





The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India

WEEKLY BULLETIN

ASSOCHAMVOICE



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Cabinet Decisions

Cabinet approves Phase III of Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP)

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved continuation of the Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP) Phase-III. Implemented by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) with Wellcome Trust, UK, through the SPV India Alliance, Phase-III runs from 2025-26 to 2030-31, with six more years (2031-32 to 2037-38) to service fellowships and grants approved till 2030-31. Outlay: INR 1,500 crore (DBT INR 1,000 crore; WT INR 500 crore). Aligned with Viksit Bharat, Phase-III will nurture top talent, advance interdisciplinary translational research, strengthen research systems, reduce regional disparities, and build globally impactful biomedical capacity.

[Read more](#)

Union Cabinet Approves Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses for 2025-26 to 2030-31

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses, a six-year initiative (2025-26 to 2030-31) with an outlay of INR 11,440 crore to boost domestic production and achieve self-sufficiency. Pulses, vital in India's cropping systems and diets, face rising demand due to higher incomes and living standards. Despite being the world's largest producer and consumer, India imports 15-20% of its needs. Announced in Budget 2025-26, the Mission adopts a comprehensive strategy covering research, seed systems, area expansion, procurement, and price stability.

[Read more](#)

Cabinet approves additional instalment of 3% Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief to Pensioners

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved an additional 3% Dearness Allowance for central government employees and Dearness Relief for pensioners, effective July 1, 2025 - lifting the rate from 55% to 58% of basic pay/pension to offset inflation. The decision follows the accepted 7th Central Pay Commission formula and will cost INR 10,083.96 crore annually, benefiting about 49.19 lakh employees and 68.72 lakh pensioners.

[Read more](#)

Industry Developments

Overall

Private capex slump threatens 8% GDP growth path: YES Securities

Despite record cash reserves of Rs.10.4 trillion in 2024-25, Indian companies have held back on new investments, casting doubt on the sustainability of India's growth momentum, YES Securities stated in a report. Most surplus liquidity has been returned to shareholders instead of funding fresh projects, as firms remain cautious amid weak demand, global uncertainty and policy unpredictability.

[Read more](#)

Agri & Food processing

World Food India 2025 Wraps Up, Strengthening India's Position in Global Agri-Food Value Chains

The four-day World Food India 2025 concluded today at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, marking a landmark moment in the journey of India's food processing sector. The event, inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, Mr. Dmitry Patrushev, Union Ministers Shri Chirag Paswan and Shri Prataprao Jadhav, and Minister of State for Food Processing and Railways Shri Ravneet Singh, brought together global leaders, policymakers, industry captains, and innovators to deliberate on the future of food and agriculture.

[Read more](#)

Global, domestic firms to invest Rs.1 trillion in Indian food processing sector

The government has signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) with 26 global and domestic firms for investments worth Rs.1.02 trillion in India's food processing sector. This investment is one of the largest investment announcements in India's food processing sector, according to Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The sectors covered include dairy, meat and poultry, packaged foods, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, spices and condiments, confectionery, edible oils, fruits and vegetables and ready-to-eat products.

[Read more](#)

India to reduce import duties on agri products under EFTA

From October 1, 2025, India will reduce import duties on chocolates, olive oil, biscuits, select farm products, mineral waters, and coffee under its EFTA free trade pact. Dairy and many agricultural items remain excluded. Most duty cuts will be phased over 10 years, benefiting consumers.

[Read more](#)

India may purchase corn from US to produce ethanol

India may purchase corn from the US in order to produce ethanol as part of the ongoing bilateral trade talks. The US has urged India to import soyabean and corn, however, India has resisted due to concerns over genetically modified (GM) crops. India is pushing for the removal of the 25 per cent penalty tariffs imposed by the US for purchasing Russian oil.

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Aviation

Air India raises \$215 million from StanChart, Bank of India

Air India has raised about \$215 million from Bank of India and Standard Chartered through GIFT City to refinance short-term debt used to buy six Boeing 777-300ER aircraft. The six-year loan carries a margin of around 168 basis points over the secured overnight financing rate.

[Read more](#)

Akasa Air boosts 'Pets on Akasa' service with new perks for travellers

Akasa Air has announced key enhancements to its popular pet travel service, 'Pets on Akasa', and now passengers can travel with two pets in the cabin, up from the previous limit of one. This upgraded service aims to offer more convenience and flexibility for pet owners, a release said. Since its launch in November 2022, Pets on Akasa has successfully transported over 8,500 pets nationwide.

[Read more](#)

Automobiles and Ancillaries

JLR extends production cut until October 2025

Tata Motors owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has extended its production shutdown until 1 October 2025 following a cyberattack earlier in September that severely disrupted its operations. The incident affected three major UK manufacturing plants, halting the daily production of about 1,000 vehicles and forcing many of the company's 33,000 employees to remain at home.

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Top car manufacturers report exceptional sales on first day of Navratri

India's top car manufacturers recorded exceptional sales on the first day of Navratri, driven by the implementation of GST 2.0, which reduced vehicle prices and boosted consumer interest. Maruti Suzuki led the market with over 25,000 retail sales and around 80,000 customer enquiries, while Tata Motors delivered approximately 10,000 vehicles and Hyundai saw its highest single-day performance in five years with about 11,000 dealer billings.

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Domestic two wheeler sales to grow by 6-9%, says Icra

Domestic two-wheeler sales in India are projected to grow by 6-9 per cent in the ongoing financial year, supported by improved affordability from recent GST cuts, steady replacement demand, a recovery in urban markets, and stable rural incomes aided by a normal monsoon. This is as per a report by rating agency Icra.

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Banking and Financial Services

Corporate India tapping non-bank channels for funding

Corporate India is increasingly turning to non-banking sources to meet its funding needs. Nearly 50 per cent of the funds raised by corporates in 2024-25 came from equity markets, bonds and loans provided by non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

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Nomura expects 12% credit growth in 2025-26

Credit growth is expected to rise to 12 per cent year-on-year in 2025-26, according to Nomura. The growth will be driven by improving asset quality in unsecured retail loans and microfinance segments.

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NIMs to edge up in December 2025 quarter

Net interest margins (NIMs) are expected to rebound in the December 2025 quarter after witnessing a decline in the June and September 2025 quarters. NIMs dropped to 2.89 per cent in the June 2025 quarter from 3.15 per cent a year earlier.

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Energy & Natural Resources

Centre eyes umbrella law for nuclear energy; Special tribunal for disputes

The government is planning to introduce an umbrella law for the nuclear energy sector, according to media reports. It is also preparing for a specialised tribunal to address all nuclear energy-related disputes and a nuclear safety authority in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

[Read more](#)

Waaree Energies' investment plan to not get impacted by US investigation

Waaree Energies' investment plans will not get impacted by the US investigation into potential solar tariff evasion. Last week US launched an investigation into whether Waaree bypassed tariffs on Chinese-made solar cells and panels by falsely labelling them as manufactured in India.

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Infrastructure

Telangana CM directs to fast-track land acquisition for key highway projects

Telangana chief minister (CM) A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to accelerate land acquisition and ensure timely compensation payments to farmers for major highway projects in the state. He ordered that the entire land acquisition and compensation process be finalised by the end of October 2025.

[Read more](#)

Govt clears 25.2-km elevated road between Thane and Navi Mumbai Airport

The government has cleared a 25.2-km elevated road between Thane and Navi Mumbai Airport at a cost of Rs.63.63 billion. This elevated road will be built on a build-operate-transfer (BOT) model. Designed to provide a signal-free and time-saving connection, the route will require toll payments.

[Read more](#)

Healthcare

Telangana govt to set up dialysis centres every 20 to 25-km

The Telangana government has decided to set up dialysis centres every 20 to 25-km in the state. The information was shared by state health minister C Damodar Raja Narasimha. It will ensure that patients no longer have to travel long distances or endure prolonged waiting hours for life-saving treatment.

[Read more](#)

Tamil Nadu minister lays foundation for new surgical theatre building in Boothapandi

Tamil Nadu dairy development minister T Mano Thangaraj has laid the foundation for a new surgical theatre building at the government taluka headquarters hospital in Boothapandi. The cost of the same has been pegged at Rs.35 million. Furthermore, a surgical theatre building is being constructed for the convenience of pregnant women under the state health & family welfare fund, reported The Hindu.

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Star Health cashless claim services to resume at AHPI hospitals by 10 Oct

Cashless claim settlements for Star Health Insurance will be reinstated across all 15,000+ hospitals under the Association of Healthcare Providers India (AHPI) by 10 October 2025. AHPI has withdrawn its earlier advisory to halt cashless services from 22 September 2025.

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Dahisar-Bhayander highway to be constructed in Maharashtra

The upcoming Dahisar-Bhayander highway in Maharashtra will enable travel from Nariman Point to Mira-Bhayander in just 30 minutes using the coastal road network. The long-stalled project has overcome a significant obstacle with the transfer of 21.5 hectares of salt land from the Union salt commissioner to the state government.

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IT & ITES

Maharashtra govt to strengthen its IT department

The Maharashtra government has decided to strengthen its information technology (IT) department soon. The information was shared by state Chief Minister (CM) Devendra Fadnavis on 22 September 2025. The aim is to enhance the delivery of citizen services. Empowering the IT department is key to realising the vision of digital Maharashtra, the CM added.

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Accenture to set up new campus in Andhra Pradesh

Accenture is planning to set up a new campus in the port city of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, with the aim of adding nearly 12,000 jobs to its workforce in India. This move came after the Andhra Pradesh government introduced a new state policy offering leased land at Rs.0.99 per acre to large firms willing to generate employment. The company has asked for 10 acres of land.

[Read more](#)

Infosys extends partnership with Swiss telco Sunrise

Infosys has extended its strategic long-term partnership with Switzerland's telecom firm Sunrise. The company will strengthen IT transformation and harness the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in business operations of Sunrise. Under the deal, Infosys will leverage its AI platform, Infosys Topaz, to support Sunrise in creating new business propositions by increasing operational speed, efficiency and quality through data-driven insights and intelligent automation.

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Pharmaceuticals

Sun Pharma exposed to US' 100% pharma tariffs

Sun Pharma is the only major company with meaningful exposure to the United States' (US) 100 per cent tariffs on patented and branded medicines from 1 October 2025. Patented drugs contributed around 17 per cent of Sun Pharma's 2024-25 revenue.

[Read more](#)

Indian drugmakers recall medicines in US over quality concerns

Several Indian pharmaceutical companies, including Glenmark, Granules India, Sun Pharma and Unichem, are pulling back specific products from the United States (US) market. The recall comes after the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) flagged quality and manufacturing lapses.

[Read more](#)

Regional Developments

Andhra Pradesh

AP attracted investment projects worth Rs.4.4 trillion in 2024-25

Andhra Pradesh has attracted investment projects worth Rs.4.4 trillion in 2024-25 across agriculture, industry, services and information technology (IT). The information was released in a study, titled 'Investment, Development & Growth between 2021-22 to 2024-25 in Progressive Andhra Pradesh' by the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) Export Promotion Council (MSME EPC).

[Read more](#)

AP govt initiates works worth Rs.55 bln across 68 locations

The Andhra Pradesh government has initiated development works worth Rs.55 billion across 68 locations under the Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh (APTRANSCO). The development has come with an aim to meet the rising power requirements of households, industries and agriculture.

[Read more](#)

Andhra Pradesh Assembly approves SC Classification Bill

The Andhra Pradesh Assembly has approved the Scheduled Caste (SC) Classification Bill on 24 September 2025. It seeks to promote fairness and equitable access to opportunities for all SCs in the state. Currently, they are entitled to a 15 per cent reservation in public sector jobs and educational institutions.

[Read more](#)

Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh govt approves Rs.5.5 bln to modernise religious sites

The Himachal Pradesh government has approved Rs.5.5 billion to conserve the state's heritage by modernising religious sites and improving facilities for devotees. Nearly Rs.500 million has been set aside for the restoration of ancient temples, forts and archaeological sites.

[Read more](#)

Himachal Pradesh govt amends Aero Sports Rules

The Himachal Pradesh government has amended the Himachal Pradesh Aero Sports Rules. The aim is to make norms for adventure sports more stringent and safe, especially for those who take a joy ride with a professionally-trained pilot. As per the amendment, the pilots undertaking tandem flights will have to complete a simulation during the paragliding safety course.

[Read more](#)

State govt to recruit 2,602 workers to bolster operations of HPSEBL

The Himachal Pradesh government has launched a large-scale recruitment drive to fill critical staff shortages in the state electricity board by hiring over 2,600 new workers. As part of this, around 1,602 Bijli Upbhogta Mitras and 1,000 T-Mates will be recruited to bolster the operations of the Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited (HPSEBL).

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Haryana

Haryana CM inaugurates paddy procurement process

On 22 September 2025, Haryana Chief Minister (CM) Nayab Singh Saini inaugurated the paddy procurement process for the kharif season from the grain market in Kurukshetra's Ladwa. The state government is committed to ensuring that every grain of paddy produced by farmers is procured at the minimum support price (MSP) of Rs.2,369 per quintal.

[Read more](#)

Haryana CM launches regional road upgradation project

On 21 September 2025, Haryana Chief Minister (CM) Nayab Singh Saini launched the regional road upgradation project. The aim is to strengthen the state's road infrastructure. Under this initiative, 4,227 roads covering 9,410-km will be repaired and upgraded in the current financial year at a cost of Rs.48.7 million.

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Haryana govt to link multiple digital records to Family IDs through AI

The Haryana government has prepared plans to launch phase-II of the Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) scheme to link multiple digital records to Family IDs through artificial intelligence (AI). As part of this, land ownership records & data from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), including details of income tax returns, bank accounts, tax deducted at source (TDS) and other financial transactions, will be integrated into the existing Family ID database.

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Karnataka

Karnataka govt includes 46 villages to Local Planning Area of HDUDA

The Karnataka department of urban development included 46 villages to the Local Planning Area of Hubballi Dharwad Urban Development Authority (HDUDA). The information was shared by chairman of HDUDA Shakir Sanadi. As many as 13 villages of Hubballi taluka, six villages of Kalghatgi taluka and 27 villages of Dharwad taluka have been added to the Local Planning Area of Hubballi Dharwad.

[Read more](#)

Karnataka govt launches Local Economy Accelerator Programme

The Karnataka government has unveiled the Local Economy Accelerator Programme (LEAP). It is a Rs.1 billion initiative aimed at transforming the state's innovation landscape beyond Bengaluru. The LEAP will be implemented over five years, aiming to generate 500,000 jobs and build startup ecosystems in tier-II & -III cities of the state.

[Read more](#)

Karnataka govt constitutes Public Transport Fare Regulatory Committee

The Karnataka government has constituted a Public Transport Fare Regulatory Committee (PTFRC) to independently recommend revisions of bus fares in the state's road transport corporations. The move aims to ensure the financial sustainability of transport corporations and depoliticise fare hikes.

[Read more](#)

Madhya Pradesh

MP govt approves helicopter services for tourist spots, religious places

On 23 September 2025, the Madhya Pradesh (MP) government approved helicopter services within the state on a public-private partnership (PPP) mode. The initiative aims to connect major cities, religious places, national parks and key tourist destinations through air at affordable prices.

[Read more](#)

MP govt launches skilling initiative to equip students for emerging technology roles

The Madhya Pradesh (MP) government has launched a new skilling initiative to equip students for emerging technology roles and align academic programmes with industry requirements. This has been done in collaboration with the Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya (RGPV) and L&T EduTech.

[Read more](#)

12 AYUSH hospitals to come up in Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh would soon get 12 ayurveda, yoga, naturopathy, unani, siddha and homeopathy (AYUSH) hospitals. The information was shared by state Chief Minister (CM) Mohan Yadav on 23 September 2025. As part of this, as many as two hospitals with 50-bed capacity are being opened in Ujjain and Khajuraho.

[Read more](#)

Maharashtra

Maharashtra govt announces relief package of Rs.13.3 bln for rain-affected farmers

On 23 September 2025, the Maharashtra government announced a relief package of Rs.13.3 billion for farmers whose crops were damaged by heavy rains between June and August 2025. The assistance is based on damage assessments carried out during this period. The relief package will benefit 1.9 million farmers across 1.5 million hectares.

[Read more](#)

Maharashtra's Samruddhi Expressway to become solar-powered

The Hindu Hridayasamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg in Maharashtra is set to become solar-powered. Also known as the Samruddhi Expressway, the 701-km expressway connects Nagpur and Mumbai. The equipment has been installed at Karjalad in Buldhana and Mehkar Interchange in Washim district of the expressway. According to the plans, a total of 204 megawatt (MW) of renewable energy will be generated.

[Read more](#)

Maharashtra's Sindhudurg becomes first district in India to adopt AI

Maharashtra's Sindhudurg has become the first district in India to implement artificial intelligence (AI) in administration and public safety. Since 1 May 2025, eight key departments in the district have been operating through AI systems.

[Read more](#)

Nagaland

Nagaland govt signs MoU to promote jute cultivation

The Nagaland government has signed an MoU with the National Jute Board (NJB), Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI) and ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (ICAR-CRIJAF). The aim is to expand jute farming across the state, improve agronomy practices and introduce fibres such as flax, ramie & sisal on a pilot scale

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Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu CM lays foundation for projects worth Rs.220 mln in Chennai

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister (CM) MK Stalin laid the foundation for multiple projects to be implemented in Chennai at a total cost of Rs.220 million today. He also inaugurated new projects completed at a cost of Rs.86 million in the city. The Murasoli Maran Park in Perambur is set to be renovated by the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) at a cost of Rs.8.20 crore.

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TNPDCL invites bids to set up 98 33/11 kv substations in Tamil Nadu

On 23 September 2025, the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCL) invited bids to set up 98 new step-down substations of 33/11 kilovolt (kv) capacity in its 12 regions. The development will take place under the Centre's Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

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Tamil Nadu farmers demand increases MSP for tapioca

The Tamil Nadu Farmers' Association has demanded that the state government fix Rs.15,000 as the minimum support price (MSP) for tapioca per tonne. Farmers cultivating tapioca have claimed that the price of one tonne has dropped to Rs.3,000. This has severely impacting their livelihoods. They have also sought MSP be fixed for the sago and starch derived from tapioca.

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Telangana

Telangana's total revenue receipts at August-end stand at Rs.966.5 bln

Poor run of Telangana's finances continued for the fifth month in a row in the current financial year 2025-26. The state's total revenue receipts at August 2025-end stood at Rs.966.5 billion, just 33.9 per cent of the Rs.2.8 trillion projected in the budget estimates. Total receipts include revenue receipts and capital receipts.

[Read more](#)

Telangana govt approves investments worth Rs.37.4 billion

The Telangana State Industrial Promotion Cabinet Sub-Committee has approved investments worth Rs.37.4 billion from three multinational companies. Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Private Limited will establish a large-scale plant in Siddipet district. The plant is expected to significantly boost the demand for mangoes and oranges, bringing direct benefits to local fruit farmers.

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Telangana's Nagarkurnool to get 50 digital libraries

Telangana's Nagarkurnool district is set to get 50 digital libraries in order to promote knowledge and awareness among rural students and communities. The cost of the project has been pegged at Rs.12 million. The facilities will be set up constituency-wise, with Kalwakurthy getting eight libraries, Kollapur seven, Nagarkurnool seven and Achampet seven.

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Uttar Pradesh

DGP issues orders to establish Mission Shakti centres in police station

On 23 September 2025, Uttar Pradesh's director general of police (DGP) Rajeev Krishna issued orders to establish Mission Shakti centres in every police station across the state. The move follows Chief Minister (CM) Yogi Adityanath's recent launch of Mission Shakti 5.0. The centres have been designed to provide women with a dedicated, sensitive & coordinated response to complaints and to strengthen prevention, counselling & rehabilitation services.

[Read more](#)

UPETDB invites bids for maintenance of 11 eco-tourism destinations

The Uttar Pradesh Eco Tourism Development Board (UPETDB) has invited bids from private investors for the operations and maintenance of 11 world-class eco-tourism destinations developed across the state. These include Ayodhya, Chitrakoot, Ballia, Barabanki, Lalitpur, Banda, Jalaun, Kushinagar, Sitapur, Maharajganj and Milkipur in Ayodhya district.

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Uttar Pradesh tops CAG's report on state finances

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has released a report on state finances. The report stated that 16 states recorded a revenue surplus, while 12 reported a revenue deficit in 2022-23. Uttar Pradesh posted the highest revenue surplus of Rs.370 billion, followed by Gujarat with Rs.198.6 billion.

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Union Territories

Centre revises project cost of Nubra and Zaskar transmission lines in Ladakh

The Centre has approved a revised project cost of Rs.19.2 billion under the Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) for the Nubra and Zaskar transmission lines & grid stations in Ladakh. With this sanction, the project is now expected to be completed by October 2026.

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Delhi govt to establish 53 new FTSCs

The Delhi government has decided to ensure the swift disposal of cases relating to crimes against women and children. The information was shared by Chief Minister (CM) Rekha Gupta on 23 September 2025. As part of it, a total of 53 new fast-track special courts (FTSCs) would be established across the national capital.

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91-km road connecting Hanle & Chumar opened in Ladakh

The 91-km road connecting Hanle to the border village of Chumar in Ladakh has been opened for the public. The route traverses extreme high altitudes from 14,500 to 17,200 feet, including the high Salsa La Pass. The road, while providing strategic connectivity for the armed forces along the borders, will also facilitate local connectivity and tourism in the region.

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International Developments

India-European Free Trade Association Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) to come into effect on 01 October 2025

The India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), signed on 10 March 2024 in New Delhi, will take effect from 01 October 2025. TEPA is India's first Free Trade Agreement to include a binding commitment on investment and job creation, making it both modern and ambitious. The agreement consists of 14 chapters covering key areas such as goods market access, rules of origin, trade facilitation, remedies, SPS and TBT measures, investment, services, IPR, and sustainable development

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India re-elected to ICAO Council

India has been re-elected to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a specialized UN agency. Part II includes States that make significant contributions to international civil air navigation. The election was held on 27 September 2025 during the 42nd ICAO Assembly Session in Montreal. India secured more votes than in 2022, reflecting stronger global confidence in its leadership. A founding ICAO member since 1944, India has served continuously for 81 years, advancing safe, secure, sustainable, and inclusive aviation.

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ADB approves \$299 million loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit Project

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$299 million loan as the final tranche for the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) Investment Project, India's flagship urban transport initiative in the National Capital Region (NCR). With this, total ADB financing under the multi-tranche facility approved in 2020 reaches \$1.05 billion. The 82-km Delhi-Meerut RRTS is the first of three priority corridors, cutting travel time from over three hours to one. By August 2025, 55 km with 11 stations is already operational.

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