



INDIA GOVERNANCE WATCH

Viksit Bharat's Policy And Administrative Developments



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India Governance Watch

Viksit Bharat's Policy And Administrative Developments

(1st June, 2026 - 15th June, 2026)

Executive Summary

This document tracks the various key economic and policy decisions made by the Central Government between **1st June 2026 and 15th June 2026**. Some of the important announcements and policy updates are as follows:

I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms

- A. **₹ 10,000 Crore Price Stabilisation Fund Approved for Scheduled Indian Airlines:** The Union Cabinet has approved a one-time interest-free advance of ₹ 10,000 crore to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to shield scheduled Indian airlines from the surge in Aviation Turbine Fuel prices. Participating airlines must enter a tripartite MoU and source fuel exclusively from domestic OMCs for up to three years, with any gains from a subsequent fall in Aviation Turbine Fuel prices credited to the Consolidated Fund of India until the advance is recovered.
- B. **RBI announces measures to attract foreign capital:** RBI has expanded the Fully Accessible Route to include 15-, 30- and 40-year government securities and Sovereign Green Bonds, relax short-term investment and concentration limits, and extend concessional forex-swap facilities until September 2026. These measures will moderate external-sector volatility, improving foreign exchange liquidity.
- C. **NITI Aayog's 11th Governing Council:** The 11th Governing council meeting of NITI Aayog chaired by the Prime Minister and attended by Chief Ministers, Lt. Governors and Administrators representing 28 States and 5 Union Territories, endorsed a strategic framework for Viksit Bharat@2047 and state-led human development, highlighting vocational skilling for youth, better use of FTAs to boost MSME participation and FDI, strengthening One District One Product (ODOP) and domestic defence manufacturing, and upskilling in AI and emerging technologies.

II. Infrastructure, Technology And Sustainability

- A. **TRAI's Releases Rating Manual 2026:** TRAI has published the revised Rating Manual 2026, implementing a property-based collaborative approach to solve indoor network coverage issues. It offers a unified service performance verification system based on a network testing application by TRAI. The policy will create a competitive real estate and commercial environment where transparency about digital accessibility will motivate property developers to voluntarily enhance indoor networks.
- B. **Temporary Supply Restrictions Notified On Petrol And Diesel:** The Ministry of Petroleum and Gas has released Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Temporary Regulation of Supply through Retail Outlets) Order, 2026 has been issued in response



Executive Summary

to geopolitical tensions surrounding the crisis in West Asia. It bars institutional and commercial buyers from retail outlets and caps high-speed diesel at **200 litres per vehicle per day** to prevent hoarding. The restrictions apply for an initial 90 days.

III. Human Development And Social Welfare

- A. **Standard Pack Sizes Prescribed For Edible Oils:** The Legal Metrology Standard Operating Procedure has been revised to mandate standardised pack sizes ranging from **200 ml/g to 20 litres/kg** and uniform labelling for major edible and blended oils, requiring volume declarations to also display corresponding weight, enabling consumers to compare prices on a uniform basis.
- B. **Drugs Rules Amended To Remove Syrups From Schedule K Exemptions:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has notified the Drugs (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026, omitting "Syrups" from the exempted class under Schedule K, bringing liquid oral formulations under standard manufacturing, storage, and licensing protocols to tighten retail oversight and quality control.

IV. National Security And Foreign Policy

- A. **India-Oman CEPA:** The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement has come into force, granting immediate **99.38% duty-free access** to Indian goods in Oman's market and opening 127 services sub-sectors, with an automatic MFN clause and provisions for a reciprocal Social Security Agreement. The pact prioritises labour-intensive export sectors including engineering goods, textiles, gems and jewellery, and pharmaceuticals.
- B. **₹ 449 Crore Contract Signed For Indigenous Naval GNSS Jammers:** The Ministry of Defence has signed a **₹ 449 crore** contract with Accord Software and Systems Private Limited, Bengaluru, for 20 Enhanced Capability GNSS Jammers for the Indian Navy under the Buy (Indian-IDDMM) category, with a minimum of **75% indigenous content**, strengthening electronic warfare capability in multi-threat maritime environments.

V. Rural And Agricultural Transformation

- A. **Draft Labelling And Font Rules Released For Crop Protection Products:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has released the draft Insecticides (Amendment) Rules, 2026, requiring the generic chemical name to be printed in the same font size as the trade name and to occupy up to 20% of the front panel, alongside mandatory multilingual (English and Hindi) labelling, to improve hazard communication and consumer awareness.



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I. Economic Growth And Structural Reforms

A. Policy Updates

1. Cabinet Approves ₹ 10,000 Crore Price Stabilisation Fund For Scheduled Indian Airlines - Union Cabinet

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [PIB](#), [Economic Times](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved a one-time ₹ 10,000 crore **interest-free advance** to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to cushion scheduled Indian airlines from the surge in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices triggered by the West Asia crisis. The mechanism compensates participating OMCs when international ATF prices exceed a prescribed benchmark, enabling airlines to access fuel at stable rates. Any gains arising from a subsequent decline in ATF prices will be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India until the advance is recovered. The participating airlines must enter into a tripartite MoU and source fuel exclusively from participating domestic OMCs for up to three years. ATF accounts for 40% of airline operating costs and has surged nearly 2.5 times from ₹ 60.5 per litre in March 2026 to ₹ 142 per litre in May 2026 due to the West Asia conflict. The fund prevents a cascade of fare hikes and route suspensions, particularly for smaller carriers, ensuring operational stability.

2. FEMA Non-Debt Instruments (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026 Amended To Liberalise Foreign Portfolio Equity Inflows - Ministry of Finance

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#), [Economic Times](#)

The Ministry has notified the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-Debt Instruments) (Third Amendment) Rules 2026, implementing the foreign investment liberalisation measures introduced in the Annual Union Budget 2026-27. The amendment **permits Persons Resident Outside India (PROIs) to directly invest** in equity instruments of Indian listed companies under the Portfolio Investment Scheme and increases the individual and aggregate investment limits from 5% to 10% and 10% to 24%, respectively. It also facilitates **foreign participation in Government Securities** through simplified investment channels and streamlines banking and reporting procedures. It unlocks the listed equity market to the global retail and institutional investors for the first time, and the G-Sec liberalisation improves sovereign debt market attractiveness.

3. Central Bank Announces Measures to Attract Foreign Capital - Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [RBI](#), [The Hindu](#)

RBI has announced measures to strengthen foreign capital inflows and support external sector stability. They include expanding the Fully Accessible Route for government securities to include 15, 30, and 40-year tenors and Sovereign Green Bonds, removal of restrictions relating to short-term investments, and concentration limits. It has also liberalised investment norms for Persons Resident



Outside India (PROIs), including enhanced investment limits for NRIs and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) investing in listed Indian companies without SEBI registration. Concessional foreign exchange swap facilities have been extended until September 2026 for eligible public sector external commercial borrowings and for Authorised Dealer banks mobilising fresh FCNR(B) deposits with maturities of three to five years. The measures are aimed at moderating external-sector volatility, improving foreign exchange liquidity, deepening participation in domestic financial markets, and strengthening the resilience of the external sector.

4. **President Promulgates Income-Tax Ordinance To Exempt Foreign Institutional Investors And Bank For International Settlements (BIS) - Ministry of Law and Justice**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The President has promulgated the **Income-tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026**, exempting Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) from income tax on interest and capital gains arising from the transfer of Government securities. To access these benefits, entities should comply with specific requirements of reporting by submitting information in the prescribed way and form. By removing these fiscal barriers, the policy aims to attract participation in Indian sovereign bond markets and to integrate domestic debt more closely with global market trends.

5. **Ministry Of Finance Exempts Higher Ethanol-Blended Petrol From Central Excise Duties - Ministry of Finance**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Finance Ministry has issued notifications that introduce major excise duty cuts for higher-grade ethanol-blended petrol. These changes have given "Nil" excise duty rates on petrol blends having **22%, 25%, 27% and 30% ethanol** (by volume). To qualify for this fiscal incentive, the motor spirit (petrol) must have already cleared its appropriate excise duties, and the blended ethanol must have satisfied all corresponding central, state, or integrated tax liabilities. The final fuel mixtures must strictly conform to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specification. The exemptions cover basic excise duties, the Road and Infrastructure Cess, special additional excise duties, and the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess. The complete removal of these central levies for the higher bio-fuel levels will reduce the production cost of environmentally friendly fuels and accelerate India's ambitious ethanol blending target timeline.



B. Announcements

1. NITI Aayog's 11th Governing Council Endorses Strategic Framework For Viksit Bharat@2047 And State-Led Human Development- NITI Aayog

Source: [PIB](#)

The 11th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog, chaired by the Prime Minister and attended by Chief Ministers, Lt. Governors and Administrators representing 28 States and 5 Union Territories, concluded with broad consensus on key development priorities, the Prime Minister stressing that the **Vision of Viksit Bharat@2047** must become the collective resolve of every State, district, block and village. Discussions focused on strengthening human capital through vocational skilling and capacity building for India's large youth population. The Council also emphasised better utilisation of existing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to support MSME participation in global value chains and attract foreign investment. Other areas of focus included strengthening the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, promoting domestic defence manufacturing, and developing skills in artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies, while encouraging the expansion of the aspirational development model to districts.

2. India And UK Launch Joint Critical Minerals Global Supply Chain Observatory – Ministry of Mines

Source: [PIB](#)

The India–UK Critical Minerals Global Supply Chain Observatory (GSCO) has been launched to strengthen bilateral cooperation in securing critical mineral supply chains for clean energy, electric mobility, and other strategic technologies. Developed jointly by TEXMiN (TTRP, DST), the Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad, and the University of Cambridge, the data-driven platform will monitor global critical mineral supply chains, identify potential supply disruptions, and generate market intelligence to support evidence-based policymaking. The observatory will also contribute to the objectives of India's **National Critical Mineral Mission** by enhancing supply chain resilience and reducing dependence on concentrated sources of critical minerals. The initiative will support the development of diversified and secure mineral value chains while strengthening collaboration among policymakers, industry, and research institutions.

3. Monetary Policy Committee Keeps Repo Rate Unchanged At 5.25% And Announces Strategies To Attract Capital Inflows – Reserve Bank of India

Source: [RBI](#)

The Monetary Policy Committee has kept the policy repo rate under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility **unchanged at 5.25%**. The Committee also retained its neutral monetary policy stance and will continue to assess economic developments before making further policy changes. The RBI noted that current inflationary pressures are



largely driven by supply-side disruptions arising from the West Asian conflict rather than excessive domestic demand. With real GDP growth projected at 6.6% for FY 2026–27, the decision is expected to support macroeconomic stability while providing policy flexibility to respond to evolving global and domestic economic conditions.

4. **Union Minister Launches BHAVYA Portal To Advance National Industrial Park Infrastructure – Ministry of Commerce & Industry**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry unveiled the BHAVYA portal, marking the launch of the country's flagship industrial infrastructure program. Approved by the Union Cabinet with an outlay of ₹ 33,660 crore, the BHAVYA scheme proposes a strategic approach towards the development of 100 investment-ready industrial parks in a phased manner over 6 years, which will be developed under a **51:49 financing model** between the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) and the respective State Governments. The portal will serve as a centralised digital platform for monitoring the projects, enhancing transparency, streamlining stakeholder engagement, and providing investors with a single window to access information on India's expanding industrial infrastructure ecosystem.

5. **Ministry Of Coal Notifies Coal Exchange Rules, 2026 – Ministry of Coal**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Coal has issued the **Coal Exchange Rules, 2026**, which operationalise the core provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2025. This landmark structure will transform India's coal sector from a traditional single-seller model to an open, competitive trading platform. Under the new rules, the **Coal Controller Organisation (CCO)** will register entities eligible to set up and operate these exchanges for 25 years. The framework changes industrial fuel procurement by replacing administrative pricing with market-driven price discovery for core industries like power and steel. The move aims to modernise the nation's energy infrastructure by securing long-term cost stability across the entire industrial supply chain, strengthening national energy security and establishing a resilient, market-driven foundation crucial for sustaining broader economic growth.

6. **DPIIT Proposes CCTV Mandates For Ammonium Nitrate – Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

Source: [Gazette of India](#)

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has released **Draft Ammonium Nitrate (Amendment) Rules, 2026**, to enhance chemical storage security and rearrange licensing procedures. To safeguard against theft and misuse - especially when associated with the illegal manufacturing of explosives, sale in black



markets, etc. The proposed rules require all licence holders to install external Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras at visible points, particularly to monitor the storehouse doors. The recordings should be kept for at least three months, and safe digital access must be given directly to local District Police Authorities. The change further integrates Goods and Services Tax (GST) Commissioners into the enforcement chain within their respective areas. It also **eliminates the small-scale license category** that was previously required to possess and use below 3 MT of Ammonium Nitrate for agricultural purposes, thereby reducing the requirement for minor handlers.

II. Infrastructure, Technology and Sustainability

A. Policy Updates

1. TRAI Issues Amended 'Rating Manual 2026' To Refine National Digital Connectivity Assessments – Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

Status: Initiated | **Impact level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

TRAI has published the revised Rating Manual 2026, as part of the Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024, that implements a property-based collaborative approach to solve indoor network coverage issues. The manual is a single, consistent guideline for Digital Connectivity Rating Agencies (DCRAs), property managers, and service providers to evaluate indoor infrastructure in a fair and objective manner. The manual offers a unified service performance verification system based on a network testing application by TRAI and complemented by a data-driven sampling method that enables the accurate depiction of coverage changes in properties. The policy is aimed at creating a competitive real estate and commercial environment where transparency about digital accessibility will motivate property developers to voluntarily enhance indoor networks, leading to considerable improvements in consumer data experiences across India.

2. Ministry Of Petroleum And Natural Gas Notifies Temporary Supply Restrictions On Petrol And Diesel – Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has issued the **Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Temporary Regulation of Supply through Retail Outlets) Order, 2026**, to address the issues caused by geopolitical tensions and faced by the domestic fuel market. To prevent localised fuel shortages and ensure availability for regular consumers, it bans institutional & commercial customers from purchasing fuel at retail outlets and instructs them to buy fuel in their respective consumer pumps only. Retail dealers are restricted to dispensing high-speed diesel directly into vehicle tanks or containers officially approved by the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO), capped at a maximum of 200 litres per vehicle per day



with a strict prohibition on resale. These restrictions will remain for 90 days initially. This will prevent hoarding in the current scenario and ensure the equitable availability of fuel for regular consumers, thereby maintaining uninterrupted supplies across the country.

3. MoRTH Undertakes Advanced Landslide Mitigation Measures For Climate-Resilient Hill Roads – Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The Ministry has introduced comprehensive policy measures using the latest monitoring and engineering technologies for climate-resilient transport corridors in the landslide-prone hill areas of India. To make the infrastructure more sustainable, MoRTH has issued a guideline for phased execution, with the first year being solely devoted to hill-slope cutting and stabilisation works. The ministry has integrated geospatial intelligence through signing MoUs to use satellite-based Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) technology for identifying very small ground movements. It will help with early warning indicators along highly vulnerable routes like the Char Dham corridor in Uttarakhand. The initiative will strengthen climate resilience in border regions by improving infrastructure maintenance, reducing disaster-related disruptions, and enhancing the protection of local communities and economic assets from extreme weather events.

4. DoT Notifies Revised Technical Standards For Telecom Equipment And Infrastructure – Ministry of Communications

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) has announced a detailed range of updated technical standards for telecom equipment with the **aim of upgrading the dependability and robustness** of the network infrastructure. This new set updates the standards for various aspects of telecom equipment hardware and introduces comprehensive generic requirements and test procedures for seven major technological areas, including MPLS-based Transport Routers, Drive-Test Tools for Cellular Networks, Converters for Ethernet Electrical-to-Optical Media and Video Streaming Platforms. India's physical data infrastructure is heavily strained by data loads and harsh weather conditions. These revised standards emphasise **hardware quality and operational integrity**, which are essential for long-term network sustainability. This update enhances resilience, ensuring critical infrastructure can effectively manage high data volumes and withstand harsh environmental conditions.



5. MoRTH Updates Testing Standards For Imported And Modified Vehicles - Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Ministry has notified the Central Motor Vehicles (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 2026, to streamline regulatory requirements for modified and imported vehicles. The amendment permits **self-certification of modified and retrofitted vehicles** by manufacturers and state-authorized workshops, eliminating the requirement for separate testing by designated agencies. It also simplifies import procedures by allowing annual registrations of up to 2,500 M1 and L-category vehicles and 500 vehicles of other categories. Additionally, all imported gasoline-powered L and M1 vehicles will be required to demonstrate **exhaust emission compliance** using E20 reference fuel and provide manufacturer certification confirming material compatibility with E20. The amendment will facilitate vehicle imports and retrofitting, and support the transition towards higher ethanol-blended fuels in the automotive sector.

6. Cabinet Approves Delhi-NCR Clean Mobility Scheme - Union Cabinet

Status: Announced | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The Government has approved a **₹ 3,500 crore, two year long** scheme to support the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) in replacing ageing and polluting trucks and buses operating in the Delhi-NCR region. The scheme will provide financial assistance for the scrapping and replacement of end-of-life commercial vehicles with cleaner alternatives, including electric, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and other low-emission vehicles, while supporting the associated charging and refuelling infrastructure required for their deployment. The intervention will address a major source of particulate and vehicular emissions in the National Capital Region by accelerating fleet modernisation and promoting the adoption of cleaner transport technologies.

B. Announcements

1. CCEA Approves National Highway Projects Worth ₹ 24,249 Crore - Union Cabinet

Source: [PIB](#), [Business Standard](#)

The Government has approved three National Highway projects with a combined investment of ₹ 24,249 crore across **Odisha, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh** and **Bihar** to strengthen regional connectivity and improve freight movement. The projects include the **Rameshwar-Paradip Coastal Highway** in Odisha, highway widening and capacity augmentation works in Telangana, the upgradation of key sections of NH-347B in Madhya Pradesh, and the four-laning of the Khagaria-Purnea corridor in Bihar. The projects are being implemented through a mix of Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) and Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) frameworks and are aligned with the PM GatiShakti initiative to improve multimodal connectivity. The highway upgrades will



enhance access to industrial, mining, agricultural and port-linked economic centres, reduce logistics costs, improve travel efficiency, and strengthen the integration of regional production clusters with national freight and supply-chain networks.

2. Ministry Of Information And Broadcasting Releases Draft Telecommunications Broadcasting Rules 2026 – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry has released draft regulations for public consultation for **the Telecommunications (Television, Radio, and Associated Services) Rules, 2026**. The objective is to bring the broadcasting sector governance within the scope of the Telecommunications Act, 2023. These rules comprehensively consolidate a complicated web of old regulatory structures like satellite television uplinking/downlinking, Direct-to-Home (DTH), Headend-in-the-Sky (HITS), community radio stations, and private FM radio networks, which are separate policies, into one single rulebook. The consolidated rules are a major step forward for ease of doing business in the media segment, not only by fully digitising all authorisations but also by eliminating the signing of a 'Grant of Permission Agreement', which was a cumbersome process. These sets of rules also provide for a modern, transparent adjudication mechanism to decide the cases of non-compliance and disputes. These new streamlined rules will promote the growth of digital infrastructure, eliminating the long-standing regulatory bottlenecks, and facilitating massive institutional investments in India's commercial broadcasting sector.

3. NHAI Deploys Advanced Automation And Mechanised Systems To Upgrade National Highway Maintenance – Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Source: [PIB](#)

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has issued technology-driven guidelines for the maintenance of National Highways and Expressways, promoting the adoption of mechanised and automated systems in place of conventional manual methods. The framework mandates the **deployment of specialised equipment**, including High-Flow Super Suction and Jetting Units, Hydraulic Grab Machines, and Dewatering Pump Sets, for efficient drainage maintenance, slurry extraction, and debris removal, particularly in urban and monsoon-prone areas. The initiative will reduce recurring pavement and drainage failures during monsoon periods, and lower whole-life maintenance costs by improving asset durability and accountability.



4. **Ministry Of Commerce And Industry Releases Draft Amendments To The Gas Cylinder Rules, 2016 - Ministry of Commerce & Industry**

Source: [Gazette of India](#)

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has released draft amendments to the Gas Cylinders Rules, 2016, to establish a regulatory framework for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Mobile Refuelling Units (MRUs). The proposal allows authorised City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities to deploy MRUs for CNG dispensing at approved industrial and transport locations where conventional refuelling infrastructure may be unavailable. It prescribes safety, operational, and emergency-response requirements, including regulatory approvals, equipment testing, trained personnel, and accident-reporting mechanisms. The draft also restricts the use of MRUs to approved applications and prohibits public retail dispensing. The amendment would be influential in improving access to CNG infrastructure in remote and specialised sectors while ensuring compliance with established safety standards.

III. **Human Development And Social Welfare**

A. **Policy Updates**

1. **Department Of Consumer Affairs Prescribes Standard Pack Sizes For Edible Oils Under Legal Metrology Framework – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The Department of Consumer Affairs has revised its Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) under **Legal Metrology Framework** to make it compulsory for major edible and blended oils such as palm oil, soybean oil, sunflower oil, mustard/rapeseed oil, groundnut oil, sesame oil, rice bran oil, cottonseed oil and corn oil to have standardised pack sizes and uniform labelling, which vary from **200 ml/g to 20 litres/kg**. Single-use packaging below 200 ml/g. Packages declaring quantity in volume will also be required to display the corresponding quantity in weight in accordance with the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, enabling consumers to compare prices across different brands on a uniform basis. The move aims to put an end to the problem of misleading packaging and facilitates cost-cutting competition among companies operating in the FMCG and agricultural trade sectors.

2. **Health Ministry Amends Drugs Rules To Remove Syrups From Schedule K Exemptions – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Government, after consulting with the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, has notified the **Drugs (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2026**, to tighten regulatory oversight on liquid oral formulations. The amendment omits the word "Syrups" from the



exempted class of drugs listed under Schedule K. By stripping syrups of these conditional exemptions, the policy brings them under standard manufacturing, storage, and licensing protocols, effectively removing them from the relaxed regulatory bracket that often governs over-the-counter (OTC) availability. This regulatory shift directly targets unregulated distribution, ensuring that these liquid medications are subject to **strict retail oversight** and rigorous quality control to enhance public health safety.

B. Announcements

1. Department Of Higher Education Launches Applications For The Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme 2026 – Ministry of Education

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Education has launched the Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme 2026 application window to attract **Indian-origin researchers**, scientists, technologists, and professionals back to domestic research networks. The scheme is overseen by an Empowered Committee under the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government and focuses on **13 vital areas** of national priority to foster innovation and self-reliance. The PMRC Fellows who are chosen receive premium fellowships, dedicated research grants, and a position at a top-ranked domestic laboratory or university. This coordinated mechanism connects worldwide expertise with leading Indian host institutions, thereby accelerating high-impact scientific R&D and enhancing national-level academic collaboration.

IV. National Security and Foreign Policy

A. Policy Updates

1. Ministry Of Home Affairs Notifies Foreigner Registration Timelines And Grievance Procedures – Ministry of Home Affairs

Status: Initiated | Impact Level: High | Source: [Gazette of India](#)

The Ministry has issued the **Immigration and Foreigners (Amendment) Rules, 2026**, revising the registration framework for foreign nationals residing in India. The amendment requires foreigners liable for registration to complete the process before the expiry of their 180-day stay period and introduces specified reporting requirements in cases involving acquisition of foreign citizenship by children covered under the Citizenship Act, 1955. The rules also establish an online grievance redressal mechanism for appeals against directions issued by civil authorities. The amendment is expected to strengthen immigration administration, improve regulatory compliance, and enhance the efficiency of foreigner registration and monitoring systems.



2. **India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) Enters Into Force – Ministry of Commerce & Industry**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has entered into force following the completion of domestic ratification procedures in both countries. The agreement **provides duty-free** access for a majority of Indian exports to Oman, benefiting key sectors such as engineering goods, textiles, gems and jewellery, pharmaceuticals, and other labour-intensive industries. It also expands market access for Indian service providers across multiple sectors, including information technology, healthcare, and engineering, while facilitating greater mobility of Indian professionals. In addition, the agreement incorporates provisions relating to future trade concessions and social security cooperation between the two countries. The CEPA is expected to **strengthen bilateral trade and investment flows**, enhance export opportunities for Indian businesses, and deepen India's economic engagement with the Gulf region.

B. Announcements

1. **Ministry Of Defence Signs ₹ 449 Crore Contract For Indigenous Naval GNSS Jammers – Ministry of Defence**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Defence has formally signed a strategic contract worth ₹ 449 crore with Accord Software and Systems Private Limited (ASSPL), Bengaluru, to purchase 20 **Enhanced Capability Global Navigation Satellite System (ECGNSS) Jammers** for the Indian Navy. The procurement is planned under the Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category. The production of the jammers shall be deeply integrated with domestic industrial supply chains and must have a minimum of 75% indigenous content. The ECGNSS jammers have technical features that can degrade an adversary's GNSS receiver satellite signal acquisition and tracking performance while at the same time deploying exact signal spoofing and deceptive jamming countermeasures. By limiting the hostile use of location-tracking and guidance signals, this equipment will allow the Indian Navy vessels to operate safely and uninterruptedly even in multi-threat maritime environments.

2. **DRDO And IAF Conduct Successful Flight-Tests Of RudraM-II Air-to-Surface Missile – Ministry of Defence**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) have jointly conducted successful flight tests of the domestically manufactured **RudraM-II** air-to-surface missile launched from the airborne platform. The long-term plan is a major technological breakthrough on the way to self-reliance in sophisticated weapon systems. The indigenous production of this



program stems from the **Research Centre Imarat (RCI)**, Hyderabad, a nodal DRDO laboratory, with inputs from other labs such as Defence Research and Development Laboratory, High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, Armament Research & Development Establishment and ITR. This marks a significant stride in strengthening India's indigenous defence capabilities and precision-strike potential, advancing India's electronic warfare and enemy radar destruction capability.

3. **India And France Adopt Innovation Roadmap 2030 To Advance Trusted AI And Governance – Ministry of External Affairs**

Source: [PIB](#)

India and France have adopted the India-France Innovation Roadmap 2030, a strategic framework aligning India's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision with the France 2030 ambition to **co-develop critical technologies** and secure trusted digital ecosystems. A central pillar of this bilateral partnership is the formal creation of a Joint India-France AI Working Group focused specifically on AI governance. This expert body is tasked with establishing safe, trustworthy AI frameworks that align with democratic values, preserve human rights, and curb the spread of digital misinformation. This institutional collaboration significantly **accelerates the standardisation of AI ethics and child safety** online by harmonising safety-by-design principles and privacy-preserving technologies between the two nations. By leveraging secure data-sharing frameworks like India's Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture (DEPA), the roadmap creates a pathway for bilateral research in sensitive sectors like healthcare and energy.

V. **Rural and Agricultural Transformation**

A. **Policy Updates**

1. **Draft Rules For Labelling And Font Standards Of Crop Protection Products Released – Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has released draft rules of the **Insecticides (Amendment) Rules, 2026**, for public comments. These rules aim to enhance how chemical hazards are communicated and how consumers are made aware. These proposed rules, framed under the Insecticides Act, 1968, require that the packaging and labelling of all registered insecticides be completely standardised. Based on the new rules, the generic chemical name must be printed right under the trade name in the same font size so that both have equal visibility, and the chemical name should take up only up to 20% of the front panel area. The draft also stipulates mandatory multilingual labelling, ensuring that the text in English and Hindi is not only legible but also indelible, with the minimum font sizes being clearly specified based on whether the package is big, small or ultra-small.



2. **India Secures Continued Market Access For Agricultural And Marine Exports To The European Union – Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

Status: Ongoing | **Impact Level:** High | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The European Union (EU) has included India in the list of authorised countries eligible to export aquaculture products, honey, eggs, and animal casings under Regulation (EU) 2021/405. The approval ensures continued market access for Indian exporters beyond September 2026, when the EU's revised sanitary and phytosanitary framework comes into force with stricter health and quality standards. To maintain compliance, the Department of Commerce and the Export Inspection Council (EIC) will oversee EU-approved processing facilities and strengthen adherence to the new regulatory requirements. The development secures access to a key export destination valued at approximately \$ 1.59 billion, supporting export-oriented aquaculture clusters in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal while providing greater market certainty for poultry and honey producers.

B. Announcements

1. **Union Minister Launches Nationwide 'Khet Bachao Abhiyan' To Protect Soil Health – Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Government has launched the Khet Bachao Abhiyan to promote sustainable soil management and address land degradation arising from the excessive use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. The campaign encourages **scientific nutrient management** through the use of Soil Health Cards and need-based fertiliser application while promoting practices such as green manuring, seed treatment, and efficient water-use technologies. Implementation will be supported through field demonstrations for major crops, including paddy, soybean, and pulses, with technical assistance from Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and agricultural universities. The initiative also integrates rural women's self-help groups into capacity-building and livelihood activities linked to sustainable agriculture. The campaign is expected to improve soil health, reduce input costs, enhance farm productivity, and support the long-term sustainability of agricultural production systems.

2. **Jal Shakti Minister Launches 'Swachh Gaon, Surakshit Jalvayu' Campaign And National IEC Drive On Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026– Ministry of Jal Shakti**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has started a campaign named 'Swachh Gaon, Surakshit Jalvayu' and a nationwide **IEC (Information, Education and Communication) drive** for creating mass awareness at the community level for the SWM Rules, 2026 in a simple manner.



The campaign sensitises the stakeholders, assisting rural local bodies, households and Bulk Waste generators in compliance and changing behaviour. The campaign progresses in the **Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) 2.0** context, with the use of a '4 Rs' (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) for plastic waste management and a '3Rs' technique for greywater management, helping to achieve ODF Plus level. The campaign includes a mass plantation drive and Special Gram Sabhas, where rural local bodies will officially examine the ground waste assets, pinpoint the bulk waste streams, and set procedures to safeguard regional water bodies from raw wastewater disposal.

3. **Launch Of Mission 'Senehjori' For Assam Muga Silk – Ministry of Development of North-East Region**

Source: [PIB](#)

The Government has launched the Senehjori Mission to strengthen the Muga silk value chain and enhance the global competitiveness of India's silk sector. The initiative seeks to support nearly 2.6 lakh rearer and weaver families through the revival of 5,000 hectares of host plant area, the formation of 30 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and 1,180 Farmer Interest Groups, and the expansion of processing and common facility infrastructure. The mission also provides for the establishment of five modern Muga reeling units and a dedicated spun silk mill for by-product processing. The initiative is expected to enhance value addition, strengthen market linkages, and improve income opportunities for Muga silk producers across the North Eastern region.

4. **Jal Shakti Minister Extends The Tenure Of Water Disputes Tribunals – Ministry of Jal Shakti**

Source: [Gazette of India](#), [Gazette of India](#)

The Government has extended the tenure of both the **Ravi-Beas Waters Tribunal** and the **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal** until August 2027 and July 2027, respectively, highlighting the persistent complexity of inter-state river water disputes in India. The Ravi-Beas Tribunal, constituted in 1986 to adjudicate issues arising from the Punjab Settlement, and the Krishna Tribunal, dealing with water-sharing among Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and, after bifurcation, Telangana, have both sought additional time due to the technical, legal, and political challenges involved in determining equitable water allocations. The extensions reflect the Government's preference for a negotiated and evidence-based adjudicatory process rather than hasty settlements in matters that affect agriculture, drinking water security, hydropower generation, and federal relations.



Annexure-I: Miscellaneous Policy Updates

A. Policy Updates

1. Government Amends Quality Control Orders For The Footwears Made From Leather, All Rubber And Polymeric Material and its Components - Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#), [Business Standard](#)

The 2026 amendment to the Footwear Quality Control Order (QCO) is an attempt to balance quality regulation with industry realities. India is the world's second-largest footwear producer, manufacturing over 260 crore pairs annually and employing more than 40 lakh people directly and indirectly. While the 2024 QCO aimed to improve product quality through mandatory BIS certification, manufacturers argued that immediate compliance would disrupt production, innovation, and access to global designs needed to move up the value chain. The amendment therefore extends the compliance window by one year, until July 2027, and permits manufacturers to import up to **4,500 pairs** annually for research and development without BIS certification, provided these products are not sold commercially. The move is likely to reduce compliance pressures on firms, especially **MSME clusters** in Agra, Chennai, Kanpur and Kolkata, while allowing them to benchmark international products, develop new designs, and adapt to global trends.

2. NPPA Waives Monopoly Penalties For Critical Vaccines To Safeguard Supply - Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [Gazette of India](#)

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has **revised the ceiling prices of BCG, Measles-Rubella, and Measles vaccines** to ensure their continued availability in the domestic market. The revision follows representations from manufacturers regarding the applicability of conventional price-control methodologies to vaccines and other complex biologics, prompting a review by the Department of Pharmaceuticals and subsequent reconsideration by the NPPA. Accordingly, the revised ceiling prices have been fixed without applying monopoly reduction factors, recognising the public health importance of maintaining a stable vaccine supply. The decision is consistent with recent regulatory interventions aimed at addressing manufacturing viability concerns for essential medicines and vaccines. The revision is expected to strengthen supply security and reduce the risk of shortages of critical immunisation products while ensuring uninterrupted access under the Universal Immunisation Programme.



3. Digital India BHASHINI Division And DPIIT Sign MoU To Strengthen Multilingual Access Across India's Investment Ecosystem – Ministry of Electronics & IT

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) under the Digital India Corporation (DIC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the **BHASHINI Sahayogi programme** to strengthen multilingual governance and public service delivery across DPIIT's digital platforms. The collaboration will integrate BHASHINI's language technology solutions across all 22 scheduled Indian languages and support the deployment of multilingual AI models and automated language-processing tools for investment promotion, industrial development, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The initiative also extends the **National Hub for Language Technology (NHLT)** ecosystem to commercial stakeholders through real-time language solutions. The partnership is expected to improve information accessibility, reduce language barriers in regulatory processes, and promote wider participation in India's business and innovation ecosystem.

4. Raksha Mantri Approves First Large-Scale Solar Power Project On Defence Land At Sitapur, UP – Ministry of Defence

Status: Initiated | **Impact Level:** Medium | **Source:** [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Defence has approved the establishment of a 250 MW Solar Power Project integrated with a **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** at Sitapur (Ex-Cantonment) in Uttar Pradesh. This will be the very first green initiative of the Ministry of Defence, which aims to utilise the vacant military land to generate renewable energy. NTPC Limited would be launching a competitive bidding process for this project to get the most cost-effective pricing of the energy. By switching to renewable energy, defence establishments which are currently dependent on fossil fuel-based grid power will aim to reduce carbon emissions and secure long-term energy supply, resulting in enhanced energy security of the armed forces. It will also help in reducing the carbon and ecological footprint of military establishments over the period of the project.

B. Announcements

1. Credit Guarantee Scheme For Microfinance Institutions 2.0 Extended And Loan Limits Enhanced – Ministry of Finance

Source: [PIB](#)

The Government has extended the validity of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Microfinance Institutions 2.0 (CGSMFI-2.0) to 31st August, 2026 or until guarantees worth ₹20,000 crore are issued by NCGTC, whichever is earlier, and raised the maximum loan limit for large NBFC-MFIs from ₹ 300 crore to ₹ 1,000 crore under the 20% AUM ceiling. The scheme, launched in March 2026, had sanctioned only ₹



770 crore against its ₹ 20,000 crore target before the original 30th June, 2026 deadline, prompting the extension to allow more lending institutions time to participate.

2. Cabinet Approves Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project Phase 2A – Union Cabinet

Source: [PIB](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved Phase 2A of the Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project, a 6.03 km corridor from Koteswar Road to the Airport with five stations (four elevated and one underground). The total completion cost, including Interest during Construction (IDC), will be ₹ 2,169.04 crore. On operationalisation, the Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar region will have 77.63 km of active Metro Rail Network. On operationalisation of Phase 2A, the Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar metro network will expand to 77.63 km, strengthening urban connectivity along the Sabarmati riverfront and improving access to the airport for residents of western Ahmedabad while supporting the city's urbanisation and congestion reduction goals.

3. MoSPI Releases Provisional Estimates Of Annual GDP For FY 2025-26 And Q4 Quarterly Estimates – Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Source: [PIB](#)

The MoSPI has made public the Provisional Estimates of Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the Financial Year 2025-26 as well as the Quarterly Estimates for the last quarter (Q4). Working with the new series having a base year of 2022-23, India's Real GDP (at constant prices) has reached a growth rate of **7.7%** for the whole year, estimated at ₹ 323.12 lakh crore, after expanding by 7.1% in FY 2024-25. At the same time, the Nominal GDP (at current prices) was ₹ 346.36 lakh crore, thereby showing an annual growth rate of 8.9%. Real Gross Value Added (GVA) was 7.9% higher for the year, complementing robust baseline output of the main sectors of the economy. The fourth quarter (Q4, January-March) figures also support the second half trend of economic strengthening. Real GDP in Q4 FY 2025-26 was ₹ 87.77 lakh crore, 7.8% higher year-on-year, while Nominal GDP grew by 9.1% to be ₹ 94.65 lakh crore.

4. Government Approves 96 Companies Under Round III Of PLI Scheme For Textiles – Ministry of Textiles

Source: [PIB](#), [Business Standard](#)

The Government has approved 22 new applicants under Round III of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles, bringing the total selections in this round to 96 companies with a committed investment of ₹12,822.67 crore and a projected turnover of ₹58,294.18 crore in notified products including Man-Made Fibre (MMF) apparel, MMF fabrics, and technical textiles. The 22 newly approved companies alone are expected to invest ₹ 2,339.14 crore, generate ₹ 15,561.34 crore in turnover, and create 36,217 employment opportunities across the textile value chain.



5. Cabinet Approves ₹ 1,235 Crore Housing Project For Central Government Employees In Amaravati – Union Cabinet

Source: [PIB](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved construction of a Central Government Residential Complex in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh's new capital, at ₹ 1,234.91 crore spread across 17 acres, featuring 11 high-rise towers with 1,504 Type-II to Type-VI apartments and 31.3 lakh sq ft of built-up area. The project will be fully funded through Central budgetary support and implemented by CPWD under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Amaravati currently lacks adequate rental accommodation for Central employees posted to the new capital, forcing many to commute from Guntur or other cities. The housing project addresses this critical gap, strengthening the Centre's institutional presence in the state capital

6. Designation Of Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary As India's 100th Ramsar Site – Prime Minister's Office

Source: [PIB](#)

The Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal), located in **Ballia, Uttar Pradesh**, has been officially designated as India's **100th Ramsar site** of international importance. This milestone marks a key achievement in expanding the nation's protected wetland network and underscores a long-term commitment to safeguarding vital natural habitats. This will help in the integration of community participation, scientific research, technological innovation, and public awareness programs to scale up wetland rejuvenation efforts across the country.

7. Union Home Minister Inaugurates Land Port Management System 'VINIMAY' To Modernise Border Trade – Ministry of Home Affairs

Source: [PIB](#)

The Union Home Ministry has launched the **Land Port Management System (LPMS- 'VINIMAY')**, a real-time digital system designed to revamp the country's cross-border logistics network by eliminating 90% of the conventional manual paperwork. The digital platform developed by the Land Ports Authority of India combines the Single Electronic Window and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) gate systems. It brings together major statutory bodies like ICEGATE, CBIC, and the Bureau of Immigration on a single interface and enables real-time data sharing among them. Due to this digital overhaul, the transit operations are expected to become much faster, and the time that trucks spend waiting is expected to be reduced from 40% to 60%, and the time spent in gate processing areas by 35%. This digital initiative is one of the key components of the Government's Smart Borders strategy that aims at combining the highest level of national security with the fastest economic growth at the borders.



8. Chief Economic Advisor Releases Report On Datasets To Advance Fiscal Decentralisation – Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has released the comprehensive **Report of the Committee on Datasets for State Finance Commissions**. The report aims to change the financing of local Government through evidence-based fiscal decentralisation. The report contains a vital structure to address data fragmentation issues through the standardisation of major local datasets on population, income, asset inventories and basic services. A measurement tool has been developed, Panchayat Advancement Index, to measure rural progress.

9. India And Philippines Convene 14th Joint Working Group On Trade And Investment – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Source: [PIB](#)

The 14th meeting of the India-Philippines Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment (JWGTI) was held in Manila to explore new avenues for economic cooperation between the two countries. When looking at the trade path of the two countries, both countries recognised the strong growth of their commercial relationship, which reached \$ 3.9 billion in the 2025-26 fiscal year. The executive delegations discussed aligning institutions in different technical sectors and shared their vision of joint opportunities in construction, infrastructure, ICT/IT-BPM/AI, energy, film, and pharmaceuticals. One of the main achievements was the discussion on the early conclusion of the **ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Review**, which will be used as a reference for negotiating a comprehensive bilateral **India-Philippines Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)**. The discussions are expected to strengthen institutional trade cooperation, facilitate greater market access and investment flows, and lay the groundwork for a more comprehensive bilateral economic partnership between India and the Philippines.

10. NIPL And ACLEDA Bank Launch Cross-Border UPI Payments In Cambodia – Ministry of Finance

Source: [PIB](#)

The NPCI International Payments Limited, the overseas division of the National Payments Corporation of India, has partnered with ACLEDA Bank Plc. to initiate the Unified Payments Interface payment facility in Cambodia. Cambodia becomes the ninth country worldwide to join India's UPI system. Phase 1 has established the cross-border QR payment linkage between India and Cambodia. This enables a vast number of Indian tourists entering the country to perform instant, seamless retail transactions at **more than 4.5 million Cambodian merchants** through their accustomed domestic UPI apps, limiting the use of physical foreign currency and avoiding high currency conversion charges. The service in future will become



bidirectional, enabling Cambodian visitors to do the same. This move enables a more productive engagement between the countries and accelerates their economic growth.

11. India Launches Its First Flex-Fuel Passenger Vehicle – Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

Source: [PIB](#)

India has expanded its ethanol-based mobility ecosystem with the introduction of its first flex-fuel passenger vehicle, capable of operating on ethanol-petrol blends ranging from E20 to E100. These vehicles are backed by NITI Aayog's official classification as Zero-Emission Vehicles. The executive pipeline mandates an initial deployment of **50 to 100 dedicated fuel retail outlets** across the Delhi-NCR and Mumbai-Pune-Nagpur transit corridors, scaling up to 500 stations by December 2026 and roughly 5,000 major urban dispensing hubs by the end of 2027. The operational projections indicate that transitioning half of new two-wheeler and four-wheeler sales to flex-fuel alternatives would drastically lower carbon footprints by 66.4 lakh metric tonnes, reduce sovereign crude import dependency, and **inject ₹ 12,403 crore in additional income** directly into the domestic agricultural sector.

12. Ministry Of Commerce And Industry Revises Wholesale Price Index Base Year From 2011-12 To 2022-23 – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has revised the base year of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) **from FY 2011-12 to FY 2022-23** and introduced a new WPI series to better reflect the current structure of the Indian economy. The revised series incorporates an updated commodity basket, revised weighting patterns, and improved price collection methodologies aligned with contemporary production and trade trends. Alongside the new WPI series, the Government has also introduced the Output Producer Price Index (OPPI), Input Producer Price Index (IPPI), and Service Producer Price Indices for select sectors with FY 2022-23 as the base year. The revision is expected to **improve the accuracy of wholesale inflation** measurement and provide a more representative benchmark for price monitoring, national income estimation, and macroeconomic analysis.

13. India And Nepal Operationalise Cross-Border Remittance Linkage Via UPI-NPI Integration – Ministry of Finance

Source: [PIB](#)

The Ministry has launched a **peer-to-peer cross-border digital remittance mechanism** between India and Nepal by linking India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI). This integration allows citizens of both nations to make secure and real-time fund transfers directly through mobile banking applications and digital wallets. It aims to lower the security risks by



eliminating the reliance on physical cash currency exchanges and slower remittance channels for cross-border travelers and local businesses. The move significantly enhances formal financial inclusion for migrant workers while offering Nepalese merchants immediate access to the high-volume Indian tourist demographic.

14. Implementation Committee Holds Inaugural Meeting To Map Out National Cooperation Policy-2025 Roadmap – Ministry of Cooperation

Source: [PIB](#)

The National Level Policy Implementation and Monitoring Committee for the National Cooperation Policy-2025 convened its inaugural session to establish an operational roadmap **aimed at modernising India's cooperative sector** in line with the "Sahkar se Samridhhi" vision. The strategies reviewed include scaling up Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) into multipurpose service centres, launching model cooperative villages across every district, and expanding structural dairy and fishery cooperative networks down to the Panchayat level. This structural framework **drives formal financial and economic inclusion** by aiming to expand national cooperative membership to 50 crore by 2035. The policy is expected to establish an ecosystem that directly connects grassroots rural production with modern national markets.

15. DigiLocker Onboards 68 Electricity DISCOMs Nationwide, Enabling Digital Bill Access For Millions Of Consumers – Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Source: [PIB](#)

DigiLocker has successfully onboarded 68 Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) and Power Departments across States and Union Territories, enabling electricity consumers to securely access digital electricity bills directly within the DigiLocker app. The participating entities include state power distribution companies, municipal electricity departments and private distribution utilities, eliminating the need to search through emails, maintain physical copies or visit service provider offices.

16. ASI And National Museum Of Denmark Sign MoU For Underwater Archaeological Investigation Of Historic Danish Ship Oresund – Ministry of Culture

Source: [News On Air](#)

The Archaeological Survey of India and the National Museum of Denmark have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a joint underwater archaeological investigation of the historic Danish ship Oresund, which was wrecked off the coast near Karaikal in present-day Puducherry in 1619. The Oresund shipwreck represents a key site tied to early India-Denmark maritime contact in the 17th century, when



Danish trading activities in India remain overshadowed by the larger colonial histories of Britain, France, Portugal and the Netherlands.

17. APEDA Facilitates First Export Consignment of GI-Tagged Tezpur Litchi from Assam to Dubai – Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Source: [PIB](#)

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has successfully facilitated the first international export of a one-metric-tonne consignment of Geographical Indication (GI)-tagged **Tezpur Litchi** from Assam to Dubai. APEDA aims to establish fresh international market linkages, expand premium agricultural value chains, and build export-oriented production infrastructure across India's North Eastern Region. By securing a premium international market identity, this export directly increases northeastern litchi growers' earnings by 10% over domestic rates while establishing a high-value global supply corridor for the region's agricultural output.

18. UGC Issues Letters of Approval to Three Major Foreign Universities for Establishing Indian Campuses – Ministry of Education

Source: [PIB](#)

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has given Letters of Approval (LoAs) to three premier global institutions, the University of Bristol, the University of York, and the University of New South Wales (UNSW) to establish independent operational campuses in India. This move is in alignment with the "internationalisation vision" of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and will offer specialized courses including Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Data Science, Immersive Arts, and Renewable Energy. This approval reduces the financial burden of studying abroad while directly building skilled domestic workforce.



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