

Weekly One Liners 16th to 22nd February

PM Modi Inaugurated India AI Impact Summit 2026 & Unveils M.A.N.A.V Vision

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the [India AI Impact Summit 2026](#) at [Bharat Mandapam](#) in New Delhi, describing Artificial Intelligence as a transformative chapter in human history. Addressing leaders from over 100 countries, he emphasized that India sees AI not just as an opportunity, but as the blueprint of tomorrow. The summit, themed “**Sarvajan Hitaya, Sarvajan Sukhaya**” (Welfare for All, Happiness for All), aims to promote human-centric, inclusive, and responsible AI for global progress.

India AI Impact Summit 2026: Global AI Leadership on Display

The India AI Impact Summit 2026 brought together,

- Representatives from 100+ countries
- Over 20 Heads of State and Government
- Around 60 Ministers and Vice Ministers
- 500+ global AI leaders and CEOs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that hosting the world’s largest AI summit is a moment of pride for India and the Global South.

Artificial Intelligence: A Turning Point in Human Civilization

- PM Modi compared AI’s emergence to historic milestones like the invention of **fire, writing** and **wireless communication**.
- He said Artificial Intelligence represents a transformation of similar magnitude.
- He stressed that while machines are becoming intelligent, AI’s real power lies in multiplying human capability.
- However, he cautioned that the direction **humanity chooses today will shape AI’s long-term impact**.
- The Prime Minister emphasized that AI must remain human-centric, sensitive, and responsible.

The M.A.N.A.V Vision for AI

At the summit, PM Modi unveiled India’s M.A.N.A.V framework for Artificial Intelligence governance.

- **M** – Moral and Ethical Systems
- **A** – Accountable Governance
- **N** – National Sovereignty (Data ownership rights)
- **A** – Accessible and Inclusive AI
- **V** – Valid and Legitimate AI systems

This M.A.N.A.V vision positions India as a leader advocating ethical AI standards globally.

Democratizing AI for the Global South

- The Prime Minister underlined the need to democratize AI so that it becomes a tool for inclusion and empowerment, particularly for developing nations.
- He said **AI must not become a monopoly of a few countries or corporations**.
- Instead, open code, shared development, and global collaboration should guide AI’s future.
- India believes AI must evolve as a Global Common Good, ensuring benefits reach all sections of society.

AI and the Future of Work

PM Modi highlighted that AI will redefine the future of work. He described a new era where humans and intelligent systems,

- Co-create
- Co-work
- Co-evolve

He emphasized that AI will make work smarter, more efficient, and impactful. However, **skilling, reskilling** and **lifelong learning** must become a mass movement to prepare youth for emerging roles.

Addressing Risks: Deepfakes, Trust & Global Standards

The Prime Minister warned about the growing challenge of deepfakes and fabricated content. He proposed,

- Authenticity labels for digital content
- Watermarking AI-generated material
- Clear global standards for safe and trusted AI

He emphasized that transparency is essential and quoted, “**Sunlight is the best disinfectant.**”

India’s AI Ecosystem and Global Invitation

India is building a strong AI ecosystem through,

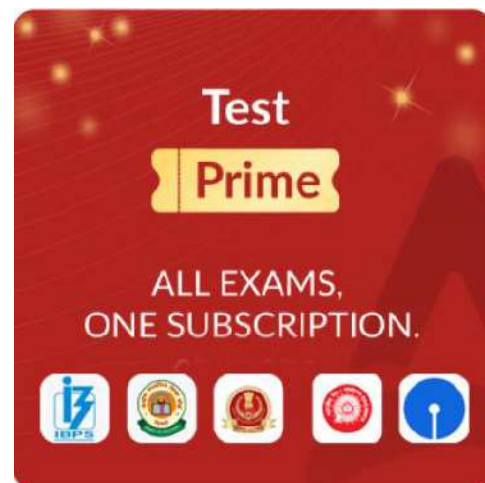
- Semiconductor and chip-making initiatives
- Secure data centers
- Quantum computing research
- A thriving startup ecosystem

PM Modi extended a global invitation “**Design and Develop in India. Deliver to the World. Deliver to Humanity.**”

He noted that any AI model that succeeds in India’s diverse environment can scale globally.

About the India AI Impact Summit

- The summit is structured around **three pillars People, Planet, and Progress**.
- And seven working groups covering Economic Growth, Democratizing AI Resources, Social Inclusion, Safe and Trusted AI, Human Capital, Science, and Resilience.
- It aims to position India as a leader in responsible AI governance while strengthening collaboration between governments, industry, and academia.



National Affairs

- ★ **RBI-DPI Index:** rose to 516.76 in September 2025 (from 493.22 in March 2025), showing steady growth in digital payment adoption. Base Year: March 2018.
→ Driven by Payment Performance (45% weight) and Payment Enablers (25% weight).
- ★ **New CPI Series (Base Year: 2024=100):** India's first retail inflation under revised CPI was 2.75% in January 2026. Items increased from 299 → 358.
→ Food & Beverages holds highest weight (36.75%); Housing at 17.67%. Telangana recorded highest inflation at 4.92%.
- ★ **Bharat-VISTAAR:** AI platform launched by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, integrating AgriStack (DPI for agriculture) and ICAR practice packages.
→ Farmers can access via toll-free 155261, voice assistant 'Bharati'. Launched in Maharashtra, Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan.
- ★ **Seva Teerth:** PM Modi inaugurated Seva Teerth in New Delhi — houses PMO (Seva Teerth-1), Cabinet Secretariat (-2), NSCS (-3) under one roof.
→ North & South Blocks to be converted into 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat' National Museum. Motto: 'Nagriko Devo Bhava'.
- ★ **MeitY IT Rules 2021 Amendment:** Mandates labelling of AI-generated/synthetic content from 20 February 2026. Government takedown reduced to 2–3 hours.
- ★ **Startup India FoF 2.0:** ₹10,000 crore corpus approved to channel VC into deep tech/AI/robotics startups via Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).
- ★ **Urban Challenge Fund (UCF):** ₹1 lakh crore central assistance for urban infra (FY26–31). Centre funds 25%, minimum 50% from market sources.
- ★ **Brahmaputra Tunnel:** India's first underwater road-cum-rail tunnel approved (₹18,662 crore). Twin-tube TBM tunnel: 15.79 km under Brahmaputra.
→ Connects Gohpur (NH-15) to Numaligarh (NH-715), reducing 240 km / ~6 hours to minutes.
- ★ **National Large Telescopes:** NLST (2m, solar, near Pangong Tso, Ladakh) and NLOT (13.7m, 90 segments, Hanle, Ladakh) sanctioned in Union Budget.
- ★ **OI Chiki Script Centenary:** President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 100-year celebrations. Script invented in 1925 by Pandit Raghunath Murmu; 30 letters.
→ Santhali added to 8th Schedule in 2003 with OI Chiki as official script.
- ★ **Aadhaar App:** 14 million downloads; avg 1 lakh/day. Features: face verification, biometric lock, QR contact card. Supports up to 5 profiles per device.
- ★ **India AI Impact Summit 2026:** First major AI summit in Global South at Bharat Mandapam (16–20 Feb). Sutras: People, Planet, Progress. 100+ countries, 45+ ministerial delegations.
- ★ **SAHI & BODH:** Launched by Health Minister JP Nadda. SAHI = framework for safe healthcare AI; BODH = AI benchmarking platform by IIT Kanpur + NHA.

- ★ **Menstrual Health as Fundamental Right:** SC declared MHH a Fundamental Right under Article 21. Schools must provide free sanitary napkins (Classes 6–12).
- ★ **Tamil-Brahmi Inscriptions in Egypt:** ~30 inscriptions found in Valley of the Kings; 20 in Tamil-Brahmi. Name 'Cikai Korran' appears 8 times; dated 1st–3rd century CE.
- ★ **National Cow Culture Museum:** India's first to be set up in Mathura, UP, at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Veterinary Science University.
- ★ **NSSTA 18th Foundation Day:** Theme: 'Reimagining Capacity Building for Official Statistics for Viksit Bharat@2047'. Data termed 5th factor of production.
- ★ **Biobank for LSDs:** India's first National Biobank for Lysosomal Storage Disorders launched at FRIGE, Ahmedabad; 530 patients, 17-year data (2008–2025).
- ★ **India Joins Pax Silica Coalition:** India becomes part of the US-led Pax Silica initiative to secure AI and semiconductor supply chains and strengthen global silicon ecosystems.
- ★ **India–France Centre of Excellence at Kanpur:** A National Centre of Excellence in Aeronautics and Defence will be set up at NSTI Kanpur under PM-SETU with ₹60,000 crore allocated to upgrade 1,000 ITIs.
- ★ **FCI Signs 5-Year MoU with WFP:** Food Corporation of India will supply 200,000 MT of rice annually at ₹2,800 per quintal until March 2026 to support global food security.
- ★ **Reliance Announces ₹10 Trillion AI Investment:** Mukesh Ambani unveils ₹10 trillion investment plan over seven years to build sovereign AI infrastructure and a mega data centre in Jamnagar.
- ★ **Ranvir Sachdeva, 8, becomes youngest speaker at India AI Impact Summit 2026,** presenting on **ethical AI**, meets **Sundar Pichai & Sam Altman**, positioning India as a leader in **responsible AI**.
- ★ From **1 April 2026**, all **national highway tolls go digital-only**, using **FASTag & UPI**, aiming to improve **traffic flow**, reduce **congestion**, and enhance **transparency** nationwide.
- ★ **Indian Railways integrates AI into seven apps for grievance redressal, ticket prediction, and crowd management, planning 15 more apps to improve efficiency, safety, and passenger experience.**

States in the News

- ★ **Uttar Pradesh Budget FY27:** ₹9.13 trillion budget (12.2% increase). Finance Minister: Suresh Khanna. GSDP (FY25): ₹30.25 lakh crore. Target: \$1 trillion economy.
→ UP: Largest rail network; plans 24 airports. 1st among landlocked states in Export Preparedness Index 2024.
- ★ **Rajasthan Budget 2026–27:** ₹6.11 lakh crore outlay. Presented by Dy CM & FM Divya Kumari. Fiscal deficit ~3.69% of GSDP.
→ Key: VIBRANT Programme, Raj-PAHAL, RAJ-SURAKSHA, ₹32,000 cr Yamuna water project, PRITHWI wildlife project.

- ★ **Kerala Sthree Suraksha Scheme:** ₹1,000 monthly pension for women/transwomen (35–60 yrs) not receiving other welfare pensions. 10.18 lakh beneficiaries in first phase.
- ★ **Kerala Graphene Policy:** India's first comprehensive graphene policy; 50% land lease subsidy, ₹87 cr Graphene Innovation Centre (Kochi). Partnerships: Oxford, Manchester.
- ★ **VOC Port (Tamil Nadu):** First Major Port to receive IGBC Platinum Rating and Shunya/Shunya Plus certifications. 89% electricity from on-site solar; 37% reduction in potable water.
- ★ **Assam — Kumar Bhaskar Varma Setu:** 2.86 km, 6-lane extradosed PSC bridge over Brahmaputra (₹3,030 cr). Reduces travel to 7 minutes. First extradosed bridge in Northeast India.
- ★ **Assam — Emergency Landing Facility:** Northeast's first ELF on Moran Bypass, Dibrugarh. 4.2 km; handles fighters (40T) and transport aircraft (74T). IAF Sukhoi & Rafale landed.
- ★ **Delhi — Chief Minister Skill Development Scheme:** 3,728 artisans to train in FY26 (₹8.9 cr). 12-day training; ₹4,800 stipend; toolkits; digital onboarding on ONDC.
- ★ **Delhi Khel Mahakumbh:** Shikhar Dhawan appointed Brand Ambassador. Motto: 'Aao Delhi Khele'. 7 sports, 16 venues, 12 districts. Mascot: 'Ranveer'.
- ★ **Delhi Bhu-Aadhaar / ULPIN:** 14-digit unique ID assigned to every land parcel in Delhi under Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) system.
- ★ **Losar Festival 2026:** Tibetan New Year (Fire Horse Year — once in 60 years) celebrated 18–20 Feb at McLeod Ganj, Himachal Pradesh; Dalai Lama attended.
- ★ **Mumbai Climate Week 2026:** Inaugurated by CM Devendra Fadnavis at Jio World Convention Centre; focus on Global South climate solutions and renewable energy.
- ★ **Arunachal Pradesh Foundation Day:** 20 February — state attained statehood on 20 February 1987 (24th state). Borders: China, Bhutan, Myanmar, Assam, Nagaland.
- ★ **Mud Volcano Eruption (A&N Islands):** Near Jol Tekri, Diglipur; India's only known mud volcano is on Baratang Island, Andaman chain. Also called 'sedimentary volcanoes'.
- ★ **Nagaland — Pangolin Ban:** United Sangtam Likhum Pumji (USLP) passed resolution banning pangolin hunting. Both Indian (*Manis crassicaudata*) and Chinese (*Manis pentadactyla*) species Endangered.
- ★ **Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary:** Kerala renamed Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary (Kannur) as Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary.
- ★ **Assam Approves 3% Reservation for Tea Tribes:** Assam Cabinet grants 3% reservation in Class I and II government jobs to tea tribes and Adivasis ahead of 2026 Assembly elections.
- ★ **Andhra Pradesh Gets ₹8,175 Crore Gigafactory:** Waaree Energies will set up India's largest 16 GWh lithium-ion battery plant at Rambilli, creating nearly 3,000 jobs.

- ★ **Mizoram Foundation Day Celebrated:** Mizoram observes its 39th Foundation Day on 20 February, marking statehood in 1987 after the Mizoram Accord.
- ★ **Bihar Cabinet approves Sonepur international airport,** 4,200-metre runway for **wide-body aircraft**, across **4,228 acres**, set to boost **tourism, trade, employment, and connectivity** by 2030.
- ★ **Gujarat govt signs MoU with L&T Vyoma to study 250 MW green AI data centre at Dholera SIR,** aiming for **sustainable digital infrastructure and AI hub** by 2028.

International Affairs

- ★ **India-France — Special Global Strategic Partnership:** Upgraded during President Macron's visit (17–19 Feb 2026); cooperation in defence, AI, critical minerals, Indo-Pacific.
→ India-France Year of Innovation 2026 launched. France supports India's permanent UNSC membership.
- ★ **BRICS Sherpa Meeting:** First meeting under India's Chairship 2026 held in New Delhi. Theme: 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'.
→ India's Sherpa: Sudhakar Dalela (Secy, Economic Relations).
- ★ **Tarique Rahman — Bangladesh PM:** 11th PM after BNP won 212/299 seats (59.44% turnout). Sworn in at Bangabhaban by President Mohammed Shahabuddin. Ended Muhammad Yunus' 18-month interim.
- ★ **Bulgaria — Interim PM:** Andrey Gyurov (Dy Governor, Bulgarian National Bank) appointed. Bulgaria joined Euro zone on 1 January 2026. 8th election in 5 years.
- ★ **Barbados PM:** Mia Amor Mottley re-elected for 3rd consecutive term. BLP won all 30 seats (69.83% vote share). Capital: Bridgetown.
- ★ **Australia — AUKUS Nuclear Submarine:** US\$2.8 billion initial investment for nuclear submarine facility in Osborne, near Adelaide. Deliveries expected ~2032.
- ★ **Piton de la Fournaise Eruption:** Volcano on Reunion Island (French, western Indian Ocean) erupted twice in 2026. UNESCO World Heritage since 2010; ~500,000 years old.
- ★ **India — Nepal Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement:** Signed on criminal matters in Kathmandu to strengthen cross-border law enforcement and judicial cooperation.
- ★ **India's Active Smartphone Base:** India is world's 2nd largest (after China) with 740 million active smartphones (Counterpoint Research 2025). Avg retention: 42 months.
- ★ **US Launches \$200 Million Edge AI Package:** The United States announces a \$200 million Edge AI initiative to promote secure smartphone ecosystems in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ★ **IPC Lifts Ban on Russian Athletes:** International Paralympic Committee allows Russian athletes to compete under national flags in Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Paralympics.

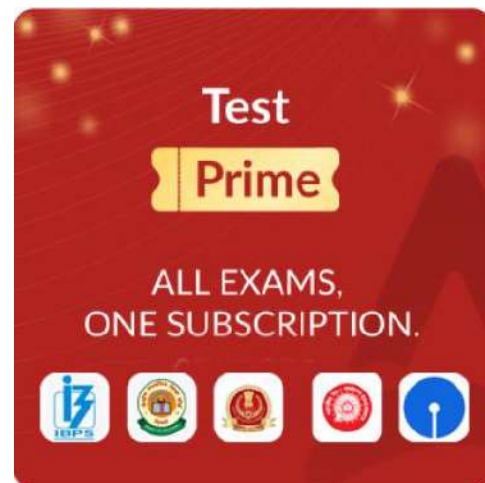
- ★ **Donald Trump imposes 10% tariff** on all imports after **Supreme Court setback**, raising **global trade tensions** and affecting **textiles, steel, and engineering exports** from India.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- ★ **NPCI International × PayNet Malaysia:** Agreement to enable QR-based merchant payments between India and Malaysia. Phase 1: UPI apps at DuitNow QR points in Malaysia.
- ★ **India × France — Critical Minerals:** Joint Declaration of Intent on Critical Minerals Cooperation. Also: India DST ↔ France CNRS Centre on Advanced Materials.
- ★ **India × France — HAMMER Missiles MoU:** MoU for joint manufacturing of HAMMER precision missiles signed during 6th India-France Annual Defence Dialogue in Bengaluru.
- ★ **India × UK — Offshore Wind Taskforce:** Launched under India-UK Vision 2035 during 4th India-UK Energy Dialogue. Zones identified: Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.
- ★ **Agneevasthraa × Indian Army:** MoU for supply of advanced carbon fabrics/composites for defence. Earlier links with ISRO and DRDO.
- ★ **FCI × WFP:** Supply of 2 lakh MT of rice for global hunger relief over 5 years (from 17 Feb 2026). Price: ₹2,800/quintal till March 2026.
- ★ **IIT Bombay × Columbia University:** MoU to establish Columbia-IIT Bombay Center of AI for Manufacturing at Bharat Mandapam.
- ★ **IOB × IIM Kozhikode:** MoU signed on IOB's 90th Foundation Day (10 Feb 2026) for customised leadership training programmes.
- ★ **GalaxEye × NSIL:** Data Reseller Partnership: NSIL (ISRO's commercial arm) to resell GalaxEye's SyncFused OptoSAR imagery globally. First private Indian satellite operator to partner with NSIL.
- ★ **Air India × Lufthansa Group:** MoU to explore joint business partnership for enhanced India-Europe air connectivity. Both are Star Alliance members.
- ★ **NABARD × NCDEX — Price Protection Scheme:** Put options in turmeric, jeera, coriander for FPOs in 7 states. Covered 80 FPOs, 1.34 lakh farmers, 6,544 tonnes.
- ★ **CMA CGM × Cochin Shipyard:** USD 360 million deal for six 1,700 TEU LNG-fuelled container vessels — India's first 'Made in India' container ship order from a global shipping major.
- ★ **India-UK Military Training MoU:** IAF QFIs to train British fast jet pilots at RAF Valley (Anglesey) — first time ever. Both on Hawk T2/Texan T1 trainers.
- ★ **Reliance Consumer Products × TGI Group (Nigeria):** Majority-owned JV to introduce FMCG products in Nigeria using TGI's manufacturing and distribution network.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- ★ **RuPay-UPI Incentive Scheme Report:** DFS released Socio-Economic Impact Analysis during Chintan Shivir (13–14 Feb). Total outlay: ₹8,276 crore (FY22–FY25). → UPI: preferred by 57% over cash (38%). Digital transactions grew 11x; UPI share reached 80%. UPI QR codes: 3 cr → 65.8 cr. Banks on UPI: 216 → 661.
- ★ **RBI — NBFC DLG Restoration:** Default Loss Guarantees (DLGs, capped at 5%) restored for NBFCs after reversing May 2025 provisioning norms.
- ★ **RBI — Bank Loans to NCDL as PSL:** Loans to National Cooperative Development Corporation for on-lending to cooperatives classified as Priority Sector Lending from 19 Jan 2026.
- ★ **RBI — ECB Guidelines Revised:** ECB limit raised from \$750 mn to \$1 billion or 300% of net worth (higher). Minimum average maturity: 3 years.
- ★ **RBI — OTC Forex Derivatives Reporting:** Mandatory reporting to CCIL trade repository; phased: 70% in 12 months, 80% in 18 months, 90% in 24 months.
- ★ **RBI — UTI for OTC Derivatives:** Unique Transaction Identifier (UTI) mandated from 1 January 2027. Format: up to 52 characters including LEI.
- ★ **RBI Penalties:** ₹1.35 crore on 5 institutions: CSB Bank (₹63.6L — highest), BoM (₹32.5L), DCB Bank (₹29.6L), IIFL Finance (₹5.3L), Navi Finserv (₹3.8L).
- ★ **RBI — Airtel Money as NBFC:** Certificate of Registration granted as Type II NBFC-ND (ICC) under Section 45-IA of RBI Act, 1934. Cannot accept public deposits.
- ★ **WPI Inflation:** Rose to 1.81% in January 2026 (10-month high) from 0.83% in December 2025. Manufactured Products: 64.23% weight (highest in WPI basket).
- ★ **16th Finance Commission:** Urban Local Government grants increased 230% to ₹3.56 trillion (from ₹1.55 tn under 15th FC). Share: record 45%. Vertical devolution retained at 41%.
- ★ **India Unemployment:** PLFS: 5% in January 2026 (3-month high). Urban: 7%, Rural: 4.2%. CWS methodology. NSO formed in 2019 by merging CSO + NSSO.



- ★ **NSE — Natural Gas Futures:** SEBI approved NSE to launch Indian Natural Gas Futures (monthly contracts, up to 12 active). Collaboration with Indian Gas Exchange (IGX). SEBI Chairman: Tuhin Kanta Pandey.
- ★ **IDFC First Bank — Hello Cashback Card:** FD-backed credit card (min FD ₹10,000). 3% cashback on first ₹10,000 online spend; 5% beyond. Joining fee ₹1,000. MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan.
- ★ **DBS × Visa — Intelligent Commerce:** DBS became 1st Asia-Pacific issuer to pilot Visa Intelligent Commerce (VIC) for agentic AI-driven payments using tokenisation.
- ★ **Mastercard — Agentic Commerce:** India's first fully authenticated agentic commerce transaction at India AI Summit. Used Model Context Protocol (MCP); partners: Axis Bank, RBL Bank, Cashfree, Juspay, Razorpay.
- ★ **Bain Capital × Manappuram Finance:** RBI approved Bain Capital's acquisition of up to 41.66% stake at ₹236/share (₹4,385 cr for 18% diluted stake).
- ★ **RBI — In-Solutions Global (ISG):** Granted PA-O, PA-P, and PA-CB licenses — full three-category payment aggregator authorisation.
- ★ **ASK Asset & Wealth Management:** SEBI approved MF business operations — 52nd fund house; AUM of MF industry: ₹81 lakh crore (Jan 2026).
- ★ **Axis Bank × IndiGo Co-branded Cards:** Two cards launched: IndiGo Axis Bank Credit Card (₹799) and Premium (₹5,000). Benefits via IndiGo BluChip loyalty programme. Available on RuPay and Visa.
- ★ **AU Small Finance Bank:** RBI approved reappointment of Sanjay Agarwal as MD & CEO for 3 years from 19 April 2026. AU SFB: first SFB to receive in-principle RBI approval to transition to Universal Bank.
- ★ **SING Submarine Cable:** du (UAE) × Datawave Networks: connects Kalba (UAE), Muscat, Mumbai, Chennai, Kedah (Malaysia), Singapore. 16 fibre pairs, 18 Tbps/pair. Target: RFS by 2030.
- ★ **Cochin Shipyard Order:** CMA CGM (France): USD 360 mn for 6 LNG-fuelled 1,700 TEU vessels. First-ever Made in India container ship order from global shipping major.
- ★ **India Power Capacity:** Record 52,537 MW added in 10 months of FY26. Total installed: ~521 GW. Non-fossil (271.9 GW) surpassed fossil fuel capacity for first time.
- ★ **India Sugar Exports:** 2,01,547 tonnes till February (2025–26 marketing year). UAE top destination (47,006 MT). Approved total: 2 million tonnes.
- ★ **NITI Aayog — Trade Watch Quarterly (Q2 FY26):** India's total exports grew ~8.5% in Q2 FY26. Electronics: 2nd largest export item; USD 42.1 billion; 5x growth since 2016.
- ★ **Amazon Becomes World's Largest by Revenue:** Amazon reports \$717 billion revenue in FY2025, surpassing Walmart's \$713.2 billion driven by AWS growth.

- ★ **ICICI Prudential launches Swasthya Pension Scheme,** blending retirement savings with healthcare access, offering partial withdrawals, Apollo 24/7 integration, enhancing financial security amid rising medical costs.
- ★ India's eight core industries grew 4% in January 2026, led by steel (+9.9%) and cement (+10.7%), while crude oil (-5.8%) and natural gas (-5%) declined, industrial output rose 7.8% YoY.
- ★ India revises merchandise trade indices base year to 2022–23, updating commodity coverage, weights, and classifications for accurate trade analysis and global competitiveness.

Appointments/Resignations

- ★ **ICAI — 74th President:** CA Prasanna Kumar D elected (from Visakhapatnam, AP). Succeeds CA Charanjot Singh Nanda. VP: CA Mangesh Pandurang Kinare. ICAI under MCA.
- ★ **GAIL CMD:** Deepak Gupta (Director-Projects, GAIL) appointed CMD from 1 March 2026 till 28 February 2029. Succeeds Sandeep Kumar Gupta.
- ★ **GIFT City Chairman:** Uday Suresh Kotak (founder, Kotak Mahindra Bank) appointed by Gujarat Govt. Replaces Hasmukh Adhia. Awarded Padma Bhushan 2026.
- ★ **NCLT President:** Ramalingam Sudhakar demitted office. During tenure: ~54,800 cases instituted; 48,000+ disposed (85%+ resolution rate).
- ★ **Shikhar Dhawan:** Appointed Brand Ambassador of Delhi Khel Mahakumbh. Former India cricketer, Arjuna Awardee.
- ★ **Tarique Rahman:** Sworn in as 11th PM of Bangladesh (BNP). 212/299 seats. Ends Muhammad Yunus' 18-month interim. Oath at Bangabhaban, Dhaka.
- ★ **Bulgaria Interim PM:** Andrey Gyurov (Dy Governor, Bulgarian National Bank) appointed. Previous PM resigned after street protests (Dec 2025). April 2026 elections planned.
- ★ **Barbados:** Mia Amor Mottley re-elected for 3rd term. BLP swept all 30 seats (69.83%). Defeated DLP leader Ralph Thorne. Capital: Bridgetown; Currency: BBD.
- ★ **Om Birla at Bangladesh Swearing-In:** Lok Sabha Speaker represented India at Tarique Rahman's oath-taking on 17 February 2026.
- ★ **Asha Sharma,** Indian-origin, appointed CEO of Microsoft Gaming & Xbox, focusing on AI integration, game innovation, and console revival, praised by Satya Nadella for her expertise.
- ★ **Harsharan Kaur Trehan** appointed first woman Director (Commercial) at PSPCL, overseeing transmission, substation planning, and procurement operations, marking a milestone for women leadership.

Defence News

- ★ **Exercise Vayushakti-26:** IAF exercise on 27 February 2026 at Pokhran Air-to-Ground Range, Jaisalmer. Aircraft: Tejas, Rafale, Jaguar, Mirage-2000, Su-30MKI, MiG-29, Hawk. → Guided by 'Achook, Abhedya aur Sateek'. Akash SAM, SpyDer ADS, SRLM, and CUAS systems to be demonstrated.
- ★ **Exercise MILAN 2026:** 15–25 February, Visakhapatnam. 74 nations (largest ever). MILAN Village inaugurated by Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla. Theme: Camaraderie, Cooperation, Collaboration.
- ★ **IMACC 2026:** Inaugural International Military Adventure Challenge Cup (18–23 Feb, Eastern Himalayas). Nations: Bhutan, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia.
- ★ **DAC — 114 Rafale Jets:** ₹3.25 lakh crore (≈USD 40 bn) Acceptance of Necessity. 18 fly-away + 96 Make in India. Total Rafale fleet → 176 jets. Dassault Aviation CEO: Eric Trappier.
- ★ **MJP Waterjet Facility (Goa):** ICG DG Paramesh Sivamani inaugurated. India becomes world's 3rd country (after USA and South Korea) to host waterjet production & testing facility.
- ★ **INS Tarangini:** India's sail training ship. First to circumnavigate globe (2003–04). Commissioned 1997. Participating in IFR 2026 and MILAN at Visakhapatnam.
- ★ **CTS Krishna:** First indigenous Cadet Training Ship (Yard 18003) launched at L&T Kattupalli, Chennai. 122m, 4,700 tonnes, 20 knots, 60-day endurance. Named after River Krishna (India's 3rd longest river).
- ★ **India-UK Military Training:** IAF QFIs to train RAF fast jet pilots at RAF Valley (Anglesey) — first ever. Indian officers now in all 3 British military academies.
- ★ **AMCA — Shortlisted Firms:** DRDO shortlisted Tata Advanced Systems Ltd and L&T–Bharat Forge consortium for 5th-gen stealth fighter prototype. Production target: 125+ jets; IAF induction ~2035.
- ★ **US Micro Nuclear Reactor Airlift:** First air transport of Ward microreactor (Valar Atomics) by C-17 from California to Hill AFB, Utah. Capacity: up to 5 MW.
- ★ **CBDC-Based PDS (Gandhinagar):** Amit Shah launched India's first CBDC (₹) based Public Distribution System in Gujarat (Ahmedabad, Anand, Valsad, Surat).
- ★ **Indian Navy Half Marathon:** 2nd edition held in New Delhi. Flagged off by CNS; 10 km by Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. Partner: IDFC First Bank.
- ★ **Exercise MILAN-2026 Inaugurated:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates MILAN-2026 naval exercise at Visakhapatnam with participation from 74 nations.

Awards and Recognitions

- ★ **Oil India Limited — FIPI Award 2025:** Won 'Oil & Gas Production Company of the Year' (>1 MTOE) at India Energy Week, Goa. CMD Dr Ranjit Rath received it. OIL is a Maharatna CPSE.
- ★ **Chang-Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026:** Dr Haripriya Aravind and Dr R Venkatesh (Aravind Eye Care System, Puducherry) selected. USD 100,000 grant donated back to the system.
- ★ **Bhavya Bharat Bhushan Award 2026:** Launched by Isha Foundation (Sadhguru). 7 categories. 2026 awardees include Nambi Narayanan, Saina Nehwal, Vikram Sampath, Alarmel Valli, N. Rajam, and Indian Armed Forces (Operation Sindoor).
- ★ **BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2025:** Smriti Mandhana (ICC Women's WC 2025 + WPL win). Emerging Player: Divya Deshmukh. Para-Sportswoman: Preethi Pal. Lifetime Achievement: Anjali Bhagwat.
- ★ **VOC Port Authority:** First Major Port with IGBC Platinum Rating. Also received Shunya and Shunya Plus certifications from BEE (Ministry of Power).

Summits and Conferences News

- ★ **India AI Impact Summit 2026:** 5-day summit (16–20 Feb) at Bharat Mandapam — first AI summit in Global South. 3 Sutras: People, Planet, Progress. 7 Chakras (working groups). India set Guinness record: 2,50,946 AI responsibility pledges in 24 hours.
- ★ **BioAsia 2026:** 23rd edition in Hyderabad (17–18 Feb). Theme: 'TechBio Unleashed – AI, Automation and the Biology Revolution'. CM Revanth Reddy inaugurated. Hyderabad = Vaccine Capital of the World.
- ★ **Mumbai Climate Week 2026:** Inaugurated by CM Devendra Fadnavis at Jio World Convention Centre. 3-day global conclave on climate solutions for Global South.
- ★ **6th India-France Annual Defence Dialogue:** Bengaluru, 17 Feb. Rajnath Singh co-chaired with Catherine Vautrin. HAMMER MoU + H125 helicopter assembly (Tata Airbus, Vemagal, Karnataka) inaugurated virtually by PM Modi and President Macron.
- ★ **Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026:** Bharat Mandapam (12–13 Feb). Launched Bodhan AI CoE by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. IIT Madras to build Bharat EduAI Stack (DPI for education, like UPI).
- ★ **Chintan Shivir 2026:** DFS released UPI/RuPay impact analysis at Coorg, Karnataka (13–14 Feb).
- ★ **ICDS 2026:** International Conference on Dam Safety at IISc Bengaluru (13–14 Feb). Launched DAMCHAT (AI platform) and Jal Shakti Data Management Platform.

Ranks and Reports

- ★ **Henley Passport Index 2026:** India: Rank 75 (Feb 2026), 56 visa-free destinations. Lost Iran (fraud concerns) and Bolivia (e-visa system). Added The Gambia. Top: Singapore (192).
- ★ **Wool Production — India:** India: 2nd in sheep population (77.4 mn), 9th in global wool production. Total FY24: 33.69 mn kg. Rajasthan leads (47.53%; 16,013.5 thousand kg). Punjab: highest growth (22.04%).
- ★ **Smartphone Installed Base:** India is world's 2nd largest (Counterpoint Research 2025): 740 mn active smartphones. China is 1st. Avg retention: 42 months (global avg: 47 months).
- ★ **NITI Aayog Trade Watch Q2 FY26:** India exports (merch + services) grew ~8.5%. Electronics: 2nd largest export (USD 42.1 bn). India in top 6 e-commerce markets; electronics = ~50% of online retail.
- ★ **India Power — Installed Capacity:** Record 52,537 MW in 10 months of FY26. Total ~521 GW. Non-fossil (271.9 GW) > fossil for first time. Renewables: 75.5% of additions.
- ★ **US tops the Global AI Brain Race 2026**, followed by China and Singapore, while India ranks sixth, excelling in talent but needing improvements in digital infrastructure & governance.

Sports News

- ★ **Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026:** India topped with 94 medals (51G-23S-20B) at Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi. Kazakhstan 2nd (26 medals). 17th edition; 300+ athletes, 20 countries.
- ★ **Magnus Carlsen:** Won inaugural FIDE Freestyle Chess (Chess960) World Championship 2026 in Weissenhaus, Germany. Defeated Fabiano Caruana (2.5–1.5). 21st world title. Prize: USD 300,000 total; Carlsen USD 100,000.
- ★ **Lucas Pinheiro Braathen:** Won giant slalom gold at Milano Cortina 2026 — Brazil's first-ever Winter Olympics medal. South America's first Winter Games medal. Beat Switzerland's Marco Odermatt by 0.58s.
- ★ **Johannes Klaebo:** Won his 9th Winter Olympic medal (men's 4x7.5km relay gold) — most decorated Winter Olympian. Norway won (22.2s ahead of France; Italy 3rd).
- ★ **Rashid Khan — 700 T20 Wickets:** Afghanistan spinner became first bowler to reach 700 T20 wickets (in 518 matches) during ICC Men's T20 WC 2026 vs UAE in Delhi. Also holds 191 T20I wickets record.
- ★ **Smriti Mandhana:** BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2025. Key role in India's Women's WC 2025. Fastest 50-over century (50 balls) by an Indian.
- ★ **Paras Dogra:** Fastest batter to 10,000 Ranji Trophy runs: 147 innings (vs Wasim Jaffer's 196 innings). 2nd highest all-time scorer; 33 centuries. J&K's first-ever Ranji semi-final.

- ★ **India vs Pakistan — T20 WC 2026:** India (175/7) defeated Pakistan at R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo. Ishan Kishan scored 77 off 40 balls. Saim Ayub took 3/25 for Pakistan.
- ★ **Tejaswin Shankar:** Won gold in men's heptathlon at Asian Indoor Athletics Championships 2026, Tianjin, China. Score: 5,993 points (national indoor record). India finished 6th overall (5 medals).
- ★ **Jammu & Kashmir — Ranji Trophy:** J&K reached first-ever Ranji Trophy Final (in their 66th year). Beat Bengal in semi-finals.
- ★ **Russia Allotted Six Paralympic Quota Slots:** Russia receives six quota places for the 2026 Winter Paralympics following IPC's decision.
- ★ **USA women's hockey wins 2026 Winter Olympics gold in Milan**, defeating Canada 2-1 OT, with Hilary Knight and Megan Keller securing historic victory.
- ★ **Norway wins 17th gold at Milan Cortina 2026**, breaking Beijing 2022 record, with Johannes Dale-Skjevdal clinching biathlon 15km gold, remaining top in Winter Olympics medals (405).

Schemes and Committees News

- ★ **PM RAHAT:** Cashless treatment ₹1.5 lakh/victim for 7 days. Integrated with ERSS 112. Reimbursement via MAAF. Police authentication: 24 hrs (non-life-threatening), 48 hrs (life-threatening).
- ★ **Startup India FoF 2.0:** ₹10,000 crore corpus via AIFs. Focus: Deep tech, AI, robotics, semiconductors, clean energy. Expands FoF 1.0 (2016). Extends to Tier-II and Tier-III cities.
- ★ **Urban Challenge Fund (UCF):** ₹1 lakh crore (FY26–31, extendable to FY34). Centre: 25%; Market: min 50%; Rest: States/ULBs. ₹5,000 cr creditworthiness corpus for 4,223 cities. ₹5,000 cr Credit Repayment Guarantee.
- ★ **PM Surya Ghar Scheme (2 years):** Rooftop solar scheme completed 2 years. Subsidies up to ₹78,000. Free electricity benefits promoted residential solar adoption across India.
- ★ **SH Act 2013 / SHe-Box:** Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act (2013). MoCD launched SHe-Box (29 August 2024) as centralised digital platform. First violation: ₹50,000 fine.
- ★ **AgriStack / Digital Agriculture Mission:** 3 foundational registries: Farmer Registry, Geo-referenced Village Maps, Crop Sown Registry. Unique digital ID: Kisan Pehchaan Patra (similar to Aadhaar). DAM approved by Cabinet in September 2024.
- ★ **BIRAC-RDI Fund:** ₹2,000 crore first national call launched by Union MoS Jitendra Singh. Total RDI initiative: ₹1 lakh crore over 6 years (approved July 2025). Focus: TRL 4–9 startups. Deadline: 31 March 2026.

- ★ **NHAI Bee Corridors:** Dedicated pollinator corridors along National Highways using native species (Neem, Karanj, Mahua etc.) at 500m–1km intervals. FY27 target: 40 lakh trees; 60% under bee corridor.
- ★ **Chief Minister Skill Dev Scheme (Delhi):** ₹8.9 crore for 3,728 artisans in FY26. 12-day training; ₹4,800 stipend + ₹100/day meal. Toolkits + ONDC digital onboarding.
- ★ **16th Finance Commission:** Grants to ULBs: ₹3.56 trillion (230% increase). Chairman: Arvind Panagariya (former VC, NITI Aayog). Vertical devolution: 41%. New criterion: GDP contribution.

Science and Technology News

- ★ **National Large Solar Telescope (NLST):** 2-metre aperture, near Pangong Tso Lake, Ladakh. Visible and near-infrared wavelengths. India's 3rd solar observatory (after Kodaikanal 1899, Udaipur 1975).
- ★ **National Large Optical-Near Infrared Telescope (NLOT):** 13.7m aperture, 90 hexagonal mirror segments, Hanle, Ladakh. Among world's largest optical-infrared telescopes. Focus: exoplanets, stellar evolution, supernovae.
- ★ **IIT Madras × Unicorn India Ventures Fund:** ₹600 crore IITM Unicorn Frontier Fund I + ₹400 crore greenshoe. 25+ startups (TRL 3–4); initial investment ₹8–10 crore each. 10-year corpus.
- ★ **ZSI — New Diplura Species:** Lepidocampa sikkimensis discovered in Sikkim (near Ravangla). First Diplura species formally described by Indian team. Published in Zootaxa.
- ★ **JNCASR — Heat Transport Discovery:** Particle-to-wave crossover in phonon behaviour in Tl_2AgI_3 (crystalline material). Thermal conductivity: ~ 0.18 W/m·K. Implications for thermoelectrics.
- ★ **GalaxEye × NSIL:** First private Indian satellite operator to formally partner with NSIL. Reselling SyncFused OptoSAR imagery (SAR-based Earth observation). CEO: Suyash Singh.
- ★ **ISRO LVM3 Debris in Maldives:** Payload fairing believed from LVM3-M6 (18 Dec 2025; launched BlueBird Block-2 for AST SpaceMobile) found on Kunahandhoo island.

- ★ **IIT Madras AI Centre in Dubai:** IIT Madras Global Research Foundation launched Applied AI Innovation Centre at Dubai CommerCity. Initial: 6 startups, combined valuation \sim USD 118 mn.
- ★ **TRAI Apps Upgraded:** TRAI DND (spam reporting, multilingual, dual-SIM support) and TRAI MySpeed (download/upload speed, latency, jitter) apps revamped.
- ★ **India AI Governance Framework:** India's first comprehensive AI governance framework under IndiaAI Mission. 7 Sutras: Trust, People First, Innovation over Restraint, Fairness, Accountability, Understandable by Design, Safety.
- ★ **Bharat EduAI Stack:** Bodhan AI (IIT Madras) to build DPI for education (like UPI). ₹500 crore initial budget. Supports Indian languages, speech recognition, adaptive learning. Covers pre-primary to higher secondary.
- ★ **DRDO — AMCA Shortlisting:** Tata Advanced Systems and L&T–Bharat Forge consortium shortlisted for 5th-gen stealth AMCA prototype. India would join elite F-35, J-20, Su-57 club.
- ★ **C-DOT × RRU MoU:** Centre for Development of Telematics (DoT) × Rashtriya Raksha University (MHA, Gandhinagar). Focus: Cybersecurity, Quantum, AI/ML, IoT, 5G, Mission Critical Services.
- ★ **DRDO Tests Gaganyaan Drogue Parachute:** DRDO successfully conducts qualification-level load test at TBRL Chandigarh on 18 February 2026 to enhance astronaut safety.
- ★ **Sarvam AI Showcases Sovereign Models:** Bengaluru-based Sarvam AI presents indigenous AI models at India AI Impact Summit 2026 after raising \$41 million funding.
- ★ **GalaxEye Announces Mission Drishti Satellite:** Startup unveils AI-powered OptoSAR satellite integrating EO and SAR sensors with in-orbit NVIDIA Jetson processing.
- ★ **New Delhi Frontier AI Commitments Announced:** Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw unveils inclusive and multilingual AI framework at AI Summit 2026.
- ★ **Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda launches India-made Td vaccine at Kasauli,** replacing TT vaccine, boosting immunization coverage and supporting Atmanirbhar Bharat goals.



Important Days News

- ★ **Arunachal Pradesh Foundation Day — 20 February:** Statehood granted on 20 February 1987 (24th state). Borders: China, Bhutan, Myanmar, Assam, Nagaland. NE's largest state by area.
- ★ **World Day of Social Justice — 20 February:** Observed since 2009 (proclaimed by UN on 26 November 2007). Based on World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen 1995. ILO established: 29 October 1919.

- ★ **International Epilepsy Day 2026:** Observed on 2nd Monday of February (9 February 2026). 2026 Theme: 'The Epilepsy Pledge'. Symbol: Lavender/Purple. First observed: 9 February 2015. Organisers: IBE + ILAE.
- ★ **International Asperger's Day — 18 February:** Birth anniversary of Hans Asperger (Austrian pediatrician, described condition in 1944). Now included in ASD under DSM-5. Adopted by UNGA in 2007.
- ★ **International Childhood Cancer Day — 15 February:** Established in 2002 by Childhood Cancer International (CCI). Symbol: Gold Ribbon. 2026 theme: 'Demonstrating Impact' (3-year initiative 2024–2026). First observed: 15 February 2002.
- ★ **National Women's Day — 13 February:** Birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu ('Nightingale of India'). 147th birth anniversary in 2026. She co-founded Women's Indian Association (1917), first woman President of INC (1925) and first woman Governor of India.
- ★ **Global Tourism Resilience Day — 17 February:** Declared by UNGA (Resolution A/RES/77/269) on 6 February 2023. First observed: 17 February 2023. 4th GTRD Conference held at Kenyatta ICC, Nairobi, Kenya.
- ★ **Losar Festival 2026:** Tibetan New Year celebrated 18–20 Feb at McLeod Ganj, HP. Marks start of Fire Horse Year (once in 60 years in Tibetan zodiac). Dalai Lama present.
- ★ **World Day of Social Justice Observed:** 20 February 2026 is marked globally with the theme "Renewed Commitment to Social Development and Social Justice" post-Doha Declaration.
- ★ **International Mother Language Day 2026** observed on **21 Feb** to promote **linguistic diversity, multilingual education,** and youth participation in **language preservation.**

Obituaries News

- ★ **David J. Farber:** Grandfather of the Internet; died at 91 in Tokyo (heart failure). Career at Bell Labs from mid-1950s. Mentored Jonathan Postel (IP development). Teaching at Keio University since 2018.
- ★ **Robert Duvall:** Oscar-winning actor died at 95 in Middleburg. Born 5 January 1931. Won Best Actor for Tender Mercies (1983). 7 Oscar nominations. Known for The Godfather (Tom Hagen) and Apocalypse Now.
- ★ **Frederick Wiseman:** Documentary filmmaker died at 96 in Massachusetts. Born 1 January 1930. Directed 40+ documentaries (Ticut Follies, High School, etc.). Honorary Oscar (2016).

- ★ **Legendary Bengali author Shankar,** 92, passes away in **Kolkata,** leaving **timeless literary legacy;** wrote nearly **100 novels & stories,** including **Chowringhee & Jana Aranya,** inspiring **literature and cinema.**

Miscellaneous News

- ★ **NPCI International × PayNet Malaysia:** QR-based UPI payments at DuitNow QR points in Malaysia for Indian travellers. Phase 2: Malaysian visitors will use DuitNow app at UPI QR codes in India.
- ★ **V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tamil Nadu):** First Major Port with IGBC Platinum + Shunya Plus certification. 70%+ green cover, 100% renewable energy on campus.
- ★ **NHAI Bee Corridors Initiative:** First ecological initiative to develop pollinator corridors along national highways. Native species: Neem, Karanj, Mahua, Palash, Jamun, Siris. 40 lakh trees target in FY27.
- ★ **DoP Stamps — 'Puppets of India':** 8 commemorative postage stamps (₹5 denomination) released. Types: Kathputli (Raj), Yakshagana (Kar), Benir Putul (WB), Pavakathakali (Kerala), Ravanachhaya (Odisha), Tolu Bommalatta (AP).
- ★ **India-France AI Governance:** PM Modi launched M.A.N.A.V framework for ethical AI at India AI Impact Summit 2026. Guinness record: 2,50,946 AI responsibility pledges in 24 hours.
- ★ **Earthshot Prize 2026:** Mumbai to host the prize founded by Prince William. Awards £1 million each to 5 climate innovators.
- ★ **Sangtam Naga Tribe — Pangolin Conservation:** USLP passed resolution banning pangolin hunting. Part of Wildlife Trust of India's Countering Pangolin Trafficking Project. All 8 pangolin species under CITES Appendix I.
- ★ **Demwe Lower Hydel Project:** 1,750 MW on Lohit River, Arunachal Pradesh. EC extended to 2037 (original clearance: February 2010). Involves 162.12 m concrete gravity dam; 1,416 ha forest diverted.
- ★ **National Biobank for LSDs:** Launched at FRIGE, Ahmedabad. Collaboration with TIGS (Bengaluru). Covers 530 patients over 17 years (2008–2025). LSDs: rare inherited metabolic diseases due to enzyme deficiencies.
- ★ **NSSTA 18th Foundation Day:** Theme: 'Reimagining Capacity Building for Official Statistics for Viksit Bharat@2047'. Dr Saurabh Garg (Secy, MoSPI): data = 5th factor of production.

Static Takeaways

Category	Name	Complete Details
Ministry	Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation	Minister of State: Rao Inderjit Singh
State	Uttar Pradesh	Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Anandiben Patel; Capital: Lucknow; National Parks: Dudhwa National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary, Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary (Shahid Chandra Shekhar Azad Bird Sanctuary), Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, Sur Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary, Mahavir Swami Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranipur Wildlife
State	Tamil Nadu	Capital: Chennai; Chief Minister: M. K. Stalin; Governor: R. N. Ravi; National Parks: Mudumalai National Park, Mukurthi National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Anamalai) National Park, Guindy National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Vettangudi Bird Sanctuary, Kalakad Wildlife Sanctuary, Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary, Vallanadu Wildlife Sanctuary, Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary
State	Rajasthan	Capital: Jaipur; Governor: Haribhau Bagade; Chief Minister: Bajan Lal Sharma; National Parks: Ranthambhore National Park, Sariska Tiger Reserve, Keoladeo National Park (Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary), Desert National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranthambore Wildlife Sanctuary, Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary
Ministry	Ministry of Finance	Cabinet Minister: Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman; Minister of State (MoS): Shri Pankaj Chaudhary
Bank	Indian Overseas Bank	Founded: 1937; Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India; MD & CEO: Ajay Kumar Srivastava; Tagline: "A friend you can bank upon"
State	Nagaland	Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio; Governor: La. Ganesan; Capital: Kohima; National Parks: Intanki National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Fakim Wildlife Sanctuary, Puliebadze Wildlife Sanctuary, Rangapahar Wildlife Sanctuary
State	Kerala	Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan; Governor: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar; Capital: Thiruvananthapuram; National Parks: Eravikulam National Park, Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Silent Valley National Park, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Idukki Wildlife Sanctuary, Chilika Lake Wildlife Sanctuary
Ministry	Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MoCA)	Union Minister: Nirmala Sitharaman; Minister of State (MoS): Harsh Malhotra
PSU	GAIL (India) Limited	Founded: 1984; Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India; Owner: Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India (51.8%)
Bank	AU Small Finance Bank Limited	Headquarters: Jaipur, Rajasthan; Founded: 1996 as a vehicle finance company; Converted into Small Finance Bank in April 2017; 2025: First SFB to receive RBI in-principle approval to transition into Universal Bank
Country	Bulgaria	President: Iliana Iotova; Prime Minister: Rosen Zhelyazkov; Capital: Sofia; Currency: Euro
State	Assam	Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma; Governor: Lakshman Prasad Acharya; Capital: Dispur; National Parks: Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park, Dibru-Saikhowa National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Orang National Park, Bura-Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary, Nameri Wildlife Sanctuary
State	Uttar Pradesh (Repeated Entry)	Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Anandiben Patel; Capital: Lucknow; National Parks: Dudhwa National Park; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary, Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary (Shahid Chandra Shekhar Azad Bird Sanctuary), Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, Sur Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary, Mahavir Swami Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranipur Wildlife
Association	All India Sugar Trade Association (AISTA)	Full Form: All India Sugar Trade Association; Established: 17 January 2016; Formed to unify India's fragmented sugar industry; Represents traders, millers, refiners, bulk consumers, trade houses, service providers, farmers and food processors; Focus: Industry collaboration and growth

Weekly One Liners 16th to 22nd February

Category	Name	Complete Details
Country	Australia	Prime Minister: Anthony Albanese; Capital: Canberra; Currency: Australian Dollar (\$)
Country	Barbados	Capital: Bridgetown; Currency: Barbadian Dollar (BBD)
Regulatory Body	SEBI	Established: 12 April 1988; Statutory Powers: 30 January 1992 (SEBI Act, 1992); Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra; Chairman: Tuhin Kanta Pandey; Regulatory body for securities & commodity markets under Ministry of Finance
Govt Body	National Statistics Office (NSO)	Established: 2019; Created by merging CSO & NSSO; Headquarters: New Delhi; Under: MoSPI; Key Publications: National Accounts Statistics, PLFS, CPI Reports, ASI
Govt Body	DRDO	Founded: 1958; Headquarters: New Delhi; Parent Ministry: Ministry of Defence; Chairman: Dr. Samir V. Kamat
Bank	IDFC First Bank	Founded: 2015; Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra; MD & CEO: V. Vaidyanathan; Tagline: Always You First; Merger: IDFC Bank + Capital First (2018)
Commodity Exchange	NCDEX	Leading commodity exchange in India; Facilitates futures & options trading; MD & CEO: Dr. Arun Raste
Financial Institution	NABARD	Founded: 12 July 1982; Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra; Chairman: Shaji K V; Apex supervisory body for RRBs & Cooperative Banks
Tribunal	NGT	Founded: 18 October 2010; Headquarters: Copernicus Marg, New Delhi; Parent Agency: Ministry of Law & Justice
State	Arunachal Pradesh	Chief Minister: Pema Khandu; Governor: D. Mishra; Capital: Itanagar; National Parks: Namdapha, Mouling, Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Pakke Tiger Reserve, Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary, Dampa Tiger Reserve, Daying Ering Wildlife Sanctuary
State	Maharashtra	Chief Minister: Devendra Fadnavis; Governor: Acharya Devvrat; Capital: Mumbai; National Parks: Tadoba, Sanjay Gandhi, Chandoli, Gugamal, Navegaon; Wildlife Sanctuaries: Bhimashankar, Koyna, Karnala, Melghat, Radhanagari
Country	Bangladesh	Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Bangladeshi Taka (BDT)
Regulatory Body	CCI	Founded: 14 October 2003; Headquarters: New Delhi; Chairperson: Ravneet Kaur; Enforces Competition Act, 2002
Country	Barbados (Repeated Entry)	Capital: Bridgetown; Currency: Barbadian Dollar (BBD)
Organization	British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)	Established: 1922; Headquarters: London, UK; Director-General: Timothy Douglas Davie

