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Defence & security

INS Taragiri commissioned

3 April | Visakhapatnam | PIB

The fourth Project 17A stealth frigate entered Indian Navy service in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

• Designed by the Warship Design Bureau and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, it has over 75% indigenous content.

• The multi-role ship carries modern radar, sonar and missile systems, including BrahMos and surface-to-air weapons.

Remember: Project 17A is the Nilgiri-class frigate programme. Commissioning marks entry into naval service.



INS Taragiri at sea. Indian Navy / Ministry of Defence / PIB.

NASM-SR: first salvo launch

29 April report | PIB

DRDO and the Navy launched two Naval Anti-ship Missile-Short Range weapons in quick succession from the same helicopter off Odisha.

• The trials demonstrated salvo firing and waterline-hit capability.

• RCI Hyderabad developed the missile with other DRDO laboratories and industry; ITR Chandipur supported tracking.

Remember: NASM-SR is an air-launched anti-ship missile; a salvo means successive launches, rather than a single firing.

Open visual explainer



NASM-SR helicopter-platform trial. DRDO / PIB.

Large Cavitation Tunnel at NSTL

3 April | foundation stone | PIB

A Large Cavitation Tunnel project was initiated at the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory in Visakhapatnam.

• The facility will support indigenous testing of ship and submarine propulsion systems.

• Noise reduction and stealth-related naval engineering are key research applications.

Remember: Cavitation involves vapour bubbles forming and collapsing in liquid; it can produce noise, vibration and damage.

Open visual explainer

DUSTLIK: seventh edition

12-25 April | Uzbekistan | PIB

The joint exercise was scheduled at Gurumsaray Field Training Area in Uzbekistan, with Army and Air Force participation.

• India's sixty-member contingent included forty-five Army personnel, mainly from the Mahar Regiment, and fifteen IAF personnel.

• Training focused on joint operations in semi-mountainous terrain, culminating in a 48-hour validation.

Remember: DUSTLIK pairs India with Uzbekistan; the annual exercise alternates between the two countries.

CYCLONE-IV special-forces exercise

9-17 April | Anshas, Egypt | PIB

India and Egypt's fourth joint special-forces exercise was scheduled at Anshas.

• Twenty-five Indian special-forces personnel formed the contingent.

• The programme focused on mission planning and special operations in desert and semi-desert terrain.

Remember: CYCLONE = India-Egypt. Distinguish it from DUSTLIK with Uzbekistan.

Defence exports: Rs. 38,424 crore

2 April | FY 2025-26 report | PIB

India reported record annual defence exports of Rs. 38,424 crore, up 62.66% from the previous financial year.

• DPSUs contributed Rs. 21,071 crore and the private sector Rs. 17,353 crore.

• Their shares were 54.84% and 45.16% respectively.

Remember: These are export figures for a completed financial year, rather than total defence production or April-only sales.

Defence capital budget fully utilised

1 April | FY 2025-26 report | PIB

The Defence Ministry reported full utilisation of the Rs. 1.86 lakh crore revised capital outlay for defence services.

• Overall budget utilisation, including pensions and other heads, was 99.62%.

• For 2026-27, the budget-estimate allocation under the capital head was Rs. 2.19 lakh crore.

Remember: Capital spending supports assets and modernisation; it differs from the entire defence budget.

INMSS-2026 released

14-17 April | New Delhi | PIB

The Indian Navy Maritime Security Strategy 2026 was released during the first Naval Commanders' Conference of the year.

• The meeting at Nausena Bhawan reviewed operational readiness, logistics, personnel and the maritime security environment.

• INMSS-2026 builds on Defence Forces Vision 2047 and Indian Navy Vision 2047.

Remember: A strategy publication sets direction; it is distinct from a new ship, weapon or military exercise.

Army leadership appointments

1 April | PIB / PIB

Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth assumed charge as Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

• Lieutenant General VMB Krishnan became General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Command.

• Seth is from the Armoured Corps; Krishnan previously served as Quarter Master General.

Remember: Record their April posts. Later appointments should not be backdated into this edition.

SCO Defence Ministers meet in Bishkek

28 April | PIB / PIB

India participated in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Defence Ministers' Meeting in Kyrgyzstan.

• The Defence Minister addressed terrorism, extremism and regional security cooperation.

• Bilateral meetings were held with Kyrgyz, Kazakh and Belarusian counterparts.

Remember: Bishkek is Kyrgyzstan's capital; SCO is distinct from NATO and ASEAN.

India-Germany defence roadmap

22 April | Berlin | PIB

The partners signed a Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap and an arrangement for UN peacekeeping training.

• Talks covered co-development, co-production and niche defence technologies.

• The discussions also considered practical cooperation under the India-EU Security and Defence Partnership.

Remember: Match Berlin with Germany and the roadmap with defence industry, rather than a free-trade agreement.

India-Italy military cooperation plan

30 April | New Delhi | PIB

The Defence Ministers exchanged a Bilateral Military Cooperation Plan for 2026-27.

• Discussions covered defence industry, regional developments and maritime cooperation.

• Information exchange through IFC-IOR, Gurugram, was highlighted.

Remember: IFC-IOR supports maritime information sharing; it is not a naval fleet or a combat exercise.

Defence consultations with Egypt and Mozambique

1-2 and 20-22 April | PIB / PIB

India and Egypt held their eleventh Joint Defence Committee meeting in Cairo and agreed a 2026-27 cooperation plan.

• The inaugural Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks were held alongside the Egypt meeting.

• The fifth India-Mozambique Joint Defence Working Group met in Maputo, discussing training, equipment and maritime awareness.

Remember: Cairo = Egypt; Maputo = Mozambique. These consultation mechanisms complement field exercises.

IOS SAGAR reaches Singapore

26 April arrival | report 28 April | PIB

INS Sunayna, deployed as Indian Ocean Ship SAGAR, arrived at Changi Naval Base during its multinational-crewed deployment.

• Earlier calls on this deployment included Male, Phuket and Jakarta.

• The Singapore programme included professional exchanges and maritime-awareness activities.

Remember: MAHASAGAR means Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.

Fourth Diving Support Craft launched

19 April | report 20 April | PIB

DSC A 23, Yard 328, was launched at Titagarh, Kolkata, as the fourth vessel in a five-craft programme.

• Titagarh Rail Systems is building the catamaran-hull craft, about thirty metres long.

• The class supports diving, underwater inspection and salvage assistance in coastal waters and harbours.

Remember: A launch precedes trials, delivery and commissioning; a diving-support craft differs from a submarine.

INS Sudarshini's Canary Islands first

23 April arrival | report 24 April | PIB

The sail-training ship reached Las Palmas, Spain, during Lokayan 26, marking the first Indian naval-ship visit to the Canary Islands.

• The call preceded a planned trans-Atlantic passage.

• The deployment began from Kochi in January and included ports in Oman, Egypt, Malta, France and Morocco.

Remember: The Canary Islands are Spanish islands off north-west Africa; Las Palmas is not in mainland Spain.

NCC cyber-cadet training

13 April | PIB

NCC and NIELIT launched a nationwide cyber-security capacity-building programme for cadets.

• Stage one is a fifteen-hour online awareness module open to enrolled NCC cadets.

• Stage two is a sixty-hour offline Cyber Defender programme for selected cadets.

Remember: Digital hygiene, threat awareness and practical defence skills are the focus; NIELIT is the technology-training partner.

SIPRI: India fifth in military spending

April release | 2025 data | SIPRI

SIPRI estimated global military expenditure at USD 2.887 trillion in 2025, a real increase of 2.9%.

• The largest spenders were the USA, China, Russia, Germany and India.

• India spent USD 92.1 billion, up 8.9% in real terms, equivalent to 2.3% of its GDP.

Remember: SIPRI's calendar-year international estimates differ from India's financial-year budget allocations.

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Science & technology

PFBR attains first criticality

6 April | report 7 April | PIB

The 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor at Kalpakkam achieved its first controlled nuclear fission chain reaction.

- IGCAR designed the reactor; BHAVINI is the DAE enterprise responsible for construction and commissioning.
- Its uranium-plutonium mixed-oxide fuel and uranium-238 blanket support production of fissile plutonium-239.

Remember: Criticality is a major commissioning milestone. It does not by itself mean full-power commercial electricity generation.

Open visual explainer



PFBR control-room team at first criticality. DAE / PIB.

Artemis II flies around the Moon

1-10 April | US local dates | NASA

NASA's first crewed Orion mission completed a nearly ten-day journey around the Moon and returned to the Pacific off San Diego.

- The crew comprised Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch and Canada's Jeremy Hansen.
- They reached 252,756 miles from Earth, setting a human-distance record.

Remember: This was a lunar flyby, not a landing. Splashdown was 10 April in California and 11 April in India.

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Earth after Orion's translunar injection, 2 April. NASA / Artemis II.

Gaganyaan's second integrated air-drop test

10 April | Sriharikota | ISRO

ISRO validated the crew-module parachute deceleration system in IADT-02 at Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

- An IAF Chinook released a simulated 5.7-tonne crew module from about three kilometres above the sea.
- Ten parachutes of four types deployed in sequence; the Navy supported recovery.

Remember: The test simulated the final descent and recovery phase. No astronauts flew aboard the test article.

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Parachute descent during IADT-02. ISRO.

Mission MITRA in Ladakh

2-9 April | Leh | ISRO

ISRO and the IAF Institute of Aerospace Medicine studied crew and ground-team behaviour in a high-altitude analogue environment.

- MITRA means Mapping of Interoperable Traits and Response Assessment.

• Leh's roughly 3,500-metre altitude offers conditions involving hypoxia, low temperatures and isolation.

Remember: An analogue mission studies selected stresses on Earth; it does not reproduce every feature of spaceflight.

Quantum communication: 1,000-km milestone

8 April review | PIB

DST reported a thousand-kilometre quantum-communication network demonstration using indigenous QNu Labs technology.

• The review connected the milestone with secure communications for defence, finance and critical infrastructure.

• Support was expanded to nine additional startups, taking the reported total to seventeen.

Remember: Quantum key distribution concerns secure key establishment; it is not faster-than-light transmission or a replacement for all classical communications.

Silicon photonics tools launched

24 April | IIT Madras | PIB

A silicon-photonics Process Design Kit and Universal Programmable Photonic IC Test Engine were launched at IIT Madras.

• The indigenous PDK contains more than fifty verified components.

• The shared facility supports photonic-chip design and automated testing of photonic/optoelectronic modules.

Remember: Photonics uses light to process or transmit information; electronics uses electrical signals.



Silicon-photonics tools and launch event. MeitY / IIT Madras / PIB.

Odisha advanced chip-packaging project

19 April | foundation stone | PIB

The foundation stone for an advanced 3D semiconductor-packaging unit was laid at Info Valley, Bhubaneswar.

• The Heterogeneous Integration Packaging Solutions project is promoted by 3D Glass Solutions.

• Applications include high-performance electronics for AI, communications and defence.

Remember: Advanced packaging integrates and connects chips; it is a different manufacturing stage from fabricating the semiconductor wafer.

Bio-waste hard carbon for sodium-ion batteries

2 April | PIB

TDB supported a Roorkee company's commercialisation of hard-carbon anode material derived from agricultural and biological waste.

• Sodium-ion batteries offer possible uses in stationary storage, backup systems and low-speed mobility.

• Hard carbon's disordered structure makes it useful for sodium-ion anodes.

Remember: Sodium-ion and lithium-ion are different battery chemistries; an anode material is one component of a complete battery.

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Frog-inspired humidity sensor

9 April research report | PIB

JNCASR researchers developed a neuromorphic sensor that combines humidity sensing with memory-like and processing behaviour.

• The device uses one-dimensional supramolecular nanofibres.

• The approach was inspired by moisture-sensitive behaviour and biological information processing.

Remember: Neuromorphic means inspired by neural systems; it does not imply the sensor contains a biological brain.

Black-hole models for dwarf galaxies

17 April research report | PIB

Indian Institute of Astrophysics researchers modelled the possible presence of central black holes in dwarf spheroidal galaxies orbiting the Milky Way.

• The models combine stars, a dark-matter halo and a possible black hole.

• Stellar-motion data constrain the mass of a black hole if present.

Remember: A model-based constraint on a possible object is different from a direct observation confirming its existence.

SMOPS-2026 in Bengaluru

8-10 April | PIB

The second International Conference on Spacecraft Mission Operations brought together specialists in mission management and next-generation operations.

• ISRO, the Astronautical Society of India and the International Academy of Astronautics jointly organised it.

• Themes included automation, constellations, human spaceflight, robotics and cyber security.

Remember: Mission operations concern planning and controlling spacecraft; a conference is not itself a space launch.

Seedless-grape genetics studied

1 April report | PIB

Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, and Savitribai Phule Pune University investigated a seedless mutant of the grape cultivar ARI-516.

• The study linked the mutant with abnormal pollen, low viability and failure of pollen germination.

• Understanding reproductive development can support improved breeding.

Remember: Seedlessness can arise through different mechanisms; these findings concern the particular mutant studied.

New insight into TB bacterial transcription

2 April research report | PIB

Bose Institute researchers found that different sigma factors of Mycobacterium tuberculosis can behave differently during transcription.

• Some dissociate from RNA polymerase while others remain associated.

• The work challenges treating one sigma-cycle model as universal across all bacterial regulatory proteins.

Remember: This is fundamental research that may inform future drug strategies, rather than an announced new TB cure.

International affairs

India-New Zealand FTA signed

27 April | PIB / PIB

India and New Zealand signed an FTA after concluding negotiations in December 2025.

• New Zealand offered duty-free access for all Indian exports and market access in 118 service sectors.

• New Zealand committed USD 20 billion investment over fifteen years; India excluded sensitive products including dairy.

Remember: Signing precedes entry into force; the investment commitment spans fifteen years.

India-Republic of Korea visit outcomes

20 April | PIB

President Lee Jae Myung's state visit produced a Joint Strategic Vision and agreements spanning industry, maritime cooperation, technology and culture.

• The partners announced an Economic Security Dialogue and a framework for an India-Korea Digital Bridge.

• They agreed to resume negotiations to upgrade their Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

Remember: The partners are upgrading an existing CEPA, rather than announcing a newly operational replacement.

Korea: energy and sustainability cooperation

20 April | PIB / PIB

The partners issued joint statements on energy-resource security and sustainability.

• Priorities included resilient energy supply chains, LNG-market cooperation and maritime infrastructure.

• A Paris Agreement Article 6.2 cooperative approach supports investment-driven mitigation projects.

Remember: Article 6.2 concerns voluntary cooperation between countries towards climate goals, with accounting safeguards.

Austrian Chancellor visits India

16 April outcome reports | PIB / PIB

Chancellor Christian Stocker's visit produced cooperation instruments on film co-production, food safety, investment and skills.

• Letters of intent covered military cooperation and a counter-terrorism working group.

• The partners also advanced a fast-track mechanism for problems faced by investors.

Remember: Austria's capital is Vienna; Austria and Australia are different countries.

IMF: growth in the shadow of war

14 April | World Economic Outlook | IMF

The IMF's reference forecast put global growth at 3.1% in 2026 and 3.2% in 2027, assuming a relatively short-lived Middle East conflict.

• Energy disruption, inflation and financial uncertainty were central risks.

• The Strait of Hormuz disruption illustrated how maritime chokepoints can transmit economic shocks worldwide.

Remember: Conditional IMF forecasts can differ from actual outcomes and other institutions' forecasts.

World Health Day and One Health

5-9 April events | day: 7 April | WHO

WHO's 2026 campaign used the theme Together for health. Stand with science.

• France hosted the One Health Summit on 5-7 April; the first Global Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres followed on 7-9 April.

• The campaign connected human, animal, plant and environmental health through scientific cooperation.

Remember: One Health links species and ecosystems. WHO was founded on 7 April 1948.

To Lam elected President of Vietnam

7 April | PIB

India's Prime Minister congratulated To Lam on his election as President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

• The message reaffirmed the bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

• Vietnam is an ASEAN member with Hanoi as its capital.

Remember: Vietnam's President, Prime Minister and Communist Party General Secretary are distinct offices.

National affairs & economy

RBI holds repo rate at 5.25%

8 April decision | minutes 22 April | RBI

The Monetary Policy Committee unanimously kept the repo rate unchanged and retained a neutral stance.

• SDF remained 5.00%; MSF and Bank Rate remained 5.50%.

• RBI projected 2026-27 real GDP growth at 6.9% and CPI inflation at 4.6%, with risks from the West Asia conflict.

Remember: Rates are policy settings; growth and inflation figures here are forecasts for the financial year.

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March retail inflation

13 April release | PIB

Provisional CPI inflation was 3.40% year-on-year in March, using the 2024=100 base.

• Food inflation measured by CFPI was 3.87%.

• Rural and urban CPI inflation were 3.63% and 3.11% respectively.

Remember: The data month is March and the publication month April; use the correct reference period.

Open visual explainer

March wholesale inflation

15 April release | PIB

Provisional WPI inflation was 3.88% year-on-year in March in the 2011-12-base series.

• Manufactured-product inflation was 3.39%; the fuel-and-power group recorded 1.05%.

• Crude petroleum/natural gas, basic metals and other products contributed to rising prices.

Remember: WPI and CPI cover different baskets and stages of pricing; their rates are not interchangeable.

Open visual explainer

PLFS: March labour indicators

15 April release | PIB

For people aged fifteen and above, unemployment was estimated at 5.1% under Current Weekly Status.

• LFPR was 55.4% and WPR 52.6%; female LFPR was 34.4%.

• The bulletin covers both rural and urban India.

Remember: Unemployment rate uses the labour force as denominator; LFPR and WPR use the relevant population.

IIP growth: 4.1% in March

28 April quick estimate | PIB

Industrial production grew 4.1% year-on-year in March in the 2011-12=100 series.

• Manufacturing grew 4.3%, mining 5.5% and electricity 0.8%.

• Fourteen of twenty-three manufacturing industry groups recorded positive growth.

Remember: This is the April-vintage quick estimate, which can be revised in later releases.

Kharif nutrient-based subsidy rates

8 April | PIB

The Cabinet approved subsidy rates for phosphatic and potassic fertilisers for 1 April to 30 September 2026.

• The tentative budgetary requirement is Rs. 41,533.81 crore.

• The framework covers approved P&K products including DAP and NPKS grades.

Remember: Nutrient-based subsidy is a fertiliser-support mechanism, distinct from a crop's Minimum Support Price.

PMGSY-III continuation approved

18 April | PIB

The Cabinet extended PMGSY-III with a revised outlay of Rs. 83,977 crore.

• Roads and bridges in plains and roads in hilly areas have a March 2028 completion deadline.

• The deadline for bridges in hilly areas is March 2029.

Remember: PMGSY-III upgrades key rural links to markets, schools and hospitals; retain the different bridge deadlines.

Two Arunachal hydropower investments

8 April | PIB / PIB

The CCEA approved the 1,200 MW Kalai-II and 1,720 MW Kamala hydroelectric projects in Arunachal Pradesh.

• Kalai-II, on the Lohit in Anjaw, has an outlay of Rs. 14,105.83 crore and involves THDC India.

• Kamala's outlay is Rs. 26,069.50 crore; NHPC and the state will implement it jointly.

Remember: These are approved projects. Capacity in MW and annual energy generation in million units are different measures.

Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool approved

18 April | PIB

The Cabinet approved creation of a domestic maritime-insurance pool backed by a Rs. 12,980 crore sovereign guarantee.

• The proposal addresses continuity of hull/machinery, cargo, protection-and-indemnity and war-risk insurance.

• It responds to heightened risks and insurance uncertainty on volatile maritime routes.

Remember: This is the April approval; the pool's subsequent operational launch belongs to a later milestone.

RELIEF coverage expands

17 April | PIB

Egypt and Jordan were added to eligible destinations under the export-support intervention RELIEF.

• The full name is Resilience and Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation.

• ECGC implements support relating to insurance, freight escalation and war-related export risks.

Remember: The expansion happened in April; the intervention itself was launched in March under the Export Promotion Mission.

NITI Aayog appointments notified

24 April notification | Cabinet Secretariat

The Cabinet Secretariat notified approval of Ashok Kumar Lahiri's appointment as Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog.

• Full-time members named were Rajiv Gauba, K. V. Raju, Gobardhan Das, Abhay Karandikar and M. Srinivas.

• Appointments take effect from each appointee's assumption of charge, according to the notification.

Remember: An appointment notification and the actual handover date can differ. The Prime Minister chairs NITI Aayog.

DPI@2047 roadmap

27 April launch | report 28 April | PIB

NITI Aayog launched a roadmap for Digital Public Infrastructure as a driver of inclusive and productivity-led growth.

• DPI 2.0 covers 2025-2035 with a livelihood focus; DPI 3.0 covers 2035-2047.

• The roadmap was developed with EkStep Foundation and Deloitte.

Remember: DPI supplies shared digital foundations such as identity and payments; it is broader than a single app.

Internship scheme eligibility expanded

22 April | PIB

The pilot Prime Minister Internship Scheme was expanded to include final-year undergraduate and postgraduate students.

• Applicants must continue to meet the scheme's other eligibility requirements.

• An institutional NOC must confirm that the internship will not interfere with academic requirements.

Remember: This is a change in eligibility, rather than automatic selection or a guaranteed government job.

Urban Challenge Fund guidelines

15 April | PIB

Operational guidelines and a Credit Repayment Guarantee Sub-Scheme were launched for the Urban Challenge Fund.

• The Rs. 1 lakh crore fund aims to catalyse Rs. 4 lakh crore in urban investment.

• Priorities include city redevelopment, mobility, water/sanitation and market-based financing for smaller cities.

Remember: A fund's outlay differs from total investment it seeks to mobilise.

Startup recognition record

17 April | FY 2025-26 data | PIB

More than 55,200 startups were recognised during the financial year, the highest annual count since Startup India began.

• The cumulative count exceeded 2.23 lakh by 31 March, with more than 23.36 lakh direct jobs reported.

• About 48% had at least one woman director or partner.

Remember: Recognised startups are an administrative category; their cumulative jobs differ from jobs created in just one year.

Critical-mineral recycling scheme advances

30 April | PIB

The Mines Ministry approved fifty-eight companies as eligible to participate in its recycling incentive scheme.

- The Rs. 1,500 crore scheme operates under the National Critical Mineral Mission.
- It supports recovery from lithium-ion batteries, e-waste and industrial scrap.

Remember: Eligibility approval precedes project appraisal and commissioning; pledged capacity is not the same as operating capacity.

Jan Vishwas Bill passed by Parliament

2 April report | PIB

Both Houses passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026, to rationalise compliance and minor offences.

- The Bill amends 784 provisions across seventy-nine Central Acts.
- Of these, 717 provisions were decriminalised and sixty-seven changed to support ease of living.

Remember: Decriminalisation can replace criminal punishment with civil penalties; it does not mean all regulation disappears.

Constitution amendment on delimitation defeated

16-18 April parliamentary sittings | PRS Legislative Research

The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill was voted down in Lok Sabha.

- It proposed changes to delimitation, the Lok Sabha ceiling and the route to women's reservation.
- The related Delimitation and Union Territories Laws Bills consequently became infructuous.

Remember: These proposals did not become the constitutional framework. Distinguish a defeated Bill from an enacted amendment.

Amaravati capital amendment

April Budget Session | PIB / PRS Legislative Research

Parliament passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill concerning Amaravati as the state's sole capital.

- The Lok Sabha passage was reported on 1 April.
- The measure addresses the legal framework associated with Andhra Pradesh's reorganisation.

Remember: Amaravati is in Andhra Pradesh; Hyderabad is the capital of Telangana.

Census 2027 begins its first phase

1 April | PIB

Houselisting and Housing Census began with digital data capture and a self-enumeration option.

- President Droupadi Murmu was the first to complete self-enumeration at the national rollout.
- The exercise is conducted under the Census Act, 1948, with confidentiality protections for collected data.

Remember: Houselisting describes households and housing; it is separate from the population-enumeration phase.

First incorporated-services survey launched

6 April | PIB

NSO launched the Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises, ASISSE.

- The first survey uses financial year 2024-25 as reference and GSTN data as the sampling frame.
- More than 1.21 lakh enterprises are to be surveyed across states and Union Territories.

Remember: Incorporated services enterprises are distinct from unincorporated establishments and the industrial-production basket.

PAIMANA infrastructure dashboard

16 April | PIB

MoSPI launched a performance dashboard to broaden monitoring of infrastructure across key sub-sectors.

- The framework considers access, quality, fiscal cost/revenue, utilisation and affordability.
- PAIMANA stands for Project Assessment, Infrastructure Monitoring and Analytics for Nation-building.

Remember: PAIMANA was operationalised earlier; April's milestone concerns the performance-monitoring dashboard.

Poshan Pakhwada: early brain development

9-23 April | PIB

The eighth Poshan Pakhwada focused on Maximizing Brain Development in the First Six Years of Life.

• The Women and Child Development Ministry launched the campaign at Vigyan Bhawan.

• The programme highlighted nutrition, early development and the importance of the first thousand days.

Remember: Poshan Pakhwada is a fortnight-long awareness campaign; it differs from Poshan Maah.

Digital tools for primary care and inclusion

13 and 24-25 April | PIB / PIB / PIB

ICMR's clinical-workflow app was launched to support Community Health Officers at Sub-Centre Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.

• The Social Justice Ministry introduced a SMILE survey app for rehabilitation of people engaged in begging.

• The NMBA 2.0 app strengthens reporting and coordination for the drug-demand-reduction programme.

Remember: Match the tool to its purpose: CHO = primary care; SMILE = rehabilitation; NMBA = drug-use awareness and prevention.

IPPB savings account for SHGs

30 April | PIB

India Post Payments Bank launched a dedicated Self Help Group savings account.

• The offering combines zero-balance, zero-charge access with assisted digital onboarding and postal-network outreach.

• It aims to improve formal financial access, particularly for women-led rural groups.

Remember: An SHG account supports collective savings and access; it is not automatically a loan sanction.

Online gaming rules notified

22 April notification | PRS Legislative Research

MeitY notified the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Rules, 2026 under the 2025 Act.

• The framework concerns regulation and classification of online gaming.

• The parent Act prohibits offering, advertising or facilitating transactions for online money games.

Remember: Distinguish online money games from the wider category of online games and e-sports.

Environment & climate

Shekha Jheel: India's ninety-ninth Ramsar site

22 April report | PIB

Shekha Jheel Bird Sanctuary in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, was announced as a Ramsar wetland of international importance.

• India's count reached ninety-nine and Uttar Pradesh's twelve at this milestone.

• The wetland is a migratory-bird stopover on the Central Asian Flyway.

Remember: Ramsar status concerns wetland conservation and wise use; counts should be tied to the announcement date.

Grassroots biodiversity project

26 April report | PIB

MoEFCC and NBA launched a five-year initiative to strengthen community-level biodiversity governance in Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya.

• The Government of India-GEF-UNDP initiative has a USD 4.88 million grant for 2025-2030.

• The landscapes include Sathyamangalam and the Garo Hills, linking biodiversity with local development planning.

Remember: GEF = Global Environment Facility; NBA = National Biodiversity Authority.

Record annual wind-power addition

6 April | FY 2025-26 report | PIB

India added 6.05 GW of wind capacity during the financial year, its highest annual addition.

• The increase was about 46% over the previous year.

• Cumulative installed wind capacity crossed fifty-six gigawatts.

Remember: Installed capacity measures rated power; it is different from electricity actually generated.

India third in renewable installed capacity

8 April report | end-2025 ranking | PIB

The government cited IRENA's Renewable Energy Statistics 2026 in reporting India's move ahead of Brazil into third place.

• The ranking is based on installed renewable capacity as of December 2025.

• India's non-fossil installed capacity was separately reported at 283.46 GW on 31 March 2026.

Remember: Renewable and non-fossil categories differ: nuclear is non-fossil, but it is not counted as renewable.

Kankaria's water-neutral coaching depot

17 April | PIB

The Ahmedabad coaching depot was reported as India's first water-neutral railway coaching depot through treatment and reuse.

• The system saves about 1.60 lakh litres of freshwater daily.

• Phytoremediation is followed by carbon/sand filtration and UV disinfection before operational reuse.

Remember: Plants help purify wastewater; water-neutral does not mean no water is used.

Open visual explainer

IMD's first monsoon forecast

13 April | PIB

IMD forecast southwest-monsoon rainfall at 92% of the Long Period Average, with a model error of plus/minus five percentage points.

• The 1971-2020 LPA is 87 cm for June-September rainfall across the country.

• The forecast anticipated possible El Nino development and an update in late May.

Remember: This is April's probabilistic forecast, not the later update or the measured total after the season.

Water Week portal and theme unveiled

22 April launch event | PIB

The Jal Shakti Ministry launched the website and brochure for the ninth India International Water Week.

• Climate Resilient Water Management is the theme.

• The main conference was scheduled for 22-26 September at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

Remember: April records the preparatory launch; the main Water Week was scheduled for September.

Sport, culture & awards

Vaishali and Sindarov win Candidates

15 April | Cyprus | FIDE

Vaishali Rameshbabu won the Women's Candidates outright with 8.5 points from fourteen games.

• Her final-round win over Kateryna Lagno secured the right to challenge Ju Wenjun.

• Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov won the Open Candidates, earning the challenge to D. Gukesh.

Remember: Candidates tournaments select challengers; winning them is different from winning the World Championship.



Vaishali at the Candidates tournament. FIDE; photos credited by the source to Michal Walusza and Niki Riga.

Ayush Shetty's Asian badminton silver

12 April final | report 13 April | Badminton Asia

India's Ayush Shetty finished runner-up to China's Shi Yuqi in the men's singles final in Ningbo.

• Shi won 21-8, 21-10.

• Shetty's run included victories over leading seeded players before the final.

Remember: This was the Badminton Asia individual championship, not the Thomas Cup team competition.

Five Indian boxing champions

9-10 April finals | Ulaanbaatar | Asian Boxing / Asian Boxing

India's women won four titles at the Asian Boxing Elite Championships: Minakshi, Preeti, Priya and Arundhati Choudhary.

• Their divisions were 48 kg, 54 kg, 60 kg and 70 kg respectively.

• Vishvanath Suresh won men's 50 kg gold, defeating Japan's Daichi Iwai.

Remember: Remember the weight category alongside the boxer; these were continental elite titles.

Payal Nag wins para-archery gold

4 April | Bangkok | World Archery

Payal Nag defeated world champion Sheetal Devi 139-136 in the compound women's final at the opening Hyundai World Archery Para Series event.

• The final produced an Indian gold-silver pairing.

• Nag is a quadruple-amputee archer, competing with adapted equipment.

Remember: Compound and recurve are different bow categories; a para-series title is distinct from a Paralympic medal.

Women's compound team gold in Puebla

11 April | Mexico | World Archery

India defeated the United States 233-232 for women's compound-team gold at the first Archery World Cup stage.

• The team comprised Madhura Dhamangaonkar, Pragati and Jyothi Surekha Vennam.

• The Puebla stage was part of the season's international circuit.

Remember: Team medals and individual medals are separate results; the women's team gold should not be assigned to an individual final.

Granada pistol pair sets record

7 April | Spain | ISSF

Palak and Mukesh Nelavalli won the 10 m air pistol mixed-team final with 487.7 points at the Granada World Cup.

• The performance set both a world record and a junior world record in the event.

• China won silver with 484.8 points and Hungary bronze with 414.9.

Remember: Granada is in Spain; do not confuse this senior World Cup result with the later Cairo Junior World Cup.

Cairo Junior World Cup: Indian titles

23 April results | ISSF

Prachi Gaikwad won women's junior 50 m rifle three-positions gold with 354.6 points.

• Vanshika Chaudhary won women's junior 10 m air pistol gold; Sejal Kamble took silver.

• Naraen Pranav Vanitha Suresh won men's junior 10 m air rifle bronze.

Remember: Junior categories, rifle positions and pistol distances must be kept distinct.

Srinagar Khel Sankalp

26 April | PIB

The sports ministers' Chintan Shivir released a shared athlete-centred vision for the sports ecosystem.

• Priorities include talent identification, regional sports clusters, infrastructure and stronger sports culture.

• The framework emphasises cooperation between the Centre, states and Union Territories.

Remember: A policy-resolution document is different from a competition result or confirmation that India has secured hosting rights.

Phule bicentenary programme begins

11 April | PIB

The government began a two-year national commemoration honouring social reformer Mahatma Jyotiba Phule.

• The announced programme runs from 11 April 2026 to 11 April 2028.

• The programme highlights his contribution to education, social equality and the empowerment of disadvantaged communities.

Remember: Remember the commemoration period separately from any single anniversary date.

VM Frames celebrates Vande Mataram

22 April | PIB

The Culture Ministry launched a national filmmaking competition during the 150-year commemoration of Vande Mataram.

• Categories include reels, AI-based films and short films.

• Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Vande Mataram, India's National Song.

Remember: National Song = Vande Mataram; National Anthem = Jana Gana Mana.

Constitution released in two Sindhi scripts

10 April | Sindhi Bhasha Diwas | PIB

An updated Sindhi-language Constitution was released in Devanagari and Persian scripts.

• The event was held at the Vice-President's Enclave.

• The editions support wider linguistic access to India's constitutional text.

Remember: A language can use more than one script; translation is different from amending the Constitution.

UNESCO Chair on gender inclusion and skills

24 April | Pune | PIB

A UNESCO Chair on Gender Inclusion and Skill Development was launched at Symbiosis Skills and Professional University.

• The launch formed part of the Women Leading the Future of Work conference.

• The programme connects inclusive skills, industry needs and women's participation in emerging sectors.

Remember: A UNESCO Chair is a university cooperation/research mechanism; it is not a UNESCO World Heritage designation.

Visual explainers

Understand the concept behind the news, then use the return link to revise the story.

NASM-SR: HELICOPTER-LAUNCHED ANTI-SHIP CAPABILITY



Concept only, not to scale. April's trial also demonstrated waterline-hit capability.

Return to NASM-SR: first salvo launch

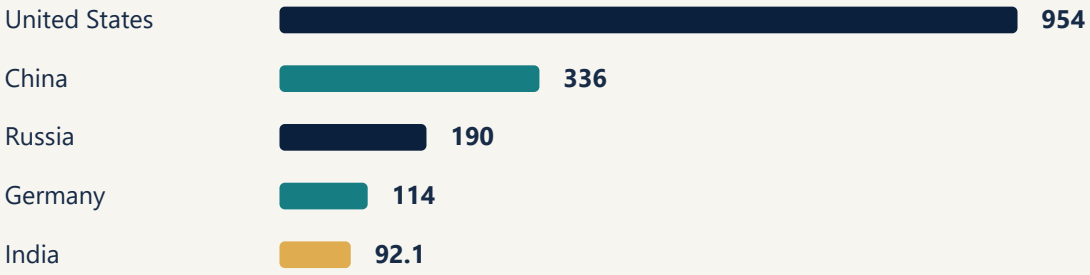
CAVITATION: WHY NAVAL PROPULSION NEEDS TESTING



1	2	3
Pressure falls	**Bubbles collapse**	**Test + improve**
Vapour bubbles can form in a liquid	Noise, vibration and erosion may follow	Tunnel studies guide quieter designs
Near a propeller or foil	Changes affect performance	NSTL | Visakhapatnam

Return to Large Cavitation Tunnel at NSTL

SIPRI: THE FIVE LARGEST MILITARY SPENDERS IN 2025



USD billion at current prices; China and Russia are SIPRI estimates. Source: April 2026 fact sheet.

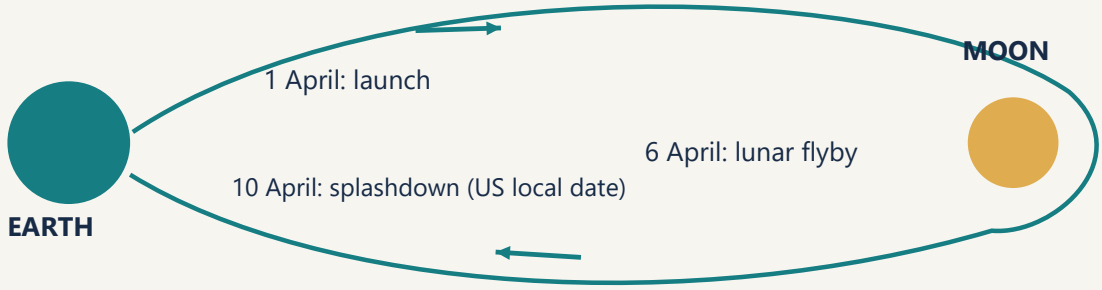
Return to SIPRI: India fifth in military spending

INDIA'S THREE-STAGE NUCLEAR STRATEGY

1	2	3
Stage 1	**Stage 2**	**Stage 3**
Natural-uranium PHWRs produce power and plutonium	Fast breeders use plutonium and breed more fissile fuel	Thorium-based cycle envisages uranium-233 use
Established reactor fleet	PFBR milestone in April	Long-term programme

Return to PFBR attains first criticality

ARTEMIS II: A CREWED FLYBY, THEN A RETURN HOME



Conceptual path, not orbital geometry or scale. California's 10 April was 11 April in India.

Return to Artemis II flies around the Moon

IADT-02: TEST THE FINAL PART OF THE RETURN

1	2	3
Release	**Slow the descent**	**Recover**
Chinook drops simulated 5.7-tonne module	Ten parachutes deploy in a planned sequence	Module touches down and is recovered
About 3 km above sea	Four parachute types	ISRO + IAF + Navy

Return to Gaganyaan's second integrated air-drop test

FROM AGRICULTURAL WASTE TO BATTERY MATERIAL



1	2	3
Bio-waste	**Hard carbon**	**Sodium-ion cell**
Agricultural residues supply carbon-rich feedstock	Processed into a disordered carbon structure	Anode works with the cell's other components
Local raw material	Advanced anode material	Storage and mobility uses

Return to Bio-waste hard carbon for sodium-ion batteries

KANKARIA DEPOT: CLOSE THE WATER-REUSE LOOP



1	2	3
Used water	**Purify**	**Reuse**
Coach washing and maintenance generate wastewater	Plants, filters and UV reduce contaminants	Return treated water to suitable depot operations
Collect and treat	Phytoremediation + treatment	Less freshwater required

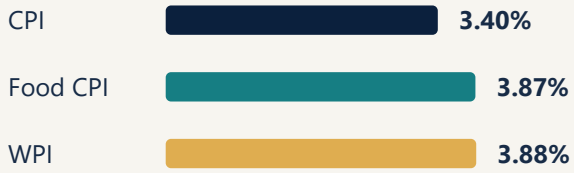
Return to Kankaria's water-neutral coaching depot

APRIL POLICY DECISION | MARCH PRICE DATA

RBI rates | 8 April

SDF	Repo	MSF
5.00%	5.25%	5.50%

Inflation | year-on-year



Rates held; policy stance: neutral.

Price data released in April. CPI base: 2024; WPI base in this release: 2011-12.

Return to RBI holds repo rate at 5.25% | Return to CPI report

Defence and space: recall grid

Match the platform or mission with its role, place and stage of progress.

Name	April milestone	Key pairing
INS Taragiri	Commissioned | 3 April	Project 17A frigate | MDL | Visakhapatnam
NASM-SR	First salvo-launch demonstration	Anti-ship missile | helicopter platform | RCI
Large Cavitation Tunnel	Foundation stone | 3 April	NSTL | propulsion noise and testing
DUSTLIK-7	12-25 April	India-Uzbekistan | Gurumsaray
CYCLONE-IV	9-17 April	India-Egypt | Anshas | special forces
INMSS-2026	Released at Naval Commanders' Conference	Indian Navy Maritime Security Strategy
DSC A 23	Launched | 19 April	Fourth Diving Support Craft | Titagarh
PFBR	First criticality | 6 April	500 MWe | Kalpakkam | IGCAR + BHAVINI
IADT-02	Parachute-system test | 10 April	5.7-tonne module | Sriharikota
MITRA	Earth-based analogue study | 2-9 April	Leh | ISRO + IAF aerospace medicine
Artemis II	Crewed lunar flyby | 1-10 April US dates	Orion on SLS | no lunar landing

Four people, one lunar flyby

Astronaut	Agency / role
Reid Wiseman	NASA | commander
Victor Glover	NASA | pilot
Christina Koch	NASA | mission specialist
Jeremy Hansen	Canadian Space Agency | mission specialist

Sources: NASA / PIB / PIB / PIB / ISRO

Economy and policy: key numbers

Keep the reference year, announcement month and type of figure together.

Figure	Meaning
Rs. 38,424 crore	Defence exports | FY 2025-26 | up 62.66%
Rs. 1.86 lakh crore	Defence services revised capital outlay fully used | FY 2025-26
5.25% / 5.00% / 5.50%	Repo / SDF / MSF | 8 April decision
6.9% / 4.6%	RBI FY 2026-27 growth / CPI inflation projections
3.40% / 3.87% / 3.88%	March CPI / food CPI / WPI | April releases
5.1% / 55.4% / 52.6%	March UR / LFPR / WPR | age 15+ | CWS
4.1%	March IIP year-on-year growth | April quick estimate
Rs. 41,533.81 crore	Tentative kharif P&K; fertiliser subsidy requirement
Rs. 83,977 crore	PMGSY-III revised scheme outlay
Rs. 12,980 crore	Sovereign guarantee approved for maritime insurance pool
Rs. 1 lakh crore	Urban Challenge Fund; aims at Rs. 4 lakh crore investments
USD 20 billion / 15 years	New Zealand's investment commitment under signed FTA
99 / 12	India / Uttar Pradesh Ramsar counts at Shekha Jheel milestone

Approved hydropower projects

Project	Place / implementer	Capacity / outlay
Kalai-II	Lohit river, Anjaw | THDC + Arunachal Pradesh	1,200 MW | Rs. 14,105.83 crore
Kamala	Arunachal Pradesh | NHPC + state	1,720 MW | Rs. 26,069.50 crore

Champions, institutions and dates

Pair the winner with the exact event and category.

Event	April result
Women's Candidates | chess	Vaishali Rameshbabu | 8.5/14 | challenger to Ju Wenjun
Open Candidates | chess	Javokhir Sindarov | challenger to D. Gukesh
Badminton Asia | men's singles	Shi Yuqi gold; Ayush Shetty silver | Ningbo
Asian Boxing | women's gold	Minakshi 48 kg; Preeti 54 kg; Priya 60 kg; Arundhati Choudhary 70 kg
Asian Boxing | men's gold	Vishvanath Suresh | 50 kg
Bangkok Para Series | compound women	Payal Nag defeated Sheetal Devi 139-136
Puebla World Cup | compound women's team	Madhura Dhamangaonkar, Pragati, Jyothi Surekha Vennam
Granada | 10 m air pistol mixed team	Palak + Mukesh Nelavalli | 487.7 | world record
Cairo Junior Cup | 23 April highlights	Prachi Gaikwad: rifle 3P gold; Vanshika Chaudhary: air pistol gold

Institution-location pairings

Institution / initiative	Remember
NSTL | Visakhapatnam	Naval hydrodynamics and cavitation-tunnel project
IGCAR + BHAVINI | Kalpakkam	PFBR design and project implementation respectively
IIT Madras	Silicon-photonics design kit and test engine
JNCASR | Bengaluru	Frog-inspired humidity-responsive neuromorphic sensor
Agharkar Research Institute | Pune	Seedless-grape research
Bose Institute | Kolkata	TB bacterial-transcription research
UNESCO Chair | SSPU, Pune	Gender Inclusion and Skill Development

April calendar

Observances and their exam connections. Select an observance to open its source.

Date	Observance	Exam connection
2 April	World Autism Awareness Day	Inclusion, rights and access to support
4 April	International Day for Mine Awareness	Explosive hazards and humanitarian action
5 April	National Maritime Day (India)	India's merchant shipping and maritime heritage
7 April	World Health Day	2026: Together for health. Stand with science.
10 April	Sindhi Bhasha Diwas	Constitution released in two Sindhi scripts
11 April	Jyotiba Phule Jayanti	Education and social reform; commemoration begins
12 April	International Day of Human Space Flight	Yuri Gagarin's 1961 flight; human-spaceflight milestones
14 April	Ambedkar Jayanti	135th birth anniversary; constitutionalism and social justice
18 April	International Day for Monuments and Sites	Heritage conservation and cultural places
21 April	Civil Services Day (India)	Public administration; eighteenth national observance in 2026
22 April	International Mother Earth Day	2026 Earth Day campaign: Our Power, Our Planet
23 April	World Book and Copyright Day	Reading, publishing and protection of creative work
24 April	National Panchayati Raj Day	Constitutional local self-government and the 73rd Amendment
25 April	World Malaria Day	Vector-borne disease and prevention
26 April	World Intellectual Property Day	Patents, trademarks, copyright and innovation
29 April	International Dance Day	Performing arts and cultural exchange

KEEP THE MILESTONES DISTINCT

PFBR first criticality was not a declaration of full-power commercial operation. Artemis II flew around the Moon without landing. The maritime-insurance pool was approved in April; its operational launch was a later event. The defeated delimitation-related Constitution Bill did not become law.