

INDIA GOVERNANCE WATCH

Viksit Bharat's Policy And Administrative Developments



16th September – 30th September

SEPTEMBER 2026 | ISSUE II



Contributors



Veer Patil

Lead Editor

veerabhadra.patil@nationfirstpolicy.org



Shankarjeet

Editor

shankarjeet.panda@nationfirstpolicy.org



Kanishka Tiwari

Consultant

kanishka.tiwari@nationfirstpolicy.org

In case of any queries/ feedback please reach out to either the Lead Editor or the Editor at their respective emails

In case you wish to be added to the mailing list, please reach out to us at:
newsletters@nationfirstpolicy.org



India Governance Watch

Viksit Bharat's Policy And Administrative Developments (16th September, 2026 – 30th September, 2026)

Executive Summary

This document tracks the various key economic and policy decisions made by the Central Government between **16th September 2026 and 30th September 2026**. Some of the important announcements and policy updates are as follows:

I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms

- A. **SEBI Approves Wide-Ranging Securities Market Reforms:** SEBI has approved reforms covering settlement proceedings, portfolio management, foreign participation in commodity derivatives, bullion custody and REITs/InvITs. The new settlement framework introduces formula-based settlement, separate disgorgement and faster resolution of eligible proceedings.
- B. **RBI Finalises Basel III Market Risk Capital Requirements:** RBI has issued revised market-risk capital requirements for commercial banks, aligned with the revised Basel III framework. From April 2027, banks will apply revised capital treatment for interest-rate, foreign-exchange and trading-book risks.

II. Infrastructure, Technology And Sustainability

- A. **Green Energy Corridor Phase-III Approved With ₹ 1.86 Lakh Crore Outlay:** The Cabinet has approved the third phase of the Green Energy Corridor, including ₹ 50,000 crore for 50 GWh of battery storage. The project will strengthen transmission infrastructure to support up to 135 GW of renewable energy by FY 2032-33.
- B. **₹ 17,167 Crore Outer Harbour Project Approved At V.O. Chidambaranar Port:** The project will be executed in two phases: the core harbour infrastructure (breakwater, dredging, and reclamation) will be developed under a Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), while the terminal operations will be developed under a Design, Build, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) Public-Private Partnership model.

III. Human Development And Social Welfare

- A. **EPFO Raises Wage Ceiling From ₹ 15,000 To ₹25,000:** Union Cabinet has increased the wage ceiling for mandatory EPF coverage, bringing around 51 lakh additional workers within the social-security framework. The expanded coverage includes provident fund, pension and insurance benefits.
- B. **DDU-GKY 2.0 To Train 70,000 Rural Youth From October 2026:** The Ministry of Rural Development will commence training of around 70,000 rural youth across 24 States and Union Territories from October 2026. The placement-linked training will be delivered through NSQF-aligned courses, as part of the 5.6 lakh targets already allocated across more than 1,200 projects.



Executive Summary

IV. National Security And Foreign Policy

- A. **AFSPA Extended For Six Months In Specified Areas Of Northeast:** The disturbed-area status under AFSPA has been extended from 1st October 2026 in specified areas of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. The extension continues the existing security framework in the notified areas.
- B. **Inter-State Council Framework Amended For Central Rule And Emergency Proclamations:** The Ministry of Home Affairs amended the framework to provide for representation of Governors and Lieutenant Governors during periods when Article 356 or emergency proclamations are in force. The amendment formalises their participation in the Inter-State Council during such periods.

V. Rural And Agricultural Transformation

- A. **Fertiliser Standards Strengthened For Nano Fertilisers:** The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare amended the Fertiliser Control Order to prescribe standards for granular calcium nitrate and liquid copper sulphate and laboratory testing methods for nano fertilisers. It also specifies testing requirements for nutrient content, purity and contaminants.
- B. **₹ 5,548 Crore Approved For MSP Procurement Of Pulses And Oilseeds:** The Government approved procurement of 7.06 lakh tonnes of pulses and oilseeds in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana. Uttar Pradesh accounts for ₹ 3,992.57 crore of the approved allocation.



कार्यकारी सारांश

यह लेख 16 सितंबर, 2026 से 30 सितंबर, 2026 के बीच केंद्र सरकार द्वारा लिए गए विभिन्न प्रमुख आर्थिक और नीतिगत निर्णयों को ट्रैक करता है। कुछ महत्वपूर्ण घोषणाएँ और नीतिगत अपडेट इस प्रकार हैं:

I. आर्थिक विकास और संरचनात्मक सुधार

- A. **सेबी (SEBI) ने व्यापक प्रतिभूति बाजार सुधारों को स्वीकृति दी:** सेबी ने निपटान कार्यवाही, पोर्टफोलियो प्रबंधन, कमोडिटी डेरिवेटिव्स में विदेशी भागीदारी, बुलियन कस्टडी और REITs/InvITs को कवर करने वाले सुधारों को स्वीकृति दे दी है। नए निपटान ढांचे में फॉर्मूला-आधारित निपटान, अलग से डिस्गोमेंट (अवैध लाभ की वसूली) और पात्र कार्रवाइयों का तेजी से समाधान शामिल है।
- B. **भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने बेसल III (Basel III) बाजार जोखिम पूंजी आवश्यकताओं को अंतिम रूप दिया:** RBI ने कमर्शियल (व्यापारिक) बैंकों के लिए बाजार के जोखिम से निपटने वाले नियमों को अपडेट कर दिया है, जो बेसल III के नए नियमों के हिसाब से हैं। अप्रैल 2027 से बैंक ब्याज दर, विदेशी मुद्रा और ट्रेडिंग से जुड़े जोखिमों के लिए नए नियमों के अनुसार पूंजी तय करेंगे।

II. बुनियादी ढांचा, प्रौद्योगिकी और स्थिरता

- A. **ग्रीन एनर्जी कॉरिडोर चरण-III को ₹1.86 लाख करोड़ के बजट के साथ मंजूरी:** कैबिनेट ने ग्रीन एनर्जी कॉरिडोर के तीसरे चरण को स्वीकृति दे दी है। इसमें 50 गीगावॉट-घंटे (GWh) बैटरी स्टोरेज के लिए ₹ 50,000 करोड़ शामिल हैं। यह प्रोजेक्ट वित्तीय वर्ष 2032-33 तक 135 गीगावॉट तक की नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा (सोलर और पवन ऊर्जा) का समर्थन करने के लिए बिजली ट्रांसमिशन के बुनियादी ढांचे को मजबूत करेगा।
- B. **वी.ओ. चिदंबरनार बंदरगाह (V.O. Chidambaranar Port) पर ₹17,167 करोड़ की बाहरी बंदरगाह परियोजना को स्वीकृति :** यह प्रोजेक्ट दो चरणों में पूरा किया जाएगा, साथ ही बंदरगाह के मुख्य बुनियादी ढांचे (जैसे समुद्री लहरों को रोकने वाली दीवार, गहरीकरण और जमीन तैयार करने का काम) को 'हाइब्रिड एन्युइटी मॉडल (HAM)' के अंतर्गत विकसित किया जाएगा, जबकि टर्मिनल के कामकाज और संचालन को 'डिज़ाइन, बिल्ड, फाइनेंस, ऑपरेट और ट्रांसफर (DBFOT)' पब्लिक-प्राइवेट पार्टनरशिप मॉडल के अंतर्गत चलाया जाएगा।

III. मानव विकास और सामाजिक कल्याण

- A. **ई.पी.एफ.ओ (EPFO) ने वेतन सीमा ₹15,000 से बढ़ाकर ₹25,000 की:** केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने अनिवार्य ई.पी.एफ. (EPF) कवरेज के लिए वेतन की सीमा को बढ़ा दिया है, जिससे लगभग 51 लाख नए कर्मचारी सामाजिक सुरक्षा के दायरे में आ गए हैं। इस बड़े हुए दायरे में प्रोविडेंट फंड (पी.एफ.), पेंशन और बीमा के लाभ शामिल हैं।
- B. **डी.डी.यू-जी.के.वाई 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) के तहत अक्टूबर 2026 से 70,000 ग्रामीण युवाओं को ट्रेनिंग दी जाएगी:** ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय अक्टूबर 2026 से 24 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में लगभग 70,000 ग्रामीण



कार्यकारी सारांश

युवाओं को प्रशिक्षण देना शुरू करेगा। यह नौकरी से जुड़ी ट्रेनिंग (प्लेसमेंट-लिंक्ड ट्रेनिंग) एन.एस.क्यू.एफ (NSQF) के नियमों के अनुसार दी जाएगी, जो 1,200 से अधिक प्रोजेक्ट्स के अंतर्गत पहले से तय किए गए 5.6 लाख के लक्ष्य का हिस्सा है।

IV. राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और विदेश नीति

- A. **पूर्वोत्तर के चुनिंदा क्षेत्रों में AFSPA (अफस्पा) छह महीने के लिए बढ़ाया गया:** नागालैंड, मणिपुर और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के कुछ खास इलाकों में 1 अक्टूबर, 2026 से 'अशांत क्षेत्र' (disturbed-area status) के रूप में AFSPA की अवधि बढ़ा दी गई है। इस विस्तार से इन अधिसूचित क्षेत्रों में पहले जैसी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था बनी रहेगी।
- B. **अंतर-राज्य परिषद (Inter-State Council) के नियमों में संशोधन-राष्ट्रपति शासन और आपातकाल के दौरान:** केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय ने नियमों में बदलाव करके यह प्रावधान किया है कि जब भी अनुच्छेद 356 (राष्ट्रपति शासन) या आपातकाल लागू हो, तो उस दौरान राज्यों के राज्यपालों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के उप-राज्यपालों को भी परिषद में प्रतिनिधित्व मिल सके। इस संशोधन से ऐसी खास स्थितियों के दौरान अंतर-राज्य परिषद में उनकी भागीदारी कानूनी रूप से तय हो जाती है।

V. ग्रामीण और कृषि परिवर्तन

- A. **नैनो उर्वरकों के लिए खाद के मानकों को मजबूत किया गया:** कृषि और किसान कल्याण विभाग ने दानेदार कैल्शियम नाइट्रेट (granular calcium nitrate), तरल कॉपर सल्फेट (liquid copper sulphate) के मानकों और नैनो उर्वरकों के लिए प्रयोगशाला में जाँच (लैब टेस्टिंग) के तरीकों को तय करने के लिए 'उर्वरक नियंत्रण आदेश' (Fertiliser Control Order) में संशोधन किया है। इसमें पोषक तत्वों की मात्रा, शुद्धता और अशुद्धियों की जाँच से जुड़े नियम भी बताए गए हैं।
- B. **दालों और तिलहन की MSP पर सरकारी खरीद के लिए ₹5,548 करोड़ स्वीकृति:** सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश, कर्नाटक और तेलंगाना में 7.06 लाख टन दालों और तिलहन की खरीद को स्वीकृति दे दी है। इसमें से केवल उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए ₹3,992.57 करोड़ का बजट तय किया गया है।



Table Of Contents

I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms	12
A. Policy Updates	12
1. SEBI Approves Wide-Ranging Reforms, Including New Settlement of Administrative and Civil Proceedings Regulations, 2026 – Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	12
2. Ministry Of Mines Notifies Offshore Areas Mineral (Auction) Amendment Rules, 2026 To Ease Minimum Bidder Thresholds – Ministry of Mines	13
3. RBI Issues Final Basel III Market Risk Capital Requirements For Commercial Banks – Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	13
4. CBDT Notifies Income-tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Regulate TDS On Immovable Property Acquired By Residents From Non-Residents – Ministry of Finance	14
5. NHAI Introduces New Guidelines For Design And Development Of Access-Controlled High-Speed National Highways – Ministry of Road Transport & Highways	14
6. Biometric Aadhaar Authentication Made Mandatory For Subsidised Domestic LPG Refills From 1st October 2026 – Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas	14
7. Government Cuts Import Duty On Major Edible Oils To Moderate Domestic Prices – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	15
8. RBI Amends FEMA Export And Import Regulations To Tighten Realisation Timelines And Delegate Legacy Approvals To Authorised Dealers – Reserve Bank of India	15
9. RBI Extends Alternative KYC Documentation Facility To Foreign Portfolio Investors Across Six Bank Categories – Reserve Bank of India	15
10. CBDT Notifies Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Extend Registration Deadlines And Modernise Procedural Forms – Ministry of Finance	16
11. IRDAI Removes Prior Approval Requirements For Dividend Repatriation By Foreign Owned Insurance Intermediaries – Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India	16
12. RBI Amends Investment Portfolio Valuation Rules For InvIT And REIT Units – Reserve Bank of India	16
B. Announcements	17
1. India New Zealand FTA To Enter Into Force From 20th October 2026 Expanding Market Access And Investment Ties – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	17
2. Ministry Of Mines Notifies Offshore Mineral Blocks Off Great Nicobar Island For Grant Of Composite Licences – Ministry of Mines	17
II. Infrastructure, Technology And Sustainability	17
A. Policy Updates	17
1. TRAI Strengthens Regulations Against Unsolicited Commercial Communication – Telecom Regulatory Authority of India	17



2. Cabinet Approves ₹ 1.86 Lakh Crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III With 50 GWh Battery Storage – Ministry of Power	18
3. MoEFCC Amends EIA Notification, 2006 To Extend Environmental Clearance Validity For Ports, Harbours, And Dredging Up To 30 Years – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	18
4. Government Notifies CAFE III Corporate Average Fuel Economy Norms For M1 Category Passenger Vehicles (FY 2027–28 to FY 2031–32) – Ministry of Power	19
5. CCEA Approves ₹ 17,167 Crore Outer Harbour Project At V.O. Chidambaranar Port – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	19
6. UIDAI Introduces Five Initiatives To Expand Aadhaar-Based Digital Service Delivery – Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	19
7. MoCA Expands Modified UDAN Challenge Mode And Signs MoUs To Expand Regional Air Connectivity – Ministry of Civil Aviation	20
8. CAQM Approves Revised GRAP Schedule And Expands Construction-Dust Monitoring Across NCR – Commission for Air Quality Management	20
9. Government Notifies Merchant Shipping (Regulation Of Entry Of Ships Into Coastal Waters) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	20
10. MoPSW Notifies Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores, Appliances, And Medical Officers) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	21
11. MoEFCC Amends CRZ Notification, 2019 To Permit Coastal Receipt And Storage Of Products Outside CRZ-IA – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	21
12. DoT Notifies New And Revised Telecom Equipment Standards – Ministry of Communications	22
13. MeitY Mandates Compulsory BIS Registration For Smartphone Screen Protectors Under Amended Electronics Order – Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	22
B. Announcements	23
1. Government Notifies First Cohort Of Four ‘Mega Ports’ Under The Indian Ports Act, 2025 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	23
2. Union Environment Minister Launches Guidelines For National Coastal Mission 2.0 – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	23
3. DRDO Signs Agreement For Indigenous Development Of 20 mK Dilution Refrigerator – Ministry of Defence	23
III. Human Development And Social Welfare	24
A. Policy Updates	24
1. Enhancement Of EPFO Wage Ceiling Expands Mandatory Social-Security Coverage – Ministry of Labour and Employment	24
2. Government Approves Biovigilance Programme To Strengthen Patient-Safety Monitoring – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	24
3. MoE Launches Six-Month Bridge Course For In-Service Primary Teachers With B.Ed. Qualification – Ministry of Education	24



4. Government Notifies Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2026 To Mandate Vegetarian And Non-Vegetarian Origin Dots On Cosmetics And Toiletries – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	25
5. Government Revises Film Certification Guidelines To Supersede 1991 Principles And Institutionalise Age-Based U/A Markers – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	25
6. DDU-GKY 2.0 To Begin Skill Training For 70,000 Rural Youth Across 24 States/UTs From October 2026 – Ministry of Rural Development	26
B. Announcements	26
1. MSME And MoSPI Institutionalise Udyam Data Sharing For National Statistical Business Register – Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	26
IV. National Security And Foreign Policy	26
A. Policy Updates	26
1. President Promulgates Inter-State Council (Amendment) Order, 2026 To Formalise Governor And LG Representation During Central Rule And Emergency Proclamations – Ministry of Home Affairs	26
2. Government Extends AFSPA 'Disturbed Area' Status Across Designated Areas – Ministry of Home Affairs	27
3. Government Amends Navy (Discipline and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations, 1965 To Update Procedural Terminology – Ministry of Defence	27
4. Government Notifies Reserve And Auxiliary Air Forces (Holding Inquiry And Appeal) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Defence	27
B. Announcements	28
1. MHA Designates Shahzad Bhatti Network As Terrorist Organisation Under UAPA – Ministry of Home Affairs	28
2. SCO Adopts 2026–2030 Action Plan For Multilateral Trade And Economic Cooperation – Ministry of Commerce & Industry	28
V. Rural And Agricultural Transformation	28
A. Policy Updates	28
1. Government Notifies Fertiliser (Control) Tenth Amendment Order, 2026 To Standardise New Formulations And Testing Protocols For Nano Fertilisers – Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	28
2. MSP For Rabi Crops Raised For Marketing Season 2027–28 – Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	29
3. Ministry Approves ₹ 5,548 Crore MSP Procurement Of Pulses And Oilseeds In Three States – Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	29
4. Ministry Approves One-Time Interest-Free Loan Of ₹50,000 Per Barn For FCV Tobacco Growers In Andhra Pradesh – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	29



B. Announcements	30
1. Pashudhan Bima Portal Introduces Integrated Digital Platform For Livestock Insurance – Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	30
Annexure–I: Miscellaneous Policy Updates	30
A. Finance, Taxation And Trade	30
1. Department Of Commerce Relaxes Tobacco Board Act Provisions To Permit Sale And Procurement Of Excess And Unauthorised FCV Tobacco – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	30
2. Government Sets ₹ 7.86 Lakh Crore Market Borrowings Programme For H2 Of Financial Year 2026–27 – Ministry of Finance	31
3. DGTR Initiates Anti-Dumping Investigation On Imports Of Copolymer Polyol From China PR – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	31
4. DGFT Introduces RCMC Exemption For Low-Value Exports Under Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	31
5. PRIP Expands Pharma And MedTech Innovation Support With ₹ 1,600 Crore In First Round Projects And A New Discovery Track – Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers	32
6. Government Extends Validity Of Anti-Dumping Duty On Chinese Decor Paper – Ministry of Finance	32
7. CBDT Extends Income – Tax Return And Tax – Audit Report Filing Deadlines For AY 2026–27 – Ministry of Finance	32
8. IFSCA Expands Jurisdiction For Retail Distribution Of Foreign – Capital Market – International Financial Services Centres Authority	32
9. IFSCA Introduces Differential Distribution Framework For Blended Finance – International Financial Services Centres Authority	33
10. Relaxation Of Sugar Stockholding Limit For Bulk Consumers – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	33
11. Government Cuts Special Additional Excise Duty On Export Of Petrol, Diesel, Aviation Fuel – Ministry of Finance	34
12. Government Of India Announces ₹ 28,000 Crore Auction Of Government Securities Through Re-Issue Of Two Long-Term Bonds – Reserve Bank of India	34
13. RBI Updates UNSC Sanctions List For Financial-Entity Compliance – Reserve Bank of India	34
14. Government Extends RoSCTL Scheme For Apparel, Garments And Made-Ups Till December 2026 – Ministry of Textiles	34
15. RBI Finalises Framework For Novation Of OTC Derivative Contracts – Reserve Bank of India	35
16. Six Coal Mine Development And Production Agreements Executed For Commercial Coal Mines – Ministry of Coal	35



B. Ease Of Doing Business And Regulatory Affairs	35
1. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 990 Crore For Two Capacity Expansion Projects In Maharashtra–Telangana Corridor – Ministry of Railways	35
2. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 736 Crore For Safety, Traction And Road Infrastructure Upgrades – Ministry of Railways	36
3. Government Deploys Onion Buffer Stock To West Bengal To Strengthen Availability And Moderate Prices – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	36
4. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 345 Crore For Kavach Deployment And Freight Capacity Expansion – Ministry of Railways	36
5. DPIIT Notifies Gas Cylinder (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Authorise And Regulate CNG And CBG Mobile Refuelling Units (MRUs) – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	37
6. APEDA Partners With Gulfood Organiser To Expand Global Market Access For Indian Food Exporters – Ministry of Commerce and Industry	37
7. SEBI Extends Samuhik Prativedan Manch To Clearing Members To Reduce Duplicate Compliance Reporting – Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	37
8. ₹ 285 Crore RDI Support Approved For Indigenous Advanced Air Mobility Technology – Ministry of Science & Technology	38
9. TRAI Mandates Short–Duration Voice And SMS Only Tariff Option For Telecom Consumers – Telecom Regulatory Authority of India	38
10. Government Notifies Railway Services (Implementation Of UPS Under NPS) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Railways	38
11. Indian Railways Approves ₹166.56 Crore Four–Lane Road Over Bridge In Vadodara – Ministry of Railways	39
12. Indian Railways Approves Four New Or Extended Passenger Services – Ministry of Railways	39
C. Governance And Administrative Affairs	39
1. Government Designates Additional Sessions Judge (CBI) Shimla As Special Court Under PMLA For Four Himachal Pradesh Districts – Ministry of Finance	39
2. Government Notifies Group ‘A’ and ‘B’ Recruitment Rules For The Goods And Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) – Ministry of Finance	40
3. Indian Railways Approves New Tri–Weekly Amrit Bharat Express Between Bhuj And Barauni – Ministry of Railways	40
4. President Promulgates Stamp Duty And Property Registration Reforms In Andaman And Nicobar Islands – Ministry of Law and Justice	40
5. President Promulgates Right To Public Services Regulations For Andaman & Nicobar Islands And Lakshadweep To Mandate Time–Bound Delivery And Auto–Appeals – Ministry of Law and Justice	41
6. India Assumes Co–Chairmanship Of Global Coalition For Social Justice – Ministry of Labour and Employment	41



7. Cabinet Committee Approves ₹ 1,789 Crore Intelligent Traffic Management System For Delhi – Ministry of Home Affairs	41
8. National Digital Tourism Stack And Dekho Apna Desh 2.0 Launched – Ministry of Tourism	42
9. PRAGATI-50 Identifies 50 Model Cities For KPI-Based Swachhata Action And Monitoring – Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs	42
10. Government Issues Advisory On Regulation Of Stem Cell Therapy – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	42
11. PFRDA Amends Procedure For Inquiry By Adjudicating Officer – Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority	43
12. Operational Guidelines For NPS Swasthya Issued Under National Pension System – Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority	43
13. Ministry Suspends The Linear Alkyl Benzene (Quality Control) Order, 2022 Until 31st December 2026 Due To Global Supply Chain Disruptions – Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers	43
14. MoSJE Appoints Narayan Dewasi And Swaroop Singh Banjara As Members Of DWBDNC – Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	44
15. NHAI –SSNNL Agreement Establishes Time-Bound Approvals And Fee Waivers For Infrastructure Crossings In Gujarat – Ministry of Road Transport & Highways	44
D. Technology, Innovation And Partnerships	44
1. Net Zero Portal And NAPCC Dashboard Launched For Voluntary Climate Disclosures And National Mission Monitoring – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	44
2. TDB-DST Provides ₹ 37.51 Crore RDI Support For Indigenous Multi-gas Sensing Technology – Ministry of Science & Technology	45
3. TDB-DST Approves ₹ 63.84 Crore RDI Support For Indigenous Multisensor Satellite Technology – Ministry of Science and Technology	45
4. TDB-DST Signs ₹ 200 Crore RDI Agreement With Agnikul Cosmos For Reusable Launch Vehicle – Ministry of Science and Technology	46
5. Government Revises Anti-Dumping Duties On Jute Products Imported From Bangladesh And Nepal Following Mid-Term Review – Ministry of Finance	46
6. National Steering Committee Approves ₹ 320 Crore PM-SETU Plan For Kurukshetra ITI Cluster – Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	46
7. ₹ 811 Crore Contract Signed For 160 Indigenous Satellite Smart Anti-Airfield Weapons – Ministry of Defence	46
8. Government Reconstitutes Central Board Of Film Certification With 18 Members – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	47
9. President Appoints 14 Judicial Officers As Judges And Additional Judges Of Four High Courts – Ministry of Law And Justice	47
10. ₹ 586 Crore Contract Signed For Indigenous Auxiliary Power Units For T-72 And T-90 Tanks – Ministry of Defence	47

11. Government Dissolves Digital Communications Commission, Dissolving Apex Telecom Policy Body – Ministry of Communications	47
12. TRAI Operationalises Digital Connectivity Rating Framework Through New DCR Platform– Telecom Regulatory Authority of India	48
References	49



I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms

A. Policy Updates

1. SEBI Approves Wide-Ranging Reforms, Including New Settlement of Administrative and Civil Proceedings Regulations, 2026 – Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** SEBI

SEBI approved a series of regulatory reforms covering portfolio managers, settlement proceedings, foreign participation in commodity derivatives, bullion custody, REITs/InvITs and corporate debt. The **SEBI (Settlement of Administrative and Civil Proceedings) Regulations, 2026** will replace the 2018 framework and introduce a formula-based settlement amount, separate disgorgement of wrongful gains and Remedial and Regulatory Terms. The other reforms include wider investment flexibility for portfolio managers, permission for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to participate in specified non-agricultural commodity derivatives, and an expanded Vault Managers framework. The revised settlement mechanism can enable quicker resolution of eligible proceedings, while the other reforms expand access to market products and reduce compliance requirements for market participants.

2. Ministry Of Mines Notifies Offshore Areas Mineral (Auction) Amendment Rules, 2026 To Ease Minimum Bidder Thresholds – Ministry of Mines

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the Offshore Areas Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2024 by reducing the minimum number of qualified bidders required at different stages of the **electronic auction from three to two**. The change applies to multiple provisions governing the progression of offshore mineral auctions. This is particularly important for deep-sea blocks, where the high cost and technical complexity of exploration can limit the number of companies willing to bid. The change means fewer failed auction rounds and faster allocation of offshore mineral blocks, allowing successful bidders to move sooner to exploration and resource assessment, and fostering private-sector participation across India's maritime Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

3. RBI Issues Final Basel III Market Risk Capital Requirements For Commercial Banks – Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** RBI

The Reserve Bank of India issued the RBI (Commercial Banks – Minimum Capital Requirements for Market Risk) Directions, 2026, replacing the 2023 draft framework after stakeholder consultation. The Directions align banks' market-risk capital requirements with the **revised Basel III framework** and revise the treatment of interest-rate risk, debt mutual funds and ETFs held in the trading book,



foreign-exchange risk and positions hedged through credit derivatives. The new requirements will take effect from **1st April 2027**. Transitional measures have been in place since April 2024. The revised framework will change how commercial banks calculate capital requirements against market risks and require banks to align their capital planning and trading-book risk management with the new Basel III standards.

4. CBDT Notifies Income-tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Regulate TDS On Immovable Property Acquired By Residents From Non-Residents - Ministry of Finance

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has amended the Income-tax Rules, 2026 to bring purchases of immovable property by a **resident individual or Hindu Undivided Family (HUF)** from a **non-resident seller** into the simplified challan-cum-statement Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) reporting system from **1st October, 2026**. Where the non-resident seller does not have an Indian PAN, the buyer must also provide the seller's overseas address, Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Tax Residency Certificate. The amendment allows resident buyers to complete TDS compliance through the specified challan-cum-statement route instead of a separate multi-step reporting process. However, buyers will need to obtain additional information from non-resident sellers, particularly those without an Indian PAN. The additional disclosure requirements create a clearer transaction trail and facilitate matching of TDS with the underlying property transaction.

5. NHAI Introduces New Guidelines For Design And Development Of Access-Controlled High-Speed National Highways - Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The National Highways Authority of India has introduced comprehensive guidelines for the planning and design of high-speed access-controlled National Highways, other than Expressways. The guidelines standardise technical and safety specifications for upcoming four and six-lane greenfield and brownfield corridors, including lane configurations, interchange design, access control and boundary protection. They are aligned with the government's long-term objective of developing 50,000 km of access-controlled high-speed corridors and are intended to improve road safety, operational efficiency and connectivity to ports, airports, industrial areas and major tourist destinations.



6. Biometric Aadhaar Authentication Made Mandatory For Subsidised Domestic LPG Refills From 1st October 2026 – Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

From 1st October 2026, domestic LPG consumers must complete Biometric Aadhaar Authentication (BAA) to book refills at the regulated retail selling price with applicable subsidy. As of 19th September, 27.43 crore consumers, or 89.9% of active domestic LPG consumers, had completed authentication. Consumers who do not wish or are unable to complete BAA can still receive LPG at the applicable market price without subsidy, subject to availability. The measure is intended to reduce duplicate and ineligible connections, prevent diversion of subsidised cylinders and improve targeting of LPG subsidies. This tightens targeting of LPG subsidies and seeks to reduce leakage and diversion while increasing authentication requirements for subsidised consumers.

7. Government Cuts Import Duty On Major Edible Oils To Moderate Domestic Prices – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** PIB

The Government has reduced the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on major imported crude edible oils to moderate domestic prices and address inflationary pressures arising from higher international edible oil prices. The BCD on crude sunflower oil has been reduced from 10% to nil, while the duty on crude soybean and crude palm oil has been reduced from 10% to 5%. The government has retained a 19.25% duty differential between crude and refined edible oils to **support domestic refining capacity** and has advised industry associations to pass the lower landed costs on to consumers. This lowers the import cost of key edible oils and can ease consumer prices while retaining protection for domestic refining.

8. RBI Amends FEMA Export And Import Regulations To Tighten Realisation Timelines And Delegate Legacy Approvals To Authorised Dealers – Reserve Bank of India

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The RBI has amended the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) export and import regulations, effective from **1st October, 2026**. The time for exporters to realise and repatriate export proceeds is reduced from 15 months to 9 months, while the maximum extension is reduced from 18 months to 12 months. The amendments also allow Authorised Dealer Category-I (AD) banks to regularise certain legacy export, import and merchanting transactions that earlier required RBI approval. The shorter timelines will require exporters to follow up on overseas receivables earlier, while delegation of eligible legacy cases to AD banks can reduce the time required to resolve older FEMA-related transactions.



9. RBI Extends Alternative KYC Documentation Facility To Foreign Portfolio Investors Across Six Bank Categories – Reserve Bank of India

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** RBI

RBI amended Know Your Customer (KYC) Directions for Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Local Area Banks, Rural Co-operative Banks, Urban Co-operative Banks and Small Finance Banks to extend an existing documentation facility available to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) to Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs). FPIs can now submit original certified copies of documents certified by specified authorities abroad, including overseas branches of Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks, certain overseas banks, Notaries Public, Court Magistrates, Judges and Indian diplomatic missions. The amendments take effect immediately. The change reduces the documentation and verification burden for FPIs onboarding with these six categories of banks while retaining the existing KYC requirements.

10. CBDT Notifies Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Extend Registration Deadlines And Modernise Procedural Forms – Ministry of Finance

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The CBDT has extended the deadline for valuers and authorised income-tax practitioners to register under the Income-tax Act, 2025, from **30th September 2026 to 31st March 2027**. It has also replaced the existing registration forms with revised forms requiring comprehensive and structured information regarding applicants' qualifications, professional experience, practice details, and statutory eligibility criteria. The six-month extension gives professionals additional time to transition to the new registration framework and reduces the risk of disruption to their services. The revised forms will also help the tax department maintain detailed and consistent records of registered professionals. The changes will ease the transition to the new tax framework and improve the management of professional registrations.

11. IRDAI Removes Prior Approval Requirements For Dividend Repatriation By Foreign Owned Insurance Intermediaries – Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Business Standard

IRDAI has repealed the Guidelines on Repatriation of Dividends by Insurance Intermediaries having Majority by Foreign Investors, following the removal of the prior-approval requirement under the IRDAI (Insurance Intermediaries) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026. The repeal also removes the earlier condition relating to related-party payments, aligning the framework with the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Act, 2025 and foreign-investment rules. The change simplifies compliance for foreign-owned insurance intermediaries and reduces regulatory requirements for dividend repatriation.



12. RBI Amends Investment Portfolio Valuation Rules For InvIT And REIT Units – Reserve Bank of India

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** RBI

The Reserve Bank of India has amended **investment–portfolio valuation rules** for financial institutions to establish clearer and more uniform valuation procedures for Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). The revised framework distinguishes between quoted and unquoted units, with unquoted units generally valued using the Net Asset Value (NAV) disclosed by the trust. Where the required NAV is not disclosed or units are classified as infrequently traded, the **valuation is prescribed at ₹ 1** for regulatory purposes. This standardises regulatory valuation of REIT and InvIT investments, improving consistency in financial institutions' investment accounting and risk assessment.

B. Announcements

1. India New Zealand FTA To Enter Into Force From 20th October 2026 Expanding Market Access And Investment Ties – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Source: PIB

The India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will enter into force on 20th October 2026, following completion of internal processes in both countries and passage of the implementing legislation by the New Zealand Parliament. From entry into force, 100% of India's exports to New Zealand will receive duty-free access, covering textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, engineering goods, gems and jewellery and processed foods, while sensitive Indian agricultural products remain protected. The agreement also provides for **\$ 20 billion** in prospective New Zealand investment into India, expanded services access across around 118 sectors, skilled-worker and youth mobility provisions, and cooperation in agriculture and pharmaceuticals. These provisions will deepen bilateral economic integration in the services sector for India's domestic industries.

2. Ministry Of Mines Notifies Offshore Mineral Blocks Off Great Nicobar Island For Grant Of Composite Licences – Ministry of Mines

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified two offshore blocks off **Great Nicobar Island** in the Andaman Sea for grant of Composite Licences covering prospecting and mining. The blocks are **West Sewell Ridge-01 (1,000 sq. km)** and **Sewell Rise-01 (632 sq. km)**, covering a combined **1,632 sq. km**. The blocks target polymetallic nodules and crust minerals and can now be taken up for competitive allocation under the offshore mineral framework. Opening these blocks for composite licences moves them from being identified resource areas to blocks that companies can actually compete for and explore. If exploration confirms commercially viable deposits, it will give India another domestic source of minerals contained in seabed nodules and crusts. This



will also create demand for specialised deep-sea survey, exploration and seabed-mining technology, giving Indian firms an opportunity to build capabilities around offshore mineral extraction.

II. Infrastructure, Technology And Sustainability

A. Policy Updates

1. TRAI Strengthens Regulations Against Unsolicited Commercial Communication – Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** TRAI

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has introduced the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, **strengthening the regulatory framework** against **unsolicited commercial communications**. The amendments mandate identification and inter-operator sharing of suspected spam senders, regulate Application-to-Person (A2P) calls, introduce consumer appeals against UCC complaint resolutions, expand recognition of verifiable legacy consent, and strengthen enforcement against misuse of headers and content templates. The framework also enables AI/ML-based detection and tighter action against repeat offenders, strengthening consumer protection and accountability in commercial communications.

2. Cabinet Approves ₹ 1.86 Lakh Crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III With 50 GWh Battery Storage – Ministry of Power

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The Union Cabinet has approved **Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III)** to strengthen intra-state transmission systems and facilitate evacuation of up to **135 GW of renewable energy**. The Government has stated a total project outlay of **about ₹ 1.86 lakh crore**, comprising ₹ 1.36 lakh crore for intra-state transmission systems and ₹50,000 crore for 50 GWh of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The scheme also provides ₹ 54,082 crore as Central Financial Support and is targeted for completion by FY 2032-33. GEC-III will expand intra-state transmission capacity to integrate additional renewable power and support large-scale battery storage for managing variations in renewable generation. The Central Financial Support will help reduce the cost burden of developing the required transmission infrastructure.

3. MoEFCC Amends EIA Notification, 2006 To Extend Environmental Clearance Validity For Ports, Harbours, And Dredging Up To 30 Years – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, to extend the validity of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) for **ports, harbours, breakwaters and dredging projects**. The initial validity has been



increased from 10 years to 20 years, with a further **5-year extension** subject to review by the relevant Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) or State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC). In deserving cases where the project is still not operational, a further 5-year extension may be granted, taking the maximum validity to 30 years. The longer validity gives developers greater certainty for large, long-gestation maritime projects, while the review requirements allow additional environmental safeguards to be included where necessary.

4. **Government Notifies CAFE III Corporate Average Fuel Economy Norms For M1 Category Passenger Vehicles (FY 2027-28 to FY 2031-32) – Ministry of Power**

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry, in consultation with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), has notified **CAFE III norms** for M1 category passenger vehicles, covering **FY 2027-28 to FY 2031-32**. The norms progressively tighten fleet-level fuel-consumption targets, with compliance assessed across two blocks. The framework provides incentives for EVs, hybrids, flex-fuel and CNG vehicles through super-credits and carbon-neutrality factors, while allowing manufacturers to trade or pool compliance credits. From April 2027, manufacturers will have to report vehicle performance under both **Modified Indian Driving Cycle (MIDC)** and Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicles Test Procedure (WLTP) testing and claim credits for specified efficiency technologies, while manufacturers falling short of their targets can purchase credits from BEE or other manufacturers. The tighter fleet targets will require automakers to improve fuel efficiency and increase the share of qualifying low-emission vehicles in their sales mix, while super-credits and tradable compliance credits will increase the value of such models for meeting fleet targets.

5. **CCEA Approves ₹ 17,167 Crore Outer Harbour Project At V.O. Chidambaranar Port – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** The Week

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved the **₹ 17,167 crore Outer Harbour Project** at V.O. Chidambaranar Port, Thoothukudi, on 26th September 2026, according to the V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority. The restructured project comprises **₹ 11,733.28 crore of harbour infrastructure** works under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) and ₹ 5,434.09 crore for container-terminal development under the Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) model. The project will add a major harbour and container-terminal infrastructure and is expected to increase the port's capacity to handle larger mainline vessels and container cargo. It is intended to strengthen V.O. Chidambaranar Port's role as a gateway and potential transshipment hub for southern India, with the potential to reduce reliance on overseas transshipment hubs for some cargo flows.



6. UIDAI Introduces Five Initiatives To Expand Aadhaar-Based Digital Service Delivery – Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

UIDAI has introduced five initiatives covering Aadhaar authentication, service access and digital identity management, including Face Authentication for e-PDS, SWIK Portal 2.0, the Sub-AUA/Sub-KUA (LITE) framework, Token Management System and a revamped UIDAI website. The measures expand the use of face-based authentication, provide a lighter framework for entities using Aadhaar authentication infrastructure and strengthen token-based identity management. Together, these initiatives extend Aadhaar's role as digital public infrastructure, with a focus on simplifying authentication and enabling wider integration of identity services across Government and other authorised applications.

7. MoCA Expands Modified UDAN Challenge Mode And Signs MoUs To Expand Regional Air Connectivity – Ministry of Civil Aviation

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

On 22 September 2026, the Ministry of Civil Aviation signed 21 Memoranda of Understanding with **States and Union Territories** and the Airports Authority of India (AAI), the implementing agency, under the next phase of the Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme. The Minister also launched the **Challenge Mode Portal for Aerodrome Development**, through which States and UTs can nominate airstrips and helipads for development, and released the **Scheme Document for UDAN Route Bidding**, under which airlines will bid competitively for identified routes. The next phase targets **120 new destinations** and 4 crore additional passengers over the next ten years. This is an implementation step for the next phase of an existing scheme, and the release does not describe it as a new scheme approval. It moves regional aviation expansion from scheme-level planning towards project identification and competitive route selection, with States/UTs taking a more direct role in identifying aviation infrastructure.

8. CAQM Approves Revised GRAP Schedule And Expands Construction-Dust Monitoring Across NCR – Commission for Air Quality Management

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has approved revisions to the Graded Response Action Plan (**GRAP**) for the National Capital Region (**NCR**). The revised schedule moves restrictions on diesel generator sets and entry of BS-IV and below buses from Stage II to Stage I, extends restrictions on BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel or below-standard light motor vehicles to Sonipat, and removes certain exemptions for goods vehicles carrying essential commodities during higher GRAP stages. CAQM has also expanded **web-portal registration** and **monitoring of dust-control** measures to eligible construction and demolition projects beyond



municipal limits, while retaining the existing 500-square-metre threshold. The revised GRAP brings several pollution-control restrictions into force at an earlier stage of deterioration in air quality and expands regulatory monitoring of construction dust to projects outside municipal limits across NCR.

9. Government Notifies Merchant Shipping (Regulation Of Entry Of Ships Into Coastal Waters) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified the Merchant Shipping (Regulation of Entry of Ships into Coastal Waters) Rules, 2026, replacing the 2012 rules. The rules require Indian and foreign commercial vessels entering Indian coastal waters to maintain valid **Protection and Indemnity (P&I) insurance** and, for older vessels, a valid certificate of class from a recognised classification society. Ships must submit a declaration at least **48 hours before entering port limits**, covering insurance, salvage and marine pollution response arrangements. Port authorities can verify the insurance and deny or detain non-compliant vessels. Ship operators will face stricter pre-entry checks and will need to keep insurance, classification and emergency-response contracts valid before entering Indian waters. If a vessel causes a pollution incident or marine casualty, insurers must fund and activate emergency response without waiting for disputes over liability or costs to be settled, allowing salvage and pollution-control measures to start faster.

10. MoPSW Notifies Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores, Appliances, And Medical Officers) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified the Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores, Appliances, and Medical Officers) Rules, 2026. The rules prescribe the medicines, medical equipment, surgical instruments and medical publications that Indian ships **of 200 GT or more** engaged in international or coastal voyages must carry, with requirements varying by crew size and voyage duration. Ships carrying dangerous chemicals must also carry specified antidotes and emergency treatments. Indian ships carrying **more than 100 persons** must have a qualified Medical Officer on board. Ship operators will need to maintain more detailed medical inventories and ensure that specialised emergency supplies are available before sailing, particularly on vessels carrying hazardous cargo. The mandatory Medical Officer requirement for larger vessels also means additional onboard staffing and compliance costs. In practice, these requirements give crews greater capacity to manage serious injuries, chemical exposure or infectious disease during a voyage when immediate shore-based medical care may not be available.



11. MoEFCC Amends CRZ Notification, 2019 To Permit Coastal Receipt And Storage Of Products Outside CRZ-IA – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019 to add **Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB), N-Paraffin and Carbon Black Feedstock (CBFS)** to the list of products that can be received and stored in CRZ areas, along with bitumen. The permission applies **outside CRZ-IA areas**, which cover ecologically sensitive coastal zones. The change can make it easier for coastal chemical terminals to receive and store these feedstocks close to ports instead of moving them inland immediately after import. For industries using these materials, such as detergent/surfactant, tyre and rubber manufacturers, this will reduce the distance and handling involved between the port and their plants, particularly where production facilities are located near the coast. It will also make investment in coastal storage tanks and liquid-bulk handling facilities more commercially viable, while CRZ-IA areas remain outside the relaxation.

12. DoT Notifies New And Revised Telecom Equipment Standards – Ministry of Communications

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Low | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Department of Telecommunications has notified new and revised technical standards for telecom equipment, including **202 3GPP specifications from Releases 15-18**, updated testing requirements for network management systems and LAN cabling, and new test guides for intrusion prevention systems, Passive Optical Network Optical Time-Domain Reflectometers (PON OTDRs) for Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) networks, and solar/hybrid power systems. These standards will serve as conformity benchmarks under the Mandatory Testing and Certification of Telecom Equipment (**MTCTE**) framework. Manufacturers will need to meet the updated requirements for certification, while common standards will support equipment interoperability. The changes increase testing requirements for telecom equipment manufacturers and set common standards for new telecom and network equipment.

13. MeitY Mandates Compulsory BIS Registration For Smartphone Screen Protectors Under Amended Electronics Order – Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Low | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021, to bring **smartphone screen protectors** under the mandatory BIS registration framework. Screen protectors will have to comply with **IS 19348:2025 (Glass Screen Protector Specification)** and obtain registration under the BIS Compulsory Registration Scheme before being



sold, distributed or imported in India. The requirement will take effect from **1st April, 2027**, giving manufacturers and importers time to complete testing and registration. Mandatory certification will push manufacturers to improve the consistency and durability of screen protectors, while non-compliant or low-quality products may be removed from the formal market. Importers and domestic manufacturers will also face additional testing and certification costs, which will increase compliance costs and potentially affect prices. Standardised quality requirements will make it easier for consumers and retailers to distinguish compliant products from uncertified screen protectors.

B. Announcements

1. Government Notifies First Cohort Of Four ‘Mega Ports’ Under The Indian Ports Act, 2025 – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has notified **Deendayal Port, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Paradip Port and Mundra Port** as the first four ‘Mega Ports’ under the Indian Ports Act, 2025. The classification is based on prescribed criteria covering factors such as cargo capacity, container handling, draft, multimodal connectivity and terminal automation. The category applies to both major and non-major ports, with Mundra becoming the first non-major port included in this group. The new classification gives these four ports a distinct policy category for future infrastructure planning and investment. Since Mundra is a non-major port, its inclusion also shows that the new category is based on port capacity and performance rather than only on whether a port is run by a major port authority, which encourages private-sector port development.

2. Union Environment Minister Launches Guidelines For National Coastal Mission 2.0 – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Source: PIB

The Union Environment Minister has launched the implementation guidelines for **National Coastal Mission 2.0**, a Central Sector Scheme with an approved outlay of **₹ 767 crore** to be implemented until 2030–31 across nine coastal States and four Union Territories. The mission will focus on coastal vulnerability assessments, ecosystem restoration, pollution management, biodiversity conservation, sustainable tourism, spatial planning, research and capacity building. The guidelines establish implementation responsibilities, monitoring mechanisms and coordination between the **Centre, States and other stakeholders**. It strengthens the policy framework for coastal resilience, ecosystem protection and sustainable use of India’s coastal and blue-economy resources.



3. DRDO Signs Agreement For Indigenous Development Of 20 mK Dilution Refrigerator – Ministry of Defence

Source: PIB

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has signed an agreement with **Zero mK India Private Limited** under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) for indigenous development of a **20 mK dilution refrigerator for quantum applications**. The equipment is required to achieve the ultra-low temperatures needed for operating and testing several quantum technologies. The project will support domestic capabilities in quantum technology and advanced cryogenics and reduce dependence on imported cryogenic infrastructure.

III. Human Development And Social Welfare

A. Policy Updates

1. Enhancement Of EPFO Wage Ceiling Expands Mandatory Social-Security Coverage – Ministry of Labour and Employment

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The Union Cabinet approved raising the wage ceiling for mandatory coverage under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) from **₹ 15,000 to ₹ 25,000** per month, bringing an estimated 51 lakh additional employees within mandatory EPFO coverage. The change extends access to provident fund savings, pension benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) and insurance protection under **Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance** scheme (EDLI), while the estimated annual Government outgo will increase to about ₹ 11,339 crore from the existing ₹ 10,250 crore. The measure expands formal social-security coverage to workers in the ₹ 15,000 – ₹ 25,000 wage band and aligns the statutory coverage threshold with rising wages and formal employment.

2. Government Approves Biovigilance Programme To Strengthen Patient-Safety Monitoring – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** PIB

The Government has approved the **Biovigilance Programme of India**, under which the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) will lead the reporting, assessment, monitoring and prevention of adverse events linked to medicines and biological products used in **organ and tissue transplantation**. The programme will complement the existing pharmacovigilance system for medicines and materiovigilance system for medical devices. The Government also launched the 7th National Formulary of India (NFI) 2026, guidance for monitoring and reporting medical-device adverse events, and the Adverse Drug Reaction – Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (ADR-PvPI) 2.0 mobile app. The new programme expands India's patient-safety monitoring framework to products used in organ and tissue transplantation.



3. MoE Launches Six-Month Bridge Course For In-Service Primary Teachers With B.Ed. Qualification – Ministry of Education

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** PIB

The Ministry has launched a six-month Certificate (Bridge) Course in Primary Teacher Education through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for eligible in-service primary teachers holding a **Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.)** qualification. The course is intended for teachers **appointed between 28th June 2018 and 11th August 2023** whose appointments are protected under the 2018 National Council for Teacher Education notification. It includes online contact classes, school-based practical training and an examination component, providing a formal pathway for eligible teachers to meet primary-level teaching requirements. The bridge course provides an additional qualification pathway for eligible (B.Ed.) qualified primary teachers, allowing them to meet the prescribed **Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed.)** requirement and continue in primary teaching, subject to the applicable conditions.

4. Government Notifies Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2026 To Mandate Vegetarian And Non-Vegetarian Origin Dots On Cosmetics And Toiletries – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified the **Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2026**, which requires manufacturers, packers and importers of **soap, shampoo, toothpaste, other cosmetics and toiletries** to display an origin indicator prominently at the top of the principal display panel. A green dot will indicate products of vegetarian origin, while a red or brown dot will indicate products containing ingredients of non-vegetarian origin. The amendment introduces a clear on-pack disclosure of the vegetarian or non-vegetarian origin of specified cosmetics and toiletries, requiring manufacturers, packers and importers to update packaging for affected products.

5. Government Revises Film Certification Guidelines To Supersede 1991 Principles And Institutionalise Age-Based U/A Markers – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued **revised film certification guidelines under the Cinematograph Act, 1952**, superseding the 1991 principles. The guidelines retain provisions covering violence, drug use, sexual violence, treatment of women, communal content, national security and other sensitive subjects, while incorporating the existing **U/A 7+, U/A 13+ and U/A 16+ age-based markers** into the revised certification principles. Films depicting or involving the consumption, use or



trafficking of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances must also carry the prescribed warning: “Illicit Narcotics Destroy Health and Guarantees Imprisonment. Say No to Drugs.” The revised guidelines update the framework used by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to assess films and introduce a specific compliance requirement for depictions involving narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances. The existing age-based markers provide more specific parental guidance within U/A certification.

6. DDU-GKY 2.0 To Begin Skill Training For 70,000 Rural Youth Across 24 States/UTs From October 2026 – Ministry of Rural Development

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** PIB

The Ministry is accelerating the rollout of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya – Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) 2.0, with around 70,000 rural youth expected to begin training in October 2026 across 24 States/UTs. Target allocations of 5.6 lakh places across **more than 1,200 projects** have already been made to Project Implementation Agencies, while over **9 lakh targets** have been allocated across 31 States/UTs for 2026–28. The programme will provide placement-linked training in NSQF-aligned courses, with States required to complete target allocation by 31 October 2026. The rollout will expand access to job-oriented skills for rural youth and strengthen the link between training and employment.

B. Announcements

1. MSME And MoSPI Institutionalise Udyam Data Sharing For National Statistical Business Register – Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Source: PIB

MSME and MoSPI signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 29th September 2026 to institutionalise sharing of **unit-wise Udyam Registration data through application programming interfaces (APIs)**. A two-way API will support preparation of the **National Statistical Business Register**, providing a structured mechanism to integrate administrative business data into the official statistical system. The arrangement creates a formal data-sharing mechanism between the two Ministries and can improve the coverage, consistency and reliability of the business database used for economic surveys and business statistics.



IV. National Security And Foreign Policy

A. Policy Updates

1. President Promulgates Inter-State Council (Amendment) Order, 2026 To Formalise Governor And LG Representation During Central Rule And Emergency Proclamations – Ministry of Home Affairs

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The President has promulgated the Inter-State Council (Amendment) Order, 2026, amending the **Inter-State Council Order, 1990** to require the Governor or Lieutenant Governor concerned to be invited to Council meetings when President's Rule or specified forms of direct Central administration are in force. This covers States under Article 356, Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir. The Order has come into force with immediate effect, ensuring that states under direct Central administration maintain representation in federal policy discussions and that inter-governmental coordination remains uninterrupted.

2. Government Extends AFSPA 'Disturbed Area' Status Across Designated Areas – Ministry of Home Affairs

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry of Home Affairs has extended the declaration of “**disturbed areas**” under the **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958** for six months from 1 October 2026, unless withdrawn earlier. In **Nagaland**, the notification covers nine entire districts and specified areas under 21 police stations in five other districts. In **Manipur**, the entire state remains covered except areas under 13 police stations across five districts. In **Arunachal Pradesh**, the extension covers the entire districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding, along with areas under three police stations in Namsai district. The extension continues the legal framework under AFSPA in the notified areas for another six months. The selective exclusions in Manipur and partial coverage in Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh mean that the AFSPA declaration continues to apply to specific notified areas rather than uniformly across all three states. This targeted approach reflects a calibrated security strategy, maintaining extraordinary military powers only where active insurgency threats persist while normalising administration in peaceful districts.

3. Government Amends Navy (Discipline and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations, 1965 To Update Procedural Terminology – Ministry of Defence

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Low | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the **Navy (Discipline and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations, 1965** by replacing the term “**requestment**” in Regulation 59(9) with “**processing of service application.**” The change applies to the wording used for naval personnel's service-related applications. The amendment does not change the rights, procedures or eligibility of naval personnel; it mainly updates the terminology



used in official records and correspondence. Using clearer and more familiar wording will make these provisions easier for personnel and administrative staff to understand, while also bringing older regulations in line with the terminology used in current Government service procedures.

4. Government Notifies Reserve And Auxiliary Air Forces (Holding Inquiry And Appeal) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Defence

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Low | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified the Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces (Holding Inquiry and Appeal) Rules, 2026, setting out a formal process for inquiries into violations. A **Wing Commander-level officer** will act as the Adjudicating Officer, with appeals heard by an officer at least one rank higher. The rules provide **seven days to respond** to a show-cause notice, allow hearings and evidence, and permit ex parte proceedings for unjustified non-appearance. Inquiries must be completed within 30 days, while appeals can be filed within 30 days and disposed of within 60 days. The rules provide reserve personnel a defined process to respond to allegations and challenge penalties, while fixed timelines and record-keeping reduce delays and improve administrative accountability.

B. Announcements

1. MHA Designates Shahzad Bhatti Network As Terrorist Organisation Under UAPA – Ministry of Home Affairs

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** RBI

The Ministry of Home Affairs has designated the **Shahzad Bhatti Network (SBN)** as a terrorist organisation under Section 35(1)(a) of the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA)** and added it as Entry 46 in the First Schedule through notification dated 16th September 2026. The designation also triggers financial-sector compliance, with the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** directing regulated entities to follow UAPA procedures and report accounts resembling persons or entities on the relevant lists.

2. SCO Adopts 2026–2030 Action Plan For Multilateral Trade And Economic Cooperation – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Source: PIB

India participated in the 25th Meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers Responsible for Economic and Foreign Trade Activities in Dushanbe, where member states reviewed measures to deepen trade and economic cooperation. The meeting adopted a **Statement of the Ministers** and an **Action Plan for 2026–2030** for Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation. The meeting also approved draft regulations for establishing a Special Working Group on the Creative Economy, but these remain subject to further approval by the Council of Heads of



Government and should therefore not be treated as finally established. The Action Plan seeks to deepen intra-SCO trade, reduce trade costs through digitalisation and trade facilitation, strengthen resilient supply chains and connectivity, and expand the participation of MSMEs and start-ups in global value chains.

V. Rural And Agricultural Transformation

A. Policy Updates

1. Government Notifies Fertiliser (Control) Tenth Amendment Order, 2026 To Standardise New Formulations And Testing Protocols For Nano Fertilisers - Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the Fertiliser Control Order, 1985 to add standards for granular calcium nitrate and liquid copper sulphate and introduce official testing methods for nano fertilisers. The amendment specifies the required nutrient content, purity, physical properties and limits for contaminants in the newly covered products. For nano fertilisers, it sets prescribed laboratory methods for testing nitrogen, phosphorus, zinc, copper and potassium, including Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry for nano zinc and nano copper. Fertiliser manufacturers will now have to test nano products using the specified methods and show that their products meet the prescribed nutrient and purity requirements before they can pass quality checks, making it easier to identify products that contain less of the claimed nutrient or exceed contamination limits. Nano and specialty fertilisers sold under these categories will face more consistent quality checks, reducing the scope for inaccurate nutrient claims and poor-quality formulations in the market.

2. MSP For Rabi Crops Raised For Marketing Season 2027-28 - Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved higher Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all six mandated Rabi crops for Marketing Season 2027-28. The largest increase is for safflower at ₹ 675 per quintal, followed by rapeseed and mustard at ₹ 413 and lentil at ₹ 390. The revised MSPs provide margins over the all-India weighted average cost of production ranging from 50% for safflower to 106% for wheat. The revision continues the Government's policy of maintaining MSP at least 1.5 times the cost of production while providing stronger price support for pulses and oilseeds.



3. Ministry Approves ₹ 5,548 Crore MSP Procurement Of Pulses And Oilseeds In Three States – Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** PIB

The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has approved ₹ 5,547.99 crore of procurement at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for the Kharif Marketing Season 2026–27 in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana. The approved plan covers **7.06 lakh metric tonnes of pulses and oilseeds**, including tur and moong in Uttar Pradesh, soybean, moong and sunflower in Karnataka, and soybean and moong in Telangana. The procurement will provide farmers a Government-backed outlet at MSP where market prices fall below the support level, with the largest allocation of ₹ 3,992.57 crore for Uttar Pradesh.

4. Ministry Approves One-Time Interest-Free Loan Of ₹50,000 Per Barn For FCV Tobacco Growers In Andhra Pradesh – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** PIB

The Government has approved a **one-time, interest-free working-capital loan of ₹50,000 per barn** for Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh. The assistance will cover around **44,000 growers**, involving a financial intervention of about **₹220 crore**, and is proposed to be transferred directly through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**. The assistance will help growers meet household expenses, repay institutional loans and purchase inputs for the next crop, reducing their dependence on private borrowing.

B. Announcements

1. Pashudhan Bima Portal Introduces Integrated Digital Platform For Livestock Insurance – Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

Source: PIB

The Government has launched the Pashudhan Bima Portal under the Livestock Insurance activity of the National Livestock Mission (NLM), bringing farmers, State Governments, insurers and implementing agencies onto a common digital platform. The portal digitises the insurance cycle from policy issuance and premium management to claim processing and beneficiary verification, while enabling tracking of policies and claims. Applications are available in **11 regional languages** besides Hindi and English, providing a common digital workflow for livestock insurance services.



Annexure-I: Miscellaneous Policy Updates

A. Finance, Taxation And Trade

1. Department Of Commerce Relaxes Tobacco Board Act Provisions To Permit Sale And Procurement Of Excess And Unauthorised FCV Tobacco – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Source: Gazette of India

The **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has relaxed provisions of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 to permit the sale of excess and unauthorised **Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco** in Andhra Pradesh for the 2025-26 crop season. The tobacco can be sold only through Tobacco Board-authorized auctions, with registered traders and dealers allowed to purchase it. The relaxation gives registered and unregistered growers a regulated route to sell excess production while bringing these quantities into the formal auction system and helping growers recover value from otherwise unsold tobacco.

2. Government Sets ₹ 7.86 Lakh Crore Market Borrowings Programme For H2 Of Financial Year 2026-27 – Ministry of Finance

Source: PIB

The Ministry of Finance, in consultation with the RBI, has set a **₹ 7.86 lakh crore market borrowing programme** for H2 FY 2026-27, including ₹ 15,000 crore through Sovereign Green Bonds. This takes the expected full-year market borrowing through dated securities to **₹ 15.995 lakh crore**, below the ₹ 17.20 lakh crore Budget Estimate. The H2 borrowing will be conducted through 23 weekly auctions, with 10-year securities accounting for the largest share at 26.3%. The Government will also continue switching and buyback operations, while **₹ 2.99 lakh crore of Treasury Bills** is planned for Q3 and the RBI has set the Ways and Means Advances limit at ₹ 50,000 crore for H2. The lower borrowing requirement will reduce the supply of Government securities, while the maturity mix and switching operations will help manage future repayments.

3. DGTR Initiates Anti-Dumping Investigation On Imports Of Copolymer Polyol From China PR – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Source: Gazette of India

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation into imports of Copolymer Polyol with hydroxyl value of 23.5 or above originating in or exported from China PR. The investigation follows an allegation from Expanded Polymer Systems Pvt. Ltd., the sole Indian producer, that imports are being dumped and have caused material injury to the domestic industry. The period of investigation is 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026, with the injury period covering 2022-23 onwards. DGTR has found prima facie evidence of dumping and injury



sufficient to initiate the investigation and no anti-dumping duty has been imposed by this notice.

4. **DGFT Introduces RCMC Exemption For Low-Value Exports Under Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 – Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

Source: Gazette of India

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) amended Foreign Trade Policy, 2023, exempting export consignments with **Free-On-Board (FOB) value up to ₹ 3 lakh** from the requirement of a Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) or Certificate of Registration, wherever otherwise applicable, while consignments above ₹ 3 lakh will continue to require the relevant certification. By removing an upfront compliance requirement, the policy change lowers entry barriers for MSMEs, artisans, small businesses and first-time exporters, particularly through postal, courier and emerging e-commerce export channels.

5. **PRIP Expands Pharma And MedTech Innovation Support With ₹ 1,600 Crore In First Round Projects And A New Discovery Track – Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers**

Source: PIB

Under the first round of the Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma MedTech Sector (**PRIP**) Scheme, the Government has approved 41 pharma and MedTech projects with ₹ 1,600 crore in financial support, which is expected to bring in another ₹ 3,020 crore in private investment. The Department of Pharmaceuticals has also opened the second call of the scheme, including a new Discovery Track for startups and MSMEs working on early-stage new drugs and biological products. The new window provides support of up to ₹ 50 crore for eligible discovery projects, alongside funding of up to ₹ 5 crore for early-stage and ₹ 100 crore for later-stage projects, widening PRIP's support across different stages of pharmaceutical and MedTech development.

6. **Government Extends Validity Of Anti-Dumping Duty On Chinese Decor Paper – Ministry of Finance**

Source: Gazette of India

The Department of Revenue has extended the existing anti-dumping duty on Decor Paper originating in or **exported from China PR until 26th March 2027**, unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier. The duty was originally imposed in **December 2021** and its duty structure was last amended in June 2025. The latest notification only extends the validity of the existing measure and does not introduce a new duty or change its rates. The extension means importers of the covered Chinese Decor Paper will continue to bear the anti-dumping duty until March 2027. This maintains the existing trade protection for Indian producers of the product while keeping the additional duty cost in the landed cost of affected imports.



7. CBDT Extends Income – Tax Return And Tax – Audit Report Filing Deadlines For AY 2026–27 – Ministry of Finance

Source: PIB

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has extended the due date for furnishing Return of Income for AY 2026–27 from **31st October to 21st November 2026** for taxpayers covered under the audit-related category specified under the Income-tax Act, 1961. Correspondingly, the specified date for furnishing the tax audit report has been extended from **30th September to 21st October 2026**. The extension provides additional time for taxpayers and tax professionals subject to audit requirements to complete audit and return-filing compliance for AY 2026–27.

8. IFSCA Expands Jurisdiction For Retail Distribution Of Foreign – Capital Market – International Financial Services Centres Authority

Source: IFSCA

IFSCA issued a circular on 18th September, 2026 amending the Master Circular for Distributors in the IFSC. The amendment allows IFSCA-registered distributors to distribute capital-market products and services **from regulated entities** in the United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Australia and the European Union **to investors other than sophisticated investors**. This expands the list beyond the seven jurisdictions previously permitted under the framework. The amendment expands the range of foreign capital-market products available to retail investors in the IFSC and creates additional cross-border distribution opportunities for IFSC-registered distributors.

9. IFSCA Introduces Differential Distribution Framework For Blended Finance – International Financial Services Centres Authority

Source: IFSCA

IFSCA issued a framework on 25th September, 2026 **permitting Venture Capital Schemes and Restricted Schemes** in **GIFT IFSC** to issue multiple classes of units with differential distribution rights. Junior or subordinate classes may bear higher losses or receive lower returns than their normal share, while eligible ESG Schemes may also accept grants subject to specified conditions. The framework prescribes additional disclosures on distribution waterfalls, risks, conversion triggers and grant deployment, with the Net Asset Value of each class to be independently valued. The framework enables funds to structure investments where some investors can take higher risks while others provide commercial capital on different terms. This can help combine grants or concessional funding with private investment for projects that may otherwise struggle to attract commercial finance.



10. Relaxation Of Sugar Stockholding Limit For Bulk Consumers – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Source: PIB

The Department of Food and Public Distribution has relaxed the stockholding limit for bulk sugar consumers from **15 days to 30 days** of consumption, with the additional 15 days' stock required to be sourced exclusively from sugar imported under the Advance Authorisation Scheme (**AAS**) and Tariff Rate Quota (**TRQ**). The open-market procurement limit remains at 15 days, while bulk consumers must disclose their sugar stocks weekly through the Department's online portal. The measure provides greater operational flexibility to industrial consumers while directing additional stock requirements towards imported sugar to limit pressure on domestic supplies.

11. Government Cuts Special Additional Excise Duty On Export Of Petrol, Diesel, Aviation Fuel – Ministry of Finance

Source: PPAC

The Government has reduced the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) and associated export levies on petroleum products with effect from 16th September 2026. The levy on petrol exports was reduced from **₹ 1.5 to ₹ 0.5 per litre**, while the total levy on diesel exports fell from **₹ 25 to ₹ 20 per litre** and the levy on aviation turbine fuel (ATF) from **₹ 19 to ₹ 15 per litre**. These rate cuts affect only exports for the next two weeks, while domestic taxes remain the same. The lower export levies will reduce the tax burden on petroleum exporters and support overseas sales. Unchanged domestic excise rates mean there is no direct impact on domestic fuel prices.

12. Government Of India Announces ₹ 28,000 Crore Auction Of Government Securities Through Re-Issue Of Two Long-Term Bonds – Reserve Bank of India

Source: RBI

The Government of India has announced the re-issue of two Government Securities worth ₹ 28,000 crore through an auction scheduled for 18th September 2026. The offering comprises **₹ 17,000 crore of 7.06% GS 2041** and **₹ 11,000 crore of 7.43% GS 2076**. The Reserve Bank of India will conduct the underwriting auction on the same day using a **multiple-price-based method**, with Primary Dealers submitting bids through the RBI's E-Kuber system. Each Primary Dealer has a specified Minimum Underwriting Commitment and minimum bidding commitment under the Additional Competitive Underwriting auction. This liquidity absorption helps establish a robust yield curve for long-term corporate borrowing.



13. RBI Updates UNSC Sanctions List For Financial-Entity Compliance – Reserve Bank of India

Source: RBI

The RBI has informed banks and other regulated entities of the **28th September 2026 amendment to one entry** on the United Nations Security Council's ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions List. The amended entry relates to **Khatiba Jama'at al-Tawhid wal-Jihad (KTJ)**, which was already listed by the UNSC. RBI has directed regulated entities to take the required action under the existing Section 51A of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 framework and its Know Your Customer Directions.

14. Government Extends RoSCTL Scheme For Apparel, Garments And Made-Ups Till December 2026 – Ministry of Textiles

Source: PIB

The Ministry extended the **Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) Scheme** for apparel, garments and made-ups from 1st October to 31st December 2026 at the existing rates and under the prevailing guidelines. The extension continues the existing export-support mechanism for these textile products for another three months. Exporters of eligible apparel, garments and made-ups will continue to receive the existing rebate on embedded state and central taxes and levies during the extended period, maintaining the current export-cost support while the Government considers the longer-term framework.

15. RBI Finalises Framework For Novation Of OTC Derivative Contracts – Reserve Bank of India

Source: RBI

RBI has finalised instructions for the novation of over-the-counter (**OTC derivative contracts**) following feedback on its 2025 draft directions. The instructions have been incorporated into the existing Directions governing foreign exchange, interest rate, Government securities and credit derivatives. The finalised instructions provide a common framework for **novation of OTC derivative contracts** across foreign exchange, interest rate, Government securities and credit derivatives. This gives eligible market participants greater clarity on the regulatory requirements for transferring existing derivative contracts between counterparties and applies the framework to novation undertaken from 22nd September 2026.

16. Six Coal Mine Development And Production Agreements Executed For Commercial Coal Mines – Ministry of Coal

Source: PIB

The Ministry has executed Coal Mine Development and Production Agreements (CMDPAs) for six commercial coal mines: Tara (Revised), Margo West, Margo East, Mandla South, Dongeri Tal-II and Dip Side of PKoC. The mines have combined geological reserves of about 1,504 million tonnes and a peak rated capacity of 11.62



million tonnes per annum. Once operational, they are expected to attract nearly ₹ 1,743 crore in capital investment and generate around 15,700 jobs in the respective coal-bearing regions.

B. Ease Of Doing Business And Regulatory Affairs

1. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 990 Crore For Two Capacity Expansion Projects In Maharashtra-Telangana Corridor – Ministry of Railways

Source: PIB

Indian Railways has approved two railway capacity projects involving a combined investment of **₹ 990 crore**. The first involves a 38.21-km new rail line between Mukutban and Gadchandur at **₹ 493 crore**, expected to support **6.08 MTPA of freight** traffic and improve connectivity to industrial and mining clusters. The second involves doubling 10.86 km of the Chouk-Karjat section at ₹ 497 crore, expected to enable five additional passenger trains in each direction and support 18.35 MTPA of additional freight traffic. Together, the projects aid in expanding rail capacity, improving freight movement, and providing alternative routes to congested sections of the rail network.

2. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 736 Crore For Safety, Traction And Road Infrastructure Upgrades – Ministry of Railways

Source: PIB

Indian Railways approved four infrastructure projects with a combined outlay of approximately ₹ 736.23 crore, covering train protection, signalling, electric traction and road-rail connectivity. The approvals include Kavach 4.0 across 607.7 route kilometres of **Lucknow Division for ₹ 252 crore**, Electronic Interlocking at seven stations in **Solapur Division for ₹ 209 crore**, upgrading the 73-km Savalyapuram-Guntur section to 2×25 kV traction for ₹ 142 crore, and a ₹ 133.23 crore four-lane Road Over Bridge on the Udhna-Ukai Songadh section. Together, the projects strengthen railway safety and signalling, increase traction capacity and improve grade separated connectivity, supporting higher traffic capacity and more reliable train operations.

3. Government Deploys Onion Buffer Stock To West Bengal To Strengthen Availability And Moderate Prices – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

Source: PIB

The Ministry is deploying onions from the Price Stabilisation Fund buffer stock to West Bengal, with the Kanda Express carrying additional supplies to Kolkata and adjoining districts ahead of the festive season. Around 1,400 MT has already been distributed in the State at **₹ 35 per kg** through NAFED and NCCF mobile vans, while buffer-stock onions have been supplied to more than 100 cities nationwide. The intervention is aimed at strengthening market availability and moderating seasonal



price pressures; retail onion prices remained stable or declined in 17 States/UTs over the past week.

4. Indian Railways Approves ₹ 345 Crore For Kavach Deployment And Freight Capacity Expansion – Ministry of Railways

Source: PIB

Indian Railways has approved ₹ 223 crore for Kavach 4.0 across 614.75 route km of Varanasi Division and ₹ 122 crore for doubling the 6 km Barbil–Bolanikhadan section in Odisha. The Kavach project will expand deployment of the indigenous automatic train protection system, while the doubling project is expected to increase the section's capacity by 8.9 million tonnes per annum, supporting movement of predominantly iron-ore freight. Together, the approvals combine investment in railway safety and network capacity, with the Barbil–Bolanikhadan section forming part of the Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridor.

5. DPIIT Notifies Gas Cylinder (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026 To Authorise And Regulate CNG And CBG Mobile Refuelling Units (MRUs) – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Status: Completed | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** Gazette of India

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has notified the **Gas Cylinder (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026**, creating a regulatory framework for CNG and CBG Mobile Refuelling Units (MRUs). CNG MRUs can be owned by authorised City Gas Distribution entities and CBG MRUs by licensed operators, with each unit requiring prior design and layout approval from the Chief Controller of Explosives. MRUs cannot be used for public retail refuelling on roads, in residential areas, commercial parking lots or basements. They are permitted for specific uses, including mining vehicles, railway locomotives, marine and inland vessels, engine testing and heavy off-road equipment, subject to prescribed safety and site requirements. The rules enable refuelling of equipment that cannot easily access permanent CNG/CBG stations, such as mining vehicles, locomotives, port equipment and inland vessels. The restrictions on public-road and residential refuelling also confine MRUs to controlled industrial sites.

6. APEDA Partners With Gulfood Organiser To Expand Global Market Access For Indian Food Exporters – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Source: PIB

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) signed an MoU with InD Events Dubai, making India the Official Partner Country at Gulfood 2027 for the second consecutive year. The partnership will provide Indian exporters with access to international buyers through B2B meetings, product showcases and industry engagements, with **participation expanded** to MSMEs, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs), startups and women- and SC/ST-led



exporters. Bringing FPOs and smaller food businesses into the same buyer network as established exporters. Further access to established exporters will help to get direct institutional or overseas buyers. Using Dubai as a trading hub will make it easier for Indian exporters to reach multiple Gulf and African markets from a single commercial base, rather than developing separate buyer networks in each market. The initiative focuses on processed and value-added foods

7. SEBI Extends Samuhik Prativedan Manch To Clearing Members To Reduce Duplicate Compliance Reporting – Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Source: SEBI

SEBI has extended the technology-based **Samuhik Prativedan Manch** to Clearing Members who are also stock brokers, allowing them to submit compliance reports through a common platform instead of separately to multiple Clearing Corporations. The initiative addresses duplicate reporting requirements faced by Clearing Members with multiple memberships. The first phase is proposed to take effect from **30th September 2026**, covering 14 compliance reports, or approximately **60% of reporting requirements**. Around **1,066 Clearing Members** with multiple Stock Exchange and Clearing Corporation memberships are expected to benefit through reduced compliance costs.

8. ₹ 285 Crore RDI Support Approved For Indigenous Advanced Air Mobility Technology – Ministry of Science & Technology

Source: PIB

The Technology Development Board has approved ₹ 285 crore under the **Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI)** Fund for Ubifly Technologies' indigenous ePlane Advanced Air Mobility Solution, against a total project cost of ₹ 570 crore. The support is intended to take the ePlane technology from Technology Readiness Level 6 to Level 9, covering further development, testing, validation and scale-up towards commercial deployment. The project supports domestic capability in electric propulsion, aerospace engineering and advanced mobility technologies.

9. TRAI Mandates Short-Duration Voice And SMS Only Tariff Option For Telecom Consumers – Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Source: TRAI

TRAI has finalised the Telecom Consumer Protection (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2026, following stakeholder consultation and an Open House Discussion. The amendment mandates telecom providers to offer Voice and SMS only Special Tariff Vouchers (STVs) for shorter validity periods, including 30 days or less, monthly-renewable options and at least one longer-validity option. The measure expands affordable recharge choices for low-income consumers and users who do not require data, allowing them to select plans according to their usage and financial capacity.



10. Government Notifies Railway Services (Implementation Of UPS Under NPS) Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Railways

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry has notified the Railway Services (Implementation of Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) under the National Pension System (NPS)) Rules, 2026, for eligible railway employees appointed on or after 1st January, 2004 who opt for UPS. Employees will contribute **10% of their monthly emoluments**, with an equal Government contribution to their individual corpus. The Rules prescribe timelines for enrolment and contributions, assured benefits at retirement, treatment of resignation, voluntary retirement, disability and death, and a one-time option to switch back to NPS. This gives eligible employees a defined choice between UPS and NPS, while setting clear contribution, payout and administrative requirements. The policy will give employees greater financial predictability at retirement.

11. Indian Railways Approves ₹166.56 Crore Four-Lane Road Over Bridge In Vadodara – Ministry of Railways

Source: PIB

Indian Railways has approved a **₹166.56 crore four-lane Road Over Bridge (ROB)** at Alkapuri in Vadodara Division of Western Railway on a cost-sharing basis with the State Government. The project cost will be shared equally, with approximately ₹83.28 crore each contributed by Indian Railways and the State Government. The ROB will replace the capacity constraints of the existing Alkapuri Road Under Bridge, including its low clearance and recurring waterlogging, while improving connectivity to Vadodara Railway Station and the upcoming High-Speed Rail station.

12. Indian Railways Approves Four New Or Extended Passenger Services – Ministry of Railways

Source: PIB

Indian Railways approved **four passenger-service additions** and extensions between 24th and 29th September 2026, comprising a daily Kanpur Central–Anand Vihar (T) Mail, extension of the Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi–Agra Cantt Express to Mathura, a tri-weekly Machilipatnam–Kurnool City Express, and two MEMU services connecting Meerut City with Khurja and Saharanpur. The approvals will add passenger options and strengthen connectivity across the respective regional corridors.

C. Governance And Administrative Affairs

1. Government Designates Additional Sessions Judge (CBI) Shimla As Special Court Under PMLA For Four Himachal Pradesh Districts – Ministry of Finance

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry has amended the existing notification on Special Courts under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002. The **Additional Sessions Judge (CBI)**,



Shimla has been designated as the Special Court for PMLA cases arising in Shimla, Kinnaur, Solan and Sirmaur at Nahan. The notification was issued under Section 43(1) of the PMLA after consultation with the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. Assigning these cases to a designated Special Court provides a clearly identified forum for PMLA trials across the four districts, reducing uncertainty over where such cases are heard. It will make the movement of cases from **Enforcement Directorate (ED)** and **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** investigation to prosecution and court proceedings more structured, particularly where cases involve multiple agencies or complex financial records, which may help avoid procedural delays before trial.

2. **Government Notifies Group 'A' and 'B' Recruitment Rules For The Goods And Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) – Ministry of Finance**

Source: Gazette of India

The Department of Revenue has notified the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) Group '**A**' and '**B**' **Posts Recruitment Rules, 2026**, setting out the staffing structure, recruitment and promotion rules for its Principal and State Benches. The rules provide for posts including Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Legal Assistants, accountants and stenographers. 129 Legal Assistant posts will be filled through direct recruitment by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), while senior administrative and judicial-support posts will largely be filled through promotion or deputation. The rules provide the staff capacity required for GSTAT to process appeals, with dedicated personnel for case records, legal research, registry and case administration. As staffing is completed, the Tribunal will have greater administrative capacity to handle appeals against GST orders.

3. **Indian Railways Approves New Tri-Weekly Amrit Bharat Express Between Bhuj And Barauni – Ministry of Railways**

Source: PIB

Indian Railways has approved a new tri-weekly Amrit Bharat Express between Bhuj, Gujarat, and Barauni, Bihar, covering **2,532 km across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar**. The service will operate three days a week in each direction, with commercial stops at major stations including Ahmedabad, Ratlam, Kota, Mathura, Gorakhpur, Siwan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur and Samastipur. The new service will provide an additional rail travel option between western and eastern India and improve passenger connectivity across the four states on the route.

4. **President Promulgates Stamp Duty And Property Registration Reforms In Andaman And Nicobar Islands – Ministry of Law and Justice**

Source: Gazette of India

The President has promulgated the Indian Stamp (Andaman and Nicobar Islands Amendment) Regulation, 2026 and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Registration



(Amendment) Regulation, 2026, reforming stamp duty and property registration in the Union Territory. The amendments revise stamp duty rates, including **4%** for property purchased solely by a woman, **5% for joint purchases** by a woman and a man, and **6% in other cases**. They also prescribe specific duties for commercial transactions, including leases, mortgages, works contracts, mergers and public-private partnership agreements. Together, the reforms clarify transaction costs and modernise property registration, with the potential to reduce procedural delays and improve the administration of property and commercial transactions in the Union Territory.

5. President Promulgates Right To Public Services Regulations For Andaman & Nicobar Islands And Lakshadweep To Mandate Time-Bound Delivery And Auto-Appeals – Ministry of Law and Justice

Source: Gazette of India

The President has promulgated the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Right to Public Services) Regulation, 2026 and the Lakshadweep (Right to Public Services) Amendment Regulation, 2026. Both frameworks require notified public services to be delivered within specified timelines, with designated officers made responsible for processing applications. A key change is the **auto-appeal mechanism**: if an application is not processed within the prescribed time, it automatically moves to the next grievance authority without the citizen having to file a separate appeal. Continued inaction triggers further automatic escalation. The frameworks also allow penalties on officials for unjustified delays and require suspected cases of wilful neglect or corruption to be referred to the appropriate authorities. Citizens get a built-in escalation route when services are delayed, reducing the need to repeatedly visit offices or file fresh complaints. For officials, missing a service deadline can now trigger an automatic appeal and, in Andaman & Nicobar, a **₹1,000–₹10,000 salary-linked penalty**, making delays more directly accountable.

6. India Assumes Co-Chairmanship Of Global Coalition For Social Justice – Ministry of Labour and Employment

Source: PIB

The Ministry announced that India has **assumed the Co-Chairmanship** of the Coordinating Group of the Global Coalition for Social Justice, a multistakeholder platform established by the International Labour Organisation in 2023. As Co-Chair, India outlined three priorities: translating collective commitments into country-level action, strengthening knowledge-sharing and cooperation, and integrating social justice into development choices beyond 2030. With more than **400 partners**, the Coalition provides a platform for international cooperation on social protection, decent work, skills and employment, while India's role will focus on sharing experiences and advancing practical cooperation. India's Co-Chairmanship



gives it a greater role in shaping the Coalition's priorities and promoting practical cooperation on social protection, skills, employment and decent work. It also provides an international platform for India to share its experience with digital public infrastructure, social protection and labour reforms, particularly with partners in the Global South.

7. Cabinet Committee Approves ₹ 1,789 Crore Intelligent Traffic Management System For Delhi – Ministry of Home Affairs

Source: PIB

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the ₹ 1,789.52 crore Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) project for Delhi on 30th September, 2026. The project will cover 42 traffic corridors in three phases over 24 months, with 1,092 adaptive traffic signal locations and 1,029 enforcement locations, integrating real-time traffic data, adaptive signals, automated enforcement and command-and-control centres. The system will also provide priority movement for ambulances and real-time information on congestion, diversions and parking. The project will shift Delhi's traffic management from largely fixed signal timings and manual intervention to real-time, technology-based traffic management, enabling dynamic signal control, faster incident response and more automated enforcement.

8. National Digital Tourism Stack And Dekho Apna Desh 2.0 Launched – Ministry of Tourism

Source: PIB

The Ministry has launched the **National Digital Tourism Stack**, an open digital public infrastructure initiative being developed in collaboration with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and the International Centre for DPI Innovation and Advancement (ICDIA). The Stack is intended to provide shared digital infrastructure to make tourism offerings more discoverable, accessible and trustworthy. Alongside this, the Ministry launched **Dekho Apna Desh 2.0**, a national mission focused on promoting tourism-ready, lesser-known destinations and distributing tourist activity beyond established destinations.

9. PRAGATI-50 Identifies 50 Model Cities For KPI-Based Swachhata Action And Monitoring – Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

Source: PIB

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has identified **50 model cities across 24 States** under PRAGATI-50 to demonstrate higher benchmarks of urban cleanliness within the framework of **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0**. The initiative will use Key Performance Indicator (KPI)-based action technology-enabled monitoring and structured review within a defined timeframe, covering urban cleanliness, solid



waste management, used-water management, sanitation and citizen participation. Progress in the selected cities will be assessed through outcome-based monitoring rather than routine sanitation activities alone.

10. Government Issues Advisory On Regulation Of Stem Cell Therapy – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Source: PIB

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued an advisory directing States and Union Territories that have adopted the Clinical Establishments Act, 2010 to ensure that stem cell therapy is provided as standard clinical care only for Ministry-approved disease conditions or indications. For Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), **therapeutic use of stem cells is restricted** to duly approved clinical trials in accordance with the National Guidelines for Stem Cell Research, 2017 and applicable regulatory requirements. The advisory also highlights potential consequences for non-compliance and directs State and District regulatory authorities to ensure adherence by Government and private clinical establishments. The advisory strengthens patient protection by restricting unproven stem-cell treatments and tightening compliance by healthcare providers, while reinforcing regulatory oversight of emerging therapies.

11. PFRDA Amends Procedure For Inquiry By Adjudicating Officer – Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

Source: PFRDA

PFRDA has notified the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (Procedure for Inquiry by Adjudicating Officer) Amendment Regulations, 2026, issued on 29th September 2026. The amendment updates the regulatory framework governing inquiry proceedings before the Adjudicating Officer under PFRDA's statutory framework. The regulations are intended to provide a clearer procedural basis for handling regulatory inquiries and enforcement matters within the pension sector. It strengthens the procedural framework for regulatory enforcement and adjudication within India's pension-sector regulatory system.

12. Operational Guidelines For NPS Swasthya Issued Under National Pension System – Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

Source: PFRDA

PFRDA has issued operational guidelines for **NPS Swasthya** on 18th September 2026, with immediate effect. The guidelines pair a **dedicated NPS investment account** with a legally separate **mandatory super top-up health-insurance policy**. They prescribe requirements relating to contributions, withdrawals and intermediaries and provide for the migration of existing subscribers from the regulatory sandbox to the operational framework. The guidelines move NPS Swasthya from a regulatory



sandbox to an operational framework, establishing the requirements for participation, pension-account management and the linked health-insurance component.

13. Ministry Suspends The Linear Alkyl Benzene (Quality Control) Order, 2022 Until 31st December 2026 Due To Global Supply Chain Disruptions – Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry has temporarily suspended the mandatory BIS conformity requirement under the **Linear Alkyl Benzene (Quality Control) Order, 2022** from **1st April to 31st December, 2026**. The decision follows supply-chain disruptions affecting the availability of LAB, a key input used to manufacture detergents and surfactants. Importers and domestic manufacturers can source LAB without the mandatory BIS conformity requirement until 31st December, reducing a regulatory hurdle at a time of supply disruption. This will make it easier for detergent and surfactant manufacturers to secure raw material supplies and avoid production delays. However, the temporary suspension also means LAB entering the market during this period will not be subject to the same mandatory BIS certification requirement, with the normal requirement set to resume after 31st December, 2026.

14. MoSJE Appoints Narayan Dewasi And Swaroop Singh Banjara As Members Of DWBDNC – Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Source: PIB

The Ministry has appointed Shri Narayan Dewasi and Shri Swaroop Singh Banjara as **Members of the Governing Body** of the Development and Welfare Board for De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities (**DWBDNC**) for **three years** from the date of assuming charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Shri Swaroop Singh Banjara assumed charge on 17th September 2026, while Shri Narayan Dewasi assumed charge on 25th September 2026. The appointments fill two Member positions on the Governing Body of the DWBDNC, supporting its functioning and representation for de-notified, nomadic and semi-nomadic communities.

15. NHAI –SSNNL Agreement Establishes Time-Bound Approvals And Fee Waivers For Infrastructure Crossings In Gujarat – Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Source: PIB

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited (SSNNL) have signed an agreement establishing a **time-bound approval framework** for national highway, canal and pipeline crossings in Gujarat. The agreement also provides for **mutual waiver of applicable fees and charges** and defines responsibilities for the execution and maintenance of such crossings. The framework is expected to reduce approval timelines and project costs for the covered infrastructure works.



D. Technology, Innovation And Partnerships

1. Net Zero Portal And NAPCC Dashboard Launched For Voluntary Climate Disclosures And National Mission Monitoring – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Source: PIB

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the **India Net Zero Portal** and **National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) Dashboard** on 16th September 2026. The Net Zero Portal enables Indian entities to voluntarily register and disclose their Net Zero commitments, greenhouse-gas emissions, Net Zero targets and annual progress, with public access to declarations creating a consolidated repository of voluntary climate action. The NAPCC Dashboard brings mission-related information and identified indicators across the National Missions under the NAPCC onto a common platform, enabling Ministries and Departments to systematically monitor implementation, assess sectoral progress and identify implementation gaps.

2. TDB-DST Provides ₹ 37.51 Crore RDI Support For Indigenous Multi-gas Sensing Technology – Ministry of Science & Technology

Source: PIB

The Technology Development Board (TDB) has signed an agreement with Multi Nano Sense Technologies Pvt. Ltd. for **₹ 37.51 crore** support under the Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) Fund, against a total project cost of **₹ 75.02 crore**. The project will develop an indigenous MEMS + AFE SoC multi-gas sensor platform, with the objective of advancing the technology from Technology Readiness Level (TRL)-4 to (TRL)-9 through further development, testing, validation and scale-up. The platform targets applications in industrial safety, refineries, petrochemicals, power, PNG infrastructure, batteries and the hydrogen economy, strengthening domestic capabilities in MEMS, semiconductor electronics and advanced sensing technologies.

3. TDB-DST Approves ₹ 63.84 Crore RDI Support For Indigenous Multisensor Satellite Technology – Ministry of Science and Technology

Source: PIB

The Technology Development Board (TDB) has signed an agreement with Bengaluru-based **GalaxEye Space Solutions Pvt. Ltd.** for ₹ 63.84 crore in financial support under the Government's **Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) Fund**. The ₹ 247.69 crore project aims to develop a multisensor satellite using indigenous OptoSAR technology, combining Synthetic Aperture Radar and Electro-Optical imaging to achieve high-resolution imaging of below 0.5 metre and advance the technology from Technology Readiness Level (TRL)-6 to (TRL)-9. The



intervention supports technology maturation, engineering, testing and validation, with applications including Earth observation, surveillance, detection and target classification, while strengthening domestic capabilities in emerging space technologies.

4. TDB-DST Signs ₹ 200 Crore RDI Agreement With Agnikul Cosmos For Reusable Launch Vehicle – Ministry of Science and Technology

Source: PIB

The Technology Development Board (TDB) has signed an agreement with Agnikul Cosmos for **₹ 200 crore** support under the Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund. The project will develop the **reusable Agnibaan launch vehicle**, taking the technology from TRL-4 to TRL-8. It will cover propulsion, orbital insertion, controlled descent and recovery, with the aim of making the vehicle fully reusable. The project is expected to strengthen India's reusable launch capabilities, reduce launch costs and support more frequent space missions.

5. Government Revises Anti-Dumping Duties On Jute Products Imported From Bangladesh And Nepal Following Mid-Term Review – Ministry of Finance

Source: Gazette of India

The Ministry of Finance has revised the **anti-dumping duties** on jute yarn/twine, hessian fabric and jute sacking bags imported from Bangladesh and Nepal following a mid-term review by the DGTR. The revised rates vary by foreign producer, with higher residual rates applying where the producer is not specifically listed. Importers must provide a **signed manufacturer declaration** on the **commercial invoice** to claim the specified producer rate. The measure also extends the duty on jute sacking cloth from Bangladesh, while allowing an end-use exemption for manufacturers using the cloth for purposes other than making sacking bags. The changes strengthen protection for Indian jute producers while ensuring that genuine industrial users can continue to import the material for other uses.

6. National Steering Committee Approves ₹ 320 Crore PM-SETU Plan For Kurukshetra ITI Cluster – Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Source: PIB

The National Steering Committee of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has approved a **₹ 320 crore Strategic Investment Plan** for the Kurukshetra ITI Cluster in Haryana under the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (**PM-SETU**) scheme. The plan covers seven Government ITIs under a hub-and-spoke model, with Government ITI Kurukshetra as the hub and six ITIs as spokes, with Jindal Naveen Avsar Limited as the Anchor Industry Partner. The investment will support infrastructure modernisation, upgraded training facilities and industry-aligned courses, with the



industry partner also supporting practical training, apprenticeships and placement linkages.

7. ₹ 811 Crore Contract Signed For 160 Indigenous Satellite Smart Anti-Airfield Weapons – Ministry of Defence

Source: PIB

The Ministry of Defence has signed an **₹ 810.79 crore** contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited for 160 Satellite Smart Anti-Airfield Weapons (**SAT-SAAW**) and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force under the Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category. The DRDO-designed and developed weapon **will have 60% indigenous content**, with further efforts to reduce reliance on imports for key subsystems. Deliveries are scheduled for 2027-28 and 2028-29. The procurement will strengthen the Indian Air Force's operational capability while supporting domestic development of critical defence technologies.

8. Government Reconstitutes Central Board Of Film Certification With 18 Members – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Source: PIB

The Government has reconstituted the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) with 18 members, including actors Preity Zinta, Pankaj Tripathi, Suniel Shetty and filmmaker Priyadarshan among others, with immediate effect for a period of three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. The newly constituted Board includes representatives from the film, music, literature and cultural sectors.

9. President Appoints 14 Judicial Officers As Judges And Additional Judges Of Four High Courts – Ministry of Law And Justice

Source: PIB

The President has appointed **14 judicial officers as Judges and Additional Judges** of the Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Jharkhand and Karnataka High Courts. The appointments comprise **six Judges and eight Additional Judges** across the four High Courts. The appointments fill the vacancies of these High Courts and support the functioning of the respective benches.

10. ₹ 586 Crore Contract Signed For Indigenous Auxiliary Power Units For T-72 And T-90 Tanks – Ministry of Defence

Source: PIB

The Ministry has signed a **₹ 586 crore** contract with Accurate Industrial Controls Private Limited for indigenously developed Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) for T-72 and T-90 tanks. The APUs will provide an alternate source of electrical power for critical tank systems, including fire control, firing circuits and gun stabilisation. The procurement supports indigenisation of critical armoured-platform subsystems under the Make-II framework and strengthens domestic defence manufacturing



capability. The procurement will strengthen tank readiness while reducing reliance on imported critical components.

11. Government Dissolves Digital Communications Commission, Dissolving Apex Telecom Policy Body – Ministry of Communications

Source: Gazette of India

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, has formally dissolved the Digital Communications Commission (DCC) with effect from the 19th September 2026. The DCC, originally established as the Telecom Commission in 1989 and renamed in 2018, served as the Government's apex body for telecom and digital communications policy, including executive, administrative and financial functions. Dissolving the DCC will require its policy, administrative and financial functions to be redistributed across the Government, changing how major telecom decisions and approvals are handled. This transition will affect the processing of policy proposals, financial approvals and inter-ministerial coordination until responsibilities are clearly reassigned. The restructuring will **reduce overlap in telecom decision-making**, but its effect will depend on which institutions take over the DCC's functions.

12. TRAI Operationalises Digital Connectivity Rating Framework Through New DCR Platform– Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Source: TRAI

TRAI has operationalised its **Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR) framework** on 25th September, 2026 through the DCR Platform, following the (Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity) 2024 Regulations, the 2026 amendment and the Rating Manual, 2026. The platform enables property managers to register properties for assessment, DCR Agencies to conduct assessments and issue ratings, and consumers to search, compare and verify published ratings. The framework assesses parameters including fibre readiness, mobile network availability, in-building solutions and Wi-Fi infrastructure, making digital connectivity a publicly verifiable attribute of properties.



References

I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms

A. Policy Updates

1. Securities and Exchange Board of India, PR No. 59/2026, Key decisions taken in the SEBI Board Meeting dated 24th September, 2026, 24th September 2026.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Mines, G.S.R. 842(E), 24th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
3. Reserve Bank of India, Press Release No. 2026–2027/1158, RBI issues Directions on Minimum Capital Requirements for Market Risk under Basel III for Commercial Banks, 21st September 2026.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Direct Taxes, G.S.R. 830(E), 22nd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
5. NHAI Introduces New Guidelines for Design and Development of Access–Controlled High–Speed National Highways, Press Information Bureau, 21st September 2026.
6. Biometric Aadhaar Authentication Mandatory for Subsidised Domestic LPG Refills from 1st October 2026, Press Information Bureau, 19th September 2026.
7. Government Cuts Import Duty on Major Edible Oils to Provide Relief to Consumers, Press Information Bureau, 24th September 2026.
8. Government of India, Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange Department, No. FEMA 23(R)/(1)/2026–RB, 22nd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
9. Sources
 - a. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/257, DOR.AML.REC.226/14.01.002/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.
 - b. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/260, DOR.AML.REC.222/14.01.004/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Regional Rural Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.
 - c. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/259, DOR.AML.REC.221/14.01.008/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Local Area Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.
 - d. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/262, DOR.AML.REC.223/14.01.005/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Rural Co–operative Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.
 - e. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/261, DOR.AML.REC.225/14.01.006/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Urban Co–operative Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.
 - f. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026–27/258, DOR.AML.REC.224/14.01.007/2026–27, 18th September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (Small Finance Banks – Know Your Customer) Amendment Directions, 2026.



10. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Direct Taxes, G.S.R. 822(E), 17th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
11. Our Bureau, "Irdai eases dividend repatriation rules for foreign-owned intermediaries," Business Standard, 22nd September 2026.
12. Reserve Bank of India, RBI/2026-27/268, DOR.MRG.REC.No.232/00-00-017/2026-27, 22nd September 2026, Reserve Bank of India (All India Financial Institutions - Classification, Valuation, and Operation of Investment Portfolio) Amendment Directions, 2026.

B. Announcements

1. India-New Zealand FTA to Enter into Force from 20th October 2026, Press Information Bureau, 21st September 2026.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Mines, S.O. 5194(E), 21st September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

II. Infrastructure, Technology And Sustainability

A. Policy Updates

1. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Press Release No. 119/2026, TRAI Strengthens Framework for Curbing Unsolicited Commercial Communications through Technology-Driven Enforcement and Enhanced Consumer Protection, 18th September 2026.
2. Cabinet approves Green Energy Corridor Phase-III scheme for Development of Intra-State Transmission System with Battery Energy Storage Systems Press Information Bureau, 30th September 2026.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, S.O. ,5189(E), 21st September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Power, S.O. 5346(E), 29th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
5. Big developments at VOC Port: ₹17,167-crore Outer Harbour project approved; 40,000 sqm earmarked for container cargo handling," The Week, 27th September 2026.
6. UIDAI unveils five new initiatives at Aadhaar Samvaad Kolkata to further advance trusted digital identity and good governance, Press Information Bureau, 29th September 2026.
7. Ministry of Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu launches Challenge Mode for Aerodrome Development. Press Information Bureau, 22nd September 2026.
8. CAQM Approves Revised GRAP Schedule; Tightens Measures for Vehicles, Dust and Pollution Control, Press Information Bureau, 29th September 2026.
9. Government of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, G.S.R. 815(E), 16th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.



10. Government of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores, Appliances, and Medical Officers) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 817(E), 16th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(i).
11. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, G.S.R. 832(E), 22nd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(i).
12. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Telecommunication Engineering Centre, S.O. 5176(E), 17th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Telecommunication Engineering Centre, S.O. 5177(E), 17th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
 - c. Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Telecommunication Engineering Centre, S.O. 5179(E), 18th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
13. Government of India, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Amendment to the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021, S.O. 5190(E), 21st September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii).

B. Announcements

1. Government of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, S.O. 5303(E), 25th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii).
2. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, "Union Environment Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav launches Guidelines for National Coastal Mission 2.0", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2317286, 30th September 2026.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Defence, "DRDO inks first high—value deep tech project agreement with a start—up under TDF scheme for indigenous development of 20 mK Dilution Refrigerator for Quantum Applications", Press Information Bureau, 24th September 2026.

III. Human Development And Social Welfare

A. Policy Updates

1. Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment, "Cabinet approves enhancement of EPFO wage ceiling from Rs.15,000 to Rs.25,000 per month," 16th September 2026, Press Information Bureau.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, "Anupriya Patel launches 7th National Formulary of India 2026, announces Biovigilance Programme to widen India's patient—safety net," Press Information Bureau, 21st September 2026.



3. Government of India, Ministry of Education, “Union Minister for Education, Shri Pralhad Joshi launches the six—month Certificate (Bridge) Course in Primary Teacher Education,” Press Information Bureau, 17th September 2026.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs, G.S.R. 826(E), 21st September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary*.
5. Government of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Guidelines, 16th September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary*.
6. Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development, “70,000 Rural Youth to Begin Skill Training Under DDU—GKY 2.0 Across States/UTs from October 2026,” Press Information Bureau, 25th September 2026.

B. Announcements

1. Government of India, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, “Ministry of MSME and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for development and strengthening of the Statistical Business Register,” Press Information Bureau, 29th September 2026.

IV. National Security And Foreign Policy

A. Policy Updates

1. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Inter—State Council (Amendment) Order, 2026, S.O. 5143(E), 9th September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii)*.
2. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Notification regarding declaration of specified areas in Nagaland as “disturbed area” under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, S.O. 5300(E), 24th September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii)*.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Notification regarding declaration of the entire State of Manipur, excluding specified areas, as “disturbed area” under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, S.O. 5299(E), 24th September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii)*.
 - c. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Notification regarding declaration of specified areas in Arunachal Pradesh as “disturbed area” under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, S.O. 5298(E), 24th September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(ii)*.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Defence, Navy (Discipline and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Regulations, 2026, S.R.O. 55(E), 23rd September 2026, *Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 4*.



4. Government of India, Ministry of Defence, Reserve and Auxiliary Air Forces (Holding Inquiry and Appeal) Rules, 2026, S.R.O. 56(E), 18th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 4.

B. Announcements

1. Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Designation of terrorist organisation under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 and listed in the First Schedule of the Act, S.O. 5080(E), 16th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, “25th Meeting of SCO Ministers Responsible for Economic and Foreign Trade Activities Held in Tajikistan,” Press Information Bureau, 18th September 2026.

V. Rural And Agricultural Transformation

A. Policy Updates

1. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, S.O. 5294(E), 24th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, “Cabinet approves Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2027–28,” Press Information Bureau, 30th September 2026.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, “Shri Chouhan Approves ₹5,547.99 Crore Procurement of Pulses and Oilseeds Under PSS for Kharif 2026–27,” Press Information Bureau, 30th September 2026.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, “Government Approves One–Time Interest–Free Loan of ₹50,000 per Barn for FCV Tobacco Growers in Andhra Pradesh,” Press Information Bureau, 25th September 2026.

B. Announcements

1. Government of India, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, “Ho'nble Union Minister for Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying & Panchayatiraj Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh launched Live Stock insurance portal,” Press Information Bureau, 28th September 2026.

VI. Annexure–I: Miscellaneous Policy Updates

A. Finance, Taxation And Trade

1. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, “Notification regarding relaxation of restrictions under the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 for sale of excess flue cured virginia tobacco in Andhra Pradesh,” S.O. 5262(E), 24th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii).



2. Sources

- a. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, "Government's Borrowing Plan for the second half of FY 2026–27", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2315024, 25th September 2026.
- b. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, "Issuance Calendar for Marketable Dated Securities for October 2026–March 2027", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2315022, 25th September 2026.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Trade Remedies, "Initiation of anti–dumping investigation concerning imports of 'Copolymer Polyol of hydroxyl value ≥ 23.5 ' originating in or exported from China PR," 23rd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 1.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade, "De minimis exemption from Registration–cum–Membership Certificate (RCMC) requirements for low–value exports – regarding," No. 36/2026–27, S.O. 5092(E), 15th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub–section (ii).

5. Sources

- a. Government of India, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Pharmaceuticals, "₹1,600 Crore Approved for 41 Pharma & MedTech Innovation Projects under PRIP First Round", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2317296, 30th September 2026.
- b. Government of India, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Pharmaceuticals, "New Discovery Track for Startups and MSMEs with Financial Assistance upto ₹ 50 cr under PRIP Scheme announced", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2317229, 30th September 2026.
6. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, "Further amendment to Notification No. 77/2021–Customs (ADD)," No. 23/2026 – Customs (ADD), G.S.R. 829(E), 22nd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub–section (i).
7. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, "CBDT extends due date for furnishing Return of Income for AY 2026–27 from 31st October, 2026 to 21st November, 2026 in respect of persons subject to audit under the Income–tax Act, 1961," Press Information Bureau, 28th September 2026.
8. International Financial Services Centres Authority, "Distribution to retail investors – Expanding list of jurisdictions," 23rd September 2026, Press Release.
9. International Financial Services Centres Authority, "Framework for differential distribution in Venture Capital Schemes and Restricted Schemes to facilitate blended finance and other fund structures," 25th September 2026, Press Release.



10. Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, "Government Relaxes Sugar Stockholding Limit for Bulk Consumers from 15 to 30 Days, Additional stock to be sourced exclusively from imported sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) and Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ)," Press Information Bureau, 18th September 2026.
11. Government of India, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell, "Excise duty on Export of Petrol, Diesel & ATF and Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on Domestic Crude Oil Production," Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell.
12. Reserve Bank of India, Department of Communication, "Underwriting Auction for sale of Government Securities for ₹28,000 crore on September 18, 2026," 17th September 2026, Press Release 2026–2027/1131.
13. Reserve Bank of India, Department of Regulation, "Implementation of Section 51A of UAPA, 1967: Updates to UNSC's 1267/1989 ISIL (Da'esh) & Al-Qaida Sanctions List: Amendment of 1 Entry," RBI/2026–27/271, DOR.AML.REC.234/14.06.001/2026–27, 29th September 2026.
14. Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, "Ministry of Textiles extends RoSCTL Scheme till 31 December 2026," Press Information Bureau, 30th September 2026.
15. Reserve Bank of India, Financial Markets Regulation Department, "Novation of OTC Derivative Contracts," RBI/2026–27/263, FMRD.DIRD.No.04/14.03.066/2026–27, 22nd September 2026.
16. Government of India, Ministry of Coal, "Ministry of Coal Successfully Launches 16th Round of Commercial Coal Mine Auctions; Executes CMDPAs for Six Coal Mines," Press Information Bureau, 17th September 2026.

B. Ease Of Doing Business And Regulatory Affairs

1. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves Doubling of Chouk–Karjat Railway Section in Maharashtra at a Cost of ₹497 Crore", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2311826, 18th September 2026.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹493 Crore for 38.21 km New Rail Line between Mukutban (Adilabad) and Gadchandur", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2311827, 18th September 2026.
2. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹252 Crore for Kavach 4.0 on 607.7 Route Kilometres of Lucknow Division", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2312393, 19th September 2026.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹209 Crore for Electronic Interlocking at 7 Stations in Solapur Division", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2312391, 19th September 2026.



- c. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹142 Crore for Upgradation of Electric Traction System to 2x25 kV on 73 RKM Savalyapuram—Guntur Section", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2312376, 19th September 2026.
 - d. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹133 Crore for Construction of Four—Lane Road Over Bridge on Udhna—Ukai Songadh Section of Western Railway", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2312375, 19th September 2026.
3. Sources
- a. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹223 Crore for Kavach 4.0 on 614.75 Route Kilometres of Varanasi Division", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2316065, 28th September 2026.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹122 Crore for 6 km Barbil—Bolanikhadan Doubling Project of South Eastern Railway", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2316066, 28th September 2026.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Gas Cylinder (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 831(E), 21st September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(i).
 5. Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, "APEDA Signs MoU with Gulfood Organiser to Strengthen Global Food Trade Opportunities", Press Information Bureau, 16th September 2026.
 6. Securities and Exchange Board of India, "Samuhik Prativedan Manch— A Technology based common reporting mechanism extended to Members of Clearing Corporations", PR No. 58/2026, 17th September 2026.
 7. Government of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, "TDB—DST backs India's next—generation air mobility ambitions with ₹285 crore RDI support to Ubifly Technologies", Press Information Bureau, 23rd September 2026.
 8. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, "TRAI releases Telecom Consumer Protection (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2026", Press Release No. 120/2026, 21st September 2026.
 9. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Railway Services (Implementation of the Unified Pension Scheme under the National Pension System) Rules, 2026, G.S.R. 827(E), 16th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
 10. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves ₹166.5 Crore for Construction of Road Over Bridge at Alkapuri in Vadodara Division", Press Information Bureau, 24th September 2026.



11. Sources

- a. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves New Daily Train Service Between Kanpur Central and Anand Vihar (T)", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2314361, 24th September 2026.
- b. Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi–Agra Cantt Express up to Mathura", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2314723, 25th September 2026.
- c. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves New Tri–Weekly Train Between Machilipatnam and Kurnool City via Vijayawada of South Coast Railway", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2316070, 28th September 2026.
- d. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways Approves Introduction of Two MEMU Services Connecting Meerut City with Khurja and Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh", Press Information Bureau, Release ID 2316493, 29th September 2026.

C. Governance And Administrative Affairs

1. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, "Notification regarding amendment to the notification constituting Additional Sessions Judge (CBI), Shimla, as the Special Court under the Prevention of Money–laundering Act, 2002," S.O. 5082(E), 16th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii).
2. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, "Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal, Group 'A' and 'B' Posts Recruitment Rules, 2026," G.S.R. 838(E), 23rd September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i).
3. Government of India, Ministry of Railways, "Indian Railways to Introduce New Tri–Weekly Amrit Bharat Express between Bhuj and Barauni," Press Information Bureau, 25th September 2026.
4. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, "The Indian Stamp (Andaman and Nicobar Islands Amendment) Regulation, 2026," No. 13 of 2026, 18th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, "The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Registration (Amendment) Regulation, 2026," No. 12 of 2026, 18th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1.
5. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, "The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Right to Public Services) Regulation, 2026," No. 14 of 2026, 29th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1.



- b. Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department, “The Lakshadweep (Right to Public Services) Amendment Regulation, 2026,” No. 15 of 2026, 29th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1.
6. Government of India, Ministry of Labour & Employment, “Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Calls for Collective Efforts to Advance Social Justice for a Sustainable Future,” Press Information Bureau, 17th September 2026.
7. Government of India, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, “Cabinet approves One Network, Smarter Traffic: Delhi Moves to Real-Time Traffic Management,” Press Information Bureau, 30th September 2026.
8. Sources
 - a. Government of India, Ministry of Tourism, “National Digital Tourism Stack: A Shared Digital Infrastructure for Tourism,” 27th September 2026.
 - b. Government of India, Ministry of Tourism, “National Mission for Alternative Destinations – Dekho Apna Desh Campaign 2.0: A Mission for Distribution of Tourism Demand and Promotion of Lesser – known Destinations,” 27th September 2026.
9. Government of India, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, “Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal Launches PRAGATI–50 initiative to Develop 50 Model Cities for Swachhata in New Delhi today,” Press Information Bureau, 29th September 2026.
10. Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, “Union Health Ministry Issues Advisory on Regulation of Stem Cell Therapy,” 17th September 2026, Press Information Bureau.
11. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, “Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (Procedure for Inquiry by Adjudicating Officer) Amendment Regulations, 2026,” 29th September 2026.
12. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, “Circular – Operational Guidelines for NPS Swasthya under the National Pension System (NPS), 2026,” 18th September 2026.
13. Government of India, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, “Order further amending the Linear Alkyl Benzene (Quality Control) Order, 2022,” S.O. 5343(E), 29th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii).
14. Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, “Government Appoints Shri Narayan Dewasi And Shri Swaroop Singh Banjara As Members Of Governing Body Of DWBDNC,” Press Information Bureau, 17th September 2026.
15. Government of India, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, “NHAI Signs MoU with SSNNL to Simplify Approval Framework for National Highway and Irrigation Infrastructure Projects in Gujarat,” Press Information Bureau, 22nd September 2026.



D. Technology, Innovation And Partnerships

1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, "Union Minister of State Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh launches India's Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard on World Ozone Day 2026", Press Information Bureau, 16th September 2026.
2. Government of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, "TDB signs agreement with Multi Nano Sense Technologies for ₹37.51 crore RDI support to build indigenous multi—gas sensing platform", Press Information Bureau, 29th September 2026.
3. Government of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, "TDB—DST signs agreement with GalaxEye for ₹63.84 crore RDI support to develop next—generation multisensor satellite technology", Press Information Bureau, 24th September 2026.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, "TDB—DST signs agreement with Agnikul Cosmos for ₹200 crore RDI support to develop fully reusable Agnibaan launch vehicle", Press Information Bureau, 25th September 2026.
5. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Notification No. 24/2026—Customs (ADD), G.S.R. 845(E), 24th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3(i).
6. Government of India, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, "NSC Approves ₹320 Crore under PM—SETU for Kurukshetra ITI Cluster in Haryana; Jindal Naveen Avsar Limited to Partner in Transformation of Seven ITIs", Press Information Bureau, 21st September 2026.
7. Government of India, Ministry of Defence, "Major boost to 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat': MoD signs Rs 811 crore contract with BDL for 160 Satellite Smart Anti Airfield Weapons for IAF", Press Information Bureau, 23rd September 2026.
8. Government of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, "Government Reconstitutes Central Board of Film Certification with 18 Members", Press Information Bureau, 16th September 2026.
9. Government of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, "President Appoints 14 Judicial Officers as Judges and Additional Judges of Delhi, J&K and Ladakh, Jharkhand and Karnataka High Courts", Press Information Bureau, 19th September 2026.
10. Government of India, Ministry of Defence, "MoD inks Rs 586 crore contract to procure Auxiliary Power Units for T—72 & T—90 Tanks", Press Information Bureau, 21st September 2026.
11. Government of India, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Resolution dissolving the Digital Communications Commission, F. No. 2—3/2012—TCO (Pt.), 19th September 2026, Gazette of India, Extraordinary.
12. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, "TRAI Launches Digital Connectivity Rating Platform", Press Release No. 122/2026, 25th September 2026.



Notes



@NFPRC_Ind



nfprcfoundation.substack.com



[nfprcfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/nfprcfoundation)



samparka@nationfirstpolicy.org

