

Weekly One Liners 24th February to 2nd March 2025

Uttarakhand Unveils ₹1.01 Lakh Crore Budget, Prioritizing Infra and Welfare

The Uttarakhand government, led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, has unveiled a ₹1,01,175.33 crore budget for the financial year 2025-26. Presented by Finance Minister Prem Chandra Aggarwal in the State Assembly in Dehradun, the budget prioritizes infrastructure, welfare, and economic growth while ensuring fiscal stability. The financial blueprint follows the 'GYAN' model (Gareeb, Yuva, Anndata, and Naari), with a special focus on the poor, youth, farmers, and women. Key sectors such as agriculture, industry, energy, roads, connectivity, tourism, Ayush, and social security receive major allocations, aiming to boost development across the state.

Key Highlights of Uttarakhand Budget 2025-26

1. Budget Allocation & Revenue Projections

- **Total Budget:** ₹1,01,175.33 crore
- **Total Receipts:** ₹1,01,034.75 crore
- **Revenue Receipts:** ₹62,540.54 crore
- **Capital Receipts:** ₹38,494.21 crore
- **Tax Revenue Projection:** ₹39,917.74 crore
- **Non-Tax Revenue Projection:** ₹22,622.80 crore

2. Focus Areas of the Budget

- Infrastructure & Connectivity
- Agriculture & Rural Development
- Industry & Startups
- Tourism & Cultural Development
- Water Resources & Irrigation
- Environmental Sustainability
- Social Security & Welfare

3. Major Allocations in Key Sectors

A. Infrastructure Development

- **New Road Construction:** 220 km
- **Reconstruction of Roads:** 1,000 km
- **Renovation of Existing Roads:** 1,550 km
- **Road Safety:** ₹1,200 crore
- 37 New Bridges
- **PMGSY Scheme:** ₹1,065 crore
- **Bus Stations Construction:** ₹15 crore
- **Civil Aviation Development:** ₹36.88 crore

B. Industry & Startups

- **MSME Development:** ₹50 crore
- **Mega Industry Policy:** ₹35 crore
- **Startup Promotion:** ₹30 crore
- **Mega Project Scheme:** ₹500 crore

C. Water Resources & Irrigation

- **Jamrani Dam:** ₹625 crore
- **Song Dam:** ₹75 crore
- **Lakhwad Project:** ₹285 crore
- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** ₹1,843 crore

- **Urban Water Supply:** ₹100 crore
- **Special Capital Assistance:** ₹1,500 crore

D. Tourism & Cultural Development

- **Tehri Lake Development:** ₹100 crore
- **Manskhanda Scheme:** ₹25 crore
- **Vibrant Village Scheme:** ₹20 crore
- **Char Dham Road Network:** ₹10 crore
- **New Tourist Destinations Development:** ₹10 crore

E. Environment & Sustainability

- **CAMPA Scheme:** ₹395 crore
- **Climate Change Mitigation:** ₹60 crore
- **Spring & River Rejuvenation Authority (SARA):** ₹125 crore
- **Public Forests Afforestation:** ₹10 crore

F. Social Security & Welfare

- **Total Social Security Allocation:** ₹1,811.66 crore
- **Subsidies on Welfare Schemes:** ₹918.92 crore
- **Food Security Scheme:** ₹600 crore
- **PM Awas Yojana (Rural):** ₹207.18 crore
- **PM Awas Yojana (Urban):** ₹54.12 crore
- **EWS Housing Grants:** ₹25 crore
- **Cooking Gas Subsidy:** ₹55 crore
- **Environmental Friend Insurance:** ₹2 crore
- **Free Travel for Low-Income Groups (State Buses):** ₹40 crore
- **State Food Grain Scheme:** ₹10 crore
- **Affordable Salt for Antyodaya Ration Holders:** ₹34.36 crore

FATF Plenary Session (February 2025) – Key Decisions & Updates

The second Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary under the Presidency of Elisa de Anda Madrazo (Mexico) concluded after three days of technical discussions. Delegates from over 200 jurisdictions and international organizations participated in the meeting. The discussions focused on key issues, including money laundering, terrorism financing, proliferation financing, financial inclusion, payment transparency, and online child sexual exploitation. Several important decisions were made regarding updates to the FATF Standards, public consultations, country monitoring lists, and leadership changes.

Key Highlights from the FATF Plenary

1. Updates to FATF Standards & Financial Inclusion

- **Agreed on changes to FATF Standards to enhance the risk-based approach and promote financial inclusion.**
- Recognized that 1.4 billion people worldwide lack access to banking services.
- Approved simplified measures for financial institutions where risks are lower.
- Launched a public consultation to support financial inclusion measures.

2. Addressing Financial Flows in Online Child Exploitation

- Approved a landmark report to track and disrupt financial transactions linked to online child sexual exploitation.
- Focuses on financial intelligence to combat live-streamed abuse and child sextortion.
- The report will be launched in London on March 13, 2025.

3. FATF Monitoring List Updates

- **Added:** Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal to the Increased Monitoring (Grey List).
- **Removed:** The Philippines from the Grey List due to progress in AML/CFT compliance.

4. Membership & Country Participation

- **Kenya joined the FATF Plenary under the guest initiative,** alongside Cayman Islands and Senegal.
- **The suspension of Russia from FATF continues.**

5. Public Consultations

Launched consultations on,

- **Recommendation 1** – Supporting financial inclusion through a risk-based approach.
- **Recommendation 16** – Improving payment transparency and reducing financial crime risks.
- **Complex Proliferation Financing & Sanctions Evasions** – Identifying best practices for compliance.

6. FATF Leadership Changes

- **Giles Thomson (UK) appointed FATF Vice-President** (2025-2027), succeeding Jeremy Weil (Canada).

7. Strengthening Global Network Cooperation

- Expanded participation of FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRBs) to increase regional involvement.
- Encouraging guest jurisdictions to contribute actively.

8. Women in FATF Initiative

- Hosted a successful event to support women's careers within FATF.
- 2nd Edition of FATF Mentoring Programme launching in March 2025.

9. Addressing Corruption & Private Sector Collaboration

- Conducted a Horizontal Review on how lawyers, accountants, and real estate agents comply with FATF standards.
- Private Sector Collaborative Forum scheduled for March 25-27, 2025, in Mumbai.

Top Cleanest Cities in India: Indore Featured for the 7th Time

India has been making significant progress in urban sanitation and waste management, setting new benchmarks for cleanliness through the **Swachh Survekshan (SS)** initiative. The **9th edition of Swachh Survekshan 2024**, launched by the **Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar**, introduced a revamped format to ensure fair evaluation.

A new concept, the **Super Swachh League**, has been introduced to recognize cities that have consistently excelled in cleanliness over the past three years. This categorization is based on population, ensuring a **comprehensive and inclusive assessment** of urban hygiene standards.

Among all Indian cities, **Indore has retained its title as the cleanest city for the seventh consecutive time**, alongside 11 other cities that have been awarded for their remarkable cleanliness and sanitation efforts. Let's take a closer look at the **top 12 cleanest cities in India for 2024-25**, categorized by population size.

What is Swachh Survekshan?

Swachh Survekshan is the world's largest urban cleanliness survey, conducted annually by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**. The survey assesses urban areas based on various cleanliness and sanitation parameters, including:

- **Waste Management Practices** (collection, segregation, and disposal)
- **Public Feedback** (citizen participation and satisfaction)
- **On-Site Inspections** (real-time verification of cleanliness levels)
- **Sanitation Infrastructure** (availability and maintenance of toilets, water supply, and drainage systems)
- **Certifications** (ratings given by third-party agencies)

For 2024, cities that ranked in the **top three positions in at least two of the last three years (2021-2023)** have qualified for the **Super Swachh League**.

Super Swachh League 2024: Cleanest Cities in India

To ensure fair evaluation, cities are categorized into five population-based groups. Below is the list of India's **cleanest cities in 2024**:

1. Very Small Cities (Population: Less than 20,000)

These cities have demonstrated **outstanding waste management and hygiene practices**, setting an example for smaller urban areas.



Serial No.	City	State
1	Panchgani	Maharashtra
2	Patan	Gujarat

2. Small Cities (Population: 20,000 – 50,000)

Cities in this category have excelled in **innovative cleanliness solutions and citizen engagement**.

Serial No.	City	State
3	Vita	Maharashtra
4	Sasvad	Maharashtra

3. Medium Cities (Population: 50,000 – 3,00,000)

With rapid urbanization, these cities have shown **consistent improvement in waste segregation and cleanliness awareness**.

Serial No.	City	State
5	Ambikapur	Chhattisgarh
6	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh

4. Big Cities (Population: 3,00,000 – 10,00,000)

These cities are leading the way in **public sanitation, efficient waste disposal, and eco-friendly initiatives**.

Serial No.	City	State
7	Noida	Uttar Pradesh
8	Chandigarh	Chandigarh

5. Million Plus Cities (Population: More than 10,00,000)

The largest category recognizes metropolitan cities that have established **robust cleanliness frameworks and public participation models**.

Serial No.	City	State
9	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
10	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra
11	Surat	Gujarat
12	New Delhi Municipal Council	Delhi

Indore: The Cleanest City in India for the 7th Consecutive Year

Indore, often regarded as the gold standard in urban cleanliness, has retained its title as **India’s cleanest city for the seventh consecutive year**. The city has implemented **100% waste segregation, advanced composting techniques, and digital waste monitoring systems**, making it a model city for other urban centers.

Key Factors Behind Indore’s Success:

- **100% Door-to-Door Waste Collection:** Every household and commercial establishment follows waste segregation practices.
- **Bio-CNG Plant:** Indore is home to India’s largest Bio-CNG plant, which converts organic waste into fuel.
- **Citizen Participation:** Regular cleanliness drives, awareness campaigns, and rewards for maintaining clean surroundings.

- **Smart Waste Management:** AI-driven garbage monitoring and the integration of **GPS-enabled waste collection vehicles**.

Why is the Super Swachh League Important?

The **Super Swachh League** ensures that cities competing for the top rankings are evaluated **fairly and transparently**, preventing population bias. Cities that have been consistently performing well over multiple years receive due recognition, motivating others to **adopt innovative cleanliness initiatives**.

Key Benefits of Super Swachh League:

- Encourages **healthy competition** among cities
- Promotes **sustainable waste management** practices
- Enhances **public participation** in cleanliness drives
- Drives innovation in **sanitation and waste disposal techniques**

SWAYATT Completes 6 Years of Digital Procurement Success

The **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** celebrated **six years of the Startups, Women & Youth Advantage through eTransactions (SWAYATT) initiative** at its headquarters in New Delhi on February 19, 2025. Since its launch on February 19, 2019, SWAYATT has aimed to increase the participation of women-led enterprises, startups, youth, and marginalized groups in public procurement. Rooted in GeM’s commitment to social inclusion, the initiative fosters ease of doing business, facilitates direct market linkages, and empowers small-scale entrepreneurs.

Key Highlights of SWAYATT’s 6-Year Journey

Empowering Entrepreneurs

- SWAYATT focuses on **onboarding, training, and supporting last-mile sellers**, especially women entrepreneurs, micro & small enterprises (MSEs), and self-help groups (SHGs).

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FICCI-FLO

- On the 6th anniversary, GeM signed an MoU with FICCI Ladies Organisation (FICCI-FLO), representing over 9,500 women entrepreneurs, to facilitate direct market access and boost local job creation.

Startup Growth

- From just 3,400 startups at launch, the platform now supports over 29,000 startups, who have received orders worth ₹35,950 Crore.

Women’s Participation in Public Procurement

- Women entrepreneurs now constitute 8% of GeM’s seller base, with 1,77,786 Udyam-verified women MSEs contributing to a cumulative order value of ₹46,615 Crore.

Dedicated Platforms

- SWAYATT includes specialized storefronts such as “Startup Runway” and “Womaniya”, enhancing visibility and business opportunities for startups and women-led enterprises.

Vision for Expansion

- GeM aims to onboard 1 Lakh DPIIT-registered startups, double the number of women entrepreneurs, and increase their share in national procurement beyond 3.78%.

Screen Actors Guild Awards 2025 Full List of Winners

The **31st Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Awards** took place on February 23, 2025, at the **Shrine Auditorium & Expo Hall in Los Angeles**, celebrating outstanding performances in film and television. Hosted by Kristen Bell and streamed live on Netflix, the event honored actors and ensembles for their exceptional work over the past year.

Key Highlights of SAG Awards 2025

Highlight of the Award

- A major highlight of the evening was Jane Fonda receiving the SAG Life Achievement Award for her outstanding career and humanitarian efforts.
- In her speech, she emphasized the importance of empathy and unions in the entertainment industry.

Significance

- These awards are significant as they are voted on by fellow actors and often serve as precursors to the Oscars, predicting potential Academy Award winners.
- The 2025 SAG Awards featured many emotional moments, surprise victories, and remarkable performances.

Top Film Winners

- **Best Cast in a Motion Picture:** Conclave (Surprise winner)
- **Best Male Actor in a Leading Role:** Timothée Chalamet (A Complete Unknown, as Bob Dylan)
- **Best Female Actor in a Leading Role:** Demi Moore (The Substance, as Elisabeth)
- **Best Male Actor in a Supporting Role:** Kieran Culkin (A Real Pain, as Benji Kaplan)
- **Best Female Actor in a Supporting Role:** Zoe Saldaña (Emilia Pérez, as Rita)
- **Best Stunt Ensemble in a Motion Picture:** The Fall Guy

Top TV Winners

- **Best Drama Series Ensemble:** Shōgun
- **Best Comedy Series Ensemble:** Only Murders in the Building
- **Best Male Actor in a Drama Series:** Hiroyuki Sanada (Shōgun, as Yoshii Toranaga)
- **Best Female Actor in a Drama Series:** Anna Sawai (Shōgun, as Toda Mariko)
- **Best Male Actor in a Comedy Series:** Martin Short (Only Murders in the Building, as Oliver Putnam)
- **Best Female Actor in a Comedy Series:** Jean Smart (Hacks, as Deborah Vance)
- **Best Male Actor in a TV Movie/Limited Series:** Colin Farrell (The Penguin, as Oz Cobb)
- **Best Female Actor in a TV Movie/Limited Series:** Jessica Gunning (Baby Reindeer, as Martha)
- **Best Stunt Ensemble in a TV Series:** The Fall Guy

Prani Mitra and Jeev Daya Award Ceremony 2025: Recognizing Excellence in Animal Welfare

The **Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)**, a statutory body under the **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**, organized the **Prani Mitra and Jeev Daya Award Ceremony** on **27th February 2025** at **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**. The event was held to honor individuals and organizations that have contributed significantly to **animal welfare, protection, and compassionate treatment of animals**.

The AWBI, established under the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960**, plays a crucial role in ensuring that animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering. The ceremony was attended by eminent personalities, including **Union Ministers of State**, senior government officials, representatives from various states, and distinguished animal welfare advocates.

Launch of Key Books on Animal Welfare

The event also marked the launch of **four significant books** aimed at strengthening the implementation of animal welfare laws and ensuring better awareness among veterinarians, policymakers, and field officials. These books include:

1. **Handbook for Veterinary Officers on Animal Welfare Laws** – A detailed guide for veterinary professionals on legal aspects and responsibilities concerning animal welfare.
2. **Law Enforcement Handbook on Animal Welfare Laws** – A reference book for law enforcement agencies to ensure effective implementation of **animal welfare regulations**.
3. **Animal Law Handbook for Urban Local Bodies** – A guide to help **municipal authorities** and local governing bodies enforce animal welfare laws more efficiently.
4. **Revised Animal Birth Control (ABC) Module** – A comprehensive strategy for managing the **street dog population**, preventing **rabies**, and reducing **man-dog conflict**.

Prani Mitra Awards 2025 – Honouring Excellence in Animal Welfare

The **Prani Mitra Awards** were presented under **five categories** to individuals and organizations that demonstrated outstanding commitment to **animal welfare**:

Category	Awardee	Location
Advocacy – Individual	Shri Akhil Jain	Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Innovative Idea – Individual	Shri Ramesh Bhai Veljibhai Ruparelia	Gondal, Gujarat
Lifetime Animal Service – Individual	Shri Harnarayan Soni	Osiyan, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
Animal Welfare Organization (AWO)	Sri Sri 1008 Sriram Ratandasji Vaishnav Go Sewa Samiti	Karahdham, Morena, Madhya Pradesh

Category	Awardee	Location
Corporate/PSUs/Government Bodies/Cooperatives	Radhe Krishna Temple Elephant Welfare Trust	Jamnagar, Gujarat

Jeev Daya Awards 2025 – Recognizing Compassion in Animal Welfare

Category	Awardee	Location
Individual	Ms. Nisha Subramanian Kunju	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Animal Welfare Organization	Bhagwan Mahavir Pashu Raksha Kendra	Kutch, Gujarat
Schools/Institutions/Teachers/Children (Below 18 Years)	Master Chaitanya M Saxena	Jaipur, Rajasthan
	Master Aadi Shah	Mumbai, Maharashtra

About Prani Mitra and Jeev Daya Awards

Prani Mitra Award

The **Prani Mitra Award** was first introduced in **1966** to honor **individuals** for their exceptional contribution to **animal welfare and protection**. Over the years, the scope of the award has expanded to include **organizations** as well. Since its inception, **54 individuals** have received this prestigious honor.

Jeev Daya Award

The **Jeev Daya Award**, established in **2001**, recognizes and appreciates the contributions of **animal lovers**. Since then, **12 individuals and organizations** have been conferred with this prestigious award for their work in **promoting animal welfare**.

Prani Mitra and Jeev Daya Awards 2025 – Key Highlights

Category	Details
Why in News?	The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) organized the Prani Mitra and Jeev Daya Award Ceremony on 27th February 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi , to honor contributions in animal welfare.
Organized by	Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Key Attendees	Union Ministers, senior government officials, state representatives, and animal welfare advocates
AWBI's Role	Established under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960 , ensuring animal protection and welfare

NASA's Lunar Trailblazer for Mapping the Moon's Water Launched

NASA's Lunar Trailblazer, a small satellite **designed to map lunar water**, has embarked on its **mission to explore one of the Moon's most valuable resources**. Launched on 26th February aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, the orbiter will investigate the presence, form, and distribution of water in the cold, shadowed regions of the Moon. By providing high-resolution maps of lunar water, the mission aims to support future human and robotic exploration, offering crucial insights for sustainable space travel and lunar resource utilization.

Key Highlights

1. Mission Objectives

- **Map the distribution and form of water on the Moon.**
- Determine how lunar water changes with time and temperature.
- Improve understanding of water cycles on airless celestial bodies.

2. Advanced Science Instruments

Lunar Trailblazer will use two key instruments,

- **HVM3 (High-resolution Volatiles and Minerals Moon Mapper)**
- Detects and maps spectral fingerprints of minerals and water.
- Built by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).
- **LTM (Lunar Thermal Mapper)**
- Maps thermal properties and minerals.
- Developed by the University of Oxford, funded by the UK Space Agency.

3. Journey to the Moon

- **Weights 440 pounds (200 kg)** and measures **11.5 feet (3.5 meters)** wide.
- Uses a low-energy transfer trajectory, relying on Sun, Earth, and Moon gravity.
- **Travel time:** 4 to 7 months after launch.

4. Exploration of the Moon's South Pole

- Will peer into permanently shadowed craters at the Moon's South Pole.
- Uses faint reflected light to detect possible frozen water deposits.
- Identifying ice deposits could aid future lunar exploration and resource utilization.

5. High-Risk, Low-Cost Mission

- Selected under NASA's SIMPLEx (Small Innovative Missions for Planetary Exploration) program.
- Designed to be a low-cost, high-risk mission with lighter oversight requirements.
- Enables valuable science research that would otherwise be financially unfeasible.

6. Future Benefits and Applications

- Helps identify water for potential astronaut use (drinking water, oxygen, and fuel).
- Contributes data for future lunar habitation and robotic missions.
- Improves understanding of how water behaves in space environments.

India's Maritime Sector Set for Transformation: Sarbananda Sonowal Launches Key Initiatives

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, **Sarbananda Sonowal**, announced a series of transformative initiatives aimed at modernizing India's **maritime infrastructure** and enhancing its role in **global trade**. The announcements were made during a stakeholder meeting in **Mumbai**, following the Union Budget's emphasis on revitalizing the maritime sector. These initiatives are set to **streamline operations, boost port efficiency, promote international trade, and develop India's shipbuilding industry**.

One Nation-One Port Process (ONOP): Standardizing Port Operations

One of the most significant initiatives launched is the **'One Nation-One Port Process' (ONOP)**, a pioneering move aimed at eliminating inefficiencies and ensuring a **unified operational framework** across India's **major ports**. By **standardizing documentation and streamlining processes**, ONOP is expected to:

- **Reduce operational delays** by ensuring uniform port procedures.
- **Cut logistics costs** by optimizing workflow and eliminating redundancies.
- **Enhance India's global competitiveness** by aligning port operations with international standards.

This initiative is crucial for positioning India as a **leading maritime hub**, boosting economic growth, and strengthening the nation's trade infrastructure.

Sagar Ankalan: Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI) 2023-24

Another major initiative introduced by **Sonowal** is the **Sagar Ankalan** project, featuring the **Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI) for FY 2023-24**. This index is designed to benchmark **port performance** and promote **operational excellence** by evaluating key performance indicators, including:

- **Cargo handling efficiency**
- **Turnaround time at ports**
- **Berth idle time**

The **LPPI** will provide **critical insights** for improving logistics and trade connectivity, helping India maintain its upward trajectory in global rankings. India's recent rise to **22nd position in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI)** for "International Shipments" reflects the country's rapid progress in **maritime logistics**.

Bharat Global Ports Consortium: Expanding India's Maritime Reach

To further **strengthen global trade resilience**, Sonowal launched the **Bharat Global Ports Consortium**, a collaborative initiative bringing together key stakeholders from **port operations, finance, and infrastructure development**. The primary objectives of this consortium are:

- Supporting port expansion and modernization
- Enhancing logistics networks to boost exports
- Facilitating investments in port infrastructure

By **leveraging public-private partnerships**, the **Bharat Global Ports Consortium** aligns with the government's **'Make in India'** vision, ensuring India's ports remain globally competitive and resilient.

MAITRI App: Digitalizing Trade with AI & Blockchain

The introduction of the **MAITRI App (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface)** is another landmark development. This digital initiative aims to **simplify and accelerate international trade processes** through cutting-edge technologies like **AI and blockchain**. The **MAITRI App** will facilitate:

- **The creation of a Virtual Trade Corridor (VTC) between India and the UAE**
- **Expansion to other trade regions, including BIMSTEC and ASEAN**
- **Faster trade processing with optimized trade flows**

This app will serve as a game-changer for **reducing documentation complexities**, making cross-border trade more **seamless, efficient, and transparent**.

India Maritime Week: A Global Maritime Gathering

To further highlight India's growing maritime influence, Sonowal announced the **India Maritime Week**, scheduled to be held from **October 27 to 31 in Mumbai**. This grand event is expected to be one of the **largest global maritime gatherings**, featuring:

- **Participation from over 100 countries**
- **An estimated 100,000 delegates**
- **The 4th edition of the Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS)**
- **The 2nd edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue**

This **high-profile event** will position India as a key player in **global maritime policy discussions** and promote investment in **port modernization and shipping infrastructure**.

Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) – January 2025 Report

The **Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)** is a crucial economic indicator that reflects the performance of **eight fundamental sectors** of the Indian economy. These industries contribute significantly to the overall **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**, making their growth a key determinant of economic health. The **ICI report for January 2025** has been released, showcasing trends in these core sectors and their impact on the industrial and economic landscape.

Understanding the Eight Core Industries

The **Eight Core Industries** that form the backbone of the ICI are:

1. **Coal**
2. **Crude Oil**
3. **Natural Gas**
4. **Refinery Products** (such as petroleum and diesel)
5. **Fertilizers**
6. **Steel**
7. **Cement**
8. **Electricity**

These industries together hold a **40.27% weightage** in the overall **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**.

Performance Overview of Eight Core Industries in January 2025
The **ICI for January 2025** showed a **year-on-year (YoY) growth of 4.2%**, reflecting positive momentum in key sectors. This follows a growth of **3.5% in December 2024**, indicating a steady improvement in industrial output. The cumulative growth for the period **April 2024 to January 2025** stood at **6.1%**, compared to **5.3%** in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

Sector-Wise Growth Analysis

1. Coal Industry

- The **coal sector** recorded an impressive growth of **8.5%** in January 2025, driven by increased **domestic production** and higher demand from the **power sector**.
- The cumulative growth for April 2024–January 2025 stood at **9.2%**, demonstrating strong expansion.

2. Crude Oil Production

- The **crude oil sector** witnessed a decline of **-2.1%** in January 2025, primarily due to lower production and maintenance shutdowns at major extraction sites.
- The overall performance for April 2024–January 2025 recorded a marginal decline of **-1.5%**, reflecting **supply constraints** and **global price fluctuations**.

3. Natural Gas Production

- **Natural gas output** showed a positive growth of **3.8%**, supported by enhanced **exploration activities** and increased demand from **industries and households**.
- The sector’s cumulative growth for the first ten months of the fiscal year was **4.2%**.

4. Petroleum Refinery Products

- Refinery production increased by **5.3%** in January 2025, fueled by rising **petroleum demand** and improved **refining capacities**.
- The April 2024–January 2025 cumulative growth reached **6.5%**, reflecting strong **domestic and export demand**.

5. Fertilizer Production

- The **fertilizer industry** posted a moderate growth of **2.7%**, supported by higher demand from the **agriculture sector**.
- The overall growth in the fiscal year so far stands at **3.9%**, benefiting from **government subsidies** and **policy incentives**.

6. Steel Production

- The **steel sector** showed a robust growth of **6.8%**, driven by increased **infrastructure projects** and **automobile sector demand**.
- The cumulative growth for the first ten months was **7.1%**, reflecting a **strong manufacturing push**.

7. Cement Industry

- Cement production grew by **5.6%**, backed by **construction and real estate expansion**.
- The April 2024–January 2025 period recorded a **5.9% growth**, indicating sustained infrastructure development.

8. Electricity Generation

- **Electricity production** increased by **4.1%**, supported by higher demand from **households, industries, and renewable energy integration**.
- The sector’s cumulative growth stood at **5.3%**, indicating consistent power generation expansion.

Key Takeaways from the ICI January 2025 Report

- **Overall Growth:** The ICI grew **4.2% YoY**, indicating industrial recovery.
- **Strongest Performers:** Coal, steel, and refinery products showed **significant expansion**.
- **Challenges in Crude Oil:** Crude oil production remained **negative**, impacting overall performance.
- **Government Support:** Policies and **infrastructure investments** contributed to growth in fertilizers, cement, and electricity.
- **Steady Cumulative Growth:** The cumulative **6.1% growth** reflects a stable industrial momentum for **FY 2024–25**.

Economic Implications of ICI Growth

- The **growth in core industries** is a **positive indicator for the Indian economy**, boosting overall **industrial production and GDP growth**.
- Strong performance in **steel and cement** suggests ongoing **construction and infrastructure development**.
- The **decline in crude oil production** raises concerns about **energy security and import dependency**.
- The **positive trajectory in electricity generation** highlights the integration of **renewable energy sources**.

National Affairs

- **NITI Aayog** has formed a committee, led by **VK Paul**, to create a roadmap for transforming **AIIMS, New Delhi** into a world-class institution for **medical research** and **healthcare excellence**. The committee will propose reforms and timelines for implementation. This is part of a broader initiative to improve **healthcare infrastructure** and **self-sufficiency** at AIIMS. Additionally, NITI Aayog is working on **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)** and improving the affordability of **rare disease treatments**, partnering with **CSEP Research Foundation** to study global UHC models and facilitating **indigenous production** of affordable **drugs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's '**Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyaan**' has set **five Guinness World Records**, showcasing the country's commitment to **holistic healthcare** and **Ayurveda**. Supported by the **Ministry of Ayush** and **NCISM**, the campaign achieved milestones such as the **most pledges** for a health campaign in one week (**6,004,912 pledges**) and one month (**13,892,976 pledges**), along with records for the **largest online photo album** (62,525 photos) and **video album** (12,798 videos). The event concluded on **February 20, 2025**, in **Mumbai**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Shri Ram Mohan Naidu**, Union Minister for Civil Aviation, inaugurated the **UDAN Yatri Cafe** at **Chennai International Airport**, marking the second such facility after the first was launched in **Kolkata** on **December 19, 2024**. The initiative aims to make air travel more **accessible, affordable, and seamless**. The **Kolkata UDAN Yatri Cafe** received positive feedback for its **quality** and **affordability**, prompting the expansion to **Chennai**, a key hub in Southern India, to meet increasing passenger demand. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** launched the **Aadhaar Good Governance Portal** to streamline Aadhaar authentication for better access to public and private services. The launch, led by **Shri S. Krishnan**, aims to improve **transparency, inclusivity, and efficiency** in governance. This platform, effective with the **Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance Amendment Rules, 2025**, supports the government's vision for **user-friendly Aadhaar** and **ease of living** for citizens. The portal is accessible at <http://swik.meity.gov.in>. ([Click here to read article](#))

States in the News

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Global Investors Summit 2025** in **Bhopal**, unveiling **18 new industrial policies** to transform **Madhya Pradesh** into an investment hub. The summit, with participation from global investors and industrialists, focused on India's role in **global supply chains**, especially in **aerospace**. PM Modi highlighted India's **economic growth**, supported by positive outlooks

from institutions like the **World Bank, OECD, and the UN**, aiming to attract investments and reinforce India's position as a leading global economic power. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Datia** has officially emerged as **Madhya Pradesh's eighth airport after receiving a licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**. It has been categorized as a public aerodrome under the 3C/VFR category, allowing its use for commercial operations. The newly developed airport, spanning 118 acres, is expected to enhance air connectivity in the state. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav expressed his joy on social media, thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi for this development. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Khajuraho Dance Festival** will take place from **February 20 to 26, 2025**, celebrating India's rich **cultural heritage** and classical dance. Organized by the **Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh**, and supported by **Madhya Pradesh Tourism**, this year marks its **51st edition**. Set against the stunning **Khajuraho Group of Temples**, the festival offers a blend of **traditional and innovative dance performances, heritage tours, craft exhibitions, culinary delights, and adventure activities**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Soliga tribal community** has played a crucial role in increasing the **tiger population** in **Karnataka's Biligirirangana Hills (BRT) Tiger Reserve** through their traditional conservation methods. On **February 23, 2025**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** acknowledged their efforts in the **119th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'**, highlighting the community's harmonious coexistence with **tigers** and minimal **human-animal conflict**. This recognition underscores the importance of involving **indigenous communities** in wildlife conservation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **February 24, 2025**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **largest-ever Jhumoir dance performance** at **Sarusajai Stadium** in **Guwahati**, celebrating the **200th anniversary of Assam's tea industry**. The event, titled '**Jhumoir Binandini 2025**,' featured over **8,000 artists** from the **tea garden community**. The **Jhumoir dance**, integral to Assam's **tea culture**, originated in the **19th century** and remains a vibrant expression of joy and unity, with **traditional instruments** like the **dhol, madal, and bamboo flutes**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR)** in Assam has officially recognized '**Bathouism**' as a religion option in application forms, including for educational institutions and government documents like birth and death certificates. This move, praised by experts like **Sanghamitra Choudhury**, aims to preserve **nature-centric faiths**. **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** highlighted the government's commitment to **indigenous traditions** during the **13th Triennial Conference of the All Bathou Mahasabha** in January 2024. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment and Infrastructure Summit 2025** in **Guwahati**, showcasing Assam's economic transformation. **Reliance Industries** and the **Adani Group** committed ₹50,000 crore each for investments over the next five years. **Mukesh Ambani** highlighted investments in **technology and digital sectors**, while **Gautam Adani** focused on infrastructure projects like **airports, city gas distribution networks, and roadways**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Punjab government** has made **Punjabi** a **compulsory subject** in all schools, regardless of the educational board, following concerns over its removal from the **CBSE Class 10 regional language list**. Education Minister **Harjot Singh Bains** announced the decision, making it immediately applicable across **PSEB, CBSE, and CISCE** boards. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Madhya Pradesh has become the state with the highest **vulture population** in India, with a count of **12,981** vultures in the 2025 census, up from **10,845** in 2024 and **8,397** in 2019. This rise reflects the success of **wildlife conservation** efforts. The **vulture census**, started in 2016, plays a key role in monitoring population trends and ensuring their survival. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Jammu and Kashmir Police registered its **first-ever e-FIR** at **Police Station Khrew**, marking a milestone in **digital policing**. The complaint, filed via **email**, resulted in **Case FIR No. 17/2025**. This initiative follows the **Law Commission of India's** recommendation to allow e-FIRs for certain cognizable offenses, enhancing **transparency** and **accessibility** in the **criminal justice system**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Telangana government** has made **Telugu** a mandatory subject for **Class 9** students across **CBSE, ICSE, IB**, and other affiliated schools starting from the **2025-26** academic year. This will extend to **Class 10** students in 2026-27. The initiative follows the **Telangana (Compulsory Teaching and Learning of Telugu in Schools) Act, 2018** and aims to preserve and promote the **Telugu language**. A simplified **Telugu 'Vennela' textbook** will replace the standard **'Singidi' textbook** to facilitate easier learning. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Madhya Pradesh secured **₹30.77 lakh crore** in investment commitments at the **8th Invest Madhya Pradesh Summit** in Bhopal. The summit highlighted the state's **strategic advantages, industrial potential, and business-friendly policies**, attracting global investors, including **Adani Group, Reliance Industries, NTPC, and Avaada**, positioning MP as a key **investment hub** for economic growth. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Maharashtra's Adventure Tourism Boost**: The state will sink **INS Guldar**, an **83-meter Kumbhir-class warship**, near **Nivati Rocks, Sindhudurg**, to create **India's first artificial reef**. Provided **free of cost** by the **Indian Navy**, the ship will be transported from **Port Blair to Karwar** before submersion.

This project aims to **enhance scuba diving tourism, promote marine biodiversity, and boost employment**. Inspired by global models like the **USS Spiegel Grove**, it is expected to generate **₹50 crore annually** and create jobs for **diving instructors, tourism operators, and retired naval personnel**. ([Click here to read article](#))

International Affairs

- **President Donald Trump** has appointed **Dan Bongino**, a former **Secret Service agent** and **conservative commentator**, as the new **Deputy Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**. This move places a staunch Trump ally in a crucial position within the nation's top law enforcement agency. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Denmark has launched the **Green Transition Alliance India (GTAI)** to boost collaboration with **India** on **sustainable energy solutions**. The initiative, part of the **Green Strategic Partnership (GSP)** formed in 2020, aims to accelerate efforts toward **global carbon neutrality** through **business, research, and governmental cooperation**. Key areas of focus include **renewable energy, green fuels, and energy efficiency**. This partnership supports India's goal of **net-zero emissions by 2070** and Denmark's target of **net zero by 2045**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Cali Fund** was launched on **February 25, 2025**, at **COP16 in Rome, Italy**, aiming to secure financial contributions from businesses using **genetic data** in their industries for **biodiversity conservation**. This global fund supports the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)** goal of halting biodiversity loss by 2030. The fund will finance **conservation projects, scientific research, and protection of indigenous communities**, following a historic agreement at **COP16 in Colombia** in 2024. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Friedrich Merz**, leader of the **Christian Democratic Union (CDU)**, is set to become **Germany's next chancellor** after his party, in alliance with the **Christian Social Union (CSU)**, won the **2025 federal elections**. At 69, Merz will be the oldest person to hold the position since **Konrad Adenauer** in 1949. His leadership marks a shift towards **conservative policies** that may influence both **Germany's governance** and its role in **global affairs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **UAE** has launched the first phase of the **Blue Visa** system, a **10-year residency permit** aimed at individuals contributing to **environmental sustainability**. Announced at the **World Governments Summit 2025** in **Dubai**, the initiative is led by the **Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA)** in collaboration with the **Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs, and Ports Security (ICP)**. The **Blue Visa** complements existing residency options like the **Golden Visa** and **Green Visa**, reflecting the UAE's commitment to **sustainability and climate action**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Bisleri International** has signed an MoU with the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** under the 'Adopt a Heritage 2.0 Programme' to restore historic water bodies at heritage sites. This initiative, part of Bisleri's **CSR program 'Nayi Umeed'**, aims to combine **heritage preservation with sustainable water management**. The partnership will start with the revival of four historic water bodies, promoting **ecological restoration** and boosting **tourism**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** has signed an MoU with the **Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)**, Pune, to promote **research, skill development, and technological advancements** in the aerospace sector. **HAL Management Academy (HMA)** will facilitate **higher education, research, and training** for HAL executives in emerging aerospace technologies. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **SIDBI and Tata Capital Limited (TCL)** have signed a MoU to enhance **financing opportunities** for **MSMEs**. The partnership will provide funding options such as **machinery financing, working capital loans, and loans against property**. It will also explore **co-lending, risk-sharing, and joint financing** models to improve credit access for MSMEs, aiming to strengthen their growth and financial support. ([Click here to read article](#))

Books and Authors

- **Namita Gokhale's** latest book, **Life on Mars: Collected Stories**, released in **January 2025**, features **15 short stories** exploring themes of **love, fate, and human existence**. The collection is divided into two sections: 'Love and Other Derangements' and 'The Mirror of the Mahabharata', offering unique perspectives on **relationships, mythology, and human emotions**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Banu Mushtaq's** short story collection, **Heart Lamp**, translated into English by **Deepa Bhashti**, has made history by being **longlisted** for the **International Booker Prize 2025**. This marks the first time a **Kannada** book has been included in the prestigious list. The collection features **12 short stories** set in Muslim communities in southern India, praised for its **witty, vivid, colloquial, and moving** storytelling. The longlist includes books from **15 nationalities** and **10 languages**, including Kannada and Romanian for the first time. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh** launched the **first edition** of the **Ministry of Defence's Hindi magazine, 'Sashakt Bharat'**, on **February 27, 2025**, at **South Block, New Delhi**. The magazine, released by the **Department of Official Language**, aims to promote **patriotism, valor, and sacrifices** of Armed Forces personnel, while highlighting key **government policies** in Hindi. It supports the **government's vision** to encourage **Hindi use** in official communication and **celebrates creativity** within MoD personnel. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Kailash Satyarthi's** Autobiography 'Diyaslai' – A Literary Exploration at IGNCA. The **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)**, under the **Ministry of Culture**, in collaboration with the **Satyarthi Movement for Global Compassion**, hosted a literary discussion on Diyaslai, the autobiography of **Nobel Peace Prize laureate Kailash Satyarthi**. The event highlighted the book's exploration of **social justice, child rights, and global compassion**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- Bank lending to **NBFCs** has slowed to a four-year low of **6.7%** in 2024, driven by **higher risk weights and tighter credit conditions**, according to the **RBI**. This marks a shift from previous years' stronger credit growth to **NBFCs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **RBI's Open Market Operation (OMO)** purchase auction on **February 20, 2025**, saw strong demand, with bids worth **₹1.87 trillion** for an offer of **₹40,000 crore**, highlighting a significant **liquidity deficit** in the banking system. This response indicates market expectations of further **liquidity infusions** from the central bank amid tightening **financial conditions** across sectors. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **economic growth** is projected to slow to **6.4%** in 2025, down from **6.6%** in 2024, according to **Moody's Analytics**. The slowdown is attributed to factors like **new U.S. tariffs** and **weakening global demand**, impacting **exports**. The **Asia-Pacific** region, including **China**, is also facing reduced growth, with China's GDP expected to drop from **5%** in 2024 to **4.2%** in 2025. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India is set to become a **high-income nation** by 2047, with its **GDP** projected to reach **\$23 trillion to \$35 trillion**, according to a **Bain & Company** report with **Nasscom**. The **services sector** will be the largest contributor at **60%** of GDP, followed by **manufacturing** at **32%**. The report emphasizes the importance of **technology, workforce expansion, and strategic investments** in key sectors for India's economic transformation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company (BALIC)** is the first insurer in India to introduce the **Bima-ASBA (Bima-Application Supported by Blocked Amount)** facility. This new payment method, introduced by the **IRDAI**, enhances **transparency and convenience** in **premium payments** by allowing policyholders to block a specific premium amount in their **bank accounts**. The initiative aims to improve **financial security, control**, and align with IRDAI's goal of increasing **insurance accessibility** and simplifying customer transactions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed **monetary penalties** on **Citibank N.A., Asirvad Micro Finance, and JM Financial Home Loans** for failing to comply with **regulatory norms**. The violations included issues with **large exposures, credit information reporting, and disclosure requirements**, based on inspections of their financial positions as of **March 31, 2023**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a **\$10 billion forex swap** on **February 28, 2025**, to address the **liquidity crunch** in the banking system. This follows a **\$5 billion swap** last month, demonstrating the RBI's commitment to stabilizing liquidity. The banking sector is facing one of its worst **liquidity shortfalls** in over a decade, partly due to the RBI's aggressive **dollar sales** to protect the **rupee** from volatility. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has become the global leader in **Initial Public Offerings (IPOs)** in **2024**, accounting for **23%** of all IPOs worldwide and raising **\$19.5 billion**. This achievement highlights India's growing strength in the global **financial market**, driven by increased **venture-backed IPOs**, **SME growth**, and strong **investor confidence**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched **Financial Literacy Week (FLW) 2025** from **February 24 to 28**, focusing on **"Financial Literacy: Women's Prosperity."** The event aims to educate women on managing finances, making informed decisions, and contributing to economic growth. By promoting **financial literacy**, the RBI seeks to bridge the **gender gap** in **financial inclusion** and empower women to actively participate in the economy. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **IndusInd Bank** has partnered with the **Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)** as its official **Banking Partner**. The collaboration focuses on enhancing the banking experience for **Ultra High Net Worth Individuals (UHNIs)** and **High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs)** under the **PIONEER banking program**. This partnership aligns with the bank's commitment to integrating **lifestyle experiences** with **premium banking services**, especially in the **sports** sector. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has signed an **MoU** with the **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)** on **February 11, 2025**, to provide specialized banking services and exclusive financial benefits to **ITBP personnel**, **pensioners**, and their families. The agreement aims to enhance financial security by offering **high insurance coverage** and improved banking services. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)** launched three initiatives—**Chhoti SIP**, **Tarun Yojana**, and **MITRA**—to promote **financial inclusion**, raise **investor awareness**, and help retrieve **unclaimed investments**. The **Chhoti SIP** offers a **₹250 Systematic Investment Plan (SIP)**, making mutual fund investments accessible, particularly for **first-time investors** and those from **underserved communities**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian government** has proposed extending the **'free-look' period** for insurance policies from **30 days to one year** to enhance **consumer protection** and prevent **mis-selling**. Announced by **Department of Financial Services Secretary M. Nagaraju**, this policy shift aims to improve **transparency** in the **insurance sector**. Public sector insurers must implement this, while private insurers are encouraged to follow. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the **small-value loan ceiling** for **Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs)** to **₹3 crore per borrower**. This change aims to enhance lending flexibility while maintaining existing conditions and prudential norms. The new definition classifies small-value loans as those not exceeding **₹25 lakh or 0.4% of Tier I capital**, whichever is higher. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **SEBI** has fined **₹5.05 crore** on **Indian Clearing Corporation Ltd. (ICCL)**, a subsidiary of **BSE Ltd.**, for violations of its **cybersecurity framework**, **IT asset management**, and **disaster recovery protocols**. The penalty follows an inspection revealing issues like outdated IT asset inventory, delayed audit resolution, and poor alignment between the **Disaster Recovery Site (DRS)** and **Primary Data Centre (PDC)**. Despite ICCL's defense, SEBI deemed the violations serious and imposed the fine. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Paytm** has launched the **Paytm Solar Soundbox** on **February 20, 2025**, aimed at enhancing **digital payments** for **small merchants** in India. The device uses **solar energy** to provide **seamless transaction alerts**, eliminating the need for electricity. It is designed for **hawkers**, **street vendors**, and **small shopkeepers**, offering a reliable solution for businesses in **rural** and **remote areas**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's economic growth for **FY 2024-25** is expected to slow to **6.3%**, according to the **State Bank of India (SBI)**, down from last year's **8.2%** and lower than the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** estimate of **6.6%**. The revision is driven by **weaker manufacturing growth** and **subdued private investment**, raising concerns about the country's economic outlook. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's economy is projected to grow at **6.4%** in both **FY25** and **FY26**, as per **S&P Global Market Intelligence**. This growth estimate aligns closely with the **RBI's** forecast of **6.6%** for **FY25** but is slightly lower than S&P's earlier estimate of **6.8%**. The report underscores the role of **monetary policies**, **fiscal policies**, **inflation trends**, and **government expenditure** in driving economic growth despite global and domestic challenges. ([Click here to read article](#))



- TRIFED, under the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**, signed **MoUs** with **NIFT** and **HPMC** during the **Aadi Mahotsav** in New Delhi on **February 24, 2025**. These agreements aim to shift **tribal marketing** from a **B2C** to a **B2B** model, expanding market access and opportunities for **tribal artisans** and **producers**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Indian corporate profits grew by **15.3%** in **FY24**, despite moderate **sales growth** of **5.5%**, according to the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** report. The rise in profits was driven by **cost-cutting measures**, improving **profit margins**. While the **services sector** showed resilience, the **manufacturing sector** faced slower growth. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Axis Bank** has launched the 9th edition of its **Evolve** seminar, focusing on helping **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** adapt to the changing business environment. This year's theme, "**Future-Proofing MSMEs for the New-Age Business**," emphasizes **digital transformation**, **innovation**, and **operational resilience**, providing entrepreneurs with practical insights and strategies to strengthen their businesses in an evolving market. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Muthoot Finance**, a leading **gold loan NBFC**, has received **RBI approval** to expand its branch network by adding **115 new branches** across India. This expansion aims to reach more customers, particularly in **underbanked** and **underserved regions**, strengthening its presence in the **gold loan** segment and improving access to **financial services**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **RBI** has reversed its **2023 decision** to increase **risk weights** on bank loans to **NBFCs**, effective **April 1, 2025**. The move aligns risk weights with the **external ratings** of NBFCs, freeing up **capital for banks** and improving lending to NBFCs. The **November 2023 decision** had caused a slowdown in **bank credit growth** to NBFCs, dropping from **15%** to **6.7%**. NBFCs resorted to costlier **alternative funding** like **capital markets** and **ECBs** due to the increased risk. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Flipkart-backed UPI platform super.money** has acquired **BharatX**, a **checkout financing platform**, in an **all-cash deal**. This acquisition aims to strengthen super.money's position in **India's digital credit market**, particularly in **checkout financing**. super.money plans to leverage **BharatX's technology** to enhance **credit-on-UPI solutions** and integrate **BharatX's core team**. The deal comes at a time of reduced competition in the segment, creating an opportunity for **new product development**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Union government** is considering a **reduction in the share of central tax revenues allocated to states**, from the **current 41% to at least 40%**. The recommendation will be submitted to the Finance Commission of India, chaired by economist Arvind Panagariya, which is set to present its report by October 31, 2025, for implementation from fiscal year 2026-27. The move, aimed at addressing the Union government's rising expenditure needs, may escalate tensions between the central and state governments. Additionally, the Centre plans to impose conditions on revenue-deficit grants to curb freebies and debt waivers by state governments. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **economic growth** has shown a remarkable improvement in the **third quarter (Q3)** of **FY 2024-25**, with the **Real GDP** increasing to **6.2%**, up from an initially reported **5.4%** in the previous quarter. This positive growth trajectory is reflected in the **revised estimates**, which project India's **Real GDP growth at 6.5% for the full financial year 2024-25**. Furthermore, the **Nominal GDP** is expected to witness a **growth rate of 9.9%**, both of which are revised upwards from the **First Advance Estimates**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Central Board of Trustees (CBT)** of the **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)**, in its meeting held on **February 28, 2025**, recommended that the **current annual interest rate of 8.25% on provident fund deposits** be retained for the financial year **2024-25**. Despite demands from **trade union representatives** for a higher rate, the government decided to maintain the existing rate, citing economic considerations. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has introduced a **centralised database portal** named **Bond Central** to enhance transparency and streamline access to corporate bond-related information. This initiative aims to create a **single, authentic source of information** on corporate bonds issued in India, benefiting investors and other market participants. ([Click here to read article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- **Professor Sabyasachi Kar** has been appointed as the new **Director** of the **Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)**, New Delhi, effective **February 6, 2025**, succeeding **Professor Chetan Ghate**. With extensive **academic** and **policy-making experience**, Professor Kar is expected to enhance IEG's role in shaping India's **economic policies** and strengthen its contributions to **economic and social research**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has fined **Axis Securities** ₹10 lakh for violating **stockbroker regulations**. The penalty follows an inspection from **April 2021 to November 2022**, during which SEBI found lapses in **compliance**, including **misreporting**, **improper handling of client funds**, and failure to address **customer grievances**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **February 20, 2025**, **BJP leader Vijender Gupta** was elected as the **Speaker of the Delhi Legislative Assembly**. This marks a significant moment in **Delhi's legislative history**, as Gupta, once expelled as a vocal opposition leader, now takes charge of the House. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Unilever CEO Hein Schumacher** will step down in **March 2025**, with **Fernando Fernandez**, the current CFO, set to replace him. This transition follows the progress made under Schumacher's leadership, including the **Growth Action Plan (GAP)** and a strong financial outlook for **2024**. Schumacher's official departure will be by **May 31, 2025**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** has appointed a **five-member ad-hoc committee** to manage the **Boxing Federation of India (BFI)** after it failed to hold elections on time. The committee, led by **Madhukant Pathak**, will oversee elections and daily operations. **BFI President Ajay Singh** opposed the decision, calling it **illegal** and a violation of the **IOA's constitution**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **N Chandrasekaran**, Chairman of **Tata Sons**, has been appointed as the head of the **Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation (RTEF)**. Established by the late **Ratan Tata**, the Foundation focuses on **philanthropy** and **technological research** for Indian society. The appointment was made by the **executors** of Ratan Tata's will. Chandrasekaran's leadership aims to streamline the Foundation's operations, ensuring its **independent identity** and effective **governance**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Tuhin Kanta Pandey** has been appointed as the 11th Chairperson of **SEBI** for a three-year term, succeeding **Madhabi Puri Buch**. His appointment, confirmed by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** on **February 27, 2025**, comes at a critical time when the **Indian stock market** is facing **bearish pressure** due to significant withdrawals by **FII**s and **FPI**s. Pandey's extensive background in **economic policy** and **financial management** positions him to navigate these challenges. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **SBI Life Insurance** appointed **Dorababu Daparti** as its **Deputy CEO** effective **February 24, 2025**. This move, based on the **Nomination and Remuneration Committee's** recommendation, strengthens the company's leadership. Daparti brings **29+ years** of experience in the **financial sector**, having held key roles at **State Bank of India (SBI)**, including as **CEO of SBI Maldives operations**. ([Click here to read article](#))



Defence News

- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** conducted the **'Sagar Kavach'** security exercise along the **West Bengal coastline** on **February 21-22, 2025**, to enhance **coastal security**. The two-day operation tested **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** and **inter-agency coordination** to counter maritime threats. Key scenarios included **hijacking incidents**, **smuggling operations**, and the detection and disposal of **IEDs** on critical infrastructure. The exercise aimed to improve the preparedness of maritime forces against potential security challenges along India's eastern maritime border. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India and **Bangladesh** concluded their biannual **director general-level talks** between the **Border Security Force (BSF)** and **Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB)** from **February 18 to 20, 2025**. The meeting led to key agreements, including the creation of a new **communication link** between deputy commanders and the identification of new **border patches for fencing**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India successfully tested the **Naval Anti-Ship Missile (NASM-SR)** from a **Seaking helicopter** off the coast of **Chandipur, Odisha**. Conducted by **DRDO** and the **Indian Navy**, the missile hit its target, a small ship, demonstrating its **precision strike capability** in **sea-skimming mode**. This marks a major advancement in India's **defense** and **naval warfare** technology. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Army**, in collaboration with the **Indian Coast Guard** and **Marine Police**, conducted the **'Jal-Thal-Raksha 2025'** exercise at **Bet Dwarka, Gujarat**. The drill focused on strengthening **island security**, combating **illegal encroachments**, and enhancing coordination among various security forces. Participants included **11 Ahmedabad and 31 Jamnagar Army units**, along with government agencies like the **District Administration**, **Forest Department**, and **NSG**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **Manohar International Airport (GOX)** became the first in India to receive the **"Sarvashrestha Suraksha Puraskar (Golden Trophy)"** at the **NSCI Safety Awards 2024** in the **'Service Sector'** category. This recognition highlights its exemplary **Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)** performance, commitment to **reducing workplace injuries**, and adoption of **best safety practices**, with a **zero-incident record**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sunil Bharti Mittal**, founder and chairman of **Bharti Enterprises**, was awarded an **Honorary Knighthood (KBE)** for his contributions to strengthening **India-UK business relations**. He received the **Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE)** at a ceremony in New Delhi, making him the first Indian to receive this honor under **King Charles III**. Mittal's efforts in enhancing trade and investment, notably through **Airtel Africa**, **Eutelsat OneWeb**, and the **India-UK CEO Forum**, were key to this recognition. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Ministry of Ayush** awarded the **National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025** to three distinguished practitioners for their contributions to Ayurveda. **Vaidya Tara Chand Sharma**, a **Nadi Vaidya** and author, advanced Ayurvedic diagnostics and literature. **Vaidya Maya Ram Uniyal**, a **Dravyaguna Vigyana** scholar with over six decades of service, has inspired many with his writings and leadership. **Vaidya Sameer Govind Jamadagni**, founder of the **Vishwa Vyakhyanmala** and **Vishwa Ayurveda Prabodhini**, has made significant contributions to Ayurveda. Each received a **₹5 lakh cash prize**, a **Lord Dhanwantari statue**, and a citation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A study by researchers from **Australia** and **Canada** has revealed that **Australia** and **New Zealand** have the highest **breast cancer incidence rates** worldwide. The study, covering **185 countries**, found that **1 in 20 women** will be diagnosed with breast cancer and **1 in 70** will die from it. It highlighted global disparities, with higher incidence in developed nations and higher mortality in lower **Human Development Index (HDI)** countries. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Yes Bank** has been ranked **India's highest-rated bank in sustainability** for the third consecutive year, according to the **S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2024** and the **Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)**. With a CSA score of **72/100**, it is the only Indian bank featured in the **S&P Global Sustainability Yearbook 2025**, recognizing top global banking leaders in **ESG performance**. The bank also retained its **A- (Leadership Band)** rating from CDP for strong **climate risk management** and **disclosure practices**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- The **Saras Aajeevika Mela 2025** will be held from **February 21 to March 10, 2025**, at **Noida Haat**, Uttar Pradesh. Organized by the **Ministry of Rural Development** and **NIRDPR**, the event showcases **rural art, craft, and Self Help Groups (SHGs)**. This year's theme, **"Developing Export Potential of Lakhpati SHG Didis"**, supports the government's vision of a **self-reliant rural India** and aligns with **'Vocal for Local'** and **'Viksit Bharat by 2047'** campaigns. The event will be inaugurated by **Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Conference on Carbon Markets, Prakriti 2025**, took place in **New Delhi** on **February 24-25, 2025**. Organized by the **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**, the event brought together over **600 delegates** to discuss **India's carbon markets** and its transition to a **low-carbon economy**. The conference emphasized **transparency, sustainability, and industry collaboration** in building a structured carbon market for **climate action**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Shri Piyush Goyal**, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, inaugurated the **'Bharat Calling Conference 2025'** in **Mumbai**, focused on **India's economic future** and its role in global growth. The conference, themed **'Path to Viksit Bharat 2047'**, emphasized **India's potential as an investment destination** and its **resilient economy**. Goyal highlighted initiatives like **Make in India, Digital India, and Atmanirbhar Bharat**, and outlined five key enablers for India's growth by 2047: **small business support, sustainability, inclusive growth, skill development, and competitiveness**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- In the **Times Higher Education (THE) World Reputation Rankings 2025**, **Harvard University** topped the list for the 14th consecutive year, with **University of Oxford** and **MIT** sharing the second spot. **Indian institutions** saw a decline in rankings, while **Shiksha 'O' Anusandhan** from Odisha entered the rankings for the first time in the **201-300 band**. The rankings feature **300 institutions** from **38 countries**, with **US universities** dominating the top positions. ([Click here to read article](#))

Sports News

- **Virat Kohli** became the fastest batter to reach 14,000 ODI runs, achieving the milestone in 287 innings, surpassing **Sachin Tendulkar** (350 innings) and **Kumar Sangakkara** (378 innings). He reached this landmark during India's **Champions Trophy 2025** match against Pakistan, scoring an unbeaten century (51st ODI ton). Kohli has been the fastest to every 1,000-run milestone since 8,000 runs in 2017, showcasing his **consistency and dominance in ODIs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Saurav Ghosal**, Indian squash legend, made a sensational return from retirement by winning the **Octane Sydney Classic** title. The former **World No. 10**, who retired from the **PSA Tour** in April 2023, rejoined the tour on **January 1, 2025**, to continue representing India. At 38, he dominated **Abdelrahman Nasser** of Egypt in straight sets to clinch the victory. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Mohun Bagan Super Giant** won their second consecutive **Indian Super League (ISL) Winners Shield** with a **1-0 victory** over **Odisha FC** at **Salt Lake Stadium** on **February 23, 2025**. **Dimitrios Petratos** scored the dramatic winning goal in **injury time**, making Mohun Bagan the first team in ISL history to defend the Shield successfully. This victory also guarantees their direct qualification for the **AFC Champions League 2**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Pankaj Advani** won the **2025 Asian Snooker Championship** men's title, defeating **Amir Sarkosh** of Iran in the final. This victory marked his **14th Asian title** across **snooker and billiards**. The event, organized by the **Asian Confederation of Billiards Sports** and hosted by the **Qatar Billiards Sports Federation**, took place in **Doha, Qatar**, from **February 15-21, 2025**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- The **Haryana government**, led by **Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini**, launched the **Haryana Witness Protection Scheme, 2025** to safeguard witnesses in serious criminal cases. The scheme aims to ensure the safety of witnesses and encourage them to testify without fear. It covers witnesses in cases punishable by **death, life imprisonment, or seven years or more**, including offenses under the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** and the **POCSO Act, 2012**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- The **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** scheme has significantly improved farmers' access to affordable credit in India. The operative KCC loan amount has more than doubled from **₹4.26 lakh crore** in **March 2014** to **₹10.05 lakh crore** in **December 2024**, reflecting enhanced credit penetration and reduced dependence on non-institutional sources for agriculture and allied activities. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **The Central Sector Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 29, 2020**, with a budget of **₹6,865 crore** till 2027-28. This initiative aims to strengthen small and marginal farmers by providing them with better market access, financial aid, and collective bargaining power. **Recently, the 10,000th FPO was launched in Khagaria, Bihar, focusing on maize, banana, and paddy.** Approximately 30 lakh farmers, including 40% women, are now linked to FPOs, contributing significantly to the agricultural economy. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

Science and Technology News

- China successfully launched the **ChinaSat-10R** communications satellite on **February 22, 2025**, replacing the aging **ChinaSat-10**. The satellite was launched into **geosynchronous transfer orbit (GTO)** by a **Long March 3B rocket** from the **Xichang Satellite Launch Center**. This mission supports **satellite communication infrastructure** for sectors like **transportation, emergency response, energy, forestry**, and the **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**. The launch was confirmed by **China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC)**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **Intuitive Machines** is set to launch its **Athena robotic moon lander**, marking its second lunar mission. Following its historic first private moon landing in **February 2024**, Athena will carry instruments to study **lunar soil composition** and search for **subsurface water** in the **Moon's south polar region**. The mission is part of **NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS)** program, promoting private-sector lunar exploration. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- Indian scientists have created the **first detailed geological map** of the **Moon's south pole** using data from the **Chandrayaan-3 mission**. This breakthrough offers valuable insights into the region's **topography, crater formations, and geological history**. The research, a collaboration

between **Physical Research Laboratory, Panjab University, and ISRO's Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems**, marks a significant step in understanding the **Moon's evolution**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

- Bengaluru-based startup **Pixxel** has launched **India's first private hyperspectral satellite constellation** under its **Firefly project**. The launch, part of **SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission**, marks a significant shift in the Indian space sector, introducing private players into a traditionally government-dominated domain. These **hyperspectral satellites** offer **5-meter resolution**, significantly better than the usual 30-meter resolution, enabling detailed monitoring of **agriculture, climate, and environmental changes**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- IIT Madras, in collaboration with **Indian Railways**, has launched **India's first hyperloop test track** on its campus. This **422-meter-long facility** aims to revolutionize **high-speed transportation**, enabling ultra-fast intercity travel in just minutes. The **hyperloop system** uses **electromagnetically levitated pods** inside vacuum tubes, minimizing air resistance and allowing speeds akin to **airplanes**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **NASA** is set to launch its **SPHEREx telescope**, aiming to **create the most detailed and colorful map of the universe ever made**. The telescope will use infrared spectroscopy to analyze light in 96 bands, far beyond human vision. This will help scientists understand the formation of the universe, galaxy evolution, and the distribution of life-forming molecules. Unlike the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), which focuses on high-resolution observations of small regions, SPHEREx will map the entire sky in just a few months. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

Important Days News

- **Central Excise Day** is observed on **February 24** to commemorate the establishment of the **Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944**. The day honors the contributions of the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** in efficient tax administration, curbing corruption, and supporting India's **economic growth**. The act consolidated 11 excise-related laws and laid the foundation for modern **excise taxation** in India, with excise duty being a key source of **government revenue** for public welfare programs like **education and healthcare**. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)
- **World Protein Day**, celebrated on **February 27**, raises awareness about the importance of **protein** in human nutrition. It highlights the **health benefits** of adequate protein intake and addresses the challenges of **protein deficiency**. The day underscores the role of **protein-rich foods** in improving global **nutritional security** and well-being. Initiated by the **US Soybean Export Council (USSEC)**, it aims to educate people on the vital role of protein in health. [\(Click here to read article\)](#)

- **World NGO Day** is observed annually on **February 27** to honor the contributions of NGOs in addressing global issues like **humanitarian aid, education, healthcare, human rights, and environmental conservation**. The theme for **2025** is “**Empowering Grassroots Movements for a Sustainable Future**”, highlighting the role of local organizations in **sustainable development**. Established in **2010** and first celebrated in **2014**, the day has gained global recognition, with **governments, businesses, and communities** promoting NGO efforts worldwide. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Zero Discrimination Day, observed on **March 1**, promotes **equality, dignity, and inclusion** for all. Initiated by **UNAIDS** in **2014**, it raises awareness against **stigma and discrimination**, especially for **marginalized communities**. The **2025 theme**, “**We Stand Together**,” emphasizes the role of **community-led initiatives** in sustaining the **HIV response and global health efforts**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Civil Defence Day**, observed on **March 1**, promotes **civil protection, disaster preparedness, and emergency response**. Established by the **International Civil Defence Organization (ICDO)**, it highlights the vital role of **civil defence organizations** in protecting communities from **natural and man-made disasters**. The **2025 theme**, “**Civil Defence, Guarantee of Security for the Population**,” stresses the importance of **disaster management, community participation, and preparedness**. Governments and agencies mark the day with **training programs, mock drills, and awareness campaigns** to enhance public safety. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Seagrass Day** is celebrated annually on **March 1** to highlight the ecological importance of **seagrass** and promote conservation efforts. Seagrass plays a vital role in maintaining the **marine ecosystem**, supporting marine biodiversity, stabilizing coastlines, and acting as a major carbon sink. The **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** officially declared this observance on **May 22, 2022**, following a resolution proposed by **Sri Lanka** to emphasize the urgent need for seagrass conservation. ([Click here to read article](#))



Obituaries News

- **Mayadhar Raut**, renowned **Odissi maestro** and “Father of Odissi dance,” passed away on **February 22, 2025**, at the age of **92**. A **Padma Shri** awardee, Raut played a key role in the **revival and codification** of **Odissi dance** in the 1950s. His contributions, including the introduction of **Sanchari Bhava, Mudra Viniyoga, and Rasa Theory**, were pivotal in shaping Odissi into a structured classical dance form. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Gene Hackman (1930-2025)**, an **Oscar-winning actor**, was found dead at **95** alongside his wife. Known for his **versatile roles** as both **heroes and villains**, he starred in classics like *The French Connection, Unforgiven, Superman, and Bonnie and Clyde*. Despite immense success, he remained **private**, avoiding Hollywood’s social scene. Born in **San Bernardino, California**, and raised in **Danville, Illinois**, he found inspiration in films, idolizing **Errol Flynn** and **James Cagney**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Russian chess grandmaster **Boris Spassky**, the **10th World Chess Champion**, has passed away at the age of **88**. The news was confirmed by **International Chess Federation (FIDE) general director Emil Sutovsky**, who informed Reuters about his demise. ([Click here to read article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- Nearly **700,000 Olive Ridley turtles** laid eggs at the **Rushikulya rookery** in Odisha’s **Ganjam district** during the **2025 arribada**, marking a record high. The mass nesting, which began on **February 16** and ended on **February 23**, surpassed the previous record of **637,000** turtles in 2023. Favorable **climatic conditions** and improved **beach maintenance** contributed to the surge in numbers. The highest recorded mass nesting in India occurred in **2001** at **Gahirmatha rookery** with about **741,000** turtles. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Champakam Dorairajan**, a Brahmin woman from Madras, played a **pivotal role in shaping India’s constitutional history** through her **legal challenge to caste-based reservations in educational institutions**. Her case, *State of Madras v. Champakam Dorairajan (1951)*, led to the **First Amendment of the Indian Constitution**, which introduced **Article 15(4)** allowing affirmative action for socially and educationally backward classes. This case marked the first instance where the **Supreme Court struck down a law for violating fundamental rights, setting the stage for future debates on merit, equality, and reservations in India**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Ghariahs (Gavialis gangeticus)**, a unique species of long-snouted crocodylians, are **critically endangered** due to habitat destruction, pollution, and fishing practices. **Madhya Pradesh (MP)** has emerged as a **leader in their conservation**, hosting over **80%** of India’s ghariahs. Recently, CM Mohan Yadav released **10 ghariahs** into the **Chambal River**, reinforcing MP’s commitment to their protection. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The recent sighting of **85 Cape Vultures** (*Gyps coprotheres*) in **South Africa's Eastern Cape after three decades marks a significant milestone for conservationists**. These vultures, exclusive to Southern Africa, play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance by preventing disease spread through

carion disposal. Conservation efforts have helped stabilize their population, but vultures globally continue to face threats. This resurgence highlights the importance of sustained conservation initiatives. ([Click here to read article](#))

Static Takeaways

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
Space Agencies		
1	NASA	Acting Administrator - Janet Petro HQ - Washington D.C.
2	ISRO	Chairman - V. Narayanan HQ - Bengaluru, India
3	JAXA	Chairman - Hiroshi Yamakawa HQ - Tokyo, Japan
4	ESA	DG - Dr. Josef Aschbacher HQ - Paris, France
Banking Organizations		
5	FATF	President - T. Raja Kumar
6	SEBI	Chief - Tuhin Kanta Pandey Head office - Mumbai
7	RBI	Governor - Sanjay Malhotra Head office - Mumbai
8	SBI	Chairman - Challa Sreenivasalu Setty Head office - Mumbai
9	Citi Bank India	Head - K Balasubramanian Head office - Mumbai
10	Axis Bank	Chairman - Amitabh Chaudhary Head office - Mumbai
11	Indusind Bank	Chairman - Sunil Mehta Head office - Mumbai
12	Muthoot Finance	Chairman - George Jacob Muthoot Head office - Kerala
13	Bank of India	Chairman - M.R. Kumar Head office - Mumbai
14	SBI Life	Chairman - Dinesh Kumar Khara Head office - Mumbai
15	Bajaj Allianz Insurance	Chairman - Sanjiv Bajaj Head office - Pune
16	Yes Bank	Chairman - R. Gandhi Head office - Mumbai
17	Hindustan Unilever	Chairman - Ashok Sekhar Ganguly Head office - Mumbai
International Countries		
18	Denmark	PM - Mette Frederiksen Capital - Copenhagen Currency - Danish Krone Facts - Denmark is a country in Northern Europe. It is made up of the Jutland Peninsula and over 400 islands in the North Sea. To the south, Denmark borders Germany. The people of Denmark are known as Danes.

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
19	Italy	PM - Georgia Meloni Capital - Rome Currency - Euro Facts - Italy shares borders with Austria, France, the Holy See (Vatican City), San Marino, Slovenia, and Switzerland.
20	USA	President - Donald Trump Capital - Washington D.C. Currency - American Dollar Facts - USA and Canada share the world's largest border with each other.
21	Germany	President - Frank-Walter Steinmeier Capital - Berlin Currency - Euro Facts - The Rhine and Danube rivers flows through Germany.
22	UAE	Head - Mohamed Bin Al Nahyan Capital - Abu Dhabi Currency - UAE Dirham
23	Australia	PM - Anthony Albanese Capital - Canberra Currency - Australian Dollar
24	New Zealand	PM - Christopher Luxon Capital - Wellington Currency - New Zealand Dollar
Indian States		
25	Uttarakhand	Governor - Gurmit Singh CM - Pushkar Singh Dhami Capital - Dehradun State Borders - Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh Char-Dhams - Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri State Animal - Himalayan Musk deer State Flower - Brahm Kamal State Tree - Burans
26	Assam	Governor - Lakshaman Prasad Acharya CM - Hemanta Biswa Sarma Capital - Dispur Silk - Muga, Eri, Pat silk Oil Industry - Digboi Refinery – birth place of the Oil Industry in India.
27	Karnataka	Governor - Thawar Chand Gehlot CM - Siddharamaiya Capital - Bengaluru State Boundaries - Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, Tamil Nadu Principal Language - Kannada Other Language - Tulu, Hindi, Bengali, Mahi State Animal - Asian Elephant State Bird - Indian Roller
28	Madhya Pradesh	Governor - Mangubhai Patel CM - Mohan Yadav Capital - Bhopal State Bird - Paradise Flycatcher State Animal - Swamp Deer (Barasingha) State Tree - Banyan Tree State Flower - Madonna Lilly State Fish - Mahasheer

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
29	Haryana	<p>Governor - Bandaru Dattatreya CM - Nayab Singh Saini Capital - Chandigarh State boundary - Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan State Animal - Black Buck State Bird - Black Francolin</p>
30	Jammu and Kashmir	<p>L. Governor - Manoj Sinha CM - Omar Abdullah Capital - Srinagar (Summer) and Jammu (Winter) Date of Formation - 26 October 1947 State Boundaries - Himachal Pradesh, Punjab International Boundaries - Pakistan, China, Afghanistan</p>
31	Telangana	<p>Governor - Jishnu Dev Varma CM - Revanth Reddy Capital - Hyderabad Date of Formation - 02, June 2014 State Borders - Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka</p>
32	Odisha	<p>Governor - Hari Babu Kambhupati CM - Moham Majhi Capital - Bhubneshwar State Border - Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bay of Bengal State Animal - Sambhar State Bird - Blue Jay / Indian Roller</p>

