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INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh held a state-level workshop involving key rural sanitation officials to improve its Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2025 ranking. The government also announced monthly cleanliness drives and a recycling park for long-term waste management.
- APCRDA approved Rs 1,052 crore for infrastructure development in Amaravati, including Rs 682 crore to link the Seed Access Road with the National Highway. The meeting also discussed Green and Blue City concepts and urban best practices.

Delhi

- Delhi PWD has initiated plans for a flyover or underpass at the congested ITO intersection, issuing a ₹2 crore tender to hire a consultant for a detailed project report. The plan aims to develop a feasible decongestion strategy with multimodal integration.
- NDMC approved key projects across energy, utilities, and culture to advance smart city goals, including 120 MW of renewable energy procurement. It also sanctioned over ₹40 crore to upgrade electricity and water metering systems with smart technologies.
- CM Rekha Gupta and LG VK Saxena inaugurated the 11-acre Sadbhavana Park in central Delhi, featuring marble pathways, fountains, and sculptures. The park offers open recreational space for Old Delhi residents and includes a clock tower.

Goa

- Nearly 600 boats in Goa operate without valid licences, exposing major lapses in the Fisheries Department. Despite High Court directives, illegal fishing methods persist, and no penalties have been issued since 2014, raising serious concerns over regulatory failure.
- Goa CM Pramod Sawant confirms there are no plans to allow Ola or Uber in the state. The new taxi aggregator guidelines aim to regulate existing services, not permit new companies.

Gujarat

- A Boeing investigation team has arrived in Ahmedabad to support the inquiry into the Air India AI 171 crash on June 12. The tragedy has claimed 270 lives, including passengers and medical professionals from B J Medical College.

Haryana

- CM Nayab Singh Saini launched Geriatric Assessment, a guide authored by Pt BD Sharma University officials, to improve elderly care at the primary healthcare level, focusing on physical, mental, and social well-being.
- 3. CM Saini and Union Minister Khattar reviewed progress at Gorakhpur Nuclear Plant. Two of the 2,800 MW capacity units are expected by 2031. ₹80 crore has already been spent on local development via CSR.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu reaffirms rural economy as a top priority, highlighting support for natural farming with new MSPs for maize, wheat, and turmeric, and promoting women-led SHG products via the 'Him-Ira' portal.
- Ten villages in the Solan district with over 50% tribal population have been selected for the Dharti Abha Tribal Village Development campaign. From June 15 to 30, initiatives will focus on healthcare access, skill development, and self-employment.

Karnataka

- Karnataka High Court directed the Home Department to ensure all institutions report interactions with foreign nationals to the FRRO. Non-compliance may result in legal action. The state and the Centre must update immigration-related data.
- Heavy rains lashed Karnataka, causing a landslide near Kettikallu on NH-169 and severe waterlogging in Mangaluru. The IMD recorded 210 mm of rainfall in Panambur and issued an orange alert for five districts. Authorities are urged to plan long-term flood mitigation steps.
- The Karnataka cabinet has unanimously approved a fresh caste census in the state. The government will coordinate with the State Backward Classes Commission for the survey.

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- The Centre has approved two Road Over Bridges in Guntur—Syamalanagar and Sanjeevaiah Nagar to ease traffic and enhance safety. Union Minister Chandrasekhar credited the government for prioritising urban infrastructure and regional connectivity.
- The WEF will establish India's first Centre for Energy and Cyber Resilience in Amaravati, partnering with Andhra Pradesh under the "Swarnandhra Vision 2047." The Centre aims to boost green energy, cybersecurity, and global collaboration.

Delhi

- CM Rekha Gupta announced that the new draft excise policy will be ready by June 30, focusing on transparency, quality, and accountability. Key reforms include liquor quality testing, digitised sales, and simplified licensing.
- Delhi will add six new air quality monitoring stations by August, raising the total to 46, to prepare for the winter pollution season. Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa confirmed tenders have been floated and sites identified for timely installation.
- CM Rekha Gupta directed the swift completion of key projects in North West Delhi, including Dr Ambedkar Hospital & Ring Road renovation. She emphasized sustainability with green belt expansion and plans a site inspection on June 30.

Goa

- Goa's TCP Department is drafting a Heritage Home Policy under the Regional Plan to conserve village heritage homes. The policy aims to protect traditional structures, ensure cultural continuity, and offer incentives for preservation.
- Goa may replace New Delhi as host of the 2025 FIDE World Cup due to administrative issues within AICF. Despite Delhi receiving ₹2.5 crore for the event, Goa has emerged as the frontrunner, though no official confirmation has been made yet.

Gujarat

- The mortal remains of Vijay Rupani will be transported to Rajkot, where his final rites will take place on Monday evening. Arrangements have been made to allow citizens to pay their last respects.

Haryana

- Minister Anil Vij has requested 20 acres of defence land to expand Ambala Civil Hospital. The plan includes a Critical Care Centre, a spinal injury unit, and better road infrastructure around the Cantonment area.
- After 9 years, Kalanwali will hold municipal elections with 31 candidates contesting. For the first time, there will be a direct election for the chairman's post. Voting is on June 29, with results on July 2.

Himachal Pradesh

- Work on Shimla's Jathia Devi satellite township will begin in October 2025, funded by HIMUDA. Phase I proceeds despite a lack of central funding; the master plan includes flats, villas, eco-resorts, and infrastructure.
- Shimla ADC Abhishek Verma has urged officials to conduct panchayat-level campaigns to promote the PM Surya Ghar Scheme, as only 475 applications have been received so far.

Karnataka

- Aadhaar authentication is now required to access the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme in Karnataka. Other ID proofs will be accepted if Aadhaar is unavailable, with centres and alternatives provided for smooth implementation.
- BJP MP Basavaraj Bommai claimed Karnataka will receive ₹1 lakh crore more under the 15th Finance Commission. He accused CM Siddaramaiah of misrepresenting facts on state finances and central grants.
- Bengaluru's Lalbagh Botanical Garden may soon ban all photo and video shoots, including weddings and reels, to protect ecology and public decency. The horticulture department is finalizing a proposal following similar restrictions at Cubbon Park.



INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- In Sheopur, tribals clashed with forest officials during a land eviction drive. Four workers were injured and government vehicles were damaged, prompting the team to retreat for safety.

Mumbai

- The 615-metre flyover connecting Vikhroli East and West has opened, reducing travel time by 30 minutes. Built in three phases, it aims to ease monsoon traffic congestion, says CM Fadnavis.
- Contractors have issued a legal notice to Maharashtra's CM and key officials, demanding ₹90,000 crore in unpaid dues for infrastructure works. They threaten court action if a payment timeline isn't shared within two weeks.
- Mumbai Metro One withdrew the Andheri-Ghatkopar shuttle service, with all trains now running the full Versova-Ghatkopar route. MMOPL aimed to improve punctuality and reduce the headway from 205 to 200 seconds.

Pune

- Amid rising complaints, PMC has doubled pothole repair teams from 20 to 45 since March. Over 2,336 of 2,373 reported potholes have been fixed, with priority on main roads.
- Deputy CM Ajit Pawar launched the "PTR Traffic Cop" app in Pune to enhance traffic management and road safety. The app enables users to report traffic violations, accidents, and potholes by uploading photos or videos, helping police take swift action.
- Pune accounts for 38% of Maharashtra's ILI and 79% of SARI cases so far in 2025, raising concern among health experts. While factors like urban density and climate are suspected causes, officials attribute the spike to better reporting.

Punjab

- Punjab flagged off 730 sewer-cleaning machines worth ₹39.56 crore for 150 towns, aiming to eliminate manual cleaning and improve sanitation and worker safety. Quarterly performance reviews are planned.
- High temperatures and the delayed arrival of migrant laborers have slowed paddy sowing in Punjab. Farmers continue transplantation despite rising costs and heat, relying heavily on migrant workers from Bihar and UP.

Rajasthan

- Protests demanding the cancellation of the Rajasthan Police SI Recruitment 2021 continued for the 54th consecutive day at Shaheed Smarak in Jaipur. Despite rain, demonstrators, led by Beniwal, remained resolute, vowing not to stop until the government responds.

Tamil Nadu

- The Tamil Nadu Farmers Association criticized the government's new paddy incentive scheme, demanding a hike to ₹3,000 per quintal, citing rising input costs and better prices in other states.
- PMK founder Dr. S. Ramadoss appointed Murali Shankar as the party's new general secretary, replacing Vadivel Ramanan. The move comes amid recent internal tensions within the party.

Telangana

- Telangana's GDP reached ₹16.12 lakh crore with 10.1% growth, above the national average. The state attracted ₹3 lakh crore in investments in 18 months, including ₹40,000 crore in life sciences, creating 2 lakh jobs.
- The Telangana High Court barred the demolition of heritage structures along Metro Corridor-6 in Hyderabad until a detailed report is submitted, prioritizing the preservation of historic sites.

Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh has sought ₹5.19 lakh crore from the 16th Finance Commission across 11 sectors, mainly for rural and urban development. It also backs raising states' share in central tax revenue from 41% to 50%.
- CM Yogi Adityanath has directed the development of integrated government complexes in Mathura and Kanpur to streamline services. While reviewing Vision 2030, he emphasized heritage preservation and Rs 30,080 crore worth of projects in Mathura.
- UPPCL has proposed a 30% average electricity tariff hike and a 25–30% rise in new connection charges for 2025–26, while also submitting a draft to privatise power distribution in 42 districts.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- Bhopal will experience 2 to 5-hour power cuts in 40 areas due to scheduled maintenance by the electricity department. The outages are part of planned infrastructure work aimed at improving supply reliability. Residents are advised to prepare to avoid disruptions.

Mumbai

- Max Aerospace will set up an ₹8,000 crore helicopter manufacturing plant in Nagpur, creating 2,000 jobs. Operations are expected to begin in 2026, as per the MoU signed with the Maharashtra government.
- Maharashtra government will issue LOIs to 5 global universities today for setting up campuses in Navi Mumbai's planned International Education City. The initiative aims to offer world-class education near the upcoming airport.
- From June 16, Central Railway will deploy ticket checkers in all first-class coaches during peak hours, from the start to the end of train journeys. The move follows a fatal overcrowding incident near Mumbra.

Pune

- Minister Chhagan Bhujbal seeks revival of the original Pune-Nashik rail route via Narayangaon, opposing the diversion to Ahilyanagar. CM Fadnavis assures the revised plan will be reviewed by the CMO.
- Following heavy monsoon flooding at 76 locations, PMC will fast-track ₹75 crore stormwater upgrades with central funds. The work will prioritize high-traffic and low-lying flood-prone areas.
- Ajit Pawar warned Maha-Metro of a ₹10 crore fine if metro construction debris isn't cleared before the Palkhi event. He cited worsening traffic and waterlogging due to stalled works, demanding immediate action to avoid public inconvenience.

Punjab

- Patiala MP Dharamvira Gandhi urged the reopening of the Kartarpur Corridor, closed due to India-Pak tensions. He emphasized its significance for Sikh pilgrims and called it a symbol of peace and unity.
- Congress leader Rana KP Singh has urged the Centre to construct dams on Sutlej's tributaries, Swan, Sirsa, and Mindhawan, to control flash floods, highlighting the original British-era Bhakra Dam plan aimed at flood mitigation.

Rajasthan

- The Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) will conduct the State and Subordinate Services Main Examination on June 17–18, 2024. A total of 21,539 shortlisted candidates are scheduled to appear. Admit cards were released on June 14 and are available for download via the RPSC website or SSO portal.

Tamil Nadu

- Coimbatore will see improved traffic flow with four new roundabouts and upgraded LED traffic signals at 18 junctions. Trial runs are underway to finalize U-turn designs at key city points.
- B.Ed admissions in Tamil Nadu will shift fully online this academic year, replacing the offline process. The change is aimed at making access easier for students, especially from remote or rural areas.

Telangana

- CM Revanth Reddy announced 571 new government schools this year and emphasized improving quality through infrastructure upgrades, teacher training, and student support services similar to residential schools.
- Telangana increased Dearness Allowance (DA) for government employees and pensioners from 26.39% to 30.03%, effective January 1, 2023. Pending DA/DR orders from July 2023 will be issued later.

Uttar Pradesh

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah will hand over appointment letters to 60,244 newly selected UP police constables in Lucknow, marking the state's biggest-ever police recruitment.
- Uttar Pradesh will plant 35 crore saplings from July 1–7, marking a 600% rise from 2016 figures. With 1,901 nurseries prepped, officials aim to combat heatwaves and boost environmental recovery.
- UP plans to modernize its Forest Force with AI, GPS trackers, and sensor-based surveillance. A central command center and integrated system will enable real-time monitoring and swift action against forest crimes.



GLOBAL UPDATE

Highlights of this week

- Africa**
- At least 100 people were killed in a gunmen attack on Yelewata village in Nigeria's Benue state, Amnesty International reported. Dozens are injured or missing, with many homes set ablaze during the assault.
 - The death toll from flooding in South Africa's Eastern Cape has risen to 78, with more casualties likely as rescue efforts continue. Heavy rain and snow since the weekend have severely disrupted transport and power networks.
- America**
- Canada and the UK have agreed to form a trade working group to deepen economic ties and address market barriers, with recommendations expected in six months. The group will explore cooperation in digital trade, AI, and critical minerals.
 - Nicaragua has officially severed ties with the UNHCR, the UN's refugee agency, according to a letter from its Foreign Ministry on Thursday, June 13th. The move marks another step in the country's distancing from international institutions.
- Asia Pacific**
- Vietnam and the U.S. made headway in trade talks held June 9–12, but key issues remain as a pause on steep tariffs nears expiry. Both sides plan further discussions to resolve outstanding demands, including Vietnam's dependence on Chinese imports.
 - Cambodia has approached the International Court of Justice to resolve ongoing border disputes with Thailand, following a deadly clash on May 28. While Cambodia seeks a legal solution, Thailand has rejected the court's jurisdiction, preferring bilateral talks.
- China**
- The recent U.S.-China trade truce excludes an agreement on specialized rare-earth magnets crucial for U.S. military equipment, leaving a key defense supply issue unresolved. Beijing has not committed to clearing exports for these military-use materials.
- Europe**
- Switzerland launched a domestic consultation on a new EU agreement to secure stable economic ties amid global uncertainty. The deal, backed by the government, aims to avoid a projected CHF 520 billion economic loss by 2045.
- Middle East**
- Israel and Iran launched fresh attacks Sunday, June 15th, killing civilians and urging evacuations near vital areas. The G7 summit is expected to discuss the escalating conflict amid rising global concerns.
 - Indian PM Narendra Modi visits Cyprus to discuss linking India to Europe via the IMEC trade corridor. Talks with Cypriot President Christodoulides aim to boost connectivity amid Middle East tensions.
- Pakistan**
- Pakistan's \$62.2B IMF-backed budget aims for 4.2% GDP growth and a lower fiscal deficit, but analysts call targets overly ambitious. Despite tax reforms and a 20% defense hike post-India clashes, weak past revenue performance and unclear growth drivers raise concerns.
 - Pakistan's FY26 budget slashes overall spending by 7% to \$62B but hikes defence outlay by 20% to \$9B after last month's clash with India. PM Sharif aims to revive growth at 4.2% while staying within IMF fiscal targets, projecting 7.5% inflation and a 3.9% deficit.
- United Kingdom**
- Britain is ready to implement its part of the UK-U.S. tariff deal, Trade Minister Jonathan Reynolds said, adding he's hopeful President Trump will act soon. The agreement includes mutual tariff cuts on cars, steel, beef, and ethanol.
- United States**
- Around 50 U.S. Marines confronted hundreds of protesters in Los Angeles over federal immigration raids, sparking chants for them to leave. Deployed by President Trump, their presence was condemned by local leaders as provocative, though protests were largely peaceful.
 - Donald Trump reported over \$600 million in 2024 income from crypto, golf clubs, and licensing, with total assets valued at least \$1.6 billion. His crypto ventures alone brought \$57 million, while Florida golf clubs earned \$217 million, raising fresh conflict-of-interest concerns.

Upcoming News/Events

- Africa**
- The U.S. is pushing for a peace agreement between Rwanda and the DRC by June or July, urging swift action from both sides. Senior U.S. official Troy Fitrell said technical teams are working to implement agreed principles.
 - Rwanda plans to raise spending by 21% to \$5 billion next fiscal year, focusing on infrastructure, agriculture, and services. The budget will be funded 58% from domestic revenue, 8% from grants, and 31% via external loans, with a \$2B airport set to open by 2028.
- America**
- Brazil, Egypt, Mexico, and four other nations will access \$1 billion from the Climate Investment Funds to decarbonize industry. The program aims to cut emissions and attract private investments, supporting low-carbon industrial growth.
 - The U.S. is pressuring Mexico to extradite politicians allegedly linked to drug cartels, including figures from President Sheinbaum's ruling party. While Mexico denies receiving formal requests for specific individuals, the matter has sparked diplomatic tension.
- Asia Pacific**
- Australian PM Albanese will meet U.S. President Trump on Tuesday during the G7 summit to discuss AUKUS and tariffs. Talks may also cover U.S. calls for Australia to raise defense spending to 3.5% of GDP.
 - South Korean President Lee Jae-myung will attend the G7 summit in Canada, aiming to hold bilateral and possible trilateral talks, including with the U.S. and Japan, to address tariffs and economic issues.
- China**
- China plans to sign a new economic pact eliminating tariffs for all 53 African countries it has diplomatic ties with, including middle-income nations. This move expands existing duty-free access beyond least developed countries and aims to boost African exports to China.
- Europe**
- Following Austria's deadliest school shooting, the government plans to tighten gun laws, including stricter age rules, better psychological checks, and more police in schools. Cabinet approval for the measures is expected on Wednesday, June 18th.
 - Sweden will meet NATO's proposed 5% GDP defense spending target, with 3.5% allocated to core military needs and 1.5% to broader security areas. PM Kristersson confirmed the move ahead of the upcoming NATO summit.
- Middle East**
- Egypt has signed a \$600 million deal with Norway's Scatec for a 1 GW solar plant and a \$1 billion power purchase agreement for a 900 MW wind project. These steps support Egypt's goal of 42% renewable energy in its power mix by 2030.
- Pakistan**
- IFC will provide a \$400 million subordinated loan for Pakistan's Reko Diq mine, raising its total support to \$700 million. The \$6.6 billion project, led by Barrick Gold, is backed by global lenders and expects production by 2028.
 - Pakistan's central bank is expected to hold its policy rate at 12% on June 17, as analysts revise earlier rate-cut forecasts amid inflation risks from the Israel-Iran conflict and rising oil prices. The move follows a tight budget and modest economic growth target.
- United Kingdom**
- UK Finance Minister Rachel Reeves said Britain may support Israel in the Iran conflict, though the recent jet deployment mainly aims to protect UK forces and assets in the region. This marks a cautious yet strategic positioning by the UK.
- United States**
- The Trump administration may expand its travel ban to 36 more countries, citing national security and immigration enforcement concerns. A State Department memo warns affected nations to meet U.S. benchmarks within 60 days or face entry suspensions.
 - President Trump distanced the U.S. from Israel's strikes on Iran, calling them unilateral despite prior notice. While seeking a nuclear deal with Tehran, Trump emphasized protecting U.S. personnel, as tensions rose following Iran's IAEA breach and Israeli claims of preempting nuclear threats.

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