WEEKLY PIB COMPILATION

15 Jun – 21 Jun 2026

UPSC EDITION

12 key articles · 9 categories · 7 days

Compiled from Press Information Bureau releases, Government of India

IN THIS ISSUE

National	1
Economy	1
Defence	1
Science & Tech	1
Environment	3
Schemes & Committees	2
Agreements & MoUs	1
Appointments	1
History & Culture	1

HIGHLIGHTS

ECONOMY — 15 Jun | p. 4
WPI Base Year Revised to 2022-23; New Producer Price Indices Launched, WPI to Be Phased Out

DEFENCE — 17 Jun | p. 5
Defence Production Hits Record Rs 1.78 Lakh Crore in FY26; Exports at Rs 38,424 Crore

ENVIRONMENT — 17 Jun | p. 7
India Brings 21.76 Million Hectares Under Restoration; Second Bonn Challenge Progress Report Released

ENVIRONMENT — 16 Jun | p. 8
India and Japan Adopt Rules of Implementation for Joint Crediting Mechanism Under Paris Article 6.2

SCHEMES & COMMITTEES — 20 Jun | p. 9
PM-KISAN 23rd Instalment: Rs 18,880 Crore to 9.44 Crore Farmers; West Bengal Joins PMFBY

SCHEMES & COMMITTEES — 15 Jun | p. 9
Ease of Living 2014-2026: JJM at 81.94% Rural Taps, 10.57 Crore Ujjwala Connections

AGREEMENTS & MOUS — 17 Jun | p. 11
India-UK CETA and Double Contribution Convention to Enter into Force on 15 July 2026

APPOINTMENTS — 19 Jun | p. 12
India Gets FATF Vice-Presidency for First Time; Vivek Aggarwal to Serve 2026-27

Contents

#	Category	Articles	Page
1	National	1 article	3
2	Economy	1 article	4
3	Defence	1 article	5
4	Science & Tech	1 article	6
5	Environment	3 articles	7
6	Schemes & Committees	2 articles	9
7	Agreements & MoUs	1 article	11
8	Appointments	1 article	12
9	History & Culture	1 article	13

Tap a category to jump to it.

1. National

1 article

Six States Reach Consensus on Kishau Multipurpose Dam on Tons; Centre to Fund 90% of Water Component

16 Jun

- At a meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on 16 June 2026, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan agreed to sign an MoU to implement the long-pending Kishau Multipurpose Project on the Tons, the largest tributary of the Yamuna.
- The Centre will bear 90% of the cost of the project's water component as Central Assistance; the six states will share the remaining 10%.
- Himachal Pradesh's share of water will go to Delhi and Rajasthan, which in return will share the cost of Himachal's portion of the power component.
- After the MoU is signed, the project goes to the Union Cabinet for approval. Kishau is the third upper-Yamuna storage project, after Lakhwar (MoU 2018) and Renukaji (MoU 2019), to reach a six-state MoU.

QUICK FACTS

Project	Kishau Multipurpose Project, a storage dam on the Tons River on the Himachal Pradesh-Uttarakhand border (Sirmaur district, HP / Dehradun district, Uttarakhand)
Decision (16 June 2026)	six basin states agree to sign an implementation MoU; chaired by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah
Funding	90% of the water-component cost from the Centre as Central Assistance; 10% shared by the six states
Water-for-power swap	HP's water share goes to Delhi and Rajasthan, which share the cost of HP's part of the power component
Next step	Union Cabinet approval after the MoU is signed
Dam	about 236 m high roller-compacted-concrete gravity dam at Samberkhera, roughly 50 km upstream of Dakpathar (HPPCL)
Implementing SPV	Kishau Corporation Ltd, a 50:50 HP-Uttarakhand joint venture incorporated on 16 January 2017

- Live storage 1,324 million cubic metres; irrigation benefit about 97,076 hectares
- Kishau is one of the 16 National Projects identified by the Centre in February 2008

2. Economy

1 article

WPI Base Year Revised to 2022-23; New Producer Price Indices Launched, WPI to Be Phased Out

15 Jun

- The Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), DPIIT, released the new Wholesale Price Index with base year 2022-23 on 15 June 2026, replacing the 2011-12 series; the basket grows from 697 to 957 items.
- It also launched Producer Price Indices on the same base: a monthly Output PPI, a trial Input PPI (manufacturing only) and a quarterly Service PPI for seven services.
- WPI will be published alongside PPI for five years and then discontinued, a switch aligned with IMF recommendations and the practice of advanced economies.
- First reading under the new series: WPI inflation of 9.68% for May 2026 (8.26% in April), driven by Fuel and Power at 30.33%.

QUICK FACTS

Compiler	Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
Items in the basket	957 (up from 697).
New PPIs on base 2022-23	Output PPI (monthly), trial Input PPI (monthly, manufacturing only, experimental from March 2026), Service PPI (quarterly).
Seven services in the first Service PPI	Banking, Securities Transaction, Insurance, Management of Pension Funds, Railways, Air (Passenger) and Telecom.
Release calendar	WPI, Output PPI and trial Input PPI on the 14th of the following month; Service PPI 55 days after the quarter closes.

- New base year 2022-23 replaces 2011-12; it is the eighth revision since WPI began in 1942 on a 1939 base.
- WPI to run alongside PPI for five years, then be discontinued.
- The revision was prepared by an 18-member working group chaired by NITI Aayog member Prof. Ramesh Chand, set up in January 2025.

3. Defence

1 article

Defence Production Hits Record Rs 1.78 Lakh Crore in FY26; Exports at Rs 38,424 Crore

17 Jun

- India's defence production reached an all-time high of Rs 1.78 lakh crore in FY 2025-26, up 15.6% from Rs 1.54 lakh crore in FY 2024-25 and 110% above FY 2020-21's Rs 84,643 crore.
- The private sector's share rose to 24% (about Rs 42,000 crore, its highest ever) from 22% the year before; DPSUs and other PSUs made up about 76%.
- Defence exports hit a record Rs 38,424 crore in FY 2025-26, up from Rs 686 crore in 2013-14, going to over 80 countries; the target is Rs 50,000 crore by 2029.
- A PIB backgrounder, 'The Defence Decade', published the 2014-26 series: the defence budget rose from Rs 2.53 lakh crore (2013-14) to Rs 7.85 lakh crore (2026-27).

QUICK FACTS

FY 2025-26 defence production	Rs 1.78 lakh crore (record); 15.6% growth year on year
Private sector share	24% (about Rs 42,000 crore); PSU share about 76%
Defence exports FY 2025-26	Rs 38,424 crore (record), to 80+ countries, from 145 exporting firms
Export target	Rs 50,000 crore by 2029
Ecosystem	16 DPSUs, about 500 licensed defence companies, nearly 17,000 MSMEs; industrial licences up from 258 (2015) to 834 (March 2026)
FDI cap	74% via the automatic route for new licences and up to 100% via the government route (raised in 2020)

- About 65% of defence equipment is now made in India, against 65-70% import dependence earlier
- Ordnance Factory Board (about 200 years old) dissolved in October 2021; its 41 factories were regrouped into 7 new DPSUs

4. Science & Tech

1 article

PIB Space Backgrounder: 400+ Start-ups, 399 Foreign Satellites, Venus Mission by March 2028

21 Jun

- PIB's backgrounder 'India's Space Odyssey' (21 June 2026) records that registered space start-ups grew from one in 2014 to over 400 by February 2026, drawing more than $500 million of investment.
- ISRO launched 399 foreign satellites after 2014 (as of March 2026), against 35 between the 1990s and 2014; India has signed 300+ space cooperation agreements with 61 countries and 5 multilateral bodies.
- NSIL's revenue rose from Rs 321.77 crore (FY 2021-22) to Rs 3,246.09 crore (FY 2024-25), according to the Economic Survey 2025-26; IN-SPACe had facilitated 71 ISRO technology transfers by 31 January 2026.
- The roadmap: Chandrayaan-4 sample return in 2027, the Venus Orbiter Mission in March 2028, BAS-01 (the first space-station module) by 2028, and the Next Generation Launch Vehicle carrying 30 tonnes to LEO.
- India's space economy is valued at $8 billion (2-3% of the global space economy). It is projected to reach $40-45 billion within a decade, with an 8% global share targeted by 2030.

QUICK FACTS

Current launch capability (PSLV, GSLV, LVM3)	up to 10 t to LEO and 4.2 t to GTO.
VIKRAM3201	India's first fully indigenous 32-bit space microprocessor, built by ISRO with the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh, on 180-nm CMOS. It was presented at Semicon India on 2 September 2025 and first flight-validated on PSLV-C60 (POEM-4). A sister chip is KALPANA32.
Axiom-4 (2025)	Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla flew to the ISS on 25 June 2025, carried out 7 Indian microgravity experiments and returned on 15 July 2025.
BIMSTEC Space Programme	led by India; NESAC trains BIMSTEC countries in space applications.

- Space sector opened to private players in 2020; Indian Space Policy 2023 followed.
- Kulasekarapattinam (Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu) is India's second spaceport. Its SSLV complex, whose foundation stone was laid on 28 February 2024, will handle 20-25 launches a year, with the first SSLV launch targeted for FY 2026-27.
- Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota approved in January 2025 at Rs 3,984.86 crore, for next-generation launch vehicles and human spaceflight.
- SSLV technology was transferred to HAL in 2025; an Earth Observation constellation under the PPP model was approved in 2026.

5. Environment

3 articles

Access and Benefit Sharing: NBA Realises Rs 266 Crore, Disburses Rs 145 Crore to Communities

20 Jun

- India's Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanism under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 has realised over Rs 266 crore since 2008 and disbursed around Rs 145 crore to beneficiaries, as reported on 20 June 2026.
- FY 2025-26 alone brought Rs 21.26 crore in realisation and Rs 78 crore in disbursement. Benefits have reached 10,500+ Biodiversity Management Committees in 23 States and 4 UTs.
- Red Sanders gave the largest share (Rs 120 crore, 45%), followed by seeds (Rs 84.61 crore, 32.3%) and pharma/AYUSH (Rs 36.61 crore, 13.8%).
- Under the Biological Diversity Rules, 2024, the NBA passes 85-90% of ABS money to State Biodiversity Boards for disbursal.

QUICK FACTS

Disbursed to beneficiaries so far	around Rs 145 crore, including Rs 78 crore in FY 2025-26.
Reach	10,500+ BMCs in 23 States and 4 UTs, 230+ farmers, six State Forest Departments, and six Red Sanders research projects.
Sources of ABS	Red Sanders, medicinal and aromatic plants, seeds, livestock genetic resources, crude herbs, biochemicals and microorganisms.
Local uses	habitat restoration, updating People's Biodiversity Registers, documenting traditional knowledge, medicinal plant parks, community gene banks and livelihoods.

- ABS realised by the National Biodiversity Authority since 2008: over Rs 266 crore (average Rs 14.75 crore a year).
- The release links the framework to the Nagoya Protocol, NBSAP 2024-2030 and Target 13 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

India Brings 21.76 Million Hectares Under Restoration; Second Bonn Challenge Progress Report Released

17 Jun

- On World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (17 June 2026), MoEFCC released India's Second Progress Report on the Bonn Challenge (covering 2011-2020), prepared with IUCN, and a special issue of the Indian Forester.
- India has brought 21.76 million hectares under restoration against its Bonn Challenge target of 26 million hectares by 2030; restoration has generated about 1.22 billion person-days of work.
- The 2026 theme was 'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.', matching the UN's International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists and the run-up to UNCCD COP17 in Mongolia.
- The Aravalli Green Wall Initiative beat its annual targets in FY 2025-26; 97.85 million hectares (29.77% of India) is affected by land degradation and desertification.

QUICK FACTS

Report	India's Second Progress Report on the Bonn Challenge (2011-2020), by MoEFCC with IUCN
Progress	21.76 million ha under restoration; target 26 million ha by 2030
India's pledge	13 million ha in 2015 (plus 8 million ha by 2030), raised to 26 million ha at UNCCD COP14, Greater Noida, 2019
Day	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, 17 June; declared by UNGA resolution 49/115 (December 1994), first observed 1995
2026 theme	'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.'
Land degradation	97.85 million ha, or 29.77% of India's geographical area (Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas); drylands cover about 228 million ha
Watershed Development Component of PMKSY	27 million ha+ treated; 61.3 million geo-tagged assets
Also cited	Joint Forest Management covers about 81.53 million ha; 266 crore+ saplings planted under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'; 260 million+ Soil Health Cards issued

India and Japan Adopt Rules of Implementation for Joint Crediting Mechanism Under Paris Article 6.2

16 Jun

- India and Japan adopted the Rules of Implementation of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) on 8 June 2026, under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement. MoEFCC announced it on 16 June.
- The rules create a Joint Committee of both governments, project approval procedures, third-party validation and verification, sustainable-development safeguards, and national registries to track the issuance and transfer of credits.
- They put into operation the Memorandum of Cooperation signed on 7 August 2025, which made India the 31st JCM partner of Japan.
- Some credits may count towards Japan's NDC as Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs); the rest can count towards India's NDC.

QUICK FACTS

Rules of Implementation adopted	8 June 2026 (announced by MoEFCC, 16 June 2026)
Legal basis	Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC, which covers bilateral 'cooperative approaches'
Rules set up	a Joint Committee, project approval, third-party validation and verification, safeguards, and national registries
Credit split	part to Japan's NDC as ITMOs, the rest to India's NDC
India's national authority for Article 6	NDAIAPA, notified 30 May 2022 under MoEFCC

- MoC on JCM signed 7 August 2025 in New Delhi by Japan's Ambassador Ono Keiichi and MoEFCC Secretary Tanmay Kumar. Documents were exchanged in Tokyo on 29 August 2025 before PMs Modi and Ishiba
- India is Japan's 31st JCM partner country; the first was Mongolia (January 2013)

6. Schemes & Committees

2 articles

PM-KISAN 23rd Instalment: Rs 18,880 Crore to 9.44 Crore Farmers; West Bengal Joins PMFBY

20 Jun

- The 23rd instalment of PM-KISAN (over Rs 18,880 crore to 9.44 crore farmers, 2.18 crore of them women) was released on 20 June 2026 at Tarakeswar, Hooghly, West Bengal, on Paschimbanga Divas.
- Cumulative PM-KISAN transfers have crossed Rs 4.46 lakh crore over 23 instalments since the February 2019 launch; Union Budget 2026-27 allots Rs 60,000 crore to the scheme.
- West Bengal came under PMFBY and RWBCIS from Kharif 2026 (target: 1.10 crore farmers, 30 lakh ha, Rs 28,140 crore insured value), replacing its own Bangla Shasya Bima.
- The state also joined the Digital Agriculture Mission (AgriStack), got 346 natural-farming clusters, and four districts under PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana.

QUICK FACTS

23rd PM-KISAN instalment	released 20 June 2026 at Tarakeswar, Hooghly (West Bengal); the day was marked as 'PM KISAN Utsav Diwas'.
Payout	over Rs 18,880 crore to about 9.44 crore farmers, of whom 2.18 crore are women (women are over 23% of beneficiaries).
Cumulative transfers	over Rs 4.46 lakh crore across 23 instalments since 2019.
Benefit	Rs 6,000 a year per eligible landholding farmer family, in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000, by DBT into Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts.
Union Budget 2026-27 allocation for PM-KISAN	Rs 60,000 crore.

- Launched 24 February 2019 at Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), with benefits effective from 1 December 2018. It is a Central Sector scheme (100% Centre-funded) under the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- Rs 416.75 crore recovered from ineligible beneficiaries (income-tax payers, government and PSU employees, constitutional post holders) as of December 2025.
- National review of PM-KISAN is chaired by the Cabinet Secretary; grievances go through the PM-KISAN portal and CPGRAMS (24,605 on the portal in FY 2024-25).

Ease of Living 2014-2026: JJM at 81.94% Rural Taps, 10.57 Crore Ujjwala Connections

15 Jun

- Jal Jeevan Mission: rural tap connections rose from 3.23 crore (16.72%) in 2019 to over 15.86 crore (81.94%) by June 2026; JJM 2.0 extends the mission to December 2028 with a Rs 8.69 lakh crore outlay (Rs 3.59 lakh crore central).
- Ujjwala has delivered over 10.57 crore LPG connections; national LPG coverage rose from 55.9% (April 2014) to 107.2% (April 2026).
- PMAY-G has completed 3.05 crore of 3.91 crore sanctioned houses; PMAY-U has completed over 98 lakh of 1.25 crore sanctioned.
- Installed power capacity grew from 248 GW (FY14) to over 532 GW (March 2026); peak demand hit a record 256.1 GW on 25 April 2026.
- UDAN has operationalised 665 routes; India's airports rose from 74 in 2014 to 165 by April 2026.

QUICK FACTS

Source	PIB Backgrounder 'Ease of Living: India's Journey of Inclusive Progress', 15 June 2026 — consolidated 2014-2026 figures
SBM-Gramin	12.14 crore household toilets; 5.69 lakh villages ODF Plus (June 2026); rural sanitation 39% (2014) to 100% (2019)
SBM-Urban	waste processing 16% (2014) to 82% (2026); door-to-door collection 43% to 98%
WHO estimate cited	3,00,000 fewer diarrhoeal deaths in 2019 than 2014
Renewable capacity	274.69 GW (March 2026) vs 76.38 GW (2014); solar 150.26 GW; India 3rd largest clean-energy capacity
PMJDY	58 crore+ accounts, deposits over Rs 3 lakh crore (June 2026); DBT credited Rs 6.9 lakh crore in FY25 across 327 schemes
PMMY	57.7 crore loans worth Rs 40 lakh crore; 66% to women; Tarun Plus category (FY25) lifts ceiling to Rs 20 lakh
Railways	electrification 99.6% (March 2026); Kavach on 3,103 route km; accidents 135 (2014-15) to 16 (2025-26)
Metro	248 km in 5 cities (2014) to 1,155 km in 26 cities (March 2026) — world's 3rd largest
National highways	91,287 km (FY14) to 1,46,572 km (March 2026); road network 63.73 lakh km, 2nd largest globally

7. Agreements & MoUs

1 article

India-UK CETA and Double Contribution Convention to Enter into Force on 15 July 2026

17 Jun

- The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the Double Contribution Convention (DCC) will both enter into force on 15 July 2026, after ratification by both governments.
- CETA gives zero-duty UK access to about 99% of India's tariff lines, covering nearly 100% of trade value; India keeps dairy, cereals, millets, edible oils, oilseeds and apples out of its concessions.
- The DCC exempts Indian workers on temporary UK assignments from paying social security twice, and the exemption has been raised from 3 years to 5 years; over 75,000 professionals and 900 companies are expected to benefit.
- CETA has 30 chapters and, for the first time in a bilateral deal for India, a chapter on government procurement; the UK's services commitments cover 137 sub-sectors.

QUICK FACTS

Agreement	India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA); nodal ministry: Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Entry into force	15 July 2026, for CETA and the Double Contribution Convention together
Structure	30 chapters, including digital trade, IPR, SMEs, sustainability and government procurement (a first for India in a bilateral pact)
Mobility	1,800 Indian chefs, yoga instructors and classical musicians a year get a dedicated route
Steel	85% of India's exports fall outside the UK steel measures effective 1 July 2026; the rest are protected by quotas and the Authorised Use Scheme
Roots	the Enhanced Trade Partnership and India-UK Roadmap 2030 of May 2021, which set a goal of doubling trade to USD 100 billion by 2030

- Concluded 6 May 2025 after 14 rounds of talks; signed 24 July 2025 in London by Piyush Goyal and UK Business and Trade Secretary Jonathan Reynolds
- DCC (Agreement on Social Security) signed 10 February 2026; exemption from dual contributions raised from 3 to 5 years

INDIA'S RECENT TRADE PACTS

Agreement	Partner(s)	Status
India-UAE CEPA	UAE	In force 1 May 2022
India-Australia ECTA	Australia	In force 29 December 2022
India-EFTA TEPA	Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein	Signed 10 March 2024; in force 1 October 2025; USD 100 billion investment and 1 million jobs pledged over 15 years
India-UK CETA	United Kingdom	Signed 24 July 2025; in force 15 July 2026

Source: PIB and Ministry of Commerce releases

8. Appointments

1 article

India Gets FATF Vice-Presidency for First Time; Vivek Aggarwal to Serve 2026-27

19 Jun

- Vivek Aggarwal, a 1994-batch IAS officer (Madhya Pradesh cadre) and Secretary, Ministry of Culture, has been elected Vice-President of the Financial Action Task Force for July 2026-June 2027 - the first time India holds the post.
- The FATF Plenary elects the Vice-President from among FATF members to assist the President; the President for 2026-2028 is Giles Thomson of the United Kingdom.
- The elevation builds on India's 2024 Mutual Evaluation, which placed it in FATF's 'regular follow-up' category - the highest outcome.
- FATF, created in 1989 on a G7 initiative and based in Paris, sets global standards against money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing.

QUICK FACTS

Post	Vice-President, Financial Action Task Force (FATF); term July 2026 to June 2027
Holder	Vivek Aggarwal, IAS 1994 batch, Madhya Pradesh cadre; Secretary, Ministry of Culture
Chosen by	the FATF Plenary, from among FATF members; the Vice-President assists the President
Outgoing President	Elisa de Anda Madrazo of Mexico (1 July 2024 to 30 June 2026)
FATF Global Network	more than 200 jurisdictions (FATF members plus the FATF-Style Regional Bodies)
India	FATF observer from 2006; admitted as the 34th member on 25 June 2010

- First time India has held the FATF Vice-Presidency
- FATF Presidency runs for two years. President from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028: Giles Thomson (UK), who was Vice-President in 2025-26

9. History & Culture

1 article

Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi: 44 UNESCO Sites, 653 Antiquities Retrieved Since 2014

18 Jun

- India now has 44 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, up from 31; the 44th, the Maratha Military Landscapes of India, was inscribed in 2025.
- 653 antiquities have been retrieved from abroad since 2014 (as of May 2026), 613 of them in the last five years.
- ASI protects 3,686 centrally protected monuments (April 2026); NMMA has documented 1.84 lakh monuments and 17.20 lakh antiquities (March 2026).
- The Gyan Bharatam Mission (Rs 482.85 crore, 2024-31) is digitising manuscripts, and a National Manuscript Survey began in March 2026.
- PRASHAD has 54 projects sanctioned (Rs 1,726.74 crore, 32 complete), and Swadesh Darshan 2.0 has 53 projects (Rs 2,208.31 crore).

QUICK FACTS

UNESCO World Heritage Sites	44 (from 31); 12 added between 2014 and early 2026; 43rd = Moidams of Charaideo, Assam (2024); 44th = Maratha Military Landscapes (2025).
Intangible Cultural Heritage	the backgrounder counts 15 elements (Yoga, Kumbh Mela, Durga Puja, Garba, Deepawali among them). UNESCO announced Deepavali as India's 16th element at the 20th ICH Committee session, held at the Red Fort in December 2025.
Antiquities retrieved since 2014	653 (May 2026). Sacred relics returned: the Piprahwa relics of the Buddha (2025, after 127 years), the Annapurna idol from Canada (2021, after 108 years) and Rama-Sita-Lakshmana bronzes from the UK (2020).
National Film Heritage Mission (2015)	1,469 titles (4.3 lakh minutes) digitised by December 2025. The National Museum of Indian Cinema (2019, Rs 140.61 crore) is at Gulshan Mahal, Mumbai.

- PIB Backgrounder of 18 June 2026 marks 12 years of 'Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi', the policy of pairing development with heritage.
- India hosted the 46th World Heritage Committee session in New Delhi in 2024.
- Home Minister's post the same day put the count of returned artefacts at 668 and said 11 languages have classical-language status.
- The Vedic Heritage Portal (March 2023) is run by IGNCA; UNESCO lists Vedic Chanting as ICH, and Rigveda manuscripts are on the Memory of the World Register.