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INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Andhra Pradesh

- The cabinet approved ₹1.27 lakh crore worth of projects, including Google's AI data centres, JSW's industrial park, and key infrastructure developments. It also endorsed panchayat reclassification, hospitality ventures, and renewable energy initiatives.
- The government has sanctioned ₹150 crore for the restoration of the historic Dowleswaram Barrage to revive the Godavari irrigation lifeline. The project includes replacing rusted gates and sluices to prevent massive water loss and ensure efficient flood management.

Delhi

- Delhi government mandates use of recycled C&D waste in all public construction projects, with department-wise targets and quarterly compliance reviews. Payments may be withheld for non-compliance to promote environmental sustainability and resource efficiency.
- CM Rekha Gupta reviewed government hospitals, pledging to eliminate shortages of medicines, staff, and equipment. Measures are being taken to ensure timely supply and improve infrastructure and patient care across the city.
- Education Minister Ashish Sood announced a core committee to resolve issues of educational institutions. DSEU also launched short-term skill-based programs and continues fully implementing NEP principles to promote education and employment.

Goa

- Vehicle owners in Salcete and South Goa face inconvenience as there is no local HSRP installation centre, forcing them to travel over 30 km to Mapusa, while dealers warn of potential backlogs and the Transport Department to set up a facility with clear guidelines.

Gujarat

- Gujarat government announces a ₹7,000 Diwali bonus for 16,921 Class-4 employees across state departments, Panchayats, universities, and other institutions. The finance department will issue guidelines to ensure timely disbursement of the festive benefit.
- The AMC issued 24-hour eviction notices to 102 structurally unsafe Kalupur Bridge shops, causing pre-Diwali distress among traders. Shopkeepers, serving generations of Partition-displaced families, seek relocation or compensation as AMC prioritises public safety.

Haryana

- DC Parth Gupta directed PWD and NHAI officials to make all Yamunanagar roads pothole-free, ensuring smooth commuting. Inspections and ongoing patchwork aim to prevent accidents and reduce public inconvenience.
- Construction of two Rs 122-crore flyovers in Karnal is 55% complete in nine months, aiming to ease traffic congestion. The first flyover will span 2.83 km and the second 937 m, with completion expected before January 2027.

Himachal Pradesh

- Kasumpti constituency gets Rs 4.5 crore for road projects, with 60 km of new roads planned and 28 approved under the FRA. Rural Development Minister Anirudh Singh also announced grants for local groups and ongoing Panchayat Bhawan construction.
- After four days of heavy snowfall, BRO has reopened key routes in Lahaul-Spiti, including the Manali-Leh and Darcha-Padum roads, easing travel and transport, while the Kunzum Pass to Spiti valley remains blocked due to snow.

Karnataka

- CM Siddaramaiah may reshuffle his cabinet to counter Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, who leverages his organisational strength ahead of assembly elections. Shivakumar also cites a party agreement on power sharing, keeping him central to the ongoing political tussle.
- Cabinet approves one-day paid menstrual leave monthly for women in government and private sectors, benefiting garment workers who form 90% of the female workforce. Experts urge the rules be made more women-friendly to ensure leave is availed.
- Bengaluru houses on 30x40 sqft sites with violations will receive completion certificates and power connections, aiding 3-4 lakh residents, said Deputy CM DK Shivakumar. He also confirmed progress on the Yettinahole water project for Kolar and Chikkaballapur.

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- Raiden Infotech will invest ₹87,520 crore to set up India's largest data centre across three campuses in Visakhapatnam. The SIPB approved ₹1.14 lakh crore investments expected to create over 67,000 jobs and strengthen the tech ecosystem.
- AP will get three new AYUSH medical colleges and six integrated hospitals with allocation of ₹248.89 crore. The expansion includes Ayurvedic colleges in Dharmavaram and Kakinada, a Unani college in Rayalaseema, and a new Naturopathy and Yoga College.

Delhi

- The SEC has commenced preparations for bypolls to 12 MCD wards, likely in November or December, directing returning officers to finalise polling stations by Oct. Coordination meetings and trainings are underway to ensure smooth and transparent elections.
- The Centre approved the 1,856-MW Sawalkote Hydro Project in J&K to boost power supply and utilise western river waters. Built by NHPC at ₹31,380 crore, it will be the Union Territory's largest hydropower project.
- By March 2026, all 36 Delhi government hospitals will offer MRI and CT scan services at subsidised rates through a PPP model. Health Minister Pankaj Singh announced services will begin at Lok Nayak Hospital by January to address current diagnostic shortages.

Goa

- Goa launches the Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, merging 36 schemes with a total outlay of ₹1.44 lakh crore to boost agricultural productivity, promote diversification, and support farmers, especially women and youth, in allied sectors.

Gujarat

- Health Minister Rushikesh Patel ordered the recall of two cough syrups after 16 children died in MP due to excessive diethylene glycol. The affected syrups Re-Life and Respifresh TR exceeded safe DEG limits, causing kidney failure and other life-threatening conditions.
- Over 20,000 newly appointed teachers will receive NEP-aligned training in effective teaching, question framing, and student evaluation. The programme aims to strengthen learning outcomes and is coordinated by GCERT with dedicated funding.

Haryana

- CM Nayab Singh Saini said the PM's Dhan-Dhanya Yojana and Dalhan Atmanirbharta Mission will strengthen agriculture and boost Nuh's rural economy. The schemes provide high-quality seeds, expanding pulse cultivation from 1.95 lakh to 2.67 lakh acres.
- Rohtak Municipal Corporation will set up Haryana's first solar-powered carcass incinerator, costing Rs 2.55 crore, to replace environmentally harmful burial practices. The plant is expected to be ready within three months, including trials and staff training.

Himachal Pradesh

- Jupiter International invests Rs 468 crore in Himachal's Baddi to set up a 1 GW solar unit with TOPCon technology, starting production by February 2026. The project aims to boost green energy, create 2,000 local jobs, and enhance skill development.
- Himachal CM Sukhu seeks a 'green bonus' from the Centre, estimating Rs 90,000 crore annually for the state's ecological services and promoting e-buses and renewable energy to reduce emissions.

Karnataka

- Government to disburse Rs 2,000 crore as crop loss compensation within 30 days, starting with 5.29 lakh hectares across nine districts. Payments will be Aadhaar-based, transparent, with the second round covering 7.24 lakh hectares in flood-affected regions.
- Karnataka will acquire 75,563 acres for UKP Phase-3, raising Almatti dam height to 524.256m, via direct purchase or consent award rates. A Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority will ensure fair compensation and adherence to guidelines.
- Karnataka plans a ₹1/litre fuel cess to create a fund for unorganised workers' healthcare, covering up to ₹15 lakh per family. The scheme could generate ₹2,500 crore annually for 1.3 crore workers and their families.



INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- A blacklisted company in Gujarat was awarded a ₹476 crore sewage project in Ujjain despite concealing information during the tender process, and the Urban Development Department has now sought legal opinion on the matter.

Mumbai

- HC directs govt to collect detailed compliance reports from schools on safety measures via its portal, following the 2024 Badlapur incident. Over 88,000 schools have uploaded data on CCTV, staff verification, child protection committees, and complaint mechanisms.
- Maharashtra permits data centres in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, and Thane to generate and distribute their own renewable energy, boosting power reliability. This move ensures uninterrupted 24x7 operations for critical digital and cloud infrastructure.
- The Andheri-Ghatkopar Link Road flyover project moves ahead as BMC orders rehabilitation, replacing the 78-year-old Ghatkopar rail overbridge. The new flyover will ease congestion between Golibar Road and Eastern Express Highway.

Pune

- The Bhide Bridge in Pune has reopened for traffic ahead of Diwali, easing congestion after being closed for pedestrian bridge construction linking the metro to Narayan Peth. Civic activist Vivek Velenkar had urged authorities to reopen it to accommodate festive crowds.
- PMRDA has halted work on five housing projects in Maan and Wagholi due to developers failing to provide basic facilities like access roads and drainage. Inspections by commissioner Yogesh Mhase confirmed the violations following residents' complaints.
- Parisar has launched the Pune Air Quality Dashboard, an interactive platform providing real-time PM10 and PM2.5 data from MPCB and IITM. The tool aims to boost public awareness and aid researchers, activists, and journalists in tracking air pollution trends.

Punjab

- Punjab government has sent a flood damage memorandum to the Centre, estimating total losses at ₹13,832 crore. CM Bhagwant Mann announced compensation of ₹20,000 per acre for farmers whose crops were over 33% damaged.
- State has notified 29 flood-hit villages in Moga under the "Jihda Khet Usdi Ret" scheme, allowing farmers to remove or de-silt sand deposits from their fields without permits. The process will be monitored to ensure scientific removal and prevent illegal extraction.

Rajasthan

- The Rajasthan government has requested the return of IAS officers Siddharth Mahajan and Rohit Kumar from central deputation, with a bureaucratic reshuffle in the Chief Minister's Office expected.

Tamil Nadu

- TN CM MK Stalin announces a Rs 100-crore co-creation fund for startups, to be managed by StartupTN, aiming to boost venture capital and support local entrepreneurial growth.
- Chennai Metro Rail and HUDCO sign a Rs 53-lakh DPR contract to beautify key urban spaces, including Broken Bridge, aiming to create leisure, tourism, and multifunctional civic hubs.

Telangana

- Telangana Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state will not permit Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram-Banakacherla project, reaffirming commitment to protect Telangana's water rights and dismissing BRS leader Harish Rao's allegations as false.
- The Centre has lauded Telangana's T-Fiber model as a "role model for other states," with Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia urging the state to help replicate its rural broadband success nationwide and expand digital inclusion through additional pilot villages.

Uttar Pradesh

- A Saudi delegation from the Expertise Group met UP minister Nand Gopal Gupta to explore investments and proposed setting up a Global Capability Centre in Noida, expected to employ 500–1,000 professionals, leveraging the state's GCC Policy 2024.
- Uttar Pradesh achieves 800 MW rooftop solar capacity with 2.39 lakh installations and aims to reach 1,000 MW by year-end, focusing on rooftop systems to overcome land scarcity and lead India's solar adoption under NEDA.
- Uttar Pradesh's GST collections dipped slightly to ₹5,610.55 crore in September 2025, but overall revenue rose to ₹15,237.44 crore, aided by higher excise, stamps, and transport collections.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- CM Dr. Mohan Yadav will provide a ₹200 crore subsidy to MSME units and attend the groundbreaking ceremony for three new industrial areas at a conference in Hotel Taj, Bhopal on October 13th, Monday.

Mumbai

- Mumbai's 13th-century Mahim Fort will be restored and beautified, opening three acres of prime western seashore land to the public. The project will be executed by BMC and the state archaeology department, following encroachment removal.
- State orders renaming all villages, localities, roads, and colonies with caste-based names after personalities reflecting democratic values. The move aims to promote social harmony and progressive values across the state.
- The Walking Project proposes pedestrian bridges from Chunabhatti and Sion stations over the Mithi River to BKC, reducing walking distance to 800m–1.2km. The plan aims to ease commuter woes from Kurla until Metro 2B becomes operational.

Pune

- Deputy CM Ajit Pawar has directed the Pune civic chief to fast-track the long-pending Shivane–Nanded City bridge, aiming to ease traffic for IT commuters. He also reviewed Katraj Chowk congestion, urging swift road-widening and flyover work.
- PMC plans to purchase a robot worth ₹1.5cr to detect illegal water connections, after a rented robot identified 40 unauthorised taps in Vadgaon Sheri. The move aims to curb water wastage and revenue loss in old city areas and recently merged villages.
- Maha-Metro has awarded Cemindia Projects the contract for the 5.5km Swargate–Katraj underground metro extension, with construction expected to start by the end of the year. The project will ease congestion on Satara Road and improve north–south connectivity.

Punjab

- Punjab will launch a unified citizen portal offering 848 services, accessible via web, mobile app, Sewa Kendras, and WhatsApp. Key features include auto-fetching of documents to simplify service delivery and improve efficiency.
- Punjab will launch the "Business Bibas" programme on October 15 at Punjab Agricultural University to mentor women farmers into agripreneurs. The initiative aims to empower women with entrepreneurial skills, market orientation, and financial independence.

Rajasthan

- Home Minister Amit Shah will visit Jaipur on Monday October 13th to inaugurate a six-day exhibition at JECC marking the first anniversary of new criminal laws, while also launching projects worth ₹8,000 crore and distributing 150 units of free electricity.

Tamil Nadu

- The Madurai forest department is drafting a proposal to seek Ramsar recognition for the Samanatham tank, a key habitat for migratory waterbirds, aiming to boost conservation and address pollution and green cover loss.
- CM Stalin to launch a Rs 73-lakh project at Puliyancholai, Tiruchy, enhancing tourist facilities with lighting, toilets, walkways, children's park upgrades, and landscaping to boost eco-friendly tourism.

Telangana

- Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said the government is ensuring Hyderabad's integrated development with over Rs 25,000 crore invested in water, sewerage, and major infrastructure projects including elevated corridors and road expansions.
- Telangana is exploring German solar technologies to strengthen its power sector and support farmers, with Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka directing officials to study proposals for integrating solar power into agricultural and Gruha Jyothi schemes.

Uttar Pradesh

- CM Yogi Adityanath has set December 15, 2025, as the deadline to ensure tap water supply to every household in Vindhya and Bundelkhand under the Har Ghar Nal Se Jal mission, stressing strict adherence to quality and timelines.
- The National Statistical Commission will visit Uttar Pradesh on October 14 after the state urged a revision in the GSDP methodology, arguing that excluding the unorganised sector understates its economic growth and current output of about ₹32 lakh crore.
- UP government prepares to fast-track privatisation of power distribution in 42 districts under Agra and Varanasi discoms, with UPPCL set to soon submit pending replies to the power regulator to move the process forward.



GLOBAL UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Africa

- King Mohammed VI of Morocco urged speedy reforms to create jobs, improve public services, and reduce regional inequalities, focusing on mountain and oasis regions, following recent youth-led protests.
- The IMF has approved Ghana's fifth loan programme review, unlocking \$385 million and raising total disbursements above \$2.8 billion. Strong services and agriculture boosted 2025 growth, with 2026 projected at 4.8% and inflation within target.

America

- At least 44 people have died in Mexico due to flooding and landslides caused by tropical storms Priscilla and Raymond, affecting five states. The government is coordinating emergency response and evacuations across 139 towns.
- The U.N. Security Council expressed concern over rising tensions between the U.S. and Venezuela, with Russia condemning U.S. strikes on alleged drug boats as violations of international law. Several countries called for dialogue and de-escalation to resolve the situation peacefully.

Asia Pacific

- Myanmar's junta has invited ASEAN member states to send observers for its year-end elections, a request set to be discussed at the bloc's October summit, despite critics and Western nations viewing the polls as an attempt to legitimize military rule.
- North Korea and Vietnam signed cooperation agreements across defence, foreign, and health sectors, with Vietnam's Communist Party chief To Lam visiting Pyongyang for the first time in nearly 20 years to attend North Korea's Workers' Party 80th anniversary.

China

- Philippines and China blamed each other for a maritime clash near disputed South China Sea islands, with Manila condemning Chinese water cannon use and ramming of a Filipino vessel near Thitu Island, while Beijing accused Philippine ships of illegally entering its waters.
- Shares of rare earths miners jumped after China tightened export controls on critical metals, with firms like Critical Metals and Ramaco Resources rising up to 18%. The move underscores U.S. efforts to secure independent supply chains in defense and tech industries.

Europe

- Ukraine's President Zelenskyy spoke again with U.S. President Trump on strengthening air defence, long-range capabilities, and the energy sector, while Russia warned that potential Tomahawk missile supplies could escalate the conflict.
- France's President announced Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu's new cabinet, mostly retaining previous ministers despite promises of renewal. The government faces potential no-confidence motions from left- and right-wing parties amid urgent budget talks.

Middle East

- Saudia operated its first direct passenger flight from Riyadh to Moscow on Friday, 10th October, marking closer ties between the two oil producers. The airline plans three weekly return flights, boosting travel for tourists, businesspeople, and officials.

Pakistan

- Afghanistan's Taliban government accused Pakistan of airstrikes in Kabul and Paktika, warning of "consequences," while Islamabad cited action against militants, including targeting TTP leader Noor Wali Mehsud. Both sides blamed each other amid escalating border tensions.

United Kingdom

- Britain pledges \$27 million for water, sanitation, and hygiene services in Gaza, delivered through UNICEF, WFP, and the Norwegian Refugee Council. The aid coincides with PM Starmer attending a summit on ending the conflict and rebuilding Gaza.

United States

- The U.S. government awarded \$4.5 billion in contracts to add 230 miles to the Smart Wall along the southwest border, including barriers, technology, and patrol infrastructure. DHS emphasized the expansion will enhance border security, with waivers issued to expedite constructions.
- President Trump and Finnish PM Stubb signed a deal for the U.S. to acquire 11 Arctic icebreaker ships, with four built in Finland and up to seven in the U.S., boosting Arctic security. Both leaders emphasized strategic cooperation while downplaying immediate Russian threats.

Upcoming News/Events

Africa

- Madagascar faces a possible coup as elite CAPSAT troops and a paramilitary gendarmerie unit back ongoing protests against President Andry Rajoelina, whose whereabouts remain unknown, while demonstrations that began on September 25 escalate into the most serious challenge to his rule.
- The EU has pledged €11.5 billion (\$13.3 billion) to South Africa for clean energy, infrastructure, and pharmaceuticals, aiming to boost growth and employment. This includes renewable power, grid upgrades, green hydrogen, and vaccine production.

America

- Haiti's food insecurity is worsening, with nearly 6 million people projected to face critical hunger by mid-2026 amid economic collapse and gang violence. Currently, over half the population is food insecure, highlighting the urgent need for long-term aid and structural solutions.
- Canada will likely maintain sector-specific deals with the U.S. on steel, aluminum, and autos despite a potential USMCA review, says PM Mark Carney, noting ongoing tariffs but tariff-free access for most exports.

Asia Pacific

- India will reopen its embassy in Kabul, upgrading ties with Afghanistan's Taliban, while the Taliban will also send diplomats to New Delhi, marking a step toward normalising relations despite New Delhi not formally recognising the government.
- Australia is considering mandated floor prices for critical minerals and funding new rare earth projects in a proposed A\$1.2 billion strategic reserve, aiming to finalize the deal with the U.S. ahead of Prime Minister Albanese's October 20 meeting with President Trump.

China

- China expressed its commitment to deepening strategic cooperation with North Korea, describing the two countries as "good neighbours, good friends," with Xi Jinping and Kim Jong Un preparing to strengthen bilateral relations and coordinate on regional and international issues.
- Switzerland aims to finalize an updated free trade agreement with China in early 2026, following constructive talks between Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, to modernize the 2014 deal and address recent U.S. tariffs on Swiss goods.

Europe

- The EU has started rolling out its digital Entry/Exit System, registering non-EU nationals' data to replace passport stamping. The system aims to enhance border security, detect overstayers, and prevent illegal migration.
- Denmark will invest \$4.26 billion to boost Arctic defence, including 16 new F-35 jets, ships, drones, and a military HQ in Greenland. The move strengthens security amid U.S. criticism over the island's limited military presence.

Middle East

- U.S. will deploy 200 troops to assist and oversee the Israel-Hamas agreement, ensuring implementation and monitoring on the ground. This move underscores Washington's active role in supporting the fragile ceasefire.

Pakistan

- Overnight border clashes between Pakistan and Afghanistan are leaving dozens dead, with Pakistan reporting 23 soldiers killed and the Taliban nine, as Pakistani airstrikes trigger ongoing retaliatory attacks. Both sides are claiming higher enemy casualties and are planning to cross the border.

United Kingdom

- UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer will attend the Sharm El Sheikh Peace Summit in Egypt to support a U.S.-brokered agreement aimed at ending the Gaza conflict. He will emphasize international coordination, a ceasefire, and humanitarian aid delivery.
- Finance Minister Rachel Reeves plans to increase the fiscal buffer in next month's budget to better protect government finances amid rising borrowing costs. This may require additional tax hikes or spending cuts to strengthen the budget against future shocks.

United States

- The U.S. shutdown debate between Democrats and Trump's Republicans sidesteps key fiscal challenges, including rising debt and Social Security and Medicare stability. Experts warn political messaging distracts from urgent deficit-reduction needs.

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