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INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Upcoming News/Events

Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh Health Minister Y. Satya Kumar Yadav ordered strict biomedical waste management in government hospitals and approved sewage treatment plants in 80 hospitals to improve sanitation and infection control.
- APCPDCL has crossed 50,000 rooftop solar connections under the PM Surya Ghar scheme, adding over 43,600 installations in the past year and raising total installed capacity to 180 MW through faster grid synchronisation and consumer outreach.

Delhi

- NDMC is carrying out a round-the-clock clean-up at Jantar Mantar, aiming to clear 60 metric tonnes of waste after the protest ended. Civic teams are also restoring roads, walls and other public infrastructure.
- Delhi has deployed two amphibious excavators to remove decades-old silt from the Ghazipur drain, aiming to restore its carrying capacity and strengthen flood management before the monsoon.
- Delhi has inaugurated a permanent pump house at the Metcalf House Regulator in Civil Lines to prevent chronic waterlogging during high Yamuna levels, strengthening the city's monsoon flood preparedness.

Goa

- Chief Minister Pramod Sawant defended police action against those displaying "Free Umar Khalid" placards during the NEET protest, saying protests cannot be used to promote messages the government considers anti-national.
- Goa's Grandmaster-elect Ethan Vaz finished third at the Serbia Open 2026, capping an unbeaten European tour and moving closer to becoming India's youngest Grandmaster after formal FIDE approval.

Gujarat

- Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) is continuing dewatering, sanitation and road restoration across flood-hit areas while removing 4,000 tonnes of sludge, and has distributed over 32,000 food and snack packets as relief efforts continue.
- A free medical camp in Ahmedabad assessed over 450 amputees and people with disabilities, with 327 receiving digital scans for custom 3D-printed prosthetics and 33 shortlisted for free corrective surgeries.

Haryana

- Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini criticised the Punjab government over alleged recruitment irregularities and paper leak issues, while paying tribute to Kargil Vijay Diwas heroes and highlighting Haryana's welfare initiatives during a visit to Phagwara.
- Haryana's School Education Department has released the tentative schedule for the 2026 Online Teacher Transfer Drive, with teachers required to verify MIS records from August 1-7 and the final verified list to be published by August 30.

Himachal Pradesh

- Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced a ₹8.5 lakh relief package for families whose homes were destroyed in the Boh cloudburst, along with compensation, rehabilitation support and government land for landless families.
- Persistent monsoon rains continue to disrupt life in Himachal Pradesh, with 135 roads blocked and weather alerts extended till August 1 as the IMD forecasts more heavy rainfall across parts of the state.

Karnataka

- Thirty-seven taluks in Karnataka's Bengaluru division are facing severe drought due to a prolonged rainfall deficit, with officials warning the situation could worsen if monsoon conditions do not improve despite rain forecast over the next 15 days.
- Government dues have delayed Union subsidy for Karnataka's smart meter programme, forcing consumers to continue paying higher installation charges, with over 2.5 lakh Bescom consumers already adopting the meters.

Andhra Pradesh

- The Centre and Andhra Pradesh are considering a relief package for tobacco farmers, including interest-free loans, financial incentives and price deficiency compensation. CM Chandrababu Naidu has also sought a long-term policy to protect growers from crises.
- Andhra Pradesh will roll out the AI-powered Sanjeevani healthcare programme statewide from August, providing every citizen with a Digital Health Profile and integrating AI, telemedicine, free diagnostics and predictive care into a single digital health platform.

Delhi

- Delhi Traffic Police has advised app-based mobility, food delivery and e-commerce platforms to regulate or suspend services in BNSS-restricted areas, including through geofencing, to support public order and safety.
- Delhi High Court has designated a special fast-track court to exclusively hear paper leak and public examination malpractice cases, with all pending cases under the 2024 Act to be transferred to it.
- DDA will build a dedicated irrigation network at Asita East with CPVC pipelines and hydrants to support monsoon plantations, improve sapling survival and reduce dependence on manual watering and tankers.

Goa

- Goa has commissioned a ₹5.88 crore Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed Water Metro, which aims to connect key hubs through river transport, easing road congestion and promoting sustainable mobility.
- Goa will submit its final private forest report to the National Green Tribunal before August 15, completing the long-pending identification process and helping protect over 15 crore sq. metres of notified forest land.

Gujarat

- Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel directed the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) to speed up waterlogging relief on a war footing after reviewing flood-hit areas, warning that negligence in drainage and restoration work will not be tolerated.
- Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) has made GIS mapping and documentary proof mandatory before clearing payments for infrastructure projects, with contractors warning the new rules could delay bill processing and project execution.

Haryana

- Haryana will develop a Metal and General Park at Manakpur in Yamunanagar to boost Jagadhri's metal industry, with over 900 industrial plots and a separate incentive package planned for the sector.
- Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said the government is working to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities through welfare schemes, urging youngsters to build skills and become job creators instead of job seekers.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh will fill around 4,000 vacant Jal Shakti Department posts this financial year and invest ₹2,000 crore in phases to upgrade drinking water quality and modernise water purification systems across the state.
- Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said the government will review the New Complex (Cluster) System after meeting protesting teachers and assured that FIRs and departmental inquiries against them over the issue would be withdrawn.

Karnataka

- Congress leaders, including Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, will meet the party high command in Delhi on Monday, July 27th to finalise the Karnataka cabinet expansion, with the swearing-in of around 20 new ministers likely on Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Vijay are expected to meet in Bengaluru on August 3 to discuss the Cauvery water dispute and other inter-state issues, marking the first chief minister-level talks on the issue in 14 years.

INDIA UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Madhya Pradesh

- The International Hindu Council has launched a door-to-door outreach campaign across the Malwa region from Guru Purnima to Vijayadashami, aiming to connect with 1 lakh families while expanding its organisation and social initiatives.

Mumbai

- Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' brief and unscheduled Delhi visit has fuelled speculation over a possible Union cabinet reshuffle, though his office said the trip was pre-planned and denied reports of a move to the Centre.
- Maharashtra has approved its first Bioplastics Policy 2026, targeting ₹25,000 crore in investments over five years to boost green manufacturing, generate jobs and reduce dependence on imported bioplastics.
- Maharashtra has introduced a five-star rating system for all government hospitals, with facilities to be evaluated twice a year on service quality, infrastructure, cleanliness and patient care to improve public healthcare standards.

Pune

- Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has deployed self-help group (SHG) women to assist Booth Level Officers in door-to-door voter verification across nine assembly constituencies to speed up the ongoing electoral roll revision.
- PCMC has issued a show-cause notice to a fire officer over alleged lapses in granting a Fire NOC for the Moshi garbage depot building, with disciplinary action being considered following the fatal collapse that killed nine people.
- PMC has approved a ₹6.83 crore contract to scientifically process 300 MT of dry waste daily, strengthening the city's waste management system through collection, transport and conversion of non-biodegradable waste into refuse-derived fuel.

Punjab

- Punjab has achieved over 97% voter coverage under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, with 24 Assembly constituencies completing the exercise and the state nearing its voter verification target before the deadline.
- The PSPCL technical staff strike will continue after employee unions rejected the Punjab government's verbal assurances, with the ongoing agitation disrupting power restoration across parts of the state.

Rajasthan

- CM Bhajan Lal Sharma flagged off 144 new Blue Line Express buses to strengthen public transport and improve statewide connectivity. He also said the corporation has become profitable for the first time, enabling timely salaries and better passenger services.

Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu opposition leaders M.K. Stalin and Edappadi K. Palaniswami have urged Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay to reconsider talks with Karnataka on the Cauvery dispute, arguing that negotiations could weaken Tamil Nadu's legally secured water rights.
- The Centre has rejected Tamil Nadu's revised Coimbatore and Madurai Metro proposals, citing concerns over ridership, travel-time benefits, population criteria and last-mile connectivity, while suggesting bus rapid transit as a more viable alternative.

Telangana

- Telangana has released ₹740 crore to strengthen rural healthcare, funding the construction of 1,569 health sub-centres and introducing free village-level diagnostic services to improve access to medical care.
- Telangana has been sanctioned 33 Integrated Public Health Laboratories and 421 AYUSH centres under central health schemes to strengthen diagnostic capacity, disease surveillance and primary healthcare services across the state.

Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh has reconstituted the SIT probing the alleged Ram Temple donation theft, appointing an IPS officer to lead the investigation in compliance with the Supreme Court's directions.
- Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed officials to ensure foolproof arrangements for the Kanwar Yatra, focusing on law and order, traffic management, healthcare, cleanliness and public amenities for devotees.

Upcoming News/Events

Madhya Pradesh

- A Martyrs' Park with statues of 15 brave soldiers will be built in Raisen, announced on Kargil Vijay Diwas. The project aims to honour the martyrs' sacrifices and inspire future generations with their legacy.

Mumbai

- High Court has directed the BMC to initiate criminal cases against people littering on streets and public places, while ordering stricter enforcement of waste management laws to curb pollution and improve civic cleanliness.
- A proposal to widen State Highway 42 and build Metro Line 10 could affect over 10 hectares of Sanjay Gandhi National Park, raising concerns over the city's leopard habitat and increased ecological impact.
- The Bombay High Court has designated special courts in Nagpur and Aurangabad to fast-track examination paper leak cases, with trials under the 2024 Act to be completed within three months.

Pune

- Maharashtra will begin work on the Pandharpur Temple Corridor this year, with the project expected to be completed in four years to improve infrastructure, crowd management and facilities for devotees.
- MSRDC has begun preparing a DPR to widen the old Pune-Mumbai Highway from four to six lanes, with the ₹5,000–6,000 crore project aimed at improving traffic flow and connectivity between Pune and Mumbai.
- PMC has been directed to prepare a 25-year master plan to modernise the city's water treatment plants, prioritising upgrades to ageing infrastructure and expanding capacity to ensure a reliable supply of safe drinking water.

Punjab

- Amritsar Airport will become India's second 'Easy Connect' hub under the Centre's hub-and-spoke policy from July 28, allowing Air India passengers to complete immigration before domestic flights to Delhi for seamless international connections.
- Punjab will implement the Swachh Evam Harit Vidyalaya Rating (SHVR) programme from August 1, with schools assessed on six cleanliness parameters and 200 schools to be nominated for national recognition.

Rajasthan

- Farmers in Tonk can insure their Kharif crops under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana until July 31, with eight crops, including urad, mung and groundnut, covered under the scheme.

Tamil Nadu

- Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay's new Secretariat office is being set up on the 10th floor of Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, bringing key officials under one roof to improve administrative coordination.
- IGCAR has signed technology transfer and incubation agreements to commercialise nuclear research, supporting deep-tech startups in space electronics, quantum technologies and advanced manufacturing.

Telangana

- Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will propose lowering the minimum age to contest Assembly and Lok Sabha elections from 25 to 21 years, urging greater political participation for young people.
- Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka has directed officials to mobilise additional revenue through measures including land monetisation and land pooling to meet the state's 2026–27 budget targets.

Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh is expected to witness intensified monsoon activity from July 27, with the IMD forecasting widespread heavy to very heavy rainfall across the state after a recent rainfall deficit.
- Uttar Pradesh is preparing to host the India Bioenergy and Tech (IBET) Expo 2026 from August 11–13 in Greater Noida, aiming to attract global investment, innovation and partnerships in the green energy sector.



GLOBAL UPDATE

Highlights of this week

Upcoming News/Events

Africa - Democratic Republic of Congo has reported 3,200 confirmed Ebola cases, including 1,405 deaths, as the outbreak continues to worsen. Authorities are continuing containment efforts amid concerns over the spread of the disease. - Nigeria President Bola Tinubu has approved expanding the army from eight to 12 divisions with the recruitment of 28,000 additional personnel. The move aims to strengthen the country's response to persistent security threats.
America - Venezuela has formally notified the United Nations of its irrevocable withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC), alleging the court is politically biased and disproportionately targets countries in Africa and Latin America. - Canada marked the opening of the Gordie Howe International Bridge linking Windsor and Detroit without U.S. officials, as disputes over toll-sharing and renewed U.S. tariff threats further strained bilateral relations.
Asia Pacific The United States and Japan joined the Philippines in five days of maritime exercises in the South China Sea, as Manila and Beijing exchanged fresh accusations over confrontations between their vessels in disputed waters.
China - China conducted routine naval and air patrols in the South China Sea, accusing the Philippines of holding joint patrols with foreign countries that undermine regional peace and stability, while reaffirming its claim over the disputed waters. - Typhoon Noul made landfall in southern China, prompting authorities to issue the highest flash flood alert and relocate more than 700,000 people, with heavy to torrential rain expected across several provinces over the next two days.
Europe - Wildfires are advancing towards Bordeaux as France and Spain battle major blazes that have forced the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people, with authorities warning the fires remain out of control amid worsening conditions. - German Chancellor Friedrich Merz appointed Nina Warken as Germany's first female chief of staff in a cabinet reshuffle aimed at reviving his government ahead of key state elections, while signalling more changes to come.
Middle East The United States and Saudi Arabia have reached a civil nuclear cooperation agreement allowing the kingdom to enrich uranium and build nuclear reactors using U.S. technology, without requiring the snap U.N. inspections previously demanded of Iran.
Pakistan An Islamist suicide bombing in northwest Pakistan killed 15 people, including 12 soldiers, after an explosives-laden vehicle struck a security checkpoint, with the military saying 12 militants were later killed in a retaliatory operation
United Kingdom - UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham opened "No10 North" in Manchester as a new government base, aiming to shift economic decision-making and investment away from London to boost regional growth. - Britain said its armed forces are ready to defend the country after Iran's Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) warned that UK bases used by U.S. bombers could become legitimate targets, while reaffirming support for U.S. defensive operations.
United States The United States announced a new visa restriction policy targeting individuals involved in or complicit in cybercrime and cyber-enabled crimes, with immediate family members also potentially facing visa restrictions.

Africa - Africa could face an economic loss of \$10–20 billion from a potential "super" El Niño, with the African Development Bank warning of severe climate impacts, including droughts, floods and increased migration across affected countries. - African governments and development banks are increasingly using debt guarantees to attract private investment into infrastructure projects, aiming to help bridge the continent's \$100 billion annual infrastructure funding gap amid shrinking aid flows.
America - The United States and Mexico will hold a fourth round of USMCA negotiations in September after recent talks highlighted differences over automotive content rules and other proposed changes to the North American trade pact. - The United States aims to reach interim trade agreements with Canada and Mexico by the end of the year, while deferring negotiations on more contentious changes to the USMCA until 2027, signalling the pact will not be renewed this year.
Asia Pacific Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said he will raise new U.S. tariffs with President Donald Trump after Washington imposed fresh duties on Australia and other trading partners over concerns about goods allegedly made with forced labour.
China - China urged Belarus and Uzbekistan to deepen security cooperation during separate meetings between Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his counterparts, reinforcing Beijing's focus on regional security and strategic partnerships. - President Xi Jinping is set to visit the United States on September 24, where he is expected to hold talks with U.S. President Donald Trump, including discussions on artificial intelligence and bilateral cooperation.
Europe Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy is scheduled to meet U.S. President Donald Trump in Washington next week, with discussions expected to focus on renewed peace efforts and a proposed air ceasefire in the Russia-Ukraine war.
Middle East - Iran said it will halt its attacks as long as the United States maintains its pause in airstrikes, signalling a temporary de-escalation after both sides suspended military action for two days amid renewed diplomatic efforts. - Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa said Syria is seeking a security agreement with Israel that could pave the way for comprehensive peace, while stressing that any deal would not compromise Syria's claim to the Golan Heights.
Pakistan Pakistan is exploring a path to revive U.S.-Iran talks on ending their nearly five-month-old war, following a China-initiated diplomatic push, according to Pakistani sources, in a bid to restart stalled negotiations.
United Kingdom Prime Minister Andy Burnham will welcome Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy as his first foreign visitor, reaffirming Britain's support for Ukraine through military cooperation and continued backing in its war with Russia.
United States - President Donald Trump's latest tariffs are expected to become a long-term feature of U.S. trade policy, with additional duties and investigations targeting sectors such as industrial subsidies, semiconductors and intellectual property likely in the coming months. - The Trump administration urges Congress to make daylight saving time permanent as part of a transportation bill, while also proposing to reduce support for bicycle lanes, mass transit and EV charging, and accelerate self-driving vehicle adoption.

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