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INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh launched Electronics Policy 4.0 to attract \$150 billion investment and create 1.5 lakh jobs, clearing Rs 80,000 crore worth proposals. The Cabinet also approved land allotments for a Visakhapatnam data hub and urban water infrastructure upgrades.
- The Railway Board has cleared the revised DPR for the South Coast Railway Zone with HQ in Vizag, approving transfer of staff and assets from SCR. However, creation of new posts is restricted, and a proposal for Rs 200 crore civil works remains under review.

Delhi

- Ahead of Independence Day, Police has launched a local census and deployed high-tech surveillance, including UVSS and smart cameras, around Red Fort. The enhanced measures aim to monitor sensitive areas for potential threats.
- The High Court has directed the government to complete the selection of PMC within two months for building housing for judicial officers in Dwarka. The order follows concerns over officers living far from work due to housing shortage in Delhi.
- Delhi Police found serious security lapses at over 120 public places, including hotels and metro stations, during a five-day audit. Issues like faulty CCTVs and poor women's safety measures have triggered urgent corrective directives.

Goa

- Goa has launched a statewide electricity grid upgrade to improve power reliability, Power Minister Sudin Dhavalikar confirmed. He urged public cooperation amid disruptions from underground cabling, calling it vital for long-term stability.
- Goa Shipyard launched 'Samudra Prachet', a pollution control vessel for the Indian Coast Guard, enhancing coastal safety and marine pollution response. The vessel was launched in the presence of Coast Guard DG Paramesh Sivamani.

Gujarat

- CM Bhupendra Patel, at a regional meet in Gandhinagar, stressed using space tech to boost governance, with ISRO, officials, and industry discussing satellite use in development and disaster management.
- With the UK-India FTA, Gujarat's export-driven sectors like textiles, chemicals, and IT stand to benefit from tariff relaxations, with the textile industry eyeing duty-free access to boost competitiveness in the UK market.

Haryana

- Haryana has approved ₹665.65 crore under the PM-POSHAN scheme for FY 2025-26, aiming to benefit over 1.5 million schoolchildren. The Chief Secretary stressed timely implementation and improved nutrition standards.
- Faridabad's GGSSS NIT-5 has become a top-10 global finalist for the 'Supporting Healthy Lives' award under the World's Best School Prizes 2025, thanks to its impactful menstrual health curriculum introduced in 2024.

Himachal Pradesh

- The Centre has approved ₹36.93 crore for a two-lane bridge over the Swan river in Una's Haroli, aiming to improve connectivity with Punjab. A proposal to expand the Jhalera-Ghaluwal stretch to four lanes is also under active consideration.
- The Central panel has extended the land possession period for Pong Dam oustees from 90 to 180 days, aiding their long-pending rehabilitation in Rajasthan. Himachal's efforts also enabled land allotments to 222 oustees in Bikaner on July 1.

Karnataka

- The Karnataka cabinet has approved a bill criminalising even the engagement of minors, aiming to strengthen the fight against child marriage. Law Minister H K Patil stated the move closes legal loopholes and sends a strong deterrent message.
- Karnataka leads India in per capita income for FY25 at ₹2.04 lakh, marking a 93.6% rise over a decade. It surpassed all major states, with only Odisha recording slightly higher decade-long growth.

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- CM Chandrababu Naidu will visit Singapore from July 26–31 to attract investments and engage with global business leaders and the Telugu diaspora. The visit aims to promote Brand AP and encourage participation in the state's P4 initiative.
- Chief Secretary K Vijayanand has set an August 15 deadline to adopt 15 lakh Bangaru Kutumbams under the P4 scheme, with 6.57 lakh families already covered. He urged district officials to complete the need assessment by August 5 and track the progress.

Delhi

- The government has mandated all pharmacies to install CCTV cameras by July-end to curb misuse of dual-use drugs and prevent over-the-counter sales without prescriptions. This follows discussions at NCORD meeting focused on controlling Schedule drug sales.
- Delhi will ask Haryana to transfer control of the ITO barrage, citing its role in the 2023 flood crisis due to faulty gates. The Delhi government says full control is crucial for effective flood management.
- The Sarita Vihar flyover's Badarpur-to-Ashram carriageway will be shut for repairs until August 8, likely impacting traffic from southeast Delhi, Noida, and Faridabad. This marks the flyover's first major repair in 24 years, with the first phase already completed.

Goa

- Goa CM Pramod Sawant has confirmed that a Bill on illegal structures will be tabled next week amid demolition concerns under RPG-2021 norms. The legislation aims to offer relief through regularisation while balancing planned development.
- Goa will deploy drones for coastal surveillance to curb illegal fishing, Fisheries Minister Halarnkar announced after successful trials. The initiative aims to boost regulation, marine safety, and sustainability.

Gujarat

- The Dholera airport project will be completed by December 2025, Union Minister Muralidhar Mohol told Rajya Sabha, while five of Gujarat's 11 proposed Greenfield airport sites have been found feasible as per AAI studies.
- To support over 75 lakh Antyodaya and BPL families during Janmashtami, the Gujarat govt will distribute additional subsidised sugar, oil, chana, dal, and salt starting early August as part of a special festive relief initiative.

Haryana

- Haryana is awaiting ₹45.12 crore in pending MGNREGA dues from the Centre as of July 16, 2025. The total outstanding amount for Haryana and Punjab combined stands at ₹376.60 crore, covering wages and material costs.
- Karnal Municipal Corporation has begun a survey to identify encroachments in Model Town, ahead of an anti-encroachment drive aimed at clearing public spaces. Notices will be issued soon, with a week's time for voluntary removal before strict action is taken.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh has urged the Centre to conduct expert studies into recurring natural disasters and set up a flood forecasting unit. Officials highlighted the state's unique geography and rising incidents of cloudbursts, flashfloods, and landslides.
- Himachal CM has sought a special Central package for Kangra airport expansion, citing land acquisition progress and urging review of cost estimates and flight resumption on key routes.

Karnataka

- Karnataka has urged the Centre to expedite site finalisation for Bengaluru's second international airport, citing Kempegowda Airport's nearing capacity. The state is ready to begin work once the Airports Authority of India submits its final report on the sites.
- Karnataka will conduct a 15-day Social and Educational Survey from September 22 to gather caste and economic data for future policy planning. CM Siddaramaiah said the survey aims to eliminate caste discrimination and cover all 7 crore residents.



INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- Madhya Pradesh secured ₹11,119 crore in investment proposals from Dubai and Spain, creating over 14,000 jobs. Earlier visits to the UK, Germany, and Japan brought in ₹78,000 crore and led to plans for a Japan-MP Industrial Cooperation Forum.
- MP hosted a two-day Regional Tourism Conclave in Rewa from July 26 to boost tourism and investment. CM Mohan Yadav inaugurated the event, which brought together key stakeholders to explore new opportunities.

Mumbai

- State has approved a ₹1000 crore Maha Vista project in Nagpur to redevelop Vidhan Bhavan with expanded facilities, following a similar plan in Mumbai. The new complex aims to accommodate more lawmakers post-delimitation.
- Bombay High Court has made it mandatory to immerse Ganesh idols up to 6 feet in artificial ponds across Maharashtra to reduce environmental impact, extending the earlier 5-foot rule.
- The state has approved 285 immigration staff for Navi Mumbai International Airport, which is set to open in September. The airport aims to handle 90 million passengers annually, easing the load on Mumbai's current airport.

Pune

- Maharashtra has launched a pilot in 18 talukas to map subdivided land plots and address discrepancies between 7/12 extracts and official maps; private agencies will be appointed for the work.
- Pune Traffic Police received 4,071 complaints via the PTP app in 40 days, issuing 3,101 challans with a 76% success rate. Most violations involved illegal parking, triple-seat riding, and mobile use while driving.
- Ajit Pawar announced Pune will be developed as a national growth hub, focusing on tech, manufacturing, and education. The plan aims to generate 15–18 lakh jobs by 2030, with PMRDA funding and Yashada preparing the framework.

Punjab

- Punjab's Local Bodies Department launched a drive to boost source-level waste segregation by engaging private collectors, inspired by Mansa and Malout models. These collectors will be organized into societies and offered benefits.
- The Punjab Vidhan Sabha SC/ST/OBC Welfare Committee reviewed scheme implementation in Patiala and summoned officials over incomplete data. MLAs demanded detailed reports from the past 3.5 years.

Rajasthan

- Northern Railways launched the Udaipur City–Chandigarh Bi-weekly Superfast Express (20989/20990) to enhance connectivity between Rajasthan and Tricity. The train halts at key stations like Jaipur, Ajmer, and Ambala Cantt.

Tamil Nadu

- PM Modi visited TN on July 26 to inaugurate and dedicate development projects worth over ₹4,800 crore across aviation, highways, railways, ports, and power. He also joined the birth anniversary celebrations of Rajendra Chola I at Gangaikonda Cholapuram.

Telangana

- Using caste survey data, the Telangana government is set to implement focused welfare schemes for underrepresented communities. An ordinance to raise BC reservations to 42% in local body elections is currently awaiting the Governor's approval.
- Telangana urged the Krishna Tribunal to allocate assured water for drought-hit areas, citing historical denial of gravity flows. It argued that this would not impact Andhra Pradesh's water share.

Uttar Pradesh

- The UP government has issued strict guidelines to prevent misuse of BNS Section 111, ensuring it targets only genuine organised crime. Authorities must justify its use with clear evidence and avoid targeting dissent or activists.
- CM Yogi Adityanath has warned power officials against tripping, overbilling, and outages, calling the power system a matter of public trust. He ordered technical audits and urgent reforms to ensure reliable supply and address consumer grievances.
- Prayagraj has begun trial use of AI-equipped cameras on QRT vehicles to detect garbage, potholes, and encroachments, with early results proving accurate. If successful, the system will be expanded across all 80 city wards.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- Governor Patel stressed aligning education with local job needs, while CM Yadav emphasized skill development and agri-education integration. Over 10,000 institutions in MP are implementing NEP 2020 to promote job-oriented learning.
- The MP Cabinet approved hydro plant renovations worth over ₹1,000 crore with Rajasthan, including MP's share of ₹127.06 crore. A 'Data Strengthening Scheme' was also cleared to enhance policy-making through better data analysis.

Mumbai

- Maharashtra will install 53 new air quality monitoring stations in the coming weeks, with 22 districts getting their first stations and others receiving additional units. These stations will monitor pollutants and weather data, accessible via CPCB's website and app.
- Mumbai's suburban trains will get a major security upgrade with 12,446 CCTV cameras in 1,615 coaches, covering both AC and non-AC trains. This ₹97.3 crore initiative includes quick reaction teams, bomb squads, and increased joint patrolling.
- Mumbai's seven new STPs will save 1,200 MLD of potable water daily by treating and reusing sewage for non-potable. The project also aims to protect marine ecosystems by improving sewage quality before discharge into the sea.

Pune

- PMPML's new CMD plans to develop 10 bus depots and monetize over 1,700 bus stops to boost revenue, targeting ₹800–1,000 crore in 3–4 years. A 60-year agreement is proposed to attract private investment.
- Maharashtra will set up two cancer hospitals in Pune and Nashik and eight new district hospitals, with a ₹8,000 crore funding proposal submitted to ADB and state approval in progress.
- Amid a spike in GBS cases in Pune, Maharashtra will soon issue a new SOP to monitor water sources; 141 cases and 9 suspected deaths were reported since January, mainly in Sinhagad Road and nearby clusters.

Punjab

- The Centre has confirmed that there is no plan to set up an AIIMS in Jalandhar under the current PMSSY phase. AIIMS-Bathinda remains the only operational institute in Punjab, with super-specialty blocks added in Amritsar and Patiala.

Rajasthan

- CM Bhajanlal Sharma set a goal of planting 50 crore trees in 5 years under 'Harialo Rajasthan'; 10 crore trees to be planted in 2025, inspired by PM Modi's "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam."
- From August 1, new Anganwadi registrations in Rajasthan will use face recognition on the Poshan Tracker. Digital tracking for ration and child meal attendance began in May and July, respectively.

Tamil Nadu

- The Centre stated that 217 acres from Tamil Nadu are needed for Puducherry Airport expansion. The AAI master plan includes a rotated runway to accommodate larger aircraft and minimize environmental impact.
- Tamil Nadu will appoint 3,200 new TNSTC employees in August to improve services, said Transport Minister SS Sivasankar. He added that private buses are being used during festivals to meet rising passenger demand.

Telangana

- Hyderabad's new waste-to-energy plant in Jawaharnagar will begin operations in August, processing 300 tonnes of waste daily using dry bio-methanation. The eco-friendly facility will generate bio-CNG and compost, helping reduce landfill waste and carbon emissions.

Uttar Pradesh

- UP aims for 25% of its colleges to secure NAAC accreditation by 2025–26, with 1,000 already shortlisted. A new policy will mandate time-bound, accountable NAAC evaluations to boost education quality.
- CM Yogi Adityanath has directed officials to fast-track road development projects in Gorakhpur and Basti, aligning plans with local needs. He emphasized timely execution, quality standards, and inclusion of urban roads under the CM Grid Scheme.
- UP has ₹5 lakh crore worth of investment proposals ready for the Ground Breaking Ceremony in November, with expectations to cross ₹10 lakh crore. International roadshows in six countries are planned to boost participation and investor confidence.



GLOBAL UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Africa

- The IMF has approved a \$184 million disbursement to Zambia after its fifth loan review. The program aims to stabilize the economy, improve governance, and support inclusive growth as Zambia recovers from drought and debt restructuring.
- Nigeria's Senate has approved President Tinubu's \$21 billion foreign borrowing plan to fully fund the 2025 budget, with allocations for infrastructure, healthcare, education, and a major railway upgrade. The move signals a shift toward fiscal expansion despite rising inflation.

America

- Brazil admits a U.S. trade deal may not be reached by August 1 as steep tariffs loom, but vows to keep negotiating while preparing export contingency plans. Finance Minister Haddad emphasized Brazil won't retaliate against U.S. firms despite calling the tariffs unfair.
- Honduras has reinstated mandatory mask rules in public spaces due to a spike in respiratory illnesses and rising COVID-19 cases, with six virus-related deaths reported in 2025. Authorities urge vaccinations, hygiene measures, and remote work in state institutions.

Asia Pacific

- India's trade deal with the UK signals a cautious shift from protectionism, easing tariffs on key sectors like autos and whisky. Officials view it as a possible model for upcoming pacts with the EU, U.S., and New Zealand.
- Border clashes between Thailand and Cambodia have intensified, with heavy artillery fire, leaving 20 dead and over 130,000 displaced. Cambodia claims Thailand backed out of a ceasefire proposal, while both sides blame each other amid rising regional mediation efforts.

China

- China urged Pakistan to ensure the safety of Chinese nationals and projects amid rising security concerns. Foreign Minister Wang Yi met Army Chief Asim Munir and reaffirmed China's strong ties and continued support under the Belt and Road Initiative.
- China and the EU held a summit marking 50 years of diplomatic ties amid rising tensions. President Xi urged the EU to manage differences constructively, while EU chief von der Leyen described the talks as "frank," highlighting divisions on trade and geopolitics.

Europe

- Germany's cabinet has approved a draft law to fast-track defence procurement and base construction, easing tender rules and environmental standards. The move aims to bolster military readiness amid Russian threats and meet NATO spending goals.
- A Soviet-era Antonov An-24 operated by Angara Airlines crashed near Tynda, Russia, killing all 49–50 on board. The 1976 aircraft vanished from radar during approach and was later located in a forested area.

Middle East

- Iran and European powers held frank nuclear talks in Istanbul, the first since recent U.S.-Israel strikes. Discussions focused on the October 18 UN resolution, with both sides presenting proposals to avoid renewed sanctions.
- A Saudi delegation led by Investment Minister Al-Falih arrived in Syria to sign deals worth \$4–6 billion, backing the new government's reconstruction efforts. Agreements span energy, telecom, and infrastructure, despite ongoing instability in the region.

Pakistan

- S&P Global upgraded Pakistan's credit rating from 'CCC+' to 'B-' with a stable outlook, citing IMF support and fiscal recovery. The move boosted Pakistan's long-dated international bonds, with markets responding positively to improved debt and reserve stability.

United Kingdom

- UK PM Keir Starmer faces pressure from Labour MPs to recognise Palestinian statehood, but insists it must come through a negotiated peace deal ensuring lasting security for both sides. This contrasts with France's recent decision to recognise Palestine unilaterally.

United States

- U.S. President Trump arrived in Scotland for golf and bilateral talks, aiming for a major trade deal with the EU. He'll meet UK PM Keir Starmer and EC President von der Leyen, calling her "highly respected," but noted sticking points remain in the negotiations.

Upcoming News/Events

Africa

- South Africa's Treasury is seeking innovative foreign currency funding solutions to raise \$500 million for 2025/26, following approval of the Appropriation Bill. The aim is to reduce reliance on Eurobonds and lower borrowing costs amid broader African debt challenges.
- Morocco will invest \$4.2 billion over five years to expand and upgrade its main airports, aiming to boost capacity to 80 million passengers by 2030 ahead of the 2030 FIFA World Cup. The plan includes major expansion at Casablanca airport and land acquisition.

America

- The U.S. and Mexico have agreed to fast-track \$93 million in upgrades to Mexico's sewage system and complete a U.S. treatment plant expansion by August. The move aims to resolve the decades-old Tijuana River pollution crisis impacting both sides of the border.
- Brazil is finalizing its bid to join South Africa's genocide case against Israel at the ICJ, citing violations of international law and civilian harm in Gaza. Israel rejects the accusations, while Brazil's move adds to growing tensions with the U.S. and Israel.

Asia Pacific

- India will extend a \$565 million line of credit to the Maldives, Prime Minister Modi announced after bilateral talks. The move reinforces New Delhi's commitment to strengthening regional ties and infrastructure support.
- Britain and Australia have signed a landmark defence treaty to advance the AUKUS submarine program and boost strategic cooperation. The agreement, valued at £20 billion in UK exports, reinforces their long-term commitment to Indo-Pacific security.

China

- Beijing has warned of possible landslides, mudslides, and flash floods across 10 of its 16 districts following intense rainfall. Authorities remain on high alert, especially in mountainous areas, due to heightened geological risks.
- China has proposed forming a global AI cooperation body to counterbalance U.S. influence and promote equal access to AI technology. Premier Li Qiang emphasized inclusive AI governance and sharing with developing nations, especially the Global South.

Europe

- Greece has invited Libya's Tripoli-based government to start talks on maritime zone demarcation, aiming to ease tensions over a 2019 Libya-Turkey deal. This comes amid disputes over hydrocarbon exploration and rising migrant flows from Libya to Greek islands.
- The EU and Japan will boost cooperation to counter economic coercion and unfair trade, said EC President von der Leyen after a summit with PM Ishiba. Both sides also agreed to strengthen their defense industries and begin talks on an information security pact.

Middle East

- Netanyahu and Trump signaled the collapse of Gaza ceasefire talks, accusing Hamas of rejecting peace efforts. As humanitarian conditions worsen, Macron announced recognition of a Palestinian state, while Israel and the U.S. withdrew from negotiations.

Pakistan

- Pakistan says it is close to finalizing a trade deal with the U.S., though Washington has given no timeline. Talks also covered critical minerals, and Islamabad praised U.S. efforts in de-escalating India-Pakistan tensions.
- China's BYD will launch its first locally assembled EV in Pakistan by mid-2026 through a plant near Karachi with 25,000-unit annual capacity. The company aims for a 30–35% market share in Pakistan's expanding EV and hybrid segment.

United Kingdom

- The UK Supreme Court will deliver its ruling on motor finance commissions on August 1, impacting a possible multi-billion pound redress scheme. Close Brothers and FirstRand aim to overturn a prior judgment requiring brokers to secure informed customer consent for commissions.

United States

- The United States has announced it will not participate in a United Nations conference later this month focused on advancing a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine. The decision was confirmed by Deputy State Department Spokesperson Tommy Pigott during a press briefing.

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