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Parakram Diwas 2026: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti

Parakram Diwas

Honouring the Valiant Spirit of
Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose
on his Birth anniversary



- Parakram Diwas means the “Day of Courage.” It is celebrated every year on 23 January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- The Government of India observes this day to recognise his bold efforts and sacrifices made for India’s freedom. The day reminds people of the power of determination and patriotism.

About Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose:

- He was born on 23 January 1897 in Cuttack, Odisha.
- He cleared the Indian Civil Service (ICS) exam but resigned to join India’s freedom struggle.
- Netaji was elected Congress President twice, in 1938 and 1939.
- He founded the Forward Bloc after leaving the Indian National Congress.

- Netaji led the Indian National Army (INA) with the powerful slogan “Delhi Chalo.”
- He gave the famous greeting “Jai Hind,” which later became India’s national slogan.
- Netaji was imprisoned by the British government several times for revolutionary activities.
- He escaped house arrest in 1941 in a dramatic and secret manner.
- Netaji sought international support from Germany and Japan for India’s independence.
- His reported death in a plane crash in 1945 remains a mystery till today.

History of Parakram Diwas:

- Parakram Diwas was officially announced by the Government of India on 19 January 2021.
- This declaration was made during the celebrations of Netaji’s 125th birth anniversary.
- Since then, 23 January has been observed every year as Parakram Diwas to honour his role in India’s independence movement.

Mozambican Rights Advocate Graça Machel Selected for Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2025

- Mozambican rights activist **Graça Machel** selected for **Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2025**.
- The award was announced on **January 21, 2026**, by the **Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust**.
- She was honored for her "**path-breaking work**" in education, health and nutrition, and her **advocacy for the rights of women and children**.
- Machel is a **former Education Minister of Mozambique** and the only woman to have been the First Lady of two different countries (**Mozambique and South Africa**).
- The award includes a trophy, a citation, and a cash prize of **₹1 crore** (₹10 million).
- The international jury for the 2025 prize was chaired by former National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon
- The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development is a prestigious award established in **1986** by the **Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust** to honor the legacy of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- It recognizes **individuals or organizations for outstanding contributions to international peace, development, and the scientific betterment of humanity**.



Numbeo Safety Index 2026: Mangaluru Ranked Safest City in India; Qingdao Tops Globally

- In January 2026, according to Numbeo Safety Index 2026 rankings by Numbeo, a crowd-sourced global database, Mangaluru (Karnataka) emerged as the safest city in India, securing the 46th rank globally with a safety score of 74.4.
- Qingdao (Shandong, China) topped the global list with an exceptional safety score of 89.2, followed by Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates, UAE) in second place with 88.9, and Doha (Qatar) in third place with 84.5.
- **Data Collection:** The index is based on crime and safety perceptions gathered from surveys completed by visitors to the Numbeo website, with responses scored from -2 (negative) to $+2$ (positive).
- **Scoring System:** Survey responses are filtered, weighted, and scaled to generate a final score ranging from 0 to 100.
- **Classification & Scope:** Scores are categorized as Very Low (below 20), Low (20–40), Moderate (40–60), High (60–80), or Very High (above 80), covering 304 cities worldwide.



Top 5 Safest Cities Globally:

Rank	City	Country	Safety Index Score
1	Qingdao, Shandong	China	89.2
2	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	88.9
3	Doha	Qatar	84.5
4	Sharjah	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	84.5
5	Dubai	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	83.9

- **Most Unsafe City Globally: Pretoria** (South Africa) was ranked at the bottom (304th) with a score of 18.2, preceded by **Caracas** (Venezuela) at 303rd (18.6) and **Johannesburg**(South Africa) at 302nd(19.2).

Top 5 Safest Cities in India:

Rank (India)	Global Rank	City	State	Safety Index Score
1	46	Mangaluru	Karnataka	74.4
2	87	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	68.5
3	106	Jaipur	Rajasthan	65.3
4	123	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu (TN)	62.0
5	132	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	61.0

- **Other Indian Cities :** **Chennai** (TN) (Rank 142, score – 60.0) and **Pune** (Maharashtra) (Rank 143, score – 58.7) featured in the “**Moderate**” safety bracket.
- Other rankings include **Hyderabad**(Telangana)(147) with a score of 57.4; **Mumbai** (Maharashtra) (Rank 155)with a score of 55.9; **Kolkata**(West Bengal, WB)(180) with a score of 53.1; and **Bengaluru**(Karnataka)(227) with a score of 46;
- **Unsafe Cities in India:** **New Delhi**(Delhi) was ranked the least safe city in India, placing 255th globally with a score of 40.9, followed by **Noida** (Uttar Pradesh, UP) at 234th (44.9) and **Gurgaon** (Haryana) at 229th(45.9).

Top 5 Safest Countries:

Rank	Country	Safety Index Score
1	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	86.0
2	Qatar	84.8
3	Andorra	84.8
4	Taiwan	83.0
5	Macao (China)	81.8
70	India	55.8

- **Least Safe Countries:** According to Numbeo's 2026 safety index, **Papua** New Guinea had a safety score of 19.1, **Venezuela** scored 19.6, and **Haiti** scored 19.9, placing all three among the least safe countries globally.

About Numbeo:

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – **Mladen Adamovic**
- Headquarters – **Belgrade, Serbia**
- Established – **2009**

A 233-year-old manuscript of the Valmiki Ramayana handed over for display at the Ayodhya Ram Temple

- A rare **233-year-old manuscript of the Valmiki Ramayana** was formally handed over by the Vice Chancellor of the **Central Sanskrit University**, Professor **Shrinivasa Varakhedi**, to Nripendra Misra for public display at Ayodhya.
- Mr Misra is Chairman of the Executive Council of the Prime Ministers Museum and Library and Chairman of the Ram Mandir Construction Committee.
- It has been stated that, after due authentication, the manuscript will be placed within the Ram Temple premises for viewing by devotees.
- The Ram Mandir Construction Committee has planned to curate authenticated versions of the Ramayana in different languages at a designated level near the **Garbha Griha** (sanctum sanctorum).
- Individuals possessing rare and authentic Ramayana manuscripts are to be invited soon to contribute to this growing collection at **Ayodhya**.
- The donated manuscript, sent to Ayodhya, was described as a landmark acquisition for the Ram Katha Sangrahalaya.
- The manuscript was originally composed by **Adi Kavi Valmiki**, with a classical Sanskrit commentary by **Maheshvara Tirtha**, and is written in the **Devanagari script**.
- It dates back to Vikrama Samvat 1849 (1792 CE) and represents a rare preserved textual tradition of the Ramayana.
- The collection comprises five principal kaṇḍas (chapters) of the epic: **Balakaṇḍa** (Childhood), **Aranyakāṇḍa** (Ram's exile in the forest), **Kiṣkindhakaṇḍa** (Ram's alliance with Sugriva), **Sundarakaṇḍa** (the journey of Lord Hanuman to Lanka to find Sita), and **Yuddhakaṇḍa** (the war with Ravana).

- According to the Ministry of Culture, the manuscript, earlier loaned to Rashtrapati Bhavan, has now been permanently gifted to the **Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya** (International Ram Katha Museum), Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.
- In 1988, the museum was originally established to collect and preserve artefacts related to Ram Katha (the story of Lord Ram).

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Indian Air Force to Showcase Operation Sindoor Formation at Republic Day Parade



- India's 2026 Republic Day Parade on Kartavya Path will mark a major shift from traditional static displays to an operational, battle-based narrative, reflecting modern warfare preparedness and defence communication strategy.
- For the first time, the Indian Air Force (IAF) will showcase an operational formation based on Operation Sindoor, highlighting real-world joint battle integration instead of ceremonial presentations.

Key Highlights :

- Operation Sindoor was a high-precision tri-services military campaign launched in May 2025 after a major terror attack in Pahalgam, and has been chosen as the central military narrative due to strong public interest.
- According to Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, the 90-minute parade will weave a sequential story of a modern battle, covering reconnaissance, logistics, long-range strikes, backup support, and air power integration.
- The parade will feature live commentary, aimed at improving public understanding of contemporary warfare, joint operations, and the actual deployment of manpower, equipment, and technology.

- A key highlight will be the **Indian Army's phased Battle Array**, displayed alongside an **IAF aerial battle array**, demonstrating **land–air coordination** in real-time combat scenarios.
- The **flypast** will include frontline platforms such as **Rafale, Su-30, MiG-29 fighter jets, Apache helicopters, and Light Combat Helicopters (LCH)**.
- **Strategic and maritime aircraft** including **C-130, C-295, and P-8I** will also participate, showcasing **strategic lift and surveillance capabilities**.
- **Specialised animal contingents**, including **Zanskar ponies and Bactrian camels**, will highlight the Army's **logistical strengths in high-altitude and desert terrains**.
- The parade will include **18 marching contingents** and **13 military bands**, featuring units such as the **Ladakh Scouts** and the **Bhairav contingent**.
- The **2026 celebrations** commemorate the **150th anniversary of "Vande Mataram"**, which serves as the **overarching theme of tableaux and cultural performances**.
- A total of **30 tableaux** will be showcased, including **17 from States and Union Territories** and **13 from Central Ministries**, based on the themes **"Swatantrata ka Mantra"** and **"Samriddhi ka Mantra"**.
- Around **2,500 artists** will participate in a **mega cultural programme**, presenting **classical, folk, and tribal dance forms** celebrating India's heritage.
- **European Council President Antonio Costa** and **European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen** will attend as **Chief Guests**, coinciding with the **India–EU Summit**, underlining India's **strategic global engagement**.

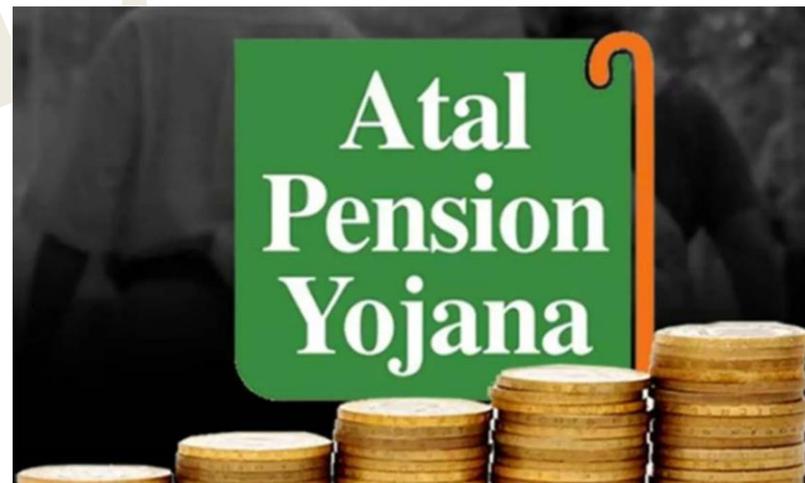
The Bembla River Irrigation Project approved by Maharashtra Cabinet to address agrarian distress

- The Bembla River irrigation project was approved by the **Maharashtra** Cabinet at a cost of ₹4,775 crore.
- The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis**.
- The project aims to bring over **52,000 hectares** of land under irrigation in Yavatmal district.
- The project had remained pending for more than five decades due to delays and cost escalations.
- Originally conceived in 1983, the project underwent multiple cost revisions over the years.
- The scheme falls under **the Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation** and **the Godavari basin**.
- Completion of the project is expected to benefit five talukas of Yavatmal district.
- Additional allocations were approved for rehabilitation of affected villages.
- The project will also support drinking water supply and fisheries development.
- The approval is seen as a major step towards resolving long-standing irrigation challenges in Vidarbha.



The continuation of Atal Pension Yojana approved by Union Cabinet Till 2030-31

- On 21 January, the continuation of the Atal Pension Yojana till the financial year 2030-31 was approved by the Union Cabinet.
 - The decision was taken in a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - Government funding support for promotional and developmental activities was also extended.
 - The move aims to strengthen the sustainability and outreach of the pension scheme.
 - Continued support will be provided for awareness generation and capacity building.
 - Gap funding will be extended to meet the long-term viability of the scheme.
 - The scheme is targeted at workers in the unorganised sector.
 - Launched in 2015, APY provides a guaranteed pension of ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 after the age of 60, depending on the subscriber's contribution.
 - Over 8.66 crore subscribers have been enrolled under the scheme as of January 2026.
- The decision supports financial inclusion and aligns with the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.



A memorandum of understanding has been signed between National Highways Authority of India and Konkan Railway Corporation Limited

- The MoU was signed on 21 January 2026 in New Delhi to strengthen integrated infrastructure development.
- The MoU aims to enhance coordination in road and rail planning.
- The MoU includes development of rail-cum-road bridges, tunnels, multi-modal logistics parks and inter-modal hubs, specially in challenging terrains.
- The MoU makes it possible for sharing technical expertise, safety audits, training and use of advanced technologies to be done.
- The validity of MoU is five years. It is expected to boost connectivity and logistics efficiency.



New Draft National Electricity Policy 2026 has been released by government

- The policy released by Ministry of Power provides roadmap for sustainable Power sector.
- It aims to transform the power sector for realising Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.
- The policy sets target of achieving per capita electricity consumption of two thousand kilowatt hours by 2030.
- It also aims to achieve over four thousand kilowatt hours by 2047.
- In 2024-25, the per capita electricity consumption reached one thousand 460 kilowatt hours .
- The new draft policy is aligned with India's climate commitments, which include the reduction of emissions intensity by 45 per cent by 2030.
- The policy will replace the current National Electricity Policy, which was notified in 2005.



A new life sciences policy covering the period from 2026 to 2030 was unveiled by Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy at the World Economic Forum in Davos

- A dedicated Life Sciences Innovation Fund will be established under the policy with an initial allocation of ₹100 crore.
- The initial corpus of the fund is scalable up to ₹1,000 crore in the future.
- Under the policy, the fund will be set up through a public–private partnership model.
- It will co-invest alongside venture capital and private equity funds.
- The investments will assist start-ups, scale-ups, and translational research initiatives in the life sciences sector.
- As per the policy, Telangana aims to rank among the top five global life sciences hubs by 2030.
- The state government is targeting an additional \$25 billion in investments to create 5 lakh jobs over the next five years.



The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹5,000 crore equity infusion into SIDBI

- The objective is to improve the flow of credit to micro, small and medium enterprises.
- The equity support will be provided by the Department of Financial Services in three separate tranches.
- An amount of ₹3,000 crore will be infused during the financial year 2025–26, based on SIDBI's book value as of March 31, 2025.
- The remaining ₹2,000 crore will be infused at a later stage in two equal tranches of ₹1,000 crore each.
- These tranches will be released in the financial years 2026–27 and 2027–28.
- The number of MSMEs supported by SIDBI is projected to rise significantly from about 76 lakh in 2025 to nearly 102 lakh by 2028.
- The additional MSME support will generate large-scale employment.



Assam Launches ₹25,000 Monthly Support Scheme for Research Scholars

- The government of Assam has announced a monthly financial assistance scheme for research scholars under the Atal Vichal Agrabami Assam programme, to be launched on February 11, 2026.
- The newly announced scheme is designed to directly support scholars engaged in research activities.
- Monthly assistance of ₹25,000 for regular research scholars.
- Enhanced support of ₹40,000 per month for Divyang research scholars.
- Applicable to scholars enrolled in universities and higher education institutions across Assam.
- The scheme aims to reduce financial barriers and allow scholars to focus on quality research and academic excellence.



India set to transition to 'upper middle-income' country by 2030: SBI Research



- India is set to transition to an upper-middle income country by 2030, joining China and Indonesia.
- The World Bank's classifies low income, lower-middle income, upper-middle income and high-income countries by their per capita Gross National Income (GNI) in US dollar
- Upper-middle income country requires per capita Gross National Income (GNI) of around \$4,000–\$4,500 (aligning with World Bank thresholds; current FY26 upper-middle range is \$4,496–\$13,935).
- Economic Trajectory Milestones:
 - 2009: Reached \$1,000 per capita income.
 - 2019: Reached \$2,000 per capita income.
 - 2026 (Estimate): Projected to reach \$3,000 per capita income.
 - 2030 (Projection): Expected to touch \$4,000 per capita income
- India moved from **lower-middle income status in 2007**.
- India on path to become world's third largest economy by 2028.

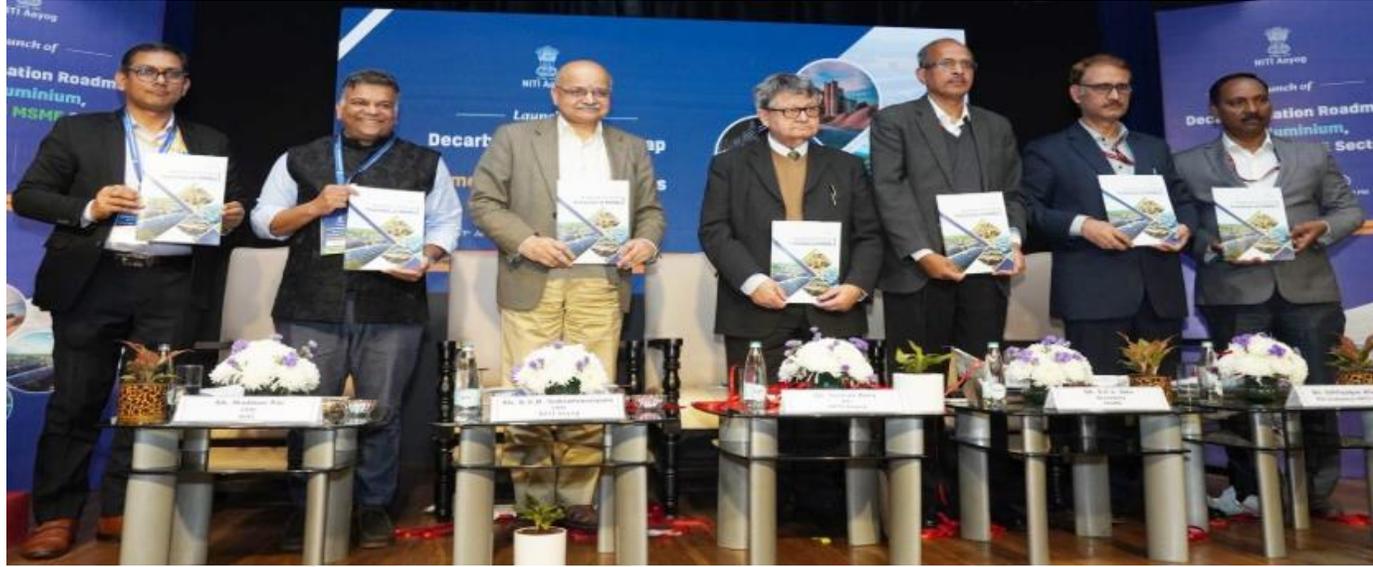
- India ranked **14th in global economy size in 1990, 4th in 2025.**
- India projected to become a **\$5 trillion economy by FY28.**
- Over the years, India reached the \$1 trillion economy mark in 2007, the \$2 trillion mark in 2014, \$3 trillion mark in 2021, and \$4 trillion mark in 2025.

STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI):

- Founded: 1 July 1955
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman: Challa Sreenivasulu Setty

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NITI Aayog Releases Reports On Green Transition in Cement, Aluminium and MSME Sectors



- The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, released three reports, which are roadmaps for the green transition and decarbonization in sectors such as cement, aluminium, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- India aims to become Viksit Bharat by 2047 and a USD 30 trillion economy.
- The reports outline strategies to reduce emissions and adopt green technologies, in alignment with India's goal of Net Zero by 2070.
- India aims to boost its manufacturing sector's GDP contribution from the current 17% to 25%

Cement Sector:

- Production projected to grow ~7x from 391 million tonnes (2023) to ~2,100 million tonnes by 2070.
- Carbon intensity target: Reduce from 0.63 tCO₂e/tonne cement to 0.09–0.13 tCO₂e/tonne by 2070 (potential 80–85% GHG reduction).

Aluminium Sector:

- **Production expected to rise from 4 million tonnes (2023) to 37 million tonnes by 2070 (nearly 3x faster than global average).**
- The decarbonisation roadmap identifies three phased solutions - transition to Renewable Energy-Round the Clock (RE-RTC) power and enhanced grid connectivity in the short term, adoption of nuclear power in the medium term, and long-term integration of CCUS.

MSME Sector:

- MSMEs contribute about 30% to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employ over 250 million people, and account for 46% of exports.
- **About NITI Aayog:**
- Full form: **National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)**
- Established: **1 January 2015**
- Replaced: **Planning Commission (1950)**
- Chairperson: **Prime Minister of India**
- Vice-Chairperson: **Shri Suman Bery**
- CEO: **B.V.R.Subrahmanyam**
- Headquarters: **New Delhi**