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Tap a category to jump to it.

1. Sports

2 articles

India Finishes Fourth at Glasgow 2026 With 39 Medals; Best-Ever Para Games Show

03 Aug

- India finished fourth in the medal tally at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow, Scotland, winning 39 medals — 13 gold, 17 silver and 9 bronze — as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha placed a felicitation on record in the House on 3 August 2026.
- Indian para-athletes recorded their best-ever performance at the Commonwealth Para Games with 7 medals: 3 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze.
- Women won 8 of India's 13 gold medals, across boxing, weightlifting, judo and para athletics, with five Indian women boxers taking gold.
- Indian weightlifters competed in 11 weight categories and returned 8 medals — one gold, six silver and one bronze — with Mirabai Chanu becoming the first Indian weightlifter to win three consecutive Commonwealth Games gold medals.
- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports presented cash awards of Rs 30 lakh to gold medallists, Rs 20 lakh to silver and Rs 10 lakh to bronze medallists at a felicitation for the weightlifting squad.

Tejaswin Shankar, Yamini Maurya, Neeraj Chopra Add Four CWG 2026 Medals for India

01 Aug

- PM Modi congratulated four Indian athletes for medals won on 1 August 2026 at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow: Tejaswin Shankar (decathlon bronze), Yamini Maurya (judo 57 kg silver), Neeraj Chopra (javelin silver) and Yash Vir Singh (javelin bronze).
- India's javelin event produced a silver-bronze sweep, with Neeraj Chopra continuing his run of major-event medals — Commonwealth gold (2018), Olympic gold (2021) and Olympic silver (2024).
- India closed the Glasgow Games with its best-ever campaign: 39 medals overall (13 gold, 17 silver, 9 bronze), finishing 4th, led by a record seven boxing golds.

2. Awards & Honours

2 articles

Twelve Rat Miners Receive Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak for Silkyara Tunnel Rescue

05 Aug

- Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari conferred the Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak on 12 rat miners for their role in the Silkyara Tunnel Rescue Operation.
- The investiture ceremony was held in New Delhi in the presence of the Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways and the Managing Director of NHIDCL.
- The rescue drew on the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, NHIDCL, the Border Roads Organisation, the Indian Army, the Government of Uttarakhand and technical specialists.
- Engineering solutions deployed included vertical drilling alongside other approaches.
- The operation was monitored at the highest level, with resources mobilised for the safe evacuation of the trapped workers.

Ajit Doval Receives Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 in Pune

01 Aug

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 to National Security Advisor Ajit Doval in Pune on 1 August 2026, marking the 106th death anniversary of Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- Doval is India's longest-serving NSA, in office since 2014, and is credited as the founding architect of the Multi Agency Centre (MAC), India's counter-terrorism intelligence-sharing hub.
- The award, instituted in 1983 by the Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust, is conferred annually on 1 August; past recipients include PM Narendra Modi, Pranab Mukherjee, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Sudha Murty.

3. Appointments

1 article

Three Top Defence Appointments: New Deputy Naval Chief, CGDA and Deputy Air Chief

01 Aug

- Three senior officers took charge in India's defence establishment on 1 August 2026: Vice Admiral AN Pramod as Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, Smt Alka Nangia Arora as Controller General of Defence Accounts, and Air Marshal Tejpal Singh as Deputy Chief of the Air Staff.
- Vice Admiral Pramod succeeds Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti and Air Marshal Singh succeeds Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti — both predecessors superannuated on 31 July 2026 after 38-39 years of service.
- Smt Arora, a 1991-batch IDAS officer, becomes CGDA — the civilian head of the Defence Accounts Department and Principal Accounting Officer for the Ministry of Defence.

4. Important Days

3 articles

President to Present 22 Handloom Awards on 12th National Handloom Day

06 Aug

- The 12th National Handloom Day will be observed on 7 August 2026 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi, with President Droupadi Murmu as Chief Guest.
- 22 awards will be conferred - 3 Sant Kabir Handloom Awards and 19 National Handloom Awards for 2025 - along with the release of four commemorative postage stamps.
- National Handloom Day was instituted in 2015 and is observed on 7 August to commemorate the launch of the Swadeshi Movement on that date in 1905.
- The Fourth All India Handloom Census 2019-20 counted 35.22 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers across 31.45 lakh households, of whom over 72 per cent are women.
- Support runs through the National Handloom Development Programme, whose interventions have raised weaver earnings sharply - electronic jacquards lifted average monthly income from Rs 9,600 to Rs 15,000.

Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 Launched, Dedicated to 150 Years of Vande Mataram

06 Aug

- The Union Minister of Culture and Tourism launched the Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 campaign, to be observed nationwide from 9 to 17 August 2026.

- The campaign began in 2022 under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and has since become an annual national tradition.
- This year's edition is dedicated to 150 years of India's National Song, Vande Mataram, with mass singing forming an integral part of the celebrations.
- The Ministry of Culture has developed a five-step online tutorial to help citizens learn the correct rendition of the National Song.
- A new initiative, SURYAPATH TIRANGA, was announced as a symbolic global Tiranga relay connecting Indian Missions abroad.

12th National Handloom Day to Be Held on 7 August 2026, President as Chief Guest

01 Aug

- The Ministry of Textiles will observe the 12th National Handloom Day on 7 August 2026 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi, with President Droupadi Murmu as chief guest.
- 22 awards for 2025 — 3 Sant Kabir Handloom Awards and 19 National Handloom Awards — will be conferred, alongside four commemorative postage stamps.
- National Handloom Day, observed since 2015, marks the anniversary of the Swadeshi Movement launched on 7 August 1905.

5. Ranks & Reports

1 article

Panchayat Advancement Index 2.0 Covers 2.59 Lakh Gram Panchayats Across 33 States

04 Aug

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has renamed the Panchayat Development Index (PDI) as the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), a composite framework measuring the incremental performance of Gram Panchayats on the localisation of Sustainable Development Goals.
- A total of 2.59 lakh Gram Panchayats and equivalent bodies across 33 States and Union Territories have been onboarded for PAI 2.0 covering FY 2023-24.
- Not a single Gram Panchayat in any State or Union Territory secured the top A+ grade in PAI 2.0; Tripura recorded the largest number of A-grade Panchayats at 943.
- Under the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, 36,81,750 elected representatives and other stakeholders have been trained on LSDG themes between FY 2022-23 and FY 2026-27 (as on 10 July 2026).
- For FY 2026-27, 1,56,019 Gram Panchayats had taken a 'Sankalp' for preparing their development plans as on 29 July 2026.

6. Summits & Conferences

3 articles

India Hosts BRICS Industry, Education and Creative Economy Meets Under 2026 Chairship

06 Aug

- India held three BRICS ministerial-track events on 6 August 2026 under its BRICS Chairship, themed 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'.
- The Tenth BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting in Jaipur concluded with a Joint Declaration and adopted a Framework for Cooperation in the SME Working Group and Terms of Reference for a new Working Group on the Photovoltaic Industry.
- India proposed a BRICS Incubator Network and a BRICS Startup Innovation Fund to support innovation-led growth.
- BRICS WAVES Bazaar opened in Mumbai with over 500 delegates from BRICS member and partner countries, positioning the creative or 'Orange' economy as a cooperation area.
- The 3rd BRICS Senior Education Officials Meeting in Bhubaneswar finalised the draft Education Ministers' Declaration, including Guiding Principles on Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge Systems.

India's BRICS Chairship: Education Ministers Meet in Bhubaneswar, Statisticians in Lucknow

04 Aug

- Under India's BRICS chairship 2026, the Ministry of Education is hosting the 13th BRICS Education Ministers' Meeting and the 3rd Senior Officials' Meeting in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from 5 to 7 August 2026.
- India's chairship theme is 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability', reflecting the approach articulated by the Prime Minister at the 2025 BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro.
- The two-day meeting of Heads of BRICS National Statistical Offices concluded at Lucknow on 4 August 2026 under the theme 'Quality Statistics as a Driver of Change', with more than 350 participants.
- The BRICS TVET Cooperation Alliance Research Symposium and Joint Management Committee meeting was held in New Delhi on 3-4 August 2026, convened by NSDC under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- MoSPI and BPS-Statistics Indonesia signed a Letter of Intent on the sidelines of the Lucknow meeting to strengthen cooperation in official statistics.

India Chairs BRICS Heads of Statistical Offices Meeting at Lucknow

02 Aug

- The meeting of Heads of National Statistical Offices of BRICS countries was scheduled for 3-4 August 2026 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, under India's Chairship.
- India's BRICS Chairship in 2026 carries the overarching theme 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability (BRICS)'; within the statistics track India adopted the theme 'Quality Statistics as Driver of Change'.
- BRICS members have published a Joint Statistical Publication since 2010, with a Snapshot BRICS JSP added in 2020; the statistics track holds a Technical Meeting of NSOs and a Meeting of Heads of NSOs every year, the 2026 Technical Meeting having been held on 16-17 April 2026.
- The track's four priority areas are strengthening the core BRICS statistical products, innovation and reform in national statistical systems, data dissemination and accessibility, and strengthening macroeconomic and sectoral statistics.
- Two half-day side events were organised alongside - 'Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data' on 3 August and 'AI Readiness in the Evolving Data Ecosystem' on 4 August 2026.

7. Schemes & Committees

6 articles

Cabinet Approves GOBARdhan Scheme with Rs 23,731 Crore Outlay for Compressed Biogas

06 Aug

- The Union Cabinet on 6 August 2026 approved GOBARdhan, the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme, with an outlay of Rs 23,731 crore for FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36.
- The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, consolidating a Compressed Biogas (CBG) ecosystem previously spread across four ministries.
- It fixes an administered CBG price of Rs 2,110 per MMBTU (about Rs 105 per kg) with a minimum ten-year horizon, and capital assistance of up to Rs 2 crore per tonne per day of installed capacity.
- A notified CBG Obligation trajectory requires City Gas Distribution entities to blend 3% in FY 2026-27, 4% in FY 2027-28 and 5% from FY 2028-29 in CNG (transport) and PNG (domestic) segments.
- The scheme targets a nearly ten-fold rise in domestic CBG output, forex savings of over Rs 40,000 crore and more than 1.5 lakh jobs over the decade.

VB-G RAM G Rolled Out Nationwide From 1 July 2026 With 125-Day Job Guarantee

04 Aug

- The Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025, known as VB-G RAM G, has been implemented in rural areas across the entire country with effect from 1 July 2026.
- It provides a statutory guarantee of 125 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer for unskilled manual work, against 100 days under MGNREGA.
- Permissible works are specified in Schedule I of the Act under four heads: water-related works, core rural infrastructure, livelihood-related infrastructure, and special works to mitigate extreme weather events.
- Under Section 5(4), State Governments may provide additional days of employment beyond the statutory guarantee from their own resources.
- Interim allocations of Rs 6,252.03 crore for Madhya Pradesh and Rs 4,420.32 crore for Maharashtra have been made, with first instalments of central share released.

KAPAS KANTI Cotton Mission Approved at Rs 5,659 Crore for Five Years

04 Aug

- The Mission for Cotton Productivity, called KAPAS KANTI, was approved on 5 May 2026 with an outlay of Rs 5,659.22 crore for five years, from 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- It runs through four components implemented by DARE (Rs 555.05 crore), the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Rs 3,804.17 crore), the Cotton Corporation of India (Rs 1,000 crore) and the National Jute Board (Rs 300 crore).
- Component-I(B) initially covers 140 potential districts across 14 major cotton-growing States, and Component-II provides for 50 cotton testing laboratories in PPP mode.
- Separately, 170 companies have been approved under the PLI Scheme for Textiles, which as of 31 March 2026 had drawn Rs 8,117.64 crore of investment, Rs 11,241 crore of turnover and 33,427 jobs.
- Bharat Tex 2026, held 14-17 July 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, drew 6,090 overseas buyers from 138 countries and 1,647 exhibiting companies.

Revamped Khelo India Scheme Gets Rs 36,441 Crore Outlay for 2026-27 to 2030-31

03 Aug

- The Union Cabinet has approved a revamped Khelo India Scheme which, together with an enhanced Assistance to National Sports Federations component, carries a combined outlay of Rs 36,441 crore for the period 2026-27 to 2030-31.
- The expanded design adds Khelo India Feeder Schools, Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas, an Emerging Khelo India Athletes category that widens the structured athlete pool nearly ten-fold, a National Coach Accreditation Board and a unified digital platform for athlete, infrastructure and funding data.
- As of July 2026 the scheme had approved 349 sports infrastructure projects worth Rs 3,176 crore, set up 1,067 Khelo India Centres, supported 267 academies and backed 2,745 Khelo India Athletes.
- The scheme is aligned with Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 and the National Education Policy 2020, and is meant to support the 2030 Commonwealth Games, India's Olympic and Paralympic hosting ambitions and the goal of placing India among the world's leading sporting nations by 2036.

PM Surya Sarovar Yojana Approved for 5,000 MW Floating Solar with Storage

02 Aug

- The Government approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) on 31 July 2026 to develop 5,000 MW of Floating Solar Photovoltaic capacity with co-located energy storage, at an outlay of Rs 5,070 crore.
- Each project must carry storage of at least two hours, adding up to 10,000 MWh, so that solar output can be shifted to peak demand hours; the scheme runs from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31.
- The scheme rests on a National Institute of Solar Energy assessment putting India's floating solar potential at about 102.18 GWp across reservoirs and inland water bodies, against a current floating solar base of only about 700 MW.
- India's installed solar capacity reached 162.15 GW on 30 June 2026, up more than fiftyfold from about 3 GW in 2014, with 44.61 GW added in FY 2025-26 alone.
- Solar module manufacturing capacity rose from 2.3 GW in 2014 to about 172 GW as of 31 March 2026, and total non-fossil fuel capacity reached 283.46 GW.

PM Launches 100-Week Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan

02 Aug

- The Prime Minister launched the 'Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan' on 2 August 2026 by video conference, with more than one crore young people joining from over 28,000 locations.
- The campaign runs on a 100-Week Action Plan: every Sunday for 100 weeks carries activities around art, culture, sports, meditation, spirituality and service, taking the de-addiction message to new participants.
- It began as a pilot in Kashi (Varanasi) in 2025 and became a national project through the Kashi Declaration, drawn up with more than 125 spiritual organisations along with social organisations and NGOs.
- The campaign is anchored in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and delivered through MY Bharat, which connects over 2.3 crore youth, along with NSS volunteers and educational institutions.
- The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and Labour and Employment, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, the Minister of State Smt Raksha Nikhil Khadse, 26 Governors and the Chief Ministers of 11 States joined the launch.

8. Defence

2 articles

Agni-4 Ballistic Missile Successfully Test-Fired from Chandipur, Odisha

06 Aug

- The medium-range ballistic missile Agni-4 was successfully test-fired on 6 August 2026 from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.
- The launch validated all operational and technical parameters of the weapon system.
- The test was carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, jointly with the DRDO.

Navy's Fifth and Final Diving Support Craft, DSC A24, Launched at Titagarh

01 Aug

- DSC A24 (Yard 329), the fifth and final ship of the Diving Support Craft (DSC) project, was launched at Titagarh, Kolkata, on 1 August 2026, completing a 5-ship order the Navy placed with Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL) in February 2021.
- The catamaran-hulled vessel, displacing 300-400 tonnes and built to Indian Register of Shipping naval rules, augments the Navy's diving support, underwater inspection, salvage and coastal deployment capability.
- About 70% of main and auxiliary equipment is indigenously sourced, making the DSC project a flagship Aatmanirbhar Bharat / Make in India defence-shipbuilding example.

9. Science & Tech

4 articles

Param Pragya AI Supercomputing Facility to Be Inaugurated at IIT Delhi Sonipat

07 Aug

- The Prime Minister will inaugurate Param Pragya, an AI-powered high-performance supercomputing facility established at the Sonipat campus of IIT Delhi, on 8 August 2026.
- The facility is expected to strengthen the institute's work in artificial intelligence, data science, advanced computing and interdisciplinary research.
- The inauguration takes place at IIT Delhi's 57th Convocation, where over 3,000 graduating students, including 587 PhD scholars, will receive their degrees.

Government R&D Spending Crosses Rs 1.17 Lakh Crore but Stays at 0.41% of GDP

06 Aug

- The Department of Science and Technology's 'Research and Development Statistics 2025-26' report records government R&D expenditure rising from Rs 87,813.47 crore in 2019-20 to Rs 1,17,861.21 crore in 2023-24.
- As a share of GDP, however, government R&D expenditure has stayed flat, moving between 0.41 and 0.45 per cent across the same five years and ending at 0.41 per cent in 2023-24.
- The Ministry of Science and Technology runs 71 research institutions across three departments - DST, DBT and DSIR/CSIR.
- Combined allocation to these three departments rose from Rs 7,357.10 crore in FY 2021-22 to Rs 8,934.81 crore in FY 2025-26.
- Patents received peaked at 893 in FY 2023-24 before falling to 347 in FY 2024-25 and 251 in FY 2025-26.

PFBR at Kalpakkam Attains First Criticality, Opening Stage Two of Nuclear Programme

05 Aug

- The Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu attained first criticality on 6 April 2026.
- The PFBR is the forerunner of the second stage of Homi Bhabha's three-stage nuclear power programme.
- It uses Uranium-Plutonium Mixed Oxide fuel with a Uranium-238 blanket to breed fissile Plutonium-239, generating more fuel than it consumes.
- It is India's first commercial fast reactor, with the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research as principal architect.
- Nearly 90 per cent of the reactor's equipment and systems were manufactured domestically.

Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission Recognised by WHO SEARN in Pharmacovigilance

05 Aug

- The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission has been recognised by the WHO South-East Asia Regulatory Network as a Regional Centre of Excellence in Pharmacovigilance and a Technical Centre in Quality of Medicines.
- The recognition came at SEARN's 10th Anniversary Meeting held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 4-5 August 2026.
- SEARN was established by the WHO South-East Asia Regional Office in 2016 to strengthen regulatory systems across Member States.
- The network operates through thematic working groups on quality assurance, pharmacovigilance, clinical trials oversight, regulatory preparedness and medical device regulation.
- IPC functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and publishes the Indian Pharmacopoeia along with Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Substances.

10. Environment

1 article

Glaw Lake Becomes India's 101st Ramsar Site and Arunachal Pradesh's First

03 Aug

- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav announced on 3 August 2026 the designation of Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh as India's 101st Ramsar Site.
- It is Arunachal Pradesh's first Ramsar Site — a high-altitude freshwater lake in the Wakro Circle of Lohit district, lying within the Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary in the Eastern Himalayas.
- India's Ramsar network has grown from 26 sites in 2014 to 101, the Minister said, describing the designation as a step for biodiversity conservation, water and climate security and sustainable livelihoods.
- The wetland and its catchment support more than 150 tree species and 49 orchid species.

11. Economy

2 articles

Centre Notifies Inventory-Based Cross-Border E-Commerce Export Framework Under FTP 2023

05 Aug

- The Government operationalised the Inventory-based Cross-border E-Commerce Export Framework under the Foreign Trade Policy 2023 through Notification No. 27/2026-27 and Public Notice No. 25/2026-27, both dated 5 August 2026.
- It follows an FDI Policy amendment through Press Note No. 3 (2026 Series), which permits inventory-based e-commerce operations exclusively for exports.
- Eligible e-commerce entities may undertake export-only inventory operations through a registered Exporter-on-Record, which procures from Indian Sellers-on-Record against confirmed overseas orders.
- Export inventory may be procured only against confirmed export orders, must be segregated and tracked through a digital repository, and cannot be diverted to the domestic market.
- The framework lets Indian sellers delegate customs formalities, destination-country compliance, testing, certification, packaging, fulfilment and reverse logistics to the Exporter-on-Record.

Samudra Manthan: Rs 84,084 Crore National Offshore Exploration Scheme Targets 600 MMTOE

03 Aug

- Samudra Manthan, the National Offshore Exploration Scheme, was approved on 31 July 2026 with a Phase-I outlay of Rs 84,084 crore up to FY 2030-31 to open up India's deepwater and ultra-deepwater hydrocarbon basins.
- It works through four components: Rs 28,534 crore for 2D and 3D seismic data acquisition and AI-assisted reprocessing, Rs 43,200 crore to drill 60 deepwater and ultra-deepwater wells on a risk-sharing basis, Rs 10,000 crore for shared offshore infrastructure and Rs 2,000 crore for an Oil and Gas Manufacturing and Services Zone.
- The scheme targets an addition of over 600 MMTOE of reserves, taking the resource base from 1.6 billion to 2.2 billion tonnes of oil equivalent, and raising annual domestic production from about 62 MMTOE to 80 MMTOE.
- It follows a decade of licensing reform — HELP and OALP in 2016, the shift from production sharing to revenue sharing contracts, and the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Act, 2025 — and the opening of over one million sq km of the Exclusive Economic Zone after more than 99 per cent of 'No-Go' areas were removed.

12. National

3 articles

India Records 20,138 Organ Transplants in 2025; NOTTO Launches e-Pratyaropan Platform

03 Aug

- The 16th Indian Organ Donation Day was observed on 3 August 2026 at a national event organised by the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in New Delhi.
- The NOTTO Annual Report 2025-26 records 20,138 organ transplants in 2025 — the highest ever in a single year, a fourfold rise from 4,990 in 2013 and 6.5 per cent above the 18,911 recorded in 2024.
- India ranks third worldwide in total organ transplants after the United States and China, and retains first position globally in living donor transplants; deceased donor transplants rose more than fourfold from 837 in 2013 to 3,526 in 2025.

- The occasion saw the launch of the Jug Jug Jiyo Abhiyaan awareness campaign, the e-Pratyaropan unified digital platform and the NOTTO mobile application, and the release of the National Brain Stem Death Certification Guidelines and the National Guidelines on Swap Transplantation.
- Aadhaar-verified organ donation pledges have crossed five lakh since the national digital pledge portal was launched in 2023, with over 2.58 lakh citizens pledging during the year.

India Declared Free of LWE-Affected Districts as Naxal Violence Falls to Record Low

01 Aug

- India became effectively free of Left Wing Extremism-affected districts on 31 March 2026 — a target set on 24 August 2024 and achieved on schedule, per a PIB Backgrounder released 1 August 2026.
- LWE-affected districts fell from 126 in 2014 to zero in 2026; the 'most-affected' category fell from 35 districts to zero over the same period.
- Naxal-related violent incidents fell from 870 (2014) to 33 (as on 29 July 2026); fatalities fell from 310 to 11 over the same period.
- The transformation combined security operations (SAMADHAN doctrine, elite forces), infrastructure expansion (roads, mobile towers, banking), and welfare/rehabilitation for surrendered cadres.

CBN Dismantles Inter-State Counterfeit Drug Network in Bihar Under Operation Vajra

01 Aug

- Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), Madhya Pradesh Unit, dismantled an inter-state counterfeit-drug and spurious-medicine network in Gaya and Masaurhi (Patna), Bihar, under 'Operation Vajra', following the mastermind's arrest on 22 July 2026.
- The operation seized 8 illegal godowns and dismantled an illicit manufacturing unit, recovering 21,373 unauthorised Buprenorphine ampoules along with Tramadol tablets, Codeine syrup, and lakhs of counterfeit non-NDPS medicine units.
- CBN's Madhya Pradesh Unit has booked 90 cases and arrested 121 suspects in the current calendar year, including 3 illicit lab busts.

13. History & Culture

1 article

India Hosts UNESCO Heritage Committee at Red Fort; Deepavali Becomes 16th ICH Element

06 Aug

- India hosted the 20th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (20.COM) at the Red Fort, New Delhi, from 8 to 13 December 2025.
- It was the first time India hosted the Intergovernmental Committee under the UNESCO 2003 Convention, and coincided with the twentieth anniversary of India's ratification of that Convention.
- About 1,200 delegates from around 130 countries attended the Session.
- Deepavali was inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, becoming the 16th Indian element on the lists.
- Chhath Mahaparva has been sent to UNESCO as a multinational nomination prepared jointly with Mauritius.