



ANSEC - HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES LTD.

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INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Andhra Pradesh

- AP government has signed an MoU with healthtech firm Redwing to deliver medicines, blood units and diagnostic samples to PHCs and CHCs in tribal areas of Alluri Sitarama Raju district using drones, initially on a free proof-of-concept basis.
- The government has sanctioned ₹90.50 crore for scholarships for OBC, EBC and DNT students under the PM YASASVI scheme for the 2025-26 academic year, BC Welfare Minister S Savitha said.

Delhi

- The Delhi government intensifies GRAP enforcement, impounding buses and penalising over 2,500 vehicles for PUC and pollution violations, as authorities tighten checks to curb worsening air quality.
- The Public Works Department has begun ₹4 crore repair works on the Pragati Maidan tunnel, focusing on waterproofing, drainage and structural fixes to prevent water seepage during the monsoon.
- The PWD orders visibility measures such as solar blinkers and early streetlight operations amid persistent fog, citing accident risks on major roads, as India Meteorological Department forecasts continued fog.

Goa

- The Corporation of the City of Panjim relocates 40 beggars to rehabilitation centres during a cleanliness drive, while an NGO rescues four street children for shelter and education, says Mayor Rohit Monserrate.
- · CM Pramod Sawant says three proposals under the PLI scheme were reviewed at an IPB meeting, assuring incentives for investments above ₹100 crore to boost jobs and investment in the state.

Gujarat

- Gujarat is declared a 'Tiger State' by the National Tiger Conservation Authority after 33 years, marking the return of tigers to the state; it is now India's only state where lions, leopards and tigers coexist in the wild.
- The Kankaria Carnival 2025 is currently underway at Kankaria Lake, featuring drone shows, a pets ramp walk and Dubai-style pyrotechnics. The seven-day event is expected to draw 80,000 to one lakh visitors, with enhanced crowd-management measures in place.

Haryana

- Seventeen-year-old para athlete Jyoti from Sirsa receives the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for her achievements in para-athletics, with the award presented by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Energy Minister Anil Vij announces a ₹38-crore upgrade of Ambala Cantonment's power distribution system under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme, including new feeders, transformers and cable replacement to ensure reliable supply within a year.

Himachal Pradesh

- In HP, 2025 is marked by devastating monsoon calamities, mounting debt and rebuilding pressures, with 240 deaths and ₹5,000 crore losses, prompting the government to declare the entire state disaster-affected under the National Disaster Management Act.
- CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu lays foundation stones and inaugurates ₹110 crore worth of projects in Bilaspur, including a major sewerage scheme, police staff quarters and a CCTV surveillance centre to boost civic infrastructure and security.

Karnataka

- Karnataka ranks third in South India and 12th nationally for out-of-school children, with 14,087 children (6,462 adolescent girls) recorded in 2025-26, according to data shared by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- The Legislative Assembly passes resolutions aimed at boosting development in North Karnataka and supporting farmers, urging the Centre's cooperation. The resolutions are moved by Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil and adopted unanimously.

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- The government has approved alternative employment for medically unfit APSRTC staff across 21 categories, extending the benefit beyond drivers to include conductors and other employees unfit since January 1, 2020, as per a GO issued on Friday, December 26th.
- Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu announced plans to develop a memorial park for former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Amaravati, praising his legacy of good governance and infrastructure-led national development.

Delhi

- After ending a 57-year land dispute, National Buildings Construction Corporation plans a mixed-use project on 21.23 acres in Ghitorni, South Delhi, with potential revenue of ₹8,500 crore under MPD 2021.
- The government plans to expand districts from 11 to 13 to align revenue, civic and police jurisdictions, aiming to reduce confusion and improve delivery of services like property registration, road repairs and drainage maintenance.
- The Delhi government plans to revive shared cab services, in talks with aggregators, to cut traffic congestion and air pollution, with a push for EV taxis and more women drivers, said CM Rekha Gupta.

Goa

- CM Pramod Sawant says the Maje Ghar housing scheme will achieve 100% implementation by 2027, urging officials to identify genuine beneficiaries and fast-track approvals to ensure permanent housing for all eligible families.
- The Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority orders mapping and verification of Curlies after locals allege it remained active despite sealing, raising concerns over compliance with Supreme Court of India and National Green Tribunal orders.

- Amdavad Municipal Corporation plans a ₹250-crore phased rebuild of Subhash Bridge, adding parallel spans and expanding it to eight lanes to ease congestion on a key east-west
- Sports facilities in Ahmedabad face scrutiny ahead of the Commonwealth Games in 2030, with key complexes suffering poor maintenance despite fresh infrastructure tenders being approved.

Haryana

- CM Nayab Singh Saini says efforts are underway to secure UNESCO World Heritage status for Rakhigarhi, with ₹500 crore earmarked to develop it as a global archaeological and tourism landmark.
- Haryana Cooperation and Tourism Minister Arvind Sharma announces a state-level expert panel to review cooperative sugar mills and recommend measures to improve profitability and address irregularities.

Himachal Pradesh

- CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu says ₹20 crore has been released to develop a de-addiction and rehabilitation centre in Sirmour, speaking at an anti-chitta walkathon in Bilaspur to strengthen the state's anti-drug campaign.
- The CM has announced 'Himachal Haat' in Shimla, a ₹2-crore marketplace to sell products made by women self-help groups under the Him Ira brand, boosting rural livelihoods and self-reliance.

Karnataka

- Karnataka Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda says the state will stick to the 3% fiscal deficit cap under the FRBM Act, though emergencies may warrant deviation, as LoP R Ashoka raises concerns over the deficit nearing the limit.
- DyCM D K Shivakumar appeals to the Centre to raise the state's share to 40–45 tmcft in the Godavari-Cauvery river-linking project, saying the current 15.90 tmcft allocation in the first phase is inadequate.





INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- Preparations for the Hindu Convention are underway across Chhatarpur, with events planned in 23 blocks, 270 mandals and 88 settlements after a door-to-door drive by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.
- CM Mohan Yadav announces that the Satna ISBT will be named after former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, along with plans for Bargi Canal water supply and runway expansion to 1,800 metres in Satna.

Mumbai

- An online petition opposing the Versova–Dahisar coastal road in Mumbai gains
 momentum, with activists seeking a halt to the project, review of clearances and protection
 of over 45,000 mangroves, citing environmental risks.
- The Maharashtra government cuts rent for long-term leased housing society plots in Mumbai, revising valuation so 25% land value is the state's share, providing relief to over 3,000 societies.
- The Union Ministry of Education flags poor participation from Maharashtra in PM Pariksha Pe Charcha, with registrations at 2.75 lakh against a target of 65 lakh, prompting directions to step up enrolment efforts.

Pune

- Ahead of Maharashtra's civic polls, parties are putting ideology aside for seat arithmetic, with shifting alliances across cities. This includes a possible Nationalist Congress Party– Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) tie-up in Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad.
- The Pune RTO sees longer waiting periods for permanent driving licence tests after daily slots were nearly halved under stricter testing norms. The move follows a pilot rollout of standardised, closely monitored tests across Pune.
- The Pune Municipal Corporation allows political campaigns at over 200 designated locations across Pune, mainly in new-voter areas, with strict monitoring to prevent traffic disruption and violations.

Punjab

- Punjab and Haryana reel under intense cold and dense fog, with temperatures dipping below 5°C in several areas. Chandigarh records a minimum of 6.9°C, while Amritsar logs 5.1°C, slightly above normal.
- The Centre clears a sports technology extension centre in Jalandhar, with approval from the Union Ministry to boost the sports goods sector. Punjab Industries Minister Sanjeev Arora says the facility will support technology upgradation and exports.

Rajasthan

 Emergency 108 and 104 ambulance services ceased operations across Rajasthan from midnight Sunday 28th December, as employees went on strike over reduced wages and extended 12-hour shifts under the new tender.

Tamil Nadu

- Thousands of secondary grade teachers stage a statewide protest over pay parity, with police detaining around 2,000 protesters in Chennai. The agitation is led by the Secondary Grade Seniority Teachers Association, citing unfulfilled assurances on equal pay.
- MoS Nityanand Rai inaugurates three Smart City Mission projects in Puducherry, covering power upgrades, EWS housing, and sports infrastructure. The projects include 220 EWS tenements and a new mini stadium at Anna Thidal to boost urban amenities.

Telangana

- The Municipal Corporation of Karimnagar steps up bio-mining at its dumping yard, planning to process 1,200 MT waste daily under the Swachh Bharat Mission to curb pollution and long-pending garbage issues.
- From a local village, Jayachander Reddy Kandakatla develops HealthNeem, an AI platform simplifying medical reports in regional languages to bridge rural healthcare gaps. Launched five months ago, it has processed 1 million+ events and aided informed decision-making.

Uttar Pradesh

- In Uttar Pradesh, the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 'uncollectible' voter list drops by 7 lakh in 15 days as enumeration ends, ahead of draft rolls due December 31, says data from the Election Commission of India.
- UP Governor Anandiben Patel launches a pearl farming project at Raj Bhavan on Kisan Diwas, highlighting innovation-led farming as a way to boost farmers' income and livelihoods.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- CM Mohan Yadav will visit Burhanpur on January 4, where he will inaugurate and lay foundation stones for multiple projects, including a ₹16.5-crore critical care unit at the district hospital.
- Bhopal MLA Rameshwar Sharma says the Bhopal-Indore Road flyover will be completed
 within a year, with a new Phanda junction to ease traffic. He also inspects FOBs and
 announces expansion of the Rose Garden in Bairagarh.

Mumbai

- The Central Pollution Control Board directs the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to probe alleged dust and noise pollution from construction sites in Powai, citing possible violations of waste management norms.
- Western Railway will install 273 new ATVMs with thermal printers in Mumbai to address complaints of smudged tickets. The machines will be introduced in two phases, with the first batch ordered in early January.
- MMRDA may partially open Metro Lines 2B and 9 quietly before the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation polls, dropping plans for a political inauguration. The launch now hinges on clearance from the Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety.

Pune

- Pune Police announce traffic diversions on the Pune–Nagar Road from December 31 afternoon till midnight January 1 due to heavy footfall for the Bhima Koregaon anniversary. Curbs are aimed at managing crowds visiting the Vijay Stambh.
- The Pune International Film Festival 2026 (Jan 15–22) will screen nine Oscar-shortlisted films, including global festival hits like Sentimental Value and Sirat, offering audiences rare access to acclaimed international cinema.
- The National Highways Authority of India upgrades service roads on the Pune–Satara highway, widening nearly 40 km to three lanes, to divert local traffic and reduce congestion and accident risks in western Maharashtra.

Punjab

- CM Bhagwant Mann approves the launch of Mukh Mantri Sehat Bima Yojana from January 15, 2026, offering ₹10 lakh cashless treatment per family. The scheme aims to ensure universal healthcare coverage and financial protection for all residents of Punjab.
- Greater Mohali Area Development Authority acquires 716 acres from nine villages for the Eco City-3 project in New Chandigarh, clearing possession. Compensation is fixed at ₹4–6 crore per acre, with a land-pooling option offered to farmers.

Rajasthan

 An important coordination meeting is held between Jaipur Metro and Jaipur International Airport to fast-track Metro Phase-2, with consensus to connect all three airport terminals via the metro.

Tamil Nadu

- Puducherry Home Minister A Namassivayam urges the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to
 fast-track pending police modernisation proposals, seeking ₹202 lakh under ASUMP and
 approval for advanced equipment and manpower strengthening.
- Under a new procurement policy, Tiruchirappalli district's 130+ public libraries will receive books worth ₹1.39 crore by January-end, including 3,000 titles for the district central library, to strengthen reference and reader-focused collections.

Telangana

- The Union Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned ₹686 crore for Telangana tourism projects over the past decade under PRASHAD and Swadesh Darshan, boosting pilgrimage, heritage and eco-tourism infrastructure across the state.
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics launches digital early-warning tools using IoT and drones to combat the red palm weevil. The initiative aims to enable early detection and reduce chemical use in date palm farming.

Uttar Pradesh

- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India urges active monitoring of incomplete PMAY-G houses in Uttar Pradesh, flagging construction quality issues and lack of basic amenities despite a reported 98% completion.
- The government tells the House that MGNREGA wages will be paid within seven days and guaranteed workdays increased to 125, while wage rates remain fixed by the Centre, says Minister Vijay Lakshmi Gautam.







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GLOBAL UPDATE

Highlights of this week

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- U.S.-backed airstrikes approved by President Bola Tinubu hit two Islamic State-linked camps in Sokoto State, targeting foreign fighters infiltrating from the Sahel, in a rare joint operation between Nigeria and the United States.
- Uganda restricts imports of Starlink equipment ahead of national elections, fuelling fears of an
 internet blackout. The move comes as President Yoweri Museveni seeks to extend his decades-long
 rule.

America

Africa

- Argentine Congress approves the 2026 budget, the first under President Javier Milei, projecting 5% growth, 10.1% inflation and a 1.2% primary surplus. The \$102-billion plan follows years of austerity and marks the first Congress-passed budget since 2023.
- Venezuela's National Assembly passes a law allowing up to 20-year jail terms for promoting or financing piracy and blockades. The move comes amid increased pressure from the United States over Venezuelan oil shipments.

Asia Pacific

- Military officials from Thailand and Cambodia begin three-day border talks to revive a ceasefire after deadly clashes killed at least 86 people. The dialogue follows mediation efforts by ASEAN, Malaysia and the United States.
- New South Wales passes tough new gun and anti-terror laws after the Bondi Beach shooting, capping firearm licences, banning terror symbols and expanding police powers to curb protests. Premier Chris Minns says the measures aim to strengthen public safety despite opposition.

China

• China sanctions 10 individuals and 20 U.S. defence firms, including Boeing's St. Louis unit, over arms sales to Taiwan. The United States objects, saying the move follows its \$11.1bn Taiwan arms package and heightens bilateral tensions.

Europe

- The Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant emerges as a key sticking point in Russia–Ukraine peace talks, with Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelenskiy weighing possible U.S. involvement. The plant remains under Russian control amid competing proposals for its future operation.
- France passes an emergency rollover budget law to extend 2025 spending into January, allowing tax
 collection and debt issuance amid political deadlock. PM Sebastien Lecornu says it keeps public
 services running until a full 2026 budget is approved.

Middle Fast

- Israel becomes the first country to formally recognise Somaliland as an independent state, with PM
 Benjamin Netanyahu announcing cooperation under the Abraham Accords framework. Somalia
 strongly condemns the move, calling it a violation of its sovereignty.
- Libya's army chief of staff Mohammed Ali Ahmed AlHaddad dies in a plane crash near Ankara after departing Turkey's capital, with four others on board, authorities say. PM Abdulhamid Dbeibah calls it a major national and military loss.

Pakistan

Pakistan reaches a \$4-4.6 billion arms deal with the Libyan National Army, including possible JF-17
fighter jets, despite a UN arms embargo. The agreement follows talks between Pakistan army chief
Asim Munir and LNA leadership, officials say.

United Kingdom

• The United Kingdom said it remains firmly committed to protecting free speech, responding to United States visa bans on anti-disinformation campaigners. A government spokesperson stressed that freedom of expression is a core democratic value the UK will continue to uphold.

United States

- The United States signs \$2.3-billion global health MoUs with Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Botswana and Ethiopia under its America First Global Health Strategy. The deals stress self-reliance, with recipient nations co-investing over \$900 million alongside U.S. funding.
- A winter storm of snow and ice disrupted travel across the US Northeast, forcing states of emergency
 in New York and New Jersey and triggering thousands of flight delays and cancellations. Officials
 warned of treacherous roads even as the heaviest snowfall eased by Saturday morning.

Upcoming News/Events

Africa

- Central African Republic President Faustin-Archange Touadera seeks a third term in elections, campaigning on security gains backed by Russian and Rwandan forces, a move analysts say could deepen Russia's influence through access to key resources.
- The International Monetary Fund reaches a staff-level agreement with Egypt on the fifth and sixth loan reviews, potentially unlocking about \$2.5 billion in funding. Approval by the IMF executive board could also pave the way for an additional \$1.3 billion under another facility.

America

 Brazilian oil workers' union FUP plans to accept a counteroffer from Petrobras, moving to end a weeklong strike pending worker approval. Petrobras says adjusted terms address key demands and production remains unaffected.

Asia Pacific

- Myanmar will hold a third phase of general election voting on January 25 in 63 townships, according to state media. The multi-phase polls proceed amid an ongoing civil war, with earlier rounds set for December 28 and January 11.
- North Korean leader Kim Jong Un signals continued missile development over the next five years, calling weapons production vital for deterrence. State media says he ratifies plans to modernise munitions industries ahead of a key 2026 party congress.

China

- China issues draft rules to tighten oversight of human-like AI services, requiring safety warnings, addiction controls and stricter data protection. The move by the Cyberspace Administration of China aims to curb psychological risks and unethical AI use.
- China passes revisions to its Foreign Trade Law to strengthen trade-war tools, regulate strategic
 exports and advance digital and green trade reforms. The changes take effect March 1, 2026, as Beijing
 seeks greater global trade influence and resilience.

Europe

- Russia is likely stationing nuclear-capable hypersonic Oreshnik missiles at a former airbase in Belarus, according to satellite imagery analysis. The move could significantly expand Moscow's missile reach across Europe and heighten tensions with NATO.
- French President Emmanuel Macron confirms plans to build a new-generation aircraft carrier (PANG) to replace the Charles de Gaulle, strengthening France's maritime and nuclear deterrence. The €10.25-billion carrier is expected to be operational by 2038.

Middle East

- The Lebanon cabinet passes a draft "financial gap" law to tackle losses from its prolonged banking crisis, a key reform sought by the International Monetary Fund. PM Nawaf Salam calls it a step toward restoring trust, despite strong opposition from banks and depositors.
- Turkey says Russia has provided \$9 billion in new financing for the Akkuyu nuclear power plant being built by Rosatom, boosting foreign funding inflows. The project, Turkey's first nuclear facility, has faced delays and is now expected to be operational in 2026.

Pakistan

• Pakistan International Airlines is set to be run by a new owner from April, after an Arif Habib Corporation—led consortium wins a 75% stake with a ₹135 billion bid, injecting fresh capital into the airline.

United Kingdom

- Wes Streeting said he would do everything possible to prevent further NHS doctors' strikes after hospital doctors returned to work following a five-day walkout. He said talks with the British Medical Association would resume early next year, stressing he wants no industrial action in 2026.
- UK finance minister Rachel Reeves has asked the Office for Budget Responsibility to publish interim economic and public finance forecasts on March 3. The release will exclude any assessment of progress on fiscal targets and be followed by a statement to Parliament.

United States

• The White House will outline Donald Trump's proposed \$400 million East Wing ballroom at a federal commission hearing on January 8, amid court challenges by preservationists and criticism from Democrats over alleged abuse of power.

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