

# IACE

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## PM Modi Inaugurates ₹5,100 Cr Projects in Arunachal Pradesh

- Began his address with prayers to the deity Donyi Polo and called Arunachal the “Pride of Mother India.”
- Referred to the eight Northeastern states as “Ashtalakshmi,” vital for India’s overall development.
- Highlighted that Arunachal received over ₹1 lakh crore in central tax share over the past decade, compared to only ₹6,000 crore under the previous government.
- Announced heliports in remote areas and integration of the Northeast into the UDAN scheme.
- Expanded Hollongi Airport with a new terminal, now offering direct flights to Delhi, benefiting farmers and industries.
- Announced two new power projects to strengthen Arunachal’s energy sector.
- Redefined “backward districts” as “aspirational districts” and recognized over 450 border villages as “first villages.”
- Announced the plan to build a new convention center in Tawang.
- Laid the foundation for two major hydropower projects worth ₹3,700 crore (Heo 240 MW & Tato-I 186 MW) and launched ₹1,290 crore projects in connectivity, healthcare, fire safety, and women’s welfare.



## **Anish Raj Creates History: First Indian Medalist at 73rd Inline Speed World Championships, China**

- Anish Raj, an Indian junior speed skater, made history at the 73rd Inline Speed World Championships in Beidaihe, China.
- He won the bronze medal in the Junior Men's One-Lap Road Sprint. He completed the race in 39.714 seconds.
- He became the first Indian to win a medal at the 73rd Inline Speed World Championships in Beidaihe, China.
- The championship took place from September 13–21, 2025. It saw participation from 42 countries.
- The event is one of the most prestigious in roller sports. It featured elite junior and senior athletes from around the world.
- India sent a team of 19 athletes across different categories.
- This reflects India's growing presence in international roller sports.
- Earlier, Anish won a Gold medal at the 20th Asian Roller-Skating Championships in South Korea.
- He competed against skaters from 14 countries at the Asian Championships.



## India, ADB Sign \$125 Million Loan for Urban Development in Assam

- The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$125 million loan agreement.
- The project will improve urban living conditions and enhance climate resilience in Assam.
- Around 360,000 residents across six district centers and Guwahati will benefit.
- It will ensure a continuous metered water supply system for citizens.
- Six new water treatment plants will be built with a total capacity of 72 million liters per day.
- The project includes laying 800 kilometers of water distribution pipelines across Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Dhubri, Goalpara, Golaghat, and Nalbari.
- In Guwahati, stormwater management in the Bahini Basin will be upgraded.
- Flood diversion channels, improved drainage systems, and a nature-based retention pond will be developed.
- These measures will reduce flood discharge, improve groundwater recharge, and strengthen urban resilience.
- An Assam State Institute for Urban Development will be established in collaboration with IIT Guwahati to support governance reforms and capacity-building.



## **Sign Language Day 2025: Empowering Deaf Rights in New Delhi**

- The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) organized the “Sign Language Day – 2025” on 23rd September 2025.
- The event took place at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- The United Nations General Assembly designated 23rd September as International Day of Sign Languages to raise awareness about the rights of the Deaf community.
- This year’s theme is “No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights.”
- It highlights the importance of sign language in ensuring equality, inclusion, and dignity for Deaf individuals.
- Dr. Virendra Kumar, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, was the Chief Guest at the event.
- Representatives from national Deaf organizations, educators, and other stakeholders participated in the event.
- Key initiatives were launched during the programme. These include ISLRTC’s Bi-Annual Newsletter and Post Graduate Diploma courses.
- Winners of the 8th National Indian Sign Language Competition 2025 were honored during the event.



## PM Modi inaugurates redeveloped 524-year-old Tripura Sundari Temple



- On 22 September, the redeveloped 524-year-old Tripura Sundari Temple Complex at Udaipur in Tripura's Gomati district was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Temple, one of the 51 Shakti Peethas, has been completed under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) scheme.
- The Prime Minister was welcomed at the Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport in Agartala by Chief Minister Manik Saha and Governor Indrasena Reddy Nallu.
- The redeveloped temple site consists of a three-storey building with an area of 6,784 square meters, which houses a lobby, 86 stalls, a multi-purpose hall, an offering hall, a 2,317 square meter dormitory on the first floor, and residential quarters for volunteers and monks.
- The top floor, with an area of 7,355 square metres, houses the main temple—the 'Natmandir'—where devotees gather to witness rituals, and there are five water sources around the temple.

- The temple, established in 1501 by Dhanya Manikya of the Manikya dynasty, was built in the shape of a tortoise hump after he received a divine command in a dream.
- Two idols are worshipped in the temple—the five-foot idol of Goddess Tripurasundari and another of Goddess ChhotiMa, or Goddess Chandi, traditionally carried by Tripura kings during battles and hunting expeditions.
- A new trust for the temple's development was set up in 2018 by the BJP-led state government, and in July this year, the foundation stone of the 51-Shakti Peethas Park near the temple was laid by CM Saha.

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## Anandkumar Velkumar won marathon gold at the World Championships



- Anandkumar Velkumar has scripted history by winning the marathon gold medal at the Speed Skating World Championships in Beidaihe, China.
- The 22-year-old Indian secured first place in the challenging 42 km event, marking a landmark achievement for the country.
- Earlier in the championships, Velkumar had already won gold in the 1000m race and bronze in the 500m sprint.
- With the marathon victory, he has become the first Indian to win a medal in this event on the world stage.
- A breakthrough was achieved in 2021 when he won silver at the Junior World Championships, a first for India in skating.
- Earlier in 2025, he won bronze at the World Games, once again raising India's profile in international skating.
- In Beidaihe, he started with a bronze in the 500m, improved with gold in the 1000m, and capped his campaign with marathon gold.

## Buddha's Holy Relics to be Displayed in Russia's Kalmykia for the First Time



- The sacred relics of the Buddha from the National Museum in New Delhi will be displayed in Russia's Kalmykia Republic for the first time.
- The relics will be enshrined during the 3rd International Buddhist Forum in Elista from September 24 to 28, 2025.
- The exposition is being organized by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation, the National Museum, and IGNCA.
- The event will be the first exhibition of Buddha relics in Europe's only Buddhist republic—Kalmykia.
- The relics will be taken aboard a special Indian Air Force aircraft under full religious protocol and escorted by senior monks.
- A high-level Indian delegation led by Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya will accompany the relics.

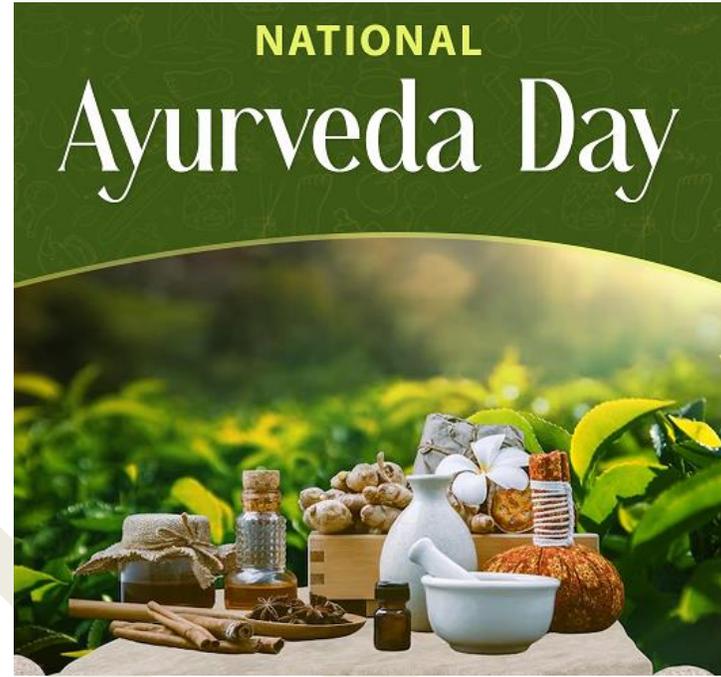
- The IBC delegation will include eminent Buddhist leaders such as the 43rd Sakya Trizin Rinpoche, the 13th Kundeling Taktsak Rinpoche, the 7th Yongzin Ling Rinpoche, and 17 other senior monks.
- Two MoUs will be signed to enhance spiritual and academic collaboration, one involving Nalanda University and another with Buddhist authorities in Russia.
- Exhibitions showcasing the life of Buddha, Buddhist art, and heritage from Piprahwa will be presented, along with works of artist Vasudev Kamath.
- Leaders and scholars from more than 35 countries will participate, with IBC also introducing an AI-powered chatbot in Russian to explain Buddha Dhamma.
- This journey of relics follows earlier expositions in Mongolia (2022), Thailand (2024), and Vietnam (2025).

## **Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone ran the fastest 400 m in 40 years to win gold**

- Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone has claimed the women's 400-meter gold at the World Championships with a timing of 47.78 seconds.
- The run was recorded as the fastest in 40 years in the women's 400m event.
- The American sprinter defeated Olympic champion Maryledy Paulino to win her first global gold medal in the 400 meters.
- She previously won two Olympic and one world titles in the hurdles.
- Only East German Marita Koch has run faster, holding the world record of 47.60 seconds since 1985.
- Paulino secured silver for the Dominican Republic with a time of 47.98, becoming the third fastest woman ever in the event.
- Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser won the bronze medal with a time of 48.19 seconds. She was returning from a two-year doping ban between 2021-23.
- Natalia Bukowiecka of Poland finished fourth in 49.27, while Britain's Amber Anning placed fifth in 49.36.
- McLaughlin-Levrone had entered the final as the favorite after breaking the American record with 48.29 seconds in the semifinals.



## National Ayurveda Day 2025: September 23



- The 10th edition of National Ayurveda Day observed on September 23, 2025.
- The theme for 2025 is “Ayurveda for People & Planet”, which emphasised harmony between the individual and the environment through Ayurveda.
- The main event was held at the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in Goa, while nationwide celebrations took place across all states and union territories.
- Earlier, Ayurveda Day was celebrated every year on Dhanteras based on the lunar calendar in honour of Lord Dhanvantari, the physician of the gods.
- The Government of India has declared 23 September every year as Ayurveda Day starting from 2025, as notified in March 2025.

- To commemorate this important event and advance the global Ayurveda movement, several key initiatives and features were launched during the celebrations:
- “Desh ka Swasthya Parikshan” a nationwide campaign to assess community health using the CCRAS-Swasthya Assessment Scale
- DRAVYA portal (Digitized Retrieval Application for Versatile Yardstick of AYUSH Substances) a digital platform for Ayush substance information

### **APTA Portal (Admirable Personalities to Transform Ayurveda)**

- Guidelines on Ayush interventions released by DPIIT
- On 9 November 2014, the Ministry of AYUSH was created to support the promotion and development of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) systems in India.
- This is one of the primary objectives of the National AYUSH Mission launched in 2014.
- The World Ayurveda Congress (WAC), established by the World Ayurveda Foundation, is held every two years with the aim of promoting Ayurveda globally and integrating it into current global healthcare systems.

## 69th Ballon d'Or Awards 2025

- **Ceremony Venue & Date:** The 69th Ballon d'Or ceremony was held on **22 September 2025** at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris.
- **Men's Ballon d'Or Winner: Ousmane Dembele (PSG)** – led PSG to their first-ever UEFA Champions League title and was also named **UEFA Champions League Player of the Season**.
- **Women's Ballon d'Or Winner: Aitana Bonmati** – created history as the **first female player to win three consecutive Women's Ballon d'Or awards**.
- PSG and Arsenal won Men's & Women's Club of the Year awards.
- Luis Enrique (Men's) and Sarina Wiegman (Women's) were named Coaches of the Year.
- Viktor Gyökeres and Ewa Pajor bagged the Striker of the Year titles.
- Gianluigi Donnarumma and Hannah Hampton were honoured as Goalkeepers of the Year.
- Lamine Yamal, Vicky Lopez, and The Xana Foundation received Young Talent & Socrates Awards.



## Garbage Café Project – Chhattisgarh

- India's first Garbage Café was launched in Mainpat, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh.
- The project aims to reduce plastic waste, protect the environment, and provide food to people in exchange for plastic.
- People can give plastic waste and receive meals. One kilogram of plastic gives a full meal, and half a kilogram of plastic gives breakfast.
- Ambikapur Municipal Corporation first introduced the Garbage Café concept in 2019, which became a model under Swachhata initiatives.
- Mainpat is also known as the Bhutan of Chhattisgarh, a famous tourist hub. The first Garbage Café of India was started here.
- The project helps in collecting and recycling plastic waste, thereby reducing environmental pollution.
- Through this café, plastic waste is used in recycling and waste management systems, making it a pioneering model.
- This project runs under the Swachh Bharat Mission, aiming to reduce plastic waste and safeguard the environment.
- The Garbage Café is also being promoted as an eco-tourism model, attracting more visitors to the region.



## **PayRupy Partners with BRISKPE to Launch Unified Domestic and Global Payments Platform**

- PayRupy partners with BRISKPE, a licensed Payment Aggregator – Cross Border (PA-CB), to provide a unified global payments platform, integrating domestic and international transactions for businesses and individuals.
- Founders Moiz Chohan (CEO) and Firas Chohan (CTO) aim to scale payments for Bharat, leveraging technology-driven solutions that ensure innovation, transparency, and trust in domestic and cross-border payments.
- BRISKPE, as one of India's first PA-CB licensed aggregators, provides compliance-first infrastructure, scalable payment rails, and reliable global transaction solutions for exporters, SMEs, freelancers, and enterprises.

### **Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector**

- SBI General Insurance and CarePlix launch first-of-its-kind biometric health scanning feature on mobile app
- Godrej Finance and Muthoot FinCorp partner to boost MSME secured lending in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities
- Karnataka Grameena Bank Partners with Fyno to Centralize Customer Communication and Boost Efficiency
- TCIL Signs MoU with PNB to Strengthen IT Infrastructure and Accelerate Digital Transformation
- Axis Max Life & India Post Payments Bank Join Hands to Expand Affordable Insurance in Rural India



## Committees & Regulatory Reforms – 2025



- RBI Sets Up New Internal Mechanism to Review Regulations Periodically.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the creation of a Regulatory Review Cell (RRC) under its Department of Regulation, effective 1 Oct 2025.
- The RRC will ensure that all RBI regulations are reviewed every 5–7 years for relevance, efficiency, and global alignment.
- It will be chaired by Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh (MD, SBI), with five other senior experts from banking, NBFCs, and insurance.
- A parallel Advisory Group on Regulation (AGR) of external experts will provide industry feedback into the review process.
- The review will consider objectives, supervisory experience, court rulings, global best practices, and redundancies.
- The AGR will have a 3-year tenure (extendable by 2 years), ensuring continuity in regulatory reforms.

### COMMITTEE IN NEWS 2025

- Union Education Ministry formed a panel led by Vineet Joshi to reduce student dependency on coaching centres and review competitive exams.

- The Reserve Bank had set up the Committee on the MIBOR Benchmark headed by Ramanathan Subramanian to review the rupee interest rate benchmarks in the country, especially the usage of Mumbai Interbank Outright Rate (MIBOR), and to examine the need for transition to new benchmarks.
- IRDAI has set up a seven-member committee headed by former chairman of State Bank of India Dinesh Khara to look into the proposed amendments to the Insurance Act, 1938 and suggest a framework for implementation of the same.
- The Reserve Bank of India has appointed a five-member Standing External Advisory Committee (SEAC), led by MK Jain, to assess applications for Universal and Small Finance Banks.
- To develop a framework for responsible and ethical enablement of artificial intelligence (FREE-AI) in the financial sector, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up an eight-member expert committee.
- The chairman of the expert committee is Professor Pushpak Bhattacharyya