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India Post Payments Bank celebrated its 8th Foundation Day



- On September 1, 2025, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) celebrated its 8th Foundation Day (known as IPPB Day) in New Delhi.
- The milestone marked the bank's journey of delivering accessible and affordable financial services.
- IPPB has emerged as one of the largest financial inclusion efforts globally.
- The extensive postal network of over 1.64 lakh Post Offices and 1.90 lakh Postmen and Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) has been leveraged by the bank.
- More than 12 crore customers have been onboarded since its inception.
- Doorstep banking in rural, semi-urban, and remote areas has been enabled by IPPB.
- New products such as DigiSmart (Digital Savings Accounts), Premium Aarogya Savings Account (Bank Account with Healthcare Benefits), and Aadhaar-based Face Authentication were introduced recently.

- Services like RuPay Virtual Debit Card, AePS (Aadhaar-enabled Payment Services), cross-border remittances, and Bharat BillPay integration are already in operation.

India Post Payments Bank:

- IPPB was launched on September 1, 2018.
- It has been established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, with 100% equity owned by the Government of India.
- IPPB provides easy and affordable banking solutions to 11 crore customers across 5.57 lakh villages and towns in India through an intuitive interface available in 13 languages.

Ms. T.C.A. Kalyani assumed charge as Controller General of Accounts

- Ms. T.C.A. Kalyani assumed charge as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA) in the Ministry of Finance.
- She became the 29th officer to hold this position.
- Ms. Kalyani belongs to the 1991 batch of the Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS).
- Her academic background includes a B.A. in Political Science, an M.A. in International Politics, and an M.Phil. in West European Studies.
- She brings over 34 years of experience in governance, accounting, and administration.
- Several ministries, such as Defence, Telecom, Fertilizers, Social Justice, Finance, and Home, have benefited from her service.
- Her contribution in launching the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme for fertilizer subsidies was considered significant.
- Before her present role, she served as Principal Chief Controller of Accounts in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Controller General of Accounts (CGA):

- It is the Principal Advisor on accounting matters to the Government of India.
- It is responsible for establishing and managing a technically sound Management accounting system and preparation and submission of accounts of the union government.
- It is responsible for exchequer control and conduct of internal audits for the central government.

**Ms. T.C.A. Kalyani
assumes charge
as **Controller
General of
Accounts (CGA)****



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Bihar Rajya Jeevika Nidhi Saakh Sahkari Sangh Limited through video conferencing

- This new initiative is aimed at empowering rural women across Bihar.
- It will encourage entrepreneurship and support community-run businesses.
- As part of the event, ₹105 crore will be transferred to the institution's bank account.
- The system will operate fully on a digital platform.
- This will ensure fast, direct, and transparent transfer of funds.
- Money will go straight into the bank accounts of Jeevika Didis.
- To support the digital process, 12,000 community workers are being given tablets.
- The Jeevika Nidhi will make low-interest loans more accessible to women in the Jeevika network.
- All cluster-level federations registered under Jeevika will become members of the new society.
- The Central and Bihar state governments will provide financial support for the institution's operations.
- The Jeevika Nidhi will act as an alternative to Microfinance Institutions.
- It aims to offer larger loans at lower interest rates and reduce delays in fund access.



Mitchell Starc has officially retired from international T20 cricket

- He made this decision to focus on his Test and ODI career.
- Starc finishes as Australia's most successful fast bowler in T20Is. He took 79 wickets in 65 matches.
- Only Adam Zampa, a spinner, has more T20I wickets for Australia.
- Starc made his T20I debut in 2012 against Pakistan.
- He played in five out of six T20 World Cups since then. He missed the 2016 edition due to injury.
- Starc played a key role in Australia's 2021 T20 World Cup win.
- He claimed nine wickets in seven matches during that tournament.
- His overall T20I economy rate stands at 7.74.
- At 35 years old, he now aims to focus on the longer formats of the game.



An MoU signed by Indian Railways and SBI to enhance Insurance Benefits for Railway Employees



- On 1 September, Indian Railways (IR), one of the largest rail networks in the world, and the State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest public sector bank, signed a landmark MoU.
- The signing ceremony was attended by Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology.
- Under the MoU, insurance coverage for Railway employees maintaining salary accounts with SBI has been significantly enhanced.
- In case of accidental death, the insurance benefit has been increased to Rs 1 crore, while the current coverage for Group A, B, and C employees covered under CGEGIS is Rs 1.20 lakh, Rs 60,000, and Rs 30,000, respectively.
- Natural death insurance coverage of ₹10 lakh will also be provided to all employees holding only a salary account with SBI without any premium or medical examination requirement.

- Nearly 7 lakh Railway employees maintaining salary accounts with SBI are expected to benefit from this agreement.
- Key complimentary insurance covers under the MoU include an Air Accident (death) insurance of ₹1.60 crore, with an additional coverage of up to ₹1 crore on the RuPay Debit Card.
- Personal Accident insurance for Permanent Total Disablement has been set at ₹1 crore, while Permanent Partial Disability is covered up to ₹80 lakh.
- The MoU has been described as employee-centric and compassionate, particularly benefiting frontline Group C Railway personnel and other employees.

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Mp launched 'Vedic clock' mobile app for easy access to Hindu calendar

- Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav unveiled the Vikramaditya Vedic Clock and launched its mobile app at the Chief Minister's residence on 1st September 2025.
- The Vikramaditya Vedic Clock, the first clock based on traditional Indian timekeeping methods, was revived in Ujjain by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in February 2024.
- It is based on the Indian "Kaal Ganana" method, dividing the day into 30 muhurtas (each about 48 minutes) instead of the standard 24-hour format.
- Objective: It combines India's traditional timekeeping methods with modern technological advancements, aiming to revive ancient systems of time calculation.
- The mobile app associated with the clock encompasses over 7,000 years of history, starting from 3179 BCE (the birth of Lord Krishna) to the present, offering details from the Mahabharata era.

Features include:

- Information on Panchang, Tithi, Nakshatra, Yoga, Karan, Vara, Maas, Vrats, and festivals.
- Alerts and reminders for religious activities, fasts, and meditation.
- Vedic time in a 30-hour format, Muhurta, sunrise/sunset timings, and weather updates (temperature, wind speed, humidity).
- Available in more than 189 global languages for worldwide access.



India Finishes on Top with 40 Medals at 25th Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships

- India bagged a total of 13 medals at the 25th Commonwealth Senior Weightlifting Championship, including 4 gold, 6 silver, and 3 bronze medals.
- India won a total of 40 medals across the senior, junior, and youth categories at the 25th Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad.
- Tushar Chaudhary emerged as a highlight by clinching two gold medals in the Youth Boys (+94 kg) and Junior Men (110 kg) categories with a total lift of 285 kg
- Ajaya Babu Valluri won gold in the Senior Men's 79 kg category with a total of 335 kg
- Mirabai Chanu made a striking comeback by winning gold in the women's 48 kg senior category.
- Koyel Bar, a rising star in the youth and junior women's 53 kg category, set new Youth World Records with a snatch lift of 85 kg, a clean & jerk of 107 kg, and a total lift of 192 kg
- Yash Khandagale set new national and Commonwealth Youth records in the 65 kg category with a snatch of 123 kg and a total of 273 kg



NCERT Launches Bal Vatika TV and DIKSHA 2.0 on 65th Foundation Day



- NCERT celebrated its 65th Foundation Day on September 1, 2025, with new initiatives aligned to NEP 2020.
- **Bal Vatika TV (PM eVidya DTH Channel No. 35)** was launched for children aged 3–6 years to promote foundational literacy and numeracy.
- The channel also supports **teachers, Anganwadi workers, and parents**, aligning with Early Childhood Care and Education goals.
- **DIKSHA 2.0** was introduced as an upgraded AI-powered digital learning platform with multilingual content in **12 Indian languages**.
- It features **structured lessons, adaptive assessments, Read Aloud, captions, translation tools, and performance tracking**.
- **PRASHAST 2.0**, an enhanced disability screening tool, was launched, integrated with **UDISE+, APAAR ID, and Swavlamban Card**.

- **Kitab Ek Padhe Anek** initiative was announced to ensure inclusive textbooks for **Classes 1 & 2** based on Universal Design of Learning (UDL).
- Additional initiatives included **VR labs in NCERT demo schools, PM eVidya mobile app, primers in multiple languages, and an Odisha heritage book.**
- A **Vocational Education Handbook** was released by PSSCIVE (Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education) to guide NEP 2020 implementation in skill education.
- These initiatives highlight NCERT's **digital transformation, inclusivity, accessibility, and alignment with NEP 2020's National Curriculum Framework.**

Highlights of UDISE+ 2024–25 Report

- The total number of teachers across India increased from 98,07,600 in 2023-24 to 1,01,22,420 in 2024-25.
- Women constitute 54.2% of the total teachers.
- Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of teachers, Telangana stands 10th, and Andhra Pradesh is at 12th position.
- Student enrolments in schools declined from 1,10,971 lakh to 1,04,125 lakh.
- Dropout rates recorded are 2.3% at the primary level, 3.5% at the middle level, and 8.2% at the secondary level.
- The pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) stands at 24:1.
- About 64.7% of schools have computers, and 63.5% have internet connectivity.
- Drinking water facilities are available in 99.3% of schools, while toilets are available in 97.3% of schools for boys and 96.2% of schools for girls.
- For children with disabilities, 54.9% of schools have ramps and handrails. The number of orphan students increased from 43,389 to 46,517.

Kapas Kisan App Launched to Empower Cotton Farmers

- Launched on **September 2, 2025** by **Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh**.
- **Objective** :To digitize **cotton procurement under MSP** and protect farmers from distress sales.
- Farmers can register using mobile phones and **Aadhaar-linked details**.
- Farmers can **book slots online** to deliver cotton at procurement centers, avoiding long queues.
- Enables **real-time monitoring of MSP payments** directly to farmers.
- App available in **multiple Indian languages** for wider inclusivity.
- Simple, intuitive interface tailored for **rural users**.
- Supports **Digital India, Smart Agriculture, and Farmer Welfare** initiatives.
- Strengthens the **Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)** by digitizing records, improving logistics, and easing communication.



Vikram-3201: India's First Made-in-Bharat 32-Bit Microprocessor



- Vikram-3201 is India's first fully indigenous 32-bit microprocessor, unveiled on September 2, 2025, at Semicon India 2025 in New Delhi.
- It was jointly developed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and fabricated at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali.
- It is the successor to Vikram-1601, a 16-bit processor that has been used in ISRO's launch vehicles since 2009.
- The processor is built using a 180 nm CMOS process and introduces major improvements in speed, precision, and data handling.
- It supports floating-point computations, has a custom instruction set architecture designed for space applications, and works with the Ada programming language using ISRO's in-house toolchain.
- It is highly resilient, capable of operating between $-55\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $+125\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and is resistant to vibration and radiation; it has been successfully tested onboard the PSLV-C60 mission.

- Its core applications are in ISRO's rockets and satellites for navigation, guidance, and mission management.
- With its rugged design, it can also be used in defence, aerospace, high-performance automotive systems, and energy infrastructure, while also strengthening India's chip ecosystem under the Design-Linked Incentive scheme.
- Going forward, India must focus on advanced fabrication below 65 nm, expanding chip design and manufacturing capacity, and encouraging academic-industry R&D collaborations to compete globally.

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Indore: A Model Sustainable City

- Indore became the first city in Madhya Pradesh to receive the IGBC Green City Platinum Certification.
- IGBC Green City Certification evaluates cities on sustainability, including water, energy, waste, green cover, and governance.
- Indore underwent a six-month assessment covering planning, resource management, cleanliness, air quality, and liveability.
- The city excelled in water management, solid waste management, e-governance, and green cover expansion.
- Indore joins Rajkot, Pune, and Pimpri Chinchwad among 32 IGBC Platinum-certified cities in India.
- The award positions Indore as a model for sustainable urban growth in other cities.
- IGBC has certified over 16,300 projects covering 14.15 billion sq. ft., making it India's leading green building framework.



IIT Hyderabad signs MoU with Indian Army

- IIT Hyderabad (IITH) signed an MoU with the Army Training Command's Simulator Development Division (SDD), Secunderabad to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) named VIGRAHA.
- VIGRAHA stands for *Virtual, Intelligent, Ground-breaking Research in AR/VR & High-tech Applications for Indian Army*.
- The a Centre of Excellence (CoE) will focus on **AR/VR, AI, robotics, drones, unmanned systems, and emerging defense technologies**.
- The MoU was formalized in the presence of **Prof. B.S. Murty (Director, IITH)** and **Brigadier A.K. Chaturvedi (SDD)**, with faculty leaders Prof. G. Narahari Sastry and Dr. Shivaji.
- The initiative aims to foster **Atmanirbhar Bharat in defense technologies** by promoting academia–army collaboration.
- The CoE will support **joint academic programs, R&D projects, innovation initiatives, and capacity-building exercises**.
- It will also enable **training & certification in emerging tech, internships at Simulator Development Division (SDD), reciprocal facility access, and incubation programs**.
- **Simulator Development Division (SDD)**, established in **1991**, is the Army's nodal body for simulator design and AR/VR expertise.
- The collaboration strengthens India's **defense research ecosystem**, enhancing **self-reliance and operational preparedness** of the armed forces.

