Sound Design | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 |
| Best Screenplay | Aattam | Aattam |
| Best Dialogues | Gulmohar | Gulmohar |
| Best Cinematography | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 | Ponniyin Selvan – Part 1 |
| Best Female Playback Singer | Bombay Jayashri | Saudi Velakka CC.225/2009 |
| Best Male Playback Singer | Arijit Singh | Brahmastra |
| Best Child Artist | Sreepath | Mallikappuram |
| Best Film in AVGC | Brahmastra | Brahmastra |
| Best Non-Feature Film Promoting Social and Environmental Values | Kutch Express | Kutch Express |

Non-Feature Film Categories:

| Category | Winner | Film |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Best Non-Feature Film | Ayena | Ayena |
| Best Debut Film | Madhyantara | Madhyantara |
| Best Biographical/Historical/Compilation Film | Aanakhi Ek Mohenjo Daro | Aanakhi Ek Mohenjo Daro |
| Best Arts/Culture Film | Ranga Vibhoga/Varsa | Ranga Vibhoga/Varsa |
| Best Script | Mono No Aware | Mono No Aware |
| Best Narrator | Murmurs of the Jungle | Murmurs of the Jungle |
| Best Music Direction | Fursat | Fursat |
| Best Editing | Madhyantara | Madhyantara |
| Best Sound Design | Yaan | Yaan |
| Best Cinematography | Mono No Aware | Mono No Aware |
| Best Direction | From the Shadow | From the Shadow |
| Best Short Film | Xunyota | Xunyota |
| Best Animated Film | The Coconut Tree | The Coconut Tree |
| Best Non-Feature Film Promoting Social and Environmental Values | On the Brink Season 2 – Gharial | On the Brink Season 2 – Gharial |
| Best Documentary | Murmurs of the Jungle | Murmurs of the Jungle |

Film Writing:

| Category | Work |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Best Critic | Deepak Dua |
| Best Book on Cinema | Kishore Kumar: The Ultimate Biography |

- Gallantry Awards 2024 - The Central government announced 1,037 medals for police, fire, prison, home guard, and civil defence personnel of Central and state police forces and other lawfully constituted Forces and civilians on the eve of Independence Day.

International Awards

- UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Kashmir City was awarded the prestigious Certificate of World Craft City by the World Crafts Council International
- President Droupadi Murmu conferred with the "Companion of the Order of Fiji" in Capital Suva
- Bollywood's charismatic 'King Khan' received the lifetime award at the 77th Locarno Film Festival
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das ranked Top Central Banker for 2nd consecutive year
- Gullapalli N Rao, Founder and chair of L V Prasad Eye Institute has been awarded the prestigious ICO Jules François Golden Medal for 2024
- The 24th International Mother Teresa Awards 2024 - the award ceremony held at Millennium Plaza Dubai, honoring individuals from various fields for their significant contributions.

APPOINTMENTS**National Appointments**

| Name | Designation | Succeeded by |
|--------------------------|---|--------------|
| Grinson George | Director at ICAR- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) | - |
| Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nai | 1st woman Director General Medical Services (Army) | - |

| Name | Designation | Succeeded by |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Sanjay Shukla | Managing Director of the National Housing Bank (NHB) | - |
| RBI has approved the re-appointment of Inderjit Camotra | As the MD& CEO of Unity Small Finance Bank (Unity Bank) | - |
| Director General (DG) of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Daljit Singh Chawdhary | Took over the additional charge as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF) | Nitin Agrawal |
| Lt Gen Vikas Lakhera | 22nd Director General of Assam Rifles | Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair |
| Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) | Dinesh Khara |
| S. Sankarasubramanian | MD& CEO of Coromandel International | - |
| Nandakumar Velayudhan Pillai | Director-Refinery of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) | - |
| Praveena Rai | MD& CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX), India's largest commodity exchange | Padala Subbi Reddy |
| Harish Dudani | Member of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) | - |
| Senior IAS Officer, T.V Somanathan | New Cabinet Secretary of India | Rajiv Gauba |
| Raj Kumar Chaudhary | Chairman& MD of NHPC Ltd | Abhay Kumar Singh |

| Name | Designation | Succeeded by |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh | Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI) | Alok Choudhary |
| IPS Officer from Bihar cadre, B. Srinivasan | Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG) | Nalin Prabhat |
| Senior IRS officer, Rahul Navin | New Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) | - |
| Salee Sukumaran Nair | MD& CEO of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank | Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam |
| 1991-batch IAS Officer, N.Muruganandam | Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu | Shiv Das Meena |
| Ashok Kumar Singh | Director General of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) | Kamal Kishore Soan |
| Satya Prakash Sangwan | Chef de Mission for India's contingent at the Paris Paralympics 2024 | - |
| M Suresh | Interim Chairman of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) | Sanjeev Kumar |
| Rajesh Varrier | Global head of Operations and CMD of Cognizant India | Rajesh Nambiar |
| Rajesh Nambiar | President-designate of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) | Debjani Ghosh |

| Name | Designation | Succeeded by |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| Amardeep Singh Bhatia | Secretary of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) | Rajesh Kumar Singh |
| Former DRDO Chairman G Satheesh Reddy | Joined Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani as Distinguished Senior Faculty | - |
| Dallas-based Indian-American Entrepreneur Arun Agarwal | Chairman of the Texas Economic Development Corporation's board | - |
| Sindhu Gangadharan, the MD of SAP Labs India Pvt Ltd (SLI) | Chairperson of National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) | Rajesh Nambiar |
| A 1992-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Bihar cadre, B Srinivasan | Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG) | Anish Dayal Singh |
| Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar | Director General of Project Seabird | Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti |
| Subhasri Sriram | MD& CEO of Shriram Capital Pvt Ltd (SCPL) | - |
| Satish Kumar | Chairman and CEO of the Indian Railway Board (IRB) | Jaya Varma Sinha |

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International Appointments

| Name | Designation | Succeeded by |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Film Producer Janet Yang | Re-elected as the president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences | - |
| Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus | Chief Adviser of Bangladesh's Interim Government | - |
| Kamel Maddouri | Prime Minister of Tunisia | Ahme Hachani |
| Tan Su Shan | 1st female CEO of DBS Bank | Singapore banker Piyush Gupta |
| Paul Kagame | Re-elected as the President of Rwanda | - |
| Vinay Mohan Kwatra | Indian Ambassador to the United States | Taranjit Singh Sandhu |
| Paetongtarn Shinawatra | As youngest-ever and 2nd female Prime Minister of Thailand | Phumtham Wechayachai |
| Jay Shah | Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) | Greg Barclay |
| Laurent Freixe | CEO of Nestlé | Mark Schneider |

Brand Ambassadors

| Name | Brand Ambassador |
|--|---|
| Indian commentator and former India wicket keeper, Krishnakumar Dinesh Karthik | As the League Ambassador of South Africa's premier T20 cricket League (SA20 League) |

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

| Book Name | Author Name | Published by |
|--|--|--------------|
| Piyush Vedprakash Goyal launched the "India@100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse" | Professor K V Subramanian, the Executive Director, International Monetary Fund (IMF) | - |
| "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity" | Tarun Chugh | - |
| "The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women" | An autobiography written by activist Dr. Kalpana Sankar | - |

OBITUARY

- Iconic Classical Dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy passed away at the age of 83
- Former Indian Cricketer and Coach Anshuman Gaekwad passed away at the age of 71
- Former England Cricketer Graham Thorpe passed away at the age of 55
- Gandhian Shobhana Ranade passes away at the age of 99
- Padma Bhushan Awardee and Former External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh passed away
- Chinese-American physicist Tsung-Dao Lee, the 2nd-youngest scientist to receive a Nobel Prize passed away at the age of 97
- Former Vice-Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC) H. Devaraj passed away at the age of 71
- Former Chief Minister of West Bengal and Veteran Communist Party Leader, Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee passed away at the age of 80
- Former YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki passed away after battle with cancer at the age of 56
- Renowned DRDO missile Scientist, Dr Ram Narain Agarwal, widely known as the "Father of Agni Missiles" passed away at the age of 84
- 25th Director General of Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Rakesh Pal passed away at the age of 58
- Former CSIR Director-General Girish Sahni passed away at the age of 68

- Former Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Ahmad al-Huss passed away at the age of 94 at Beirut, Lebanon
- Former Swedish tennis player and ex-federer coach Peter Lundgren passed away at the age of 59
- Veteran Congress Leader Vasant Rao Chavan passed away at the age of 70
- Abdul Ghafoor Majeed Noorani (A. G. Noorani) a renowned Constitutional expert, a distinguished lawyer and author passed away at the age of 94

DEFENCE

- Indian Air Force has granted clearance to DRDO and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for the production of 200 Astra Mark-1 (Mk-1) Air-to-Air Missiles (AAM)
- Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has conducted a demonstration and trial of the formidable Typhoon vehicle at its Transport Battalion in Chandigarh
- The Indian Army conducted 'Parvat Pahaar' (Mountain Strike), a large-scale strike corps exercise in Ladakh
- The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) signed a MoU with the Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) - To promote Indian Sign Language (ISL) and create a more accessible and supportive learning environment for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Indian Naval Ship Tabar Conducts Exercise with German Navy in Hamburg
- India is set to commission its 2nd nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), INS Arighat and has received approval to build six more nuclear submarines
- The Indian Navy and Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) have signed an MoU - To enhance indigenous marine engineering capabilities, focusing on the design, development and production of critical marine equipment and systems, thereby reducing dependence on foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).
- DG National Cadet Corps Lt General Gurbirpal Singh flagged-off the NCC Girls & Boys Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Abi Gamin (Uttarakhand) from New Delhi
- The Indian Army has transferred the technology for the mass production of 2 indigenously developed cuttingedge technologies, named Xploder and Agniastra
- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Arighaat, the 2nd Arihant-Class Ship, Submersible, Ballistic, Nuclear (SSBN) was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) launched India's 1st Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) Samudra Pratap & GSL Yard 1267 for Indian Coast Guard in Vasco da Gama, Goa



- Indian Army has launched the 1st phase of Project NAMAN to provide support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans and their families

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