

# Weekly One Liners 02nd to 08th of February 2026

## HIGHLIGHTS OF UNION BUDGET 2026-27

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Union Budget 2026-27 in Parliament. This first Budget prepared in Kartavya Bhawan is inspired by three core principles that aim to drive India's economic growth, empower citizens, and ensure inclusive development.

### Budget Estimates at a Glance

- **Non-debt receipts:** ₹36.5 lakh crore
- **Total expenditure:** ₹53.5 lakh crore
- **Centre's net tax receipts:** ₹28.7 lakh crore
- **Gross market borrowings:** ₹17.2 lakh crore
- **Fiscal deficit:** 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026-27)
- **Debt-to-GDP ratio:** 55.6% of GDP
- **Public capital expenditure:** ₹12.2 lakh crore

### THREE KARTAVYAS: The Foundation

The budget is structured around three key principles designed to steer India's development:

- **First Kartavya:** Accelerate and sustain economic growth by enhancing productivity, competitiveness, and building resilience to global dynamics.
- **Second Kartavya:** Fulfil people's aspirations and build their capacity to become strong partners in India's prosperity.
- **Third Kartavya:** Aligned with "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas," ensuring every family, community, region, and sector has equitable access to resources and opportunities.

### FIRST KARTAVYA: ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH

#### 1. Scaling Up Manufacturing in Strategic Sectors

##### Biopharma SHAKTI Initiative

- ₹10,000 crore outlay over 5 years to develop India as a global biopharma manufacturing hub
- Three new National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) to be established
- Seven existing NIPERs to be upgraded
- Network of 1,000+ accredited clinical trial sites to be created

##### India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0

- Focus on producing equipment, materials, and designing full-stack Indian intellectual property
- Industry-led research and training centers to develop skilled workforce

##### Other Manufacturing Initiatives

- Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme outlay increased to ₹40,000 crore
- Dedicated Rare Earth Corridors in Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu

- Three dedicated Chemical Parks through challenge route
- Hi-Tech Tool Rooms by CPSEs at two locations for precision manufacturing
- Scheme for Enhancement of Construction and Infrastructure Equipment
- Container Manufacturing Scheme with ₹10,000+ crore allocation over 5 years

### Integrated Textile Sector Programme

- National Fibre Scheme for self-reliance in natural and man-made fibres
- Textile Expansion and Employment Scheme to modernize traditional clusters
- Mega Textile Parks to enhance value addition
- Mahatma Gandhi Gram Swaraj initiative for khadi, handloom, and handicrafts

### 2. Rejuvenating Legacy Industrial Sectors

- Scheme to revive 200 legacy industrial clusters through infrastructure and technology upgradation to improve cost competitiveness and efficiency

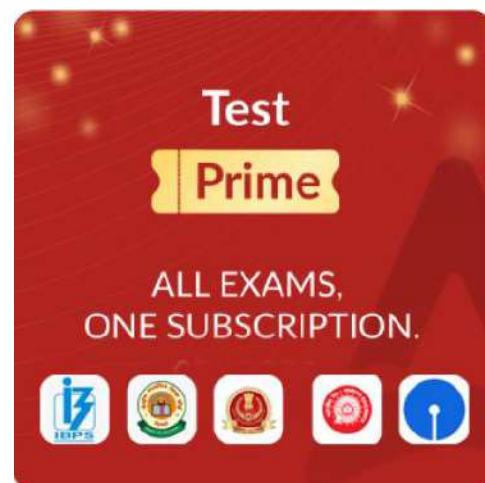
### 3. Creating "Champion SMEs" and Supporting Micro Enterprises

- ₹10,000 crore SME Growth Fund to create future Champions
- Self-Reliant India Fund supplemented with additional ₹2,000 crore
- Professional Institutions (ICAI, ICSI, ICMAI) to design short-term courses for 'Corporate Mitras' in Tier-II and Tier-III towns

### 4. Delivering Powerful Infrastructure Push

#### Capital Expenditure

- Public capital expenditure increased to ₹12.2 lakh crore in FY 2026-27
- Infrastructure Risk Guarantee Fund to strengthen private developer confidence
- REITs for recycling significant real estate assets of CPSEs



**Transportation & Logistics**

- New Dedicated Freight Corridors connecting Dankuni (East) to Surat (West)
- 20 new National Waterways to be operationalised over 5 years
- Training institutes as Regional Centres of Excellence for manpower development
- Ship repair ecosystem at Varanasi and Patna for inland waterways
- Coastal Cargo Promotion Scheme to increase inland waterways and coastal shipping share from 6% to 12% by 2047
- Seaplane VGF Scheme for incentivising seaplane manufacturing and operations

**5. Ensuring Long-Term Energy Security**

- ₹20,000 crore outlay over 5 years for Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS) technologies

**6. Developing City Economic Regions**

- ₹5,000 crore allocation per city economic region over 5 years through challenge mode
- Seven High-Speed Rail corridors as growth connectors:
  1. Mumbai-Pune
  2. Pune-Hyderabad
  3. Hyderabad-Bengaluru
  4. Hyderabad-Chennai
  5. Chennai-Bengaluru
  6. Delhi-Varanasi
  7. Varanasi-Siliguri

**Financial Sector Reforms**

- High Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat to review and align banking sector
- Restructuring of Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation
- Comprehensive review of Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules
- Municipal Bond incentives of ₹100 crore for single issuances exceeding ₹1,000 crore

**SECOND KARTAVYA: FULFILLING ASPIRATIONS & BUILDING CAPACITY****Creating Professionals for Viksit Bharat****Allied Health Professionals**

- Upgrade existing Allied Health Professional (AHP) institutions
- Establish new AHP institutions in private and government sectors
- Target: 100,000 additional Allied Health Professionals over 5 years

**Medical Hubs & AYUSH**

- Five Regional Medical Hubs to promote India as a medical tourism hub
- Three new All India Institutes of Ayurveda

**Animal Husbandry**

- Scale up veterinary professionals by 20,000+
- Loan-linked capital subsidy scheme for veterinary colleges, hospitals, diagnostic labs, and breeding facilities

**Orange Economy (Creative Technologies)**

- Indian Institute of Creative Technologies, Mumbai to establish Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC) Content Creator Labs in 15,000 secondary schools and 500 colleges

**Education**

- Five University Townships in major industrial and logistic corridors through challenge route
- One girls' hostel per district through VGF/capital support
- High-Powered 'Education to Employment and Enterprise' Standing Committee

**Tourism & Heritage**

- National Council for Hotel Management upgraded to National Institute of Hospitality
- Pilot scheme for upskilling 10,000 guides in 20 tourist sites
- National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid for documenting cultural and heritage sites
- 15 archaeological sites (including Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi, Adichanallur, Sarnath, Hastinapur, and Leh Palace) to be developed into cultural destinations

**Sports**

- Khelo India Mission to transform the Sports sector over the next decade

**THIRD KARTAVYA: INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT (SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS)****1. Increasing Farmer Incomes**

- Integrated development of 500 reservoirs and Amrit Sarovars
- High Value Agriculture support for coconut, sandalwood, cocoa, and cashew in coastal areas
- Coconut Promotion Scheme to increase production and productivity
- **Bharat-VISTAAR**: Multilingual AI tool integrating AgriStack portals with ICAR agricultural practices

**2. Empowering Divyangjan**

- Divyangjan Kaushal Yojana offering task-oriented roles in IT, AVGC, Hospitality, and Food & Beverage sectors

**3. Mental Health & Trauma Care Commitment**

- NIMHANS-2 to be established in North India
- National Mental Health Institutes in Ranchi and Tezpur to be upgraded as Regional Apex Institutions

**4. Focus on Purvodaya States & North-East Region**

- Integrated East Coast Industrial Corridor with node at Durgapur
- Five tourism destinations in Purvodaya States
- 4,000 e-buses deployment
- Buddhist Circuits development in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura

**5. Finance Commission Grants**

- ₹1.4 lakh crore provided to States for FY 2026-27 as recommended by 16th Finance Commission

**DIRECT TAX REFORMS****New Income Tax Act**

- New Income Tax Act, 2025 to come into effect from April 2026
- Simplified forms redesigned for easy compliance by ordinary citizens

**Ease of Living Measures**

- Interest awarded by Motor Accident Claims Tribunal exempt from Income Tax
- TCS rate on overseas tour packages reduced to 2% (from 2-20%)
- TCS rate on LRS remittances for education and medical reduced to 2% (from 5%)
- Simplified TDS provisions for manpower supply
- Single window filing with depositories for Form 15G/15H
- Tax return filing timeline extended from December 31 to March 31 with nominal fees
- Staggered tax return filing timeline
- 6-month foreign asset disclosure scheme for small taxpayers

**Penalty & Prosecution Rationalization**

- IT assessment and penalty proceedings integrated
- Taxpayers allowed to update returns even after reassessment (at 10% additional tax)
- Immunity for income misreporting with additional tax payment
- Decriminalization of non-production of books and TDS non-payment in kind
- Immunity from prosecution for non-disclosure of foreign assets below ₹20 lakh (retrospective from October 1, 2024)

**Support for IT Sector**

- Software development, IT-enabled services, and contract R&D services clubbed under single "Information Technology Services" category with 15.5% safe harbour margin

- Safe harbour threshold enhanced from ₹300 crore to ₹2,000 crore
- 5-year continuation of safe harbour through automated process
- Fast-tracked Unilateral Advanced Pricing Agreement (APA) process within 2 years

**Attracting Global Business & Investment**

- Tax holiday till 2047 for foreign cloud service companies using Indian data centers
- 15% safe harbour for related entity data center services
- 2% safe harbour for non-resident component warehousing in bonded warehouses
- 5-year exemption for non-residents providing capital goods to toll manufacturers
- 5-year exemption for non-resident experts' global income
- MAT exemption for non-residents paying presumptive tax

**Cooperatives**

- Extended deductions for cooperative societies supplying cattle feed and cotton seed
- Inter-cooperative dividend income deductible in new tax regime
- 3-year dividend exemption for notified national cooperative federations

**Other Direct Tax Proposals**

- Buyback taxation as capital gains for all shareholders; additional tax for promoters (22% corporate, 30% non-corporate)
- TCS rationalization on alcoholic liquor, scrap, minerals (2%), and tendu leaves (2%)
- STT on Futures raised to 0.05% (from 0.02%)
- STT on options raised to 0.15% (from 0.1-0.125%)
- MAT made final tax at 14% (from 15%) with no further credit accumulation from April 1, 2026

**INDIRECT TAX REFORMS****Tariff Simplification****Marine, Leather & Textile Products**

- Duty-free import limit for seafood processing inputs increased from 1% to 3% of FOB value
- Duty-free imports permitted for leather/synthetic footwear exports

**Energy Transition & Security**

- Extended basic customs duty exemption for Lithium-Ion Cell manufacturing
- Exemption on sodium antimonate for solar glass manufacture

**Nuclear Power & Critical Minerals**

- Existing exemptions on nuclear power project imports extended till 2035

- Exemption on capital goods for critical mineral processing

**Biogas & Aviation**

- Biogas value excluded from Central Excise on biogas-blended CNG
- Basic customs duty exempted on civilian, training aircraft components and defence sector aircraft parts

**Electronics**

- Exemption on microwave oven components

**Special Economic Zones**

- One-time concessional duty rates for DTA sales by eligible manufacturing units

**Ease of Living (Customs)**

- Tariff rate on dutiable goods for personal use reduced from 20% to 10%
- 17 drugs/medicines exempted from basic customs duty
- Duty-free personal import for drugs/medicines and food for 7 rare diseases
- Revised baggage clearance provisions during international travel

**Customs Process Simplification**

**Trust-Based Systems**

- AEO duty deferral enhanced from 15 to 30 days for Tier 2-3
- Advance ruling validity extended from 3 to 5 years
- Auto-notification of goods arrival for clearance completion
- Warehouse framework transformed to operator-centric system with self-declarations

**Ease of Doing Business**

- Single digital window for seamless cargo clearance approvals by end of FY
- Food, drugs, and wildlife product clearance operationalized by April 2026
- Immediate Customs clearance for compliance-free goods
- Customs Integrated System (CIS) rollout in 2 years
- Non-intrusive scanning with AI technology expansion for container inspection

**New Export Opportunities**

- Fish catch in Exclusive Economic Zone/High Seas made duty-free; foreign port landing treated as export
- Complete removal of ₹10 lakh value cap on courier exports

**Dispute Settlement**

- Honest taxpayers can settle disputes by paying additional amount in lieu of penalty

**Grammy Awards 2026 Full Winners List**

Here Is The Full List Of Winners 2026

**General/Major Categories**

- Song of the Year:** Billie Eilish – Wildflower
- Best New Artist:** Olivia Dean
- Producer of the Year:** Cirkut
- Songwriter of the Year:** Amy Allen

**Pop**

- Best Pop Solo Performance:** Lola Young – Messy
- Best Pop Vocal Album:** Lady Gaga – Mayhem
- Best Pop Duo/Group Performance:** Cynthia Erivo & Ariana Grande – Defying Gravity
- Best Dance-Pop Recording:** Lady Gaga – Abracadabra

**Country**

- Best Contemporary Country Album:** Jelly Roll – Beautifully Broken
- Best Country Solo Performance:** Chris Stapleton – Bad As I Used to Be
- Best Traditional Country Album:** Zach Top – Ain't In It for My Health
- Best Country Song:** Tyler Childers – Bitin' List

**Rap/Hip-Hop**

- Best Rap Album:** Kendrick Lamar – GNX
- Best Rap Performance:** Clipse – Chains & Whips (ft. Kendrick Lamar & Pharrell Williams)
- Best Rap Song:** Kendrick Lamar ft Lefty Gunplay – TV Off
- Best Melodic Rap Performance:** Kendrick Lamar with SZA – Luther

**R&B/Soul**

- Best R&B Album:** Leon Thomas – Mutt
- Best R&B Performance:** Kehlani – Folded
- Best Traditional R&B Performance:** Leon Thomas – Vibes Don't Lie
- Best R&B Song:** Kehlani – Folded

**Rock/Metal/Alternative**

- Best Rock Album:** Turnstile – Never Enough
- Best Rock Performance:** Yungblud – Changes (Live from Villa Park, Back to the Beginning)
- Best Rock Song:** Nine Inch Nails – As Alive as You Need Me to Be
- Best Metal Performance:** Turnstile – Birds
- Best Alternative Music Album:** The Cure – Songs of a Lost World
- Best Alternative Music Performance:** The Cure – Alone

**Dance/Electronic**

- Best Dance/Electronic Album:** FKA twigs – Eusexua
- Best Dance/Electronic Recording:** Tame Impala – End of Summer

**Latin/Global**

- **Best Música Urbana Album:** Bad Bunny – Debí Tirar Más Fotos
- **Best Global Music Performance:** Tyla – PUSH 2 START

**Folk/Jazz/Classical**

- **Best Folk Album:** I’m With Her – Wild and Clear and Blue
- **Best Jazz Performance:** Chick Corea, Christian McBride & Brian Blade – Windows (live)
- **Best Orchestral Performance:** Andris Nelsons, conductor (Boston Symphony Orchestra) – Messiaen: Turangalila-Symphonie

**Visual Media/Soundtracks**

- **Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media:** Sinners
- **Best Song Written for Visual Media:** Huntr/x – Golden (from KPop: Demon Hunters)
- **Best Music Video:** Doechi – Anxiety

**Other Categories**

- **Best Audio Book, Narration, and Storytelling Recording:** “Meditations: The Reflections Of His Holiness The Dalai Lama,” Dalai Lama
- **Best Comedy Album:** Your Friend, Nate Bargatze,
- **Best Children’s Music Album** – Harmony by FYÜTCH & Aura V
- **Best Contemporary Instrumental Album:** Brightside,” ARKAI
- **Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance:** Dennehy: Land Of Winter
- **Best Choral Performance:** “Ortiz: Yanga”

**WPL Titles in 2026**

The Women’s Premier League 2026 final delivered one of the greatest matches in women’s T20 history. **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** chased down a massive 204-run target, the highest successful chase ever in the WPL, to defeat Delhi Capitals (DC) by six wickets at Vadodara. Powered by a breathtaking partnership between Smriti Mandhana and Georgia Voll, the match went down to the final over, sealing **RCB’s second WPL title** and extending Delhi Capitals painful run of final defeats.

**Key Highlights Of WPL Final 2026**

- **Delhi Capitals Post a Huge Total:** Batting first, Delhi Capitals put up a formidable 203 for 4, the **second-highest first-innings score in any women’s T20 final**. Jemimah Rodrigues anchored the innings with a fluent 57, while Laura Wolvaardt contributed 44.
- **Mandhana–Voll Partnership Rewrites Records:** RCB’s chase looked daunting after losing an early wicket at 9 for 1, but Smriti Mandhana and Georgia Voll turned the final on its head. The duo added a sensational **165 runs off just 92 balls, the highest partnership for any wicket in WPL history**.

- **Late Drama Keeps the Final Alive:** Just when the chase seemed under control, DC struck back. Voll was dismissed for 79, followed by quick wickets of Richa Ghosh and Mandhana, leaving RCB under pressure in the final overs. From a near-certain win, the equation suddenly tightened, setting up a dramatic finish that had fans on the edge of their seats.

**Player Of the Match In WPL Final 2026**

- Smriti Mandhana was deservedly adjudged the Player of the Match for her sublime knock that anchored RCB’s historic chase in the WPL 2026 final.
- Walking in after an early setback, the RCB skipper played with a perfect blend of composure and aggression, smashing 87 off just 41 balls, laced with 12 fours and three sixes.
- Her innings not only set the tempo in the record 204-run chase the highest ever in a WPL or IPL final but also dismantled Delhi Capitals’ bowling under immense pressure.

**WPL 2026 Winners (Category wise) & Prize Money**

**Team Awards**

- **Winner:** Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) – ₹6 Crore
- **Runner-up:** Delhi Capitals (DC) – ₹3 Crore

**Individual Awards**

- **Orange Cap (Most Runs):** Smriti Mandhana – ₹5 Lakh
- **Purple Cap (Most Wickets):** Sophie Devine – ₹5 Lakh
- **Most Valuable Player (MVP):** Sophie Devine – ₹5 Lakh
- **Emerging Player:** Nandini Sharma – ₹5 Lakh

**Australian Open 2026**

**Australian Open 2026 Winners in Each Category**

- **Men’s Singles Champion:** Carlos Alcaraz
- **Women’s Singles Champion:** Rybakina
- **Men’s Doubles Champion:** Neal Skupski & Christian Harrison
- **Women’s Doubles Champion:** Elise Mertens and Zhang Shuai
- **Mix Doubles Champion:** Gadecki and Peers

**16th Finance Commission**

The balance of money between the **Centre and the States** has entered a new phase. The 16th Finance Commission, whose recommendations will apply from 2026-27 to 2030-31, has decided to retain the States’ share at 41% of the divisible tax pool but has significantly altered how that share is distributed. By introducing GDP contribution as a new criterion and ending revenue deficit grants, the Commission has signalled a shift towards efficiency, growth and fiscal discipline, making this a high-importance topic for competitive exams.

**41% Tax Devolution Retained: What It Means**

- **Despite demands from 18 states to raise their share to 50%, the Commission retained the 41% devolution rate.**
- It argued that states already account for over two-thirds of total non-debt public revenues, and increasing their share further would constrain the Union government's ability to meet national obligations.
- This decision reflects **continuity with the 15th Finance Commission**, while signalling that fiscal federalism will now focus more on quality of spending rather than only higher transfers.

**GDP Contribution Added**

- A major innovation is the **introduction of State GDP contribution as a new parameter** in the **horizontal devolution formula, with a 10% weight.**
- This criterion recognizes states that contribute more to national economic growth.
- The Commission clarified that this is a directional change, not a radical shift, to balance efficiency with equity.

**Changes in Horizontal Devolution Formula**

- Along with GDP contribution, the Commission made several adjustments.
- It removed the **2.5% weight for tax effort, increased the population weight by 2.5 percentage points**, and reduced the weights for area, demographic performance, and per capita GSDP distance.
- As a result, industrialized and faster-growing states like Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat and Maharashtra gained higher shares, while more populous and poorer states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar saw relative declines.
- This redistribution has major political and economic implications.

**No Revenue Deficit Grants**

- **For the first time, the Commission recommended zero Revenue Deficit Grants (RDGs).**
- It argued that RDGs weaken incentives for fiscal reform by encouraging dependency.
- States, it said, have sufficient scope to increase revenues and rationalise expenditure.
- This is a major departure from earlier Finance Commissions and reflects a strong push towards self-reliance and fiscal responsibility at the state level.

**Local Bodies and Disaster Management Funding**

- While cutting RDGs, the Commission earmarked ₹7.91 trillion for rural and urban local bodies over five years, with a 60:40 rural-urban split, focusing on water, sanitation and urban infrastructure.
- It also recommended ₹2.04 trillion for State Disaster Response and Mitigation Funds and ₹79,000 crore for national disaster funds, using a revamped disaster risk index.

- This shows a preference for functional, purpose-linked grants rather than general fiscal support.

**National Affairs**

- **NSO Launches NHIS & ASISSE:** National Statistical Office announced India's first National Household Income Survey and Annual Survey of Incorporated Service Sector Enterprises starting April 2026 for one year using digital CAPI technology across all Indian regions except A&N Islands.
- **LNG-Diesel DEMU Train Operational:** Indian Railways successfully launched first LNG-diesel dual-fuel DEMU train at Sabarmati, Ahmedabad with 40% diesel substitution capability, achieving ₹23.9 lakh annual savings per 8-coach train.
- **CSIR-NIO Regional Centre Inaugurated:** Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated ₹32 crore shore-based laboratory of CSIR-NIO at Visakhapatnam for marine geological surveys, deep-sea exploration, and monsoon research.
- **UMEED Platform Modules Launched:** Ministry of Minority Affairs launched Survey Module and Waqf Property Lease Management Module on UMEED portal for transparent Waqf property management.
- **National UAV Corridor Established:** Odisha government partnered with BonV Aero to establish India's first National UAV Test & Innovation Corridor at Rangeilunda Airport for live drone testing up to 1,000 metres.
- **World Bank Partnership Framework:** Government of India and World Bank announced USD 8-10 billion annual financing over 5 years for job creation aligned with "Viksit Bharat" vision by 2047.
- **16th Finance Commission Report:** Finance Commission retained 41% tax devolution to states for 2026-31 period to ensure financial stability and cooperative federalism.
- **Migration Survey Announcement:** National Statistics Office announced comprehensive nationwide Survey on Migration from July 2026 to June 2027 to capture internal migration patterns and socio-economic profiles.
- **IOCL-Akasa Air SAF Collaboration:** Indian Oil Corporation signed Letter of Intent with Akasa Air to jointly explore Sustainable Aviation Fuel supply during Wings India 2026.
- **2nd India-Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting:** Government of India hosted India-Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting in New Delhi with 22 Arab League members, adopting New Delhi Declaration for deeper cooperation.
- **Bharat Container Shipping Line Established:** Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways announced establishment of BCSL through MoU among SCI, CONCOR, and port authorities.

- **Excise Duty Withdrawn on Unmanufactured Tobacco:** Government withdrew 18% Central Excise Duty on unbranded, non-retail packed unmanufactured tobacco from February 1, 2026 to provide relief to farmers.
- **CCRAS-Berhampur University MoU:** Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences signed 2-year MoU with Berhampur University to digitize rare Ayurvedic manuscripts at South Odisha Cultural Study Centre.
- **MHA Mandates Central Deputation for IPS Officers:** Ministry of Home Affairs made mandatory two-year Central Deputation experience for IPS officers at SP and DIG ranks for eligibility as Inspector General of Police.
- **SAIL Launches Creative Challenge:** Steel Authority of India launched "SAIL-e-BRATON" national creative challenge on MyGov platform inviting short videos showing SAIL's role in nation-building.
- **NYPs 2.0 Portal Upgraded:** Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs unveiled upgraded NYPs 2.0 web portal expanding reach to 95,319 participants across 660 Youth Parliament sittings.
- **Axis Bank Solar Finance:** Axis Bank launched "Rooftop Solar Finance" offering collateral-free loans up to ₹2 crores for MSMEs to adopt rooftop solar systems.
- **Alwar Achieves 100% Insurance Coverage:** Alwar district became India's first to achieve 100% insurance coverage under "Insurance for All by 2047" initiative across 9 villages.
- **India Joins BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies:** India joined BCIC to strengthen manufacturing capabilities and support MSMEs with Industry 4.0 competencies.
- **Yantra India Gets Miniratna Status:** Union Minister Rajnath Singh approved Miniratna Category-I status for Yantra India Limited enabling capital expenditure approval up to ₹500 crore.
- NSO launched the **MCP Server on eSankhyiki**, enabling **AI-ready access** to live government datasets like **CPI, IIP, Labour Surveys**, transforming data usage.
- The **FASTag Annual Pass** crossed **50 lakh users** in six months, enabling **26.55 crore toll crossings**, reducing queues and transforming **highway travel efficiency**.

- The **World Bank** praised **Karnataka's fiscal transparency**, highlighting inclusion of **off-budget borrowings**, strengthening accountability and offering a **replicable model** for states.
- **Rajasthan** leads India's **wool production**, contributing **47.5%**, supporting **3.2 million livelihoods**, with rising output and diversified **wool grades** nationwide.
- Indian Railways will discontinue **UTS app** from **March 1, 2026**, shifting all unreserved ticketing to **RailOne super app** with integrated digital services.
- Government expanded **Startup India** to support **deep-tech startups** for **20 years**, prioritising **long-term R&D and innovation**.

### States in the News

- **Maharashtra Deputy CM:** Sunetra Pawar sworn in as Maharashtra's first woman Deputy Chief Minister following Ajit Pawar's death in plane crash.
- **Manipur CM Elected:** Yumnam Khemchand Singh elected as BJP legislature party leader in Manipur as new Chief Minister after President's Rule.
- **AP Pilloo AI Launch:** Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launched Pilloo AI, voice-based billing platform supporting 5 Indian languages for MSMEs.
- **MAHSR Project Progress:** Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced completion of 2nd Mountain Tunnel (MT-6) for Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project.
- **NGEL-Assago Green Urea Plant:** NTPC Green Energy and Assago Industries signed MoU to develop India's first large-scale Green Urea production facility at Pudimadaka, Visakhapatnam.
- **Gujarat Renewable Energy Leader:** Gujarat emerged as India's largest renewable energy contributor with 42.583 GW capacity, accounting for 16.50% of national RE capacity.
- **Odisha Mountaineer Summit:** 27-year-old mountaineer Kabak Yano from Arunachal Pradesh successfully summited Mount Aconcagua in Argentina as part of 7-Summit Expedition.
- **PM Visits Punjab:** Prime Minister Modi visited Punjab for commemorative and developmental programs, renamed Adampur Airport as Sri Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji Airport and inaugurated Halwara Airport civil terminal.
- Andhra Pradesh launches **Amaravati Quantum Valley**, aiming to become a **global quantum hub** with focus on **quantum computing, talent, and innovation ecosystems**.
- **V.O. Chidambaranar Port** became India's first port with an **Anti-Drone System**, enhancing **coastal security** against surveillance and sabotage threats.



- **Goa** released India's **second Bird Atlas**, mapping bird diversity for **scientific conservation**, boosting **citizen science** and ecological planning.
- Delhi Police launched **Operation Shastra** to curb **online fear-mongering**, scanning **6,000 profiles**, registering FIRs, and preventing crimes proactively.
- **Alwar district** became India's **first fully insured district**, advancing **financial inclusion** through door-to-door surveys and NGO-supported premium coverage.

### International Affairs

- **Walmart USD 1 Trillion Valuation:** Walmart became world's first retail company to achieve USD 1 trillion market capitalisation driven by 26% stock growth and AI investments.
- **Elon Musk USD 800 Billion Net Worth:** Elon Musk became world's first individual to cross USD 800 billion net worth through SpaceX-xAI merger creating USD 1.25 trillion entity.
- **Spain Social Media Ban:** Spain announced nationwide ban on social media access for children under 16 years, becoming first European country and second globally after Australia.
- **Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics:** Italy hosting 25th Winter Olympics from 6-22 February 2026 with 16 winter sports, India participating through two athletes in Alpine and Cross-Country Skiing.
- **Soraya Aghaei IOC Election:** Iranian badminton player elected as first-ever female IOC member from Iran during 145th IOC Session in Milan.
- **Matrixport In-Principle Approval:** Digital asset financial services platform Matrixport's Bhutan entity received In-Principle Approval from Gelephu Financial Services Office for regulated services.
- **India-USA Trade Deal Impact:** India-USA trade deal reducing tariffs from 25% to 18% expected to improve export conditions and narrow Current Account Deficit by 0.25% of GDP.
- **Delhi Most Affordable for Students:** New Delhi emerged as world's most affordable student city according to Knight Frank, Deloitte, and QS joint report.
- **India-China Trade Record:** India and China achieved historic bilateral trade milestone of USD 155.6 billion in 2025 with Indian exports rising 9.7%.
- The **US lifted additional tariffs** on Indian goods after India committed to **stop Russian oil imports**, resetting **India-US trade relations** positively

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **India-GCC Trade Talks:** India and Gulf Cooperation Council signed Terms of Reference to restart Free Trade Agreement negotiations.
- **GAIL-MOL LNG Charter:** GAIL India and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines signed long-term charter agreement for LNG carrier "GAIL BHUWAN" during India Energy Week 2026.
- **ONGC-OIL Exploration MoU:** Oil & Natural Gas Corporation and Oil India signed MoU to explore collaboration in oil and gas exploration.
- **BPCL-Tata Motors EV MoU:** Bharat Petroleum and Tata Motors signed MoU to jointly develop India's largest Mega EV Charging and Engagement Hubs.
- **HAL-UAC Aircraft Production:** Hindustan Aeronautics signed agreement with Russia's United Aircraft Corporation for production of Superjet 100 regional aircraft in India.
- **HAL-Pawan Hans Helicopter Supply:** HAL secured ₹1,800 crore contract from Pawan Hans for 10 Dhruv New Generation helicopters.
- **SBI-SMBC Financial MoU:** State Bank of India signed MoU with Japanese lender Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation for financing sunrise sectors.
- **Central Bank-HSBC Asset Management:** Central Bank of India signed distribution agreement with HSBC Asset Management to offer Mutual Fund products.
- **Equitas SFB-Bharti AXA Partnership:** Equitas Small Finance Bank signed bancassurance partnership with Bharti AXA Life Insurance for life insurance reach expansion.
- **Tripura Gramin Bank-PNB Co-branding:** Tripura Gramin Bank launched India's first RRB co-branded RuPay Credit Card with PNB during Golden Jubilee year.
- **IHMCL-NFSU Cybersecurity MoU:** Indian Highways Management Company signed 3-year MoU with National Forensic Sciences University for highway cybersecurity.
- **MeitY-EU Digital Signatures:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology signed Administrative Arrangement with EU DG CONNECT on electronic signatures.
- **NTH-STQC EMI/EMC Testing:** National Test House signed Government-to-Government partnership with STQC-ERTL (North) for EMI/EMC testing of drones.
- **Airbus-GSV Aerospace CoE:** Airbus inaugurated Centre of Excellence for aerospace studies at Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya with focus on SAF research.
- **Digantara-DSTA Space Partnership:** Digantra Industries signed partnership with Singapore's DSTA to develop Space Situational Awareness tools for satellite protection.
- **BEML-IISc Research Agreement:** Bharat Earth Movers signed Tripartite Master Research Agreement with IISc and FSID for advanced research collaboration.

- **India-GCC Free Trade Agreement Talks:** India and Gulf Cooperation Council signed Terms of Reference to restart Free Trade Agreement negotiations in New Delhi.
- **MeitY-EU Digital Agreement:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology signed Administrative Arrangement with EU DG CONNECT on advanced electronic signatures for cross-border digital trade.
- **Adani-Leonardo Helicopter MoU:** Adani Defence & Aerospace signed MoU with Leonardo for fully integrated helicopter manufacturing ecosystem in India.

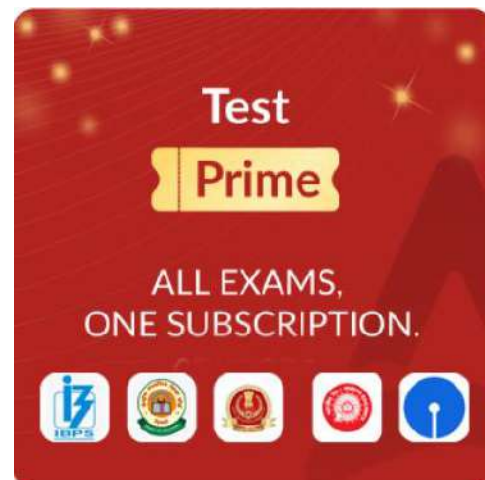
### Banking/Economy/Business News

- **PNB LUXURA Metal Card:** Punjab National Bank launched LUXURA Metal Credit Card on VISA Infinite with ₹4,999 joining fee and accelerated rewards.
- **Yes Bank MD Appointment:** RBI approved Vinay Muralidhar Tonse as MD & CEO of YES Bank for three-year term succeeding Prashant Kumar.
- **SBI CHAKRA Initiative:** State Bank of India launched CHAKRA Centre of Excellence to invest ₹100 trillion in 8 sunrise sectors over next 5 years.
- **World Bank PM-SETU Loan:** World Bank approved USD 830 million loan for Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation programme.
- **16th Finance Commission Recommendation:** 16th Finance Commission recommended retaining 41% tax devolution to states for 2026-31 period.
- **Goldman Sachs GDP Upgrade:** Goldman Sachs upgraded India's 2026 GDP growth forecast to 6.9% due to trade deal benefits.
- **Walmart USD 1 Trillion Market Cap:** Walmart became world's first retail company to achieve USD 1 trillion market capitalisation.
- **RBI Paytm Fine:** RBI imposed ₹18.76 lakh compounding fee on One 97 Communications for FEMA violations.
- **SBI Global Trade Finance Centre:** State Bank of India launched GTFC in Kolkata with AI and blockchain technologies.
- **Axis Bank Solar Finance:** Axis Bank launched collateral-free rooftop solar financing up to ₹2 crores for MSMEs.
- **Alwar Insurance Coverage:** Alwar became India's first district achieving 100% insurance coverage under "Insurance for All by 2047" initiative.
- **Bharat Container Shipping Line:** Ministry of Ports announced establishment of BCSL to manage containerised cargo ecosystem.
- **Matrixport Bhutan Approval:** Matrixport's Bhutan entity received In-Principle Approval for regulated financial services.
- **Equitas SFB-Bharti AXA:** Equitas Small Finance Bank partnered with Bharti AXA Life Insurance for bancassurance services.

- **Elon Musk USD 800 Billion:** Elon Musk crossed USD 800 billion net worth milestone through SpaceX-xAI merger.
- **SBI Global Trade Finance Centre:** State Bank of India strengthened trade finance operations with launch of GTFC in Kolkata using AI, ML, and Blockchain technologies.
- **Goldman Sachs GDP Upgrade:** Goldman Sachs upgraded India's Calendar Year 2026 GDP growth forecast to 6.9% based on India-USA trade deal reducing tariffs from 25% to 18%.
- **World Bank Approves PM-SETU Loan:** World Bank approved USD 830 million loan for Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs program.
- **CHAKRA Centre Launched:** State Bank of India launched Centre of Excellence CHAKRA to invest ₹100 trillion in 8 sunrise sectors over next 5 years with MoUs signed with 21 financial institutions.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank issued India's first fully digital FPI licence,** simplifying foreign investment onboarding through SEBI's digital workflow.
- From **April 2026**, banks will pay **risk-based deposit insurance premiums**, encouraging financial discipline, stability, and stronger governance across banking.

### Appointments/Resignations

- **Sunetra Pawar Deputy CM:** Sunetra Pawar sworn in as Maharashtra's first woman Deputy Chief Minister.
- **Yumnam Khemchand Singh CM:** Yumnam Khemchand Singh elected as Manipur Chief Minister, ending President's Rule.
- **Vinay Muralidhar Tonse Yes Bank MD:** RBI approved Vinay Muralidhar Tonse as YES Bank MD & CEO.
- **Divakar Jayant Naval Armament Director:** Shri Divakar Jayant took charge as Director General of Naval Armament.
- **Kota Ravi HAL CMD:** Hindustan Aeronautics Limited appointed Kota Ravi as new Chairman and Managing Director.



**Defence News**

- **LNG-Diesel DEMU Train:** Indian Railways launched first dual-fuel DEMU train with 40% diesel substitution capability.
- **DRDO SFDR Technology:** DRDO successfully demonstrated Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology at ITR Chandipur.
- **Sagar Defence USVs:** Sagar Defence delivered first two Unmanned Surface Vessels to Indian Navy with AI navigation.
- **Exercise KHANJAR-XIII:** 13th India-Kyrgyzstan joint military exercise conducted at Missamari, Assam from 4-17 February 2026.
- **Yantra India Miniratna Status:** Yantra India Limited granted Miniratna Category-I status by Defence Ministry.
- **HAL-UAC Agreement:** Hindustan Aeronautics signed production agreement with Russia's United Aircraft Corporation for Superjet 100.
- **BEML Research Partnership:** Bharat Earth Movers signed tripartite research agreement with IISc and FSID.
- **DRDO SFDR Technology Demonstrated:** Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully demonstrated Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology at ITR Chandipur, placing India among elite nations with advanced ramjet missile capability.
- **Sagar Defence Delivers USVs:** Sagar Defence delivered first two Unmanned Surface Vessels to Indian Navy with AI-driven navigation and 70% indigenous content.
- India successfully test-fired **Agni-III missile** from Odisha, validating **operational readiness** and reinforcing **credible nuclear deterrence**.

**Awards and Recognitions**

- **Patna Bird Sanctuary Ramsar Site:** Patna Bird Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh designated as India's 97th Ramsar wetland site.
- **Chhari-Dhand Ramsar Site:** Chhari-Dhand in Gujarat designated as India's 98th Ramsar wetland site of international importance.
- **SAIL Great Place to Work:** Steel Authority of India earned 'Great Place to Work' certification for third consecutive year.
- **Veerabhadran Ramanathan Crafoord Prize:** Indian-origin climate scientist won 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences for pioneering climate research.
- **Kabak Yano Mount Aconcagua:** Arunachal Pradesh mountaineer Kabak Yano successfully summited Mount Aconcagua in Argentina.
- **Paradip Port Swachhata Award:** Paradip Port Authority won First Prize at Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025.

- **HMG Stones ISO Certifications:** HMG Stone LLP achieved ISO 9001:2015 and 5S Gold Grade certifications, first in Indian natural stone industry.
- **68th Grammy Awards 2026:** Dalai Lama won first Grammy Award; Bad Bunny won Album of the Year; K-Pop achieved first Grammy win.
- **Elena Rybakina Australian Open:** Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina won Women's Singles title at Australian Open 2026.
- **Bhutan Queen Mother Award:** Gyalyum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck received 22nd Upendra Nath Brahma 'Soldier of Humanity' Award 2025.

**Summits and Conferences News**

- **India Energy Week 2026:** 4th edition held in Goa from 27-30 January 2026 focusing on energy transition and renewable energy.
- **Wings India 2026:** Asia's largest civil aviation event held in Hyderabad from 28-31 January 2026 with theme on future aviation.
- **2nd India-Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting:** India hosted meeting with 22 Arab League member states, adopting New Delhi Declaration.
- **World Government Summit 2026:** Dubai hosted summit with 6,250+ participants including 60 heads of state and 87 Nobel laureates.
- **Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics:** Italy hosting 25th Winter Olympics from 6-22 February 2026.
- **PLASTINDIA 2026:** Exhibition featuring 2,000 international exhibitors at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi from 5-10 February 2026.
- **Black Swan Summit 2026** in Odisha spotlighted **fintech, AI, digital finance**, with President Murmu stressing **responsible innovation and skills**.

**Ranks and Reports**

- **Global Soft Power Index 2026:** Brand Finance released rankings evaluating countries on culture, diplomacy, and economy.
- **India Affordable Student Cities Report:** Knight Frank, Deloitte, and QS report highlighted Delhi as world's most affordable student city.
- **CPI Base Year Revision:** Ministry of Statistics revised Consumer Price Index base year to 2024 with expanded basket to 358 items.
- **World's Most Valuable Companies:** Walmart joined elite group of companies with USD 1 trillion market capitalisation.
- **India-China Trade Statistics:** India-China bilateral trade reached historic USD 155.6 billion in 2025 with 9.7% export growth.

### Sports News

- **Carlos Alcaraz Australian Open Winner:** Spain's Alcaraz defeated Novak Djokovic to win Men's Singles title.
- **Elena Rybakina Australian Open Winner:** Kazakhstan's Rybakina defeated Aryna Sabalenka to win Women's Singles title.
- **Devika Sihag Thailand Masters Victory:** Indian badminton player won first BWF Super 300 title at Thailand Masters.
- **Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship Hosting:** India secured hosting rights for 2027 championship serving as Olympic qualifier.
- **Indian Winter Olympics Participation:** India participating in Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics with athletes in Alpine and Cross-Country Skiing.
- **Olivia Gadecki Mixed Doubles Win:** Australia's Gadecki & Peers became first team since 1989 to defend Australian Open mixed doubles title.
- India won its **6th ICC U-19 World Cup**, powered by **Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's record 175**, reaffirming youth cricket dominance.
- **Jharkhand women's team won gold at Para Throwball Nationals 2026**, highlighting **inclusive sports growth** and rising grassroots excellence.

### Schemes and Committees News

- **Mukhyamantri Gramotthan Yojana:** Gujarat launched scheme to provide urban-equivalent facilities in 114 Taluka headquarters.
- **National Household Income Survey:** NSO announced first-ever NHIS starting April 2026 for one year duration.
- **Annual Survey of Service Sector Enterprises:** NSO launched ASISSE using GSTN data for state and industry-level GVA estimates.
- **Survey on Migration:** National Statistics Office announced nationwide migration survey from July 2026 to June 2027.
- **PM-SETU Programme:** World Bank approved USD 830 million loan for Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through upgraded ITIs.
- **CHAKRA Initiative:** SBI launched Centre of Excellence to finance 8 sunrise sectors with ₹100 trillion investment over 5 years.
- **SAIL-e-BRATION Challenge:** Steel Authority of India launched national creative challenge inviting short videos celebrating steel's role in nation-building.
- **Insurance for All by 2047:** Alwar district achieved 100% insurance coverage under this joint GoI-IRDAI initiative.
- **BCSL Container Shipping:** Ministry of Ports announced establishment of Bharat Container Shipping Line through multi-stakeholder MoU.

- **NYPS 2.0 Portal:** Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs upgraded National Youth Parliament Scheme portal for wider reach.
- **Rooftop Solar Finance:** Axis Bank launched scheme offering collateral-free loans up to ₹2 crores for MSME solar adoption.
- **Mukhyamantri Gramotthan Yojana:** Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel launched state-wide scheme to provide urban-equivalent facilities in 114 Taluka headquarters with ₹663 crore for Gram Panchayat buildings.

### Science and Technology News

- **DRDO SFDR Technology:** Defence organisation successfully demonstrated Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology advancing missile capability.
- **Pilloo AI Voice Accounting:** Andhra Pradesh launched AI-powered voice-based accounting platform supporting 5 Indian languages.
- **Space Situational Awareness Tools:** Digantra Industries partnered with Singapore's DSTA for satellite protection technologies.
- **Unmanned Surface Vessels:** Sagar Defence delivered AI-driven USVs with 70% indigenous content to Indian Navy.
- **Airbus-GSV Aerospace Research:** Airbus established Centre of Excellence at Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya for SAF research.
- **CPI Data Collection Expanded:** Ministry of Statistics expanded CPI data collection across 2,860 markets and 434 towns.
- **Digital Signatures Interoperability:** MeitY and EU signed arrangement enabling cross-border digital signing of contracts.
- **NTH-STQC EMI/EMC Testing:** National Test House partnered with STQC for drone electromagnetic testing capability.
- **Crafoord Prize Climate Research:** Indian-origin scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan won 2026 Crafoord Prize for climate research.

### Important Days News

- **World Leprosy Day 2026:** Observed on 25 January with theme "Leprosy is curable, the real challenge is stigma."
- **International Zebra Day 2026:** Observed on 31 January highlighting zebra conservation and ecological importance.
- **Indian Coast Guard Day 2026:** Observed on 1 February marking 50th Raising Day of Indian Coast Guard established in 1977.
- **World Wetlands Day 2026:** Observed on 2 February with theme "Wetlands and Traditional Knowledge: Celebrating Cultural Heritage."

- **World Interfaith Harmony Week 2026:** Observed 1-7 February promoting peace and tolerance among different faith communities.
- **International Day of Human Fraternity 2026:** Observed on 4 February promoting mutual understanding and solidarity among peoples.
- **World Cancer Day 2026:** Observed on 4 February with theme "United by Unique" emphasizing patient-centered cancer care.

### Obituaries News

- **Father Thomas V. Kunnunkal Passed Away:** Former CBSE Chairman and Padma Shri awardee passed away at age 99 in New Delhi.
- **Hugh Gantzer Travel Writer Death:** Prominent travel writer and Padma Shri recipient Hugh Gantzer passed away at age 95 in Mussoorie.
- **Andre Beteille Sociologist Death:** Renowned Indian sociologist and Padma Bhushan recipient Andre Beteille passed away at age 91 in Delhi.

### Miscellaneous News

- **Nirmala Sitharaman Budget Presentation:** Finance Minister presented ninth consecutive Union Budget on 1 February 2026.
- **Union Budget 2026-27 Allocations:** Budget allocated ₹73,990.94 crore to DoT and announced SHE Marts for women entrepreneurs.
- **Ground-Based Astronomy Infrastructure:** Union Budget announced major expansion of astronomy infrastructure in Ladakh and southern India.
- **Biogas Excise Duty Exemption:** Budget proposed excise-duty exemption on biogas/compressed biogas component in blended CNG.
- **IRDAI Reinsurance Advisory Committee:** IRDAI reconstituted Reinsurance Advisory Committee for three-year tenure.

- **Slice SFB New Products:** Slice Small Finance Bank introduced digital savings account, UPI-linked credit card, and digital FDs.
- **UAE Stablecoin Approval:** Central Bank of UAE approved country's first USD-backed stablecoin.
- **Paysharp Payment Aggregator License:** Fintech startup Paysharp received Payment Aggregator-Physical licence from RBI.
- **Haven-1 Space Station Scheduled:** Vast Space's private space station Haven-1 set for 2027 SpaceX Falcon 9 launch.
- **Insolvency Code Amendment Bill:** Union government plans to introduce amendment bill in Parliament's second half session.
- **CPI Base Year Changed to 2024:** Ministry of Statistics reduced Food & Beverages weight from 45.86% to 36.75% in revised index.
- **Railway Kavach 4.0 Rollout:** Indian Railways commissioned Kavach Version 4.0 over 472.3 route kilometres in single day.
- **Mumbai Bullet Train Bridge:** India completed 100-metre steel bridge for Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project.
- **Mukhya Mantri Eti Koli Duti Paat:** Assam government launched scheme providing one-time financial assistance to tea garden workers.
- **Tamil Nadu Film Awards:** Government of Tamil Nadu announced long-pending State Film Awards for 2016 to 2022.
- **Supreme Court Menstrual Health Ruling:** Supreme Court declared menstrual health as integral part of Right to Life under Article 21.
- **Supreme Court Water Tribunal Order:** Supreme Court directed government to establish tribunal for Pennaiyar river water dispute.
- **Archaeological Discovery Mexico:** Archaeologists discovered 1,400-year-old Zapotec tomb in southern Mexico.
- **Bharat Taxi Launch:** Union Minister Amit Shah launched Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative-based ride-hailing platform.

### Static Takeaways

| Entity / Topic                     | Key Details (Full Names Used)   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| World Health Organization          | Director-General: <b>Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</b> · Headquarters: <b>Geneva, Switzerland</b> · Established: <b>7 April 1948</b>   |
| State Bank of India                | Chairman: <b>Challa Sreenivasulu Setty</b> · Tagline: <b>The Banker to Every Indian</b> · Headquarters: <b>Mumbai, Maharashtra</b> · Established: <b>1955</b>   |
| World Bank                         | President: <b>Ajay Banga</b> · Headquarters: <b>Washington, D.C., United States</b> · Established: <b>1944</b> · Members: <b>189 countries</b>  |
| National Statistics Office (India) | Ministry: <b>Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation</b> · Formed by merger of <b>Central Statistics Office</b> and <b>National Sample Survey Office</b> · Director General: <b>Narender Kumar Santoshi</b> · Headquarters: <b>New Delhi</b> · Established: <b>2019</b> |

Weekly One Liners 02nd to 08th of February 2026

| Entity / Topic  | Key Details (Full Names Used)   |
|---|---|
| United Nations Alliance of Civilizations                | Head (High Representative): <b>Miguel Ángel Moratinos</b> · Headquarters: <b>New York, United States</b> · Established: <b>2005</b>   |
| Shipping Corporation of India                           | Chairman and Managing Director: <b>Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi</b> · Headquarters: <b>Mumbai, Maharashtra</b> · Established: <b>1961</b>   |
| Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India | Chairman: <b>Ajay Seth</b> · Headquarters: <b>Hyderabad, Telangana</b> · Established: <b>1999</b>   |
| Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs             | Ministry: <b>Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)</b> · Chairperson: <b>Vivek Chaturvedi</b> · Headquarters: <b>New Delhi</b> · Formed: <b>26 January 1944</b>                 |
| Indian Oil Corporation Limited                          | Ministry: <b>Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas</b> · Status: <b>Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise</b> · Headquarters: <b>New Delhi</b> · Established: <b>1959</b>        |
| Central Bank of India                                   | Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer: <b>Kalyan Kumar</b> · Headquarters: <b>Mumbai, Maharashtra</b> · Founded: <b>21 December 1911</b>                                      |
| Punjab National Bank                                    | Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer: <b>Ashok Chandra</b> · Headquarters: <b>New Delhi</b> · Founded: <b>1894</b> · Tagline: <b>The Name You Can Bank Upon</b>              |
| YES Bank  | Headquarters: <b>Mumbai, Maharashtra</b> · Founded: <b>2004</b> · Tagline: <b>Life Ko Banao Rich</b>  |
| Equitas Small Finance Bank                              | Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer: <b>P. N. Vasudevan</b> · Headquarters: <b>Chennai, Tamil Nadu</b> · Founded: <b>2007</b> · Tagline: <b>It's Fun Banking</b>            |
| Slice Small Finance Bank                                | Chief Executive Officer: <b>Rajan Bajaj</b> · Headquarters: <b>Guwahati, Assam</b> · Established: <b>2016</b>   |
| Paysharp (Fintech Company)                              | Founders: <b>Krishna Kumar Mani and Sathish S.</b> · Headquarters: <b>Chennai, Tamil Nadu</b> · Established: <b>2019</b>  |
| Ministry of Railways (India)                            | Cabinet Minister: <b>Ashwini Vaishnaw</b> · Ministers of State: <b>V. Somanna, Ravneet Singh Bittu</b> · Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (Railway Board): <b>Satish Kumar</b>    |
| Ministry of Finance (India)                             | Cabinet Minister: <b>Nirmala Sitharaman</b> · Minister of State: <b>Pankaj Chaudhary</b>  |
| Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (India)               | Cabinet Minister: <b>Kiren Rijju</b> · Ministers of State: <b>Arjun Ram Meghwal, L. Murugan</b>   |
| Defence Research and Development Organisation           | Chairman: <b>Samir V. Kamat</b> · Headquarters: <b>New Delhi</b>  |
| Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade | Ministry: <b>Ministry of Commerce and Industry</b> · Established: <b>1995</b> · Renamed as DPIIT: <b>2019</b>   |
| Maharashtra (State)                                     | Chief Minister: <b>Devendra Fadnavis</b> · Governor: <b>Acharya Devvrat</b> · Capital: <b>Mumbai</b> · Wildlife Sanctuaries: <b>Radhanagari, Rehekuri Blackbuck, Malvan, Aner Dam</b> |
| Punjab (State)  | Chief Minister: <b>Bhagwant Singh Mann</b> · Governor: <b>Gulab Chand Kataria</b> · Capital: <b>Chandigarh</b> · Ramsar Sites: <b>Beas Conservation Reserve, Harike Lake</b>          |
| Assam (State)   | Chief Minister: <b>Himanta Biswa Sarma</b> · Governor: <b>Lakshman Prasad Acharya</b> · Capital: <b>Dispur</b> · National Parks: <b>Kaziranga, Manas, Dibru-Saikhowa</b>              |
| Gujarat (State)   | Chief Minister: <b>Bhupendra Patel</b> · Governor: <b>Acharya Devvrat</b> · Capital: <b>Gandhinagar</b> · National Parks: <b>Gir, Blackbuck, Vansda, Marine</b>                       |
| Andhra Pradesh (State)                                  | Chief Minister: <b>N. Chandrababu Naidu</b> · Governor: <b>S. Abdul Nazeer</b> · Capital: <b>Amaravati</b> · National Parks: <b>Sri Venkateswara, Papikonda</b>                       |
| Manipur (State)   | Governor: <b>Ajay Kumar Bhalla</b> · Capital: <b>Imphal</b> · National Park: <b>Keibul Lamjao National Park</b>   |
| United Arab Emirates                                    | President: <b>Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan</b> · Capital: <b>Abu Dhabi</b> · Currency: <b>United Arab Emirates Dirham</b>   |
| United States of America                                | President: <b>Donald Trump</b> · Capital: <b>Washington, D.C.</b> · Currency: <b>United States Dollar</b>   |
| Spain   | Prime Minister: <b>Pedro Sánchez</b> · Capital: <b>Madrid</b> · Currency: <b>Euro</b>   |
| Japan   | Prime Minister: <b>Shigeru Ishiba</b> · Capital: <b>Tokyo</b> · Currency: <b>Japanese Yen</b>   |
| Kyrgyzstan  | President: <b>Sadyr Japarov</b> · Capital: <b>Bishkek</b> · Currency: <b>Kyrgyzstani Som</b>  |
| United Nations General Assembly                         | President: <b>Annalena Baerbock</b> · Headquarters: <b>New York, United States</b> · Established: <b>1945</b>   |