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Our Head Office : 110/1A & 110/2B, Ansec House, Tank Road, Yerwada, Pune, Maharashtra - 411006

INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- Vijayawada's Dasara Carnival set a Guinness World Record for the largest drum ensemble, featuring over 3,000 artistes. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu received the certificate and pledged to make the vibrant celebration an annual tradition.
- CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launches a ride-booking app and the 'Auto Drivers Sevalo' scheme in Vijayawada, crediting ₹436 crore to 2.9 lakh beneficiaries while promising road repairs, EV incentives, and easier challan processes.

Delhi

- CM Rekha Gupta reviews Yamuna ghats ahead of Chhath Puja, announcing new ghats from Palla to Okhla to ensure cleaner, safer, and more accessible celebrations, with departments directed to prioritise sanitation, lighting, and security for devotees.
- CM Rekha Gupta announces annual biometric verification of all welfare beneficiaries to prevent fraud and ensure transparency, with Aadhaar-linked digital life certificates and home visits for those unable to reach verification centres.
- The PWD has launched a ₹50.7 crore project to repair major roads and flyovers in northeast Delhi, including Loni Road and Wazirabad routes, with resurfacing, crash barriers, and markings to be completed within five months.

Goa

- Goa government has removed the requirement of a 'Samaj' certificate for caste certificate applications, effective immediately, simplifying the process previously requiring OBC community-issued documents.
- Goa Forward Party leader Vijai Sardesai launched 'Fatorda Dialogues' to promote direct citizen participation, enabling residents to share concerns and contribute to local governance decisions.

Gujarat

- Jagdish Vishwakarma assumed charge as Gujarat BJP president, becoming the first leader from Ahmedabad to hold the post. His appointment balanced OBC representation and party strategy ahead of the 2026 elections.
- AMC approved cement-concrete road contracts worth crores above original estimates, raising project costs significantly across multiple wards. Despite past issues with poor-quality roads, the administration continued awarding higher-cost contracts.

Haryana

- Haryana has paid Rs 543.66 crore as MSP to 63,356 farmers during the 2025-26 kharif season, procuring a total of 7.2 lakh MT of paddy from state mandis. Farmers are advised to bring only dried and cleaned produce meeting government moisture standards.
- Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan directed officials to ensure timely paddy procurement and expedite mandi operations, addressing farmers' grievances and increasing rice millers to ease the peak-season rush.

Himachal Pradesh

- Govt. launched a stargazing initiative at Kaza to promote astro-tourism and border tourism in Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti, boosting the local economy. The program leverages pristine night skies and local homestays to attract tourists and create employment.
- CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu flagged off 14 fire engines procured for Rs 6.70 crore, with Rs 23 crore more allocated for additional vehicles, and announced the upcoming recruitment of 700 Home Guards.

Karnataka

- CM Siddaramaiah inaugurated the BIMS Belagavi Super Speciality Hospital and laid foundations for key development projects, aiming to expand healthcare access across Karnataka. He assured phased recruitment of staff and compensation for farmers affected.
- The Karnataka Socio-Economic Survey began in Bengaluru, with each enumerator assigned 300 homes to cover in 15 days. Trained surveyors collected data under KAS and revenue officer supervision, with strict action for absences.

Andhra Pradesh

- CM N. Chandrababu Naidu directed completion of the Polavaram Project by 2027, with the left main canal ready by January 2026 and main dam works starting November, while ensuring timely land acquisition, rehabilitation, and monitoring systems integration.
- VMRDA's ₹203-crore coastal protection project in Visakhapatnam nears final clearance, aiming to curb erosion between Coastal Battery and Bheemunipatnam through retaining walls, dune enhancement, and hybrid mitigation measures backed by the NCCR.

Delhi

- MCD plans to redevelop six ageing staff housing properties across Delhi, including Minto Road and Model Town, through NBCC to generate ₹15,000 crore by building residential-cum-commercial complexes and addressing its ongoing financial crisis.
- The Delhi government plans a new substation and battery backup in Civil Lines to ensure uninterrupted VVIP power supply for Raj Niwas, the CM's residence, and the Vidhan Sabha, reducing reliance on the 400 kV Mandola source.
- Delhi's PWD proposes ₹2,000 crore twin towers at ITO to serve as a unified secretariat for all government offices, featuring green design, modern infrastructure, and interlinked high-rises pending cabinet approval.

Goa

- Mormugao Municipal Council has floated a Rs 1.29 lakh tender for a drone-based survey and volumetric analysis of the 12,000 sq m Sada waste dump, with surveys to be completed in two 15-day phases.
- The Goa State Pollution Control Board rejected Goan Marine Impex's fish meal project in Cuncolim due to the absence of a No Objection Certificate from the Cuncolim Municipal Council, leaving the project's future uncertain amid local opposition.

Gujarat

- President Droupadi Murmu visited Gir National Park on October 10-11, with the safari opening a week early to welcome her. The visit marked the fourth presidential tour, highlighting Gir's ecological and heritage significance.
- AUDA planned seven new TP schemes covering 1,000 hectares to enhance Ahmedabad's infrastructure ahead of the Commonwealth and Olympic Games. The schemes aimed to develop urban facilities and allocate land for public projects.

Haryana

- CM Nayab Singh Saini directed officials to complete all development works in gram panchayats on time, reviewing progress every 15 days and ensuring benefits of welfare schemes reach all eligible residents.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a rally in Sonapat on October 17 to mark BJP Haryana government's first anniversary, inaugurating development projects worth several crores.

Himachal Pradesh

- CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu directed administrative secretaries to set clear targets, complete pending tasks, and promote electric vehicles with supporting infrastructure, while prioritizing health, education, rural economy, and natural farming initiatives.
- Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri urged the Centre to release Rs 1,200 crore pending under the Jal Jeevan Mission, citing Rs 4,150 crore losses over three years from rain-related damages to water supply schemes.

Karnataka

- Karnataka is set for a major cabinet reshuffle post-Bihar polls, with over half the ministers likely to be replaced to energise the administration. The CM and DCM have submitted performance reports to the Congress high command for final approval.
- CM Siddaramaiah announced extra funds for flood-affected farmers in North Karnataka, adding Rs 8,500 per hectare to NDRF compensation. He reported 117 villages in distress, opened 80 care centers, and noted crop losses across 10 lakh hectares.



INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- Maihar celebrated its second district formation anniversary with the groundbreaking of a ₹54 crore Collectorate complex and 39 Revenue Department residences, marked by Bhoomi Pujan and cultural festivities on Pride Day.

Mumbai

- The government reclassified 20,318.82 sq m of salt pan land in Wadala from natural area to residential zone for a civil servants' gymkhana and EVM warehouses. The land, previously vacant and partially used by Mumbai Metro, was cleared for construction.
- Maharashtra remained largely unaffected by Cyclone Shakti, with IMD confirming no threat to the coast and only light to moderate rain expected. The cyclone moved west-southwest into the Arabian Sea, posing minimal impact on the state.
- Maharashtra launched an e-bond system for importers and exporters, replacing paper bonds to streamline customs, curb fraud, and boost revenue. Previously, traders registered in Gujarat and Karnataka, causing revenue loss for the state.

Pune

- PMC announced the final ward structure after accepting 1,329 objections and partially approving 69, incorporating valid suggestions. Out of 5,922 objections, 4,524 were rejected, finalizing the wards for upcoming elections.
- Maharashtra schools adopted uniform assessment templates to standardise evaluations and reduce bias under NEP 2020. Expert teachers prepared templates, and districts mandated parental engagement and teacher training for consistent academic monitoring.
- MSRTC launched the 'Aapli ST' app on Dussehra, enabling passengers to track buses in real time and check estimated arrivals. The app covers over 12,000 buses and one lakh routes, improving travel convenience across Maharashtra.

Punjab

- Punjab BJP vice-president Subhash Sharma urged party president JP Nadda to expand the NFL plant at Nangal, citing its importance for regional industrial revival and local job creation. The expansion is expected to boost fertiliser production, support "Atmanirbhar Bharat," and reduce import dependence.
- Punjab has prepared a Rs 1,000-crore plan to channelise the Swan River, aiming to prevent floods and boost tourism in the region. The proposal, which may include a dam in Ropar, will soon be submitted to the Union Water Resources Ministry for approval.

Rajasthan

- In Jaipur's Bundi fort, the SDM ordered the demolition of balconies of a 250-year-old heritage building instead of preserving it, and officials arrived the next day to carry out the directive under the Collector's supervision.

Tamil Nadu

- Heavy rains in Krishnagiri have caused floods along the South Pennai River, affecting low-lying areas and cutting off the road from Thippalam to Kumudepalli. Over 250 Adi Dravidar families faced waterlogging, and more than 80 homes lost power.
- MSME stakeholders in Madurai urged government action to address land, labour, and market challenges. Despite assurances from state ministers, they sought urgent reforms in land allocation, skill training, and industrial infrastructure.

Telangana

- TGSRTC announced a fare hike in Hyderabad to fund electric bus infrastructure, adding Rs 5–10 across city services. The move supports plans to introduce 2,800 e-buses by 2027, replacing diesel buses within the ORR limits.
- MEIL began constructing the new Osmania General Hospital complex at Goshamahall, spread over 26 acres with a 32 lakh sq ft built-up area. The Rs 2,000-bed facility, featuring advanced medical infrastructure, is set for completion in 30 months.

Uttar Pradesh

- The 'Samarth Uttar Pradesh Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047' campaign received over 21 lakh public suggestions, with most inputs from education, agriculture, and development sectors. Sambhal, Maharajganj, and Jaunpur led in participation, while Firozabad and Etawah recorded the least.
- Uttar Pradesh is experiencing summer-like heat in October, pushing electricity demand to around 30,000 MW, driven by agriculture and tube well usage, with UPPCL ensuring uninterrupted supply.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- The Madhya Pradesh Government urges the Supreme Court to view the 50% reservation cap as flexible while defending its law raising OBC quota from 14% to 27%, breaching the ceiling set by the 1992 Mandal Commission judgment.

Mumbai

- OBC leaders remained firm on holding a grand march in Nagpur on October 10 after talks with CM Fadnavis failed over Maratha reservations. They demanded withdrawal of the September 2 GR and a white paper on caste certificates issued since 2014.
- BMC sought private companies to maintain the 18.6 km Tansa cycling track after spending over ₹500 crore, hoping to save ₹4.5 crore annually. The maintenance call via EOIs includes upkeep, horticulture, lighting, and gym equipment.
- CM Fadnavis assured that Navi Mumbai airport would be named after D B Patil, pending central approval, ahead of its October 8 inauguration. Local leaders suspended a planned protest following the announcement.

Pune

- Land measurement for Purandar Airport progressed with 802 acres surveyed so far, following farmers' consent submissions. The government will next finalise compensation and start direct land acquisition for the 3,000-acre project.
- PMC has trained over 300 ASHA workers and distributed slide kits to boost malaria surveillance, enabling faster detection and treatment in the city. Officials cite urbanisation, construction, and migration as factors increasing mosquito breeding and disease risk.
- PMC has revised underground cable-laying charges, fixing MSEDCL's rate at ₹100 per metre while private firms continue to pay ₹12,192 per metre. Government agencies retain a 50% discount, with restoration of roads mandatory after work.

Punjab

- Fazilka has been selected as Punjab's sole district under the Pradhan Mantri Dhan Dhanya Yojana, part of the Centre's 100 aspirational agricultural districts initiative. The scheme aims to boost productivity, irrigation, and provide financial support to farmers, benefiting around 1.7 crore cultivators.
- Punjab government is investing Rs 67 crore to build three high-level bridges in Ropar's Bela region, improving connectivity and preventing seasonal isolation. The projects will link villages cut off during monsoons, ensuring easier access and movement.

Rajasthan

- Five specially-abled children from Kota, including three boys and two girls, have been selected for the upcoming Special Olympics Bharat in November, with their mothers actively supporting and training them to become sportspersons.

Tamil Nadu

- The ₹3,649-crore Pollachi-Dindigul four-lane highway is 95% complete and expected to open by year-end, subject to monsoon conditions. Once ready, it will ease regional traffic and reduce travel time between Coimbatore, Pollachi, and Dindigul.
- CM MK Stalin is set to inaugurate Tamil Nadu's longest 10.1 km Avinashi Road flyover on October 9, built at ₹1,791.22 crore to ease congestion in Coimbatore. The project, featuring advanced safety measures, was nearly complete except one ramp delayed by a legal issue.

Telangana

- The Supreme Court is set to hear petitions on Monday Oct 6th, challenging Telangana's GO 9, which raised BC reservations in local body elections to 42%. The case, filed by B Madhava Reddy and Vanga Gopal Reddy, is also pending before the High Court.
- Telangana Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar announced plans to empower women through self-employment and skill development. He distributed 2,500 sewing machines and promised new training and business assistance centres across constituencies.

Uttar Pradesh

- An MoU was signed at Raj Bhavan, Lucknow, in the presence of Governor Anandiben Patel to set up a high-tech Space Science Centre at the Upper Primary School on the premises. The project, funded with around Rs 12.5 lakh from HDFC Bank's CSR fund, is scheduled for inauguration on January 26.
- Prayagraj Municipal Corporation will shift illegal dairies to new cattle colonies on the city outskirts, housing 1,000–1,500 cattle and 10 authorized dairies, as per the PDA Master Plan 2031. This move aims to improve public cleanliness, regulate livestock farming, and prevent cattle from roaming streets.