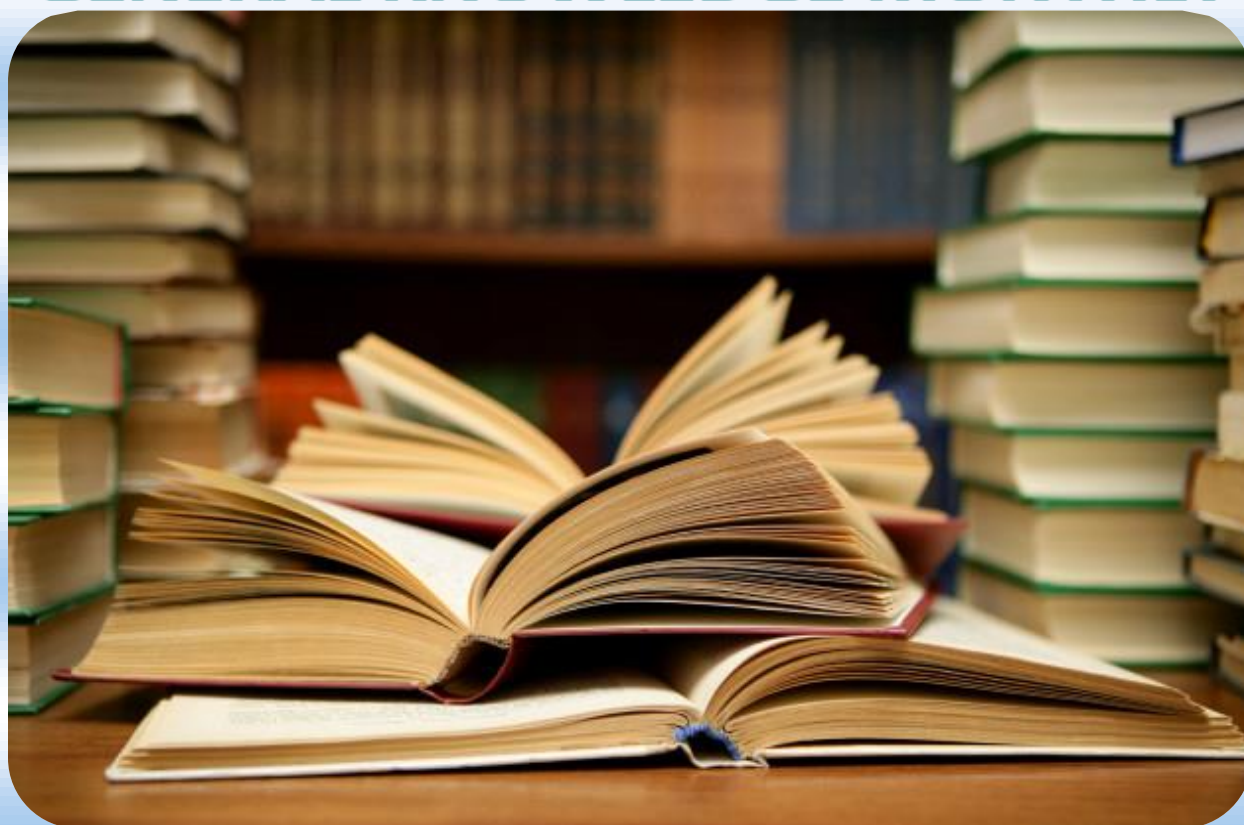


# LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTER, NOIDA

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE MONTHLY



# JULY-2025

# NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

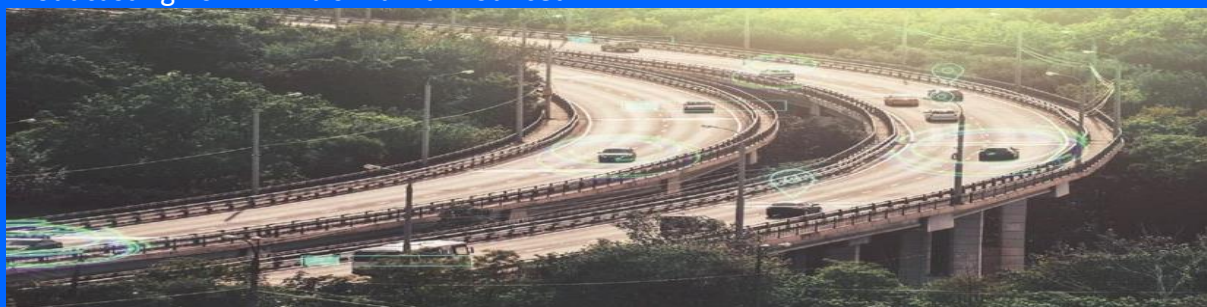
## ***RailOne App Launched: Indian Railways Unifies Passenger Services Under One Platform***

Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday launched the much-awaited RailOne app, which consolidates all railway passenger services — including an upgraded passenger reservation system, unreserved ticketing, and catering — into an “all-in-one” platform. Through the app, touted as the Railways’ “Super App”, the Centre for Railway Information Systems (Cris) looks to sort out legacy issues of siloed passenger services.



## ***Union Cabinet Approves ₹1,853 Crore Four-Lane Highway Project in Tamil Nadu***

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved a national highway project in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs 1,853 crore in Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM), Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw announced.



## ***Union Cabinet Approves ₹1 Lakh Crore RDI Scheme to Boost Private Sector Innovation***

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved a ₹1-lakh crore Research Development and Innovation (RDI) scheme that aims to incentivise the private sector to invest in basic research that would translate into innovative products and technologies. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman first announced the creation of such a fund in her interim Budget speech of 2024. A horizon for the fund has not been specified.

### ***Indore Launches India's First QR-Based Digital House Address System***

Indore: The Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) in Madhya Pradesh has launched a digital house address project, with officials claiming it to be the first such initiative in the country. The project involves the installation of special digital plates with unique QR codes outside every house in the city, the officials said on Sunday.



### ***Virudhunagar to Become Global Textile Hub Under PM MITRA Scheme***

The Virudhunagar PM MITRA Park, encompassing 1,052 acres, which got Central government's approval of ₹1,900 crore, is set to become a world-class hub for technical textiles and an integrated manufacturing hub, said A. Sakthivel, vice-chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), in a press release on Wednesday. The park will include a 15 million litres a day (MLD) Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) Common Effluent Treatment Plant, a 10,000-bed workers' dormitory, and over 1.3 million sq. ft. of ready-to-use infrastructure.

### ***RBI Bans Prepayment Penalty on Floating Rate Loans for MSEs from 2026***

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) not to charge any prepayment penalty on floating rate loans to micro and small enterprises (MSEs), sanctioned or renewed from January 1, 2026. Observing that "availability of easy and affordable financing to micro and small enterprises is of paramount importance", the banking regulator said its supervisory reviews revealed divergent practices by lenders with regard to the levy of prepayment charges on loans sanctioned to MSEs, which led to customer grievances and disputes.

### ***RBI Mandates Banks to Adopt DoT's Financial Fraud Risk Indicator for Cybersecurity***

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has declared war on cyber fraud affecting bank customers in India. On June 30, 2025, the RBI directed all Scheduled Commercial Banks, Small Finance Banks, Payments Banks, and Co-operative Banks to incorporate the Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) developed by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) into their systems. DoT developed this cyber security system known as FRI and rolled it out in May 2025. To give a brief overview of this technology, the FRI allows for the automated exchange of data and information between the banks and DoT's Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP).



### ***Slice Launches India's First UPI-Powered Bank Branch in Bengaluru***

Fintech company slice has rolled out slice UPI credit card and UPI-powered physical bank branch and ATM which accepts cash in Koramangala, Bengaluru. The slice UPI credit card charges no joining or annual fee. It delivers an effortless credit experience that feels as natural as any UPI transaction.



### ***Jio Becomes World's Largest Fixed Wireless Access Provider***

New Delhi: Indian telecom major Reliance Jio is on track to become the world's largest Fixed Wireless Access provider by subscriber base, eclipsing US-based telecom giant T-Mobile, an analyst report said on Sunday. According to recent data released by telecom regulator Trai, Reliance Jio total 5G FWA subscriber base (including unlicensed band radio) reached 6.88 million in May, while T-Mobile had 6.85 million subscribers in March.

### ***Gujarat Joins One-Crore Club of Stock Market Investors***

New Delhi: The number of people joining stock markets are surging continuously in India, now Gujarat has become the third Indian state to cross the 1-crore mark in registered investors, according to the latest data released by the National Stock Exchange (NSE).



### ***SBI Opens New Global Trade Finance Centres in Kolkata and Hyderabad***

State Bank of India (SBI) on Tuesday inaugurated 'Global Trade Finance Centres' at Kolkata and Hyderabad. India's largest bank said these two specialized hubs, which are manned by over 800 skilled professionals, will streamline Inland trade and the processing of Import and Export transactions, enabling faster turnaround, stronger compliance, and a significantly improved customer experience. The Bank's Trade Finance business will transition from paper-based to digital processes using AI/ML, blockchain, and document digitization is a testament to the commitment.

### ***Sunil Kadam Appointed as SEBI Executive Director***

Sunil Jayawant Kadam has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), according to a statement from the markets regulator. He will be in-charge of the Information Technology Department (ITD), Office of Investor Assistance and Education (OIAE), Department of Economic and Policy Analysis (DEPA), General Services Department (GSD), Board Cell, RTI & PQ Cell, and matters pertaining to the National Institute of Securities Markets (NISM).

### ***Nvidia on Track to Become the World's Most Valuable Company in History***

Nvidia hit a market value of \$3.92 trillion on Thursday, briefly putting it on track to become the most valuable company in history, as Wall Street doubled down on optimism about AI. Shares of the leading designer of high-end AI chips rose as much as 2.4 per cent to \$160.98 in morning trading, giving the company a higher market capitalization than Apple's record closing value of \$3.915 trillion on December 26, 2024.



### ***SAIL Opens First Overseas Office in Dubai to Strengthen Global Presence***

State-owned steel maker SAIL has set up an office in Dubai with an objective to tap opportunities in the emerging markets, an official statement said on Friday. The company is the third public sector unit under the Ministry of Steel to have opened its overseas office in Dubai. SAIL has inaugurated its Representative Office in Dubai. It is SAIL's first international office in the Middle East and marks a significant step in its global expansion strategy, the ministry said.

### ***Aadhaar Records Nearly 230 Crore Authentication Transactions in June 2025***

Aadhaar authentication transactions surged to nearly 230 crore in June 2025, marking a 7.8 percent year-on-year increase, according to data released by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).



### ***SBI Helps Add \$44 Billion to World Economy***

India contributed around 6.7 per cent to the global economy's incremental growth in FY25, and the State Bank of India (SBI) alone accounts for 1.1 per cent of the incremental growth, according to a report by SBI research. The report highlights India's strong performance on the global economic front, adding \$297 billion to the total increase in global GDP during FY25. It stated, "At a global level, India contributed approx 6.7 per cent to incremental global GDP in FY25."

### ***Ananth Tech to Start India's First Private Satellite Internet***

In a significant development for India's space and telecommunications sectors, Hyderabad-based Ananth Technologies is set to become the first private Indian company to offer satellite communication (satcom) services using a domestically-built satellite, according to a report by The Economic Times.



### ***Indian Bank, PNB Remove Minimum Balance Charges***

Indian Bank has announced complete waiver of minimum balance charges across all savings bank accounts effective July 7. Effective July 1, Punjab National Bank, too, has decided to waive penal charges for non-maintenance of minimum average balance (MAB) in all savings accounts. According to Indian Bank, the move is aimed at fostering financial inclusion and making banking more accessible and affordable for all sections of society.

### ***₹2000 Notes Worth ₹6,099 Crore Still in Use: RBI***

RBI Rs 2000 notes: In 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced to withdraw Rs 2000 notes. However, despite the RBI withdrawing the currency, these notes are still in circulation with a worth of Rs 6,099 crore. These notes have continued to be legal tender till now. On May 19, 2023, the apex bank announced the withdrawal of Rs 2000 denomination banknotes from circulation. RBI said in a statement that the total value of Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation declined to Rs 6,099 crore at the close of business on June 30, 2025.





### ***Haryana to Build Asia's Biggest Jungle Safari***

Haryana, long known for its industrial hubs and agricultural plains, is all set to rewrite its identity, and it's going wild. As per the latest news reports, a massive jungle safari project, planned in the ancient Aravalli Hills, is poised to become a landmark in eco-tourism, conservation, and sustainable development. From wildlife to livelihoods, this project touches it all.

### ***Adani Power Buys 600 MW Vidarbha Unit for ₹4,000 Crore***

NEW DELHI: Adani Power Ltd. (APL) on Tuesday announced successfully completing the acquisition and resolution plan implementation of Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd. (VIPL) for a total consideration of ₹4,000 crore. VIPL operates a 2×300 MW domestic coal-fired power plant located in Butibori, Nagpur district, Maharashtra. VIPL was undergoing the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). The company, in a press note said that on June 18, 2025.

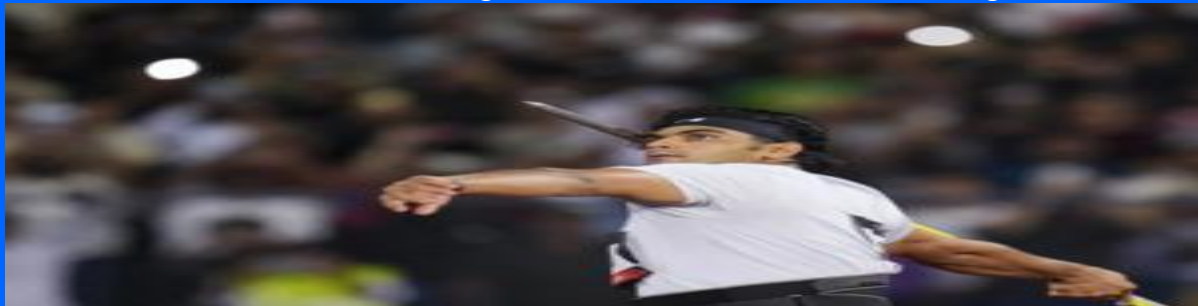
### ***Govt Partners with Sri Aurobindo Society to Support Inclusive Education***

New Delhi, In a step towards strengthening the inclusive education ecosystem, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) on Monday signed an MoU with the Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS). The collaboration will be carried out through the SAS' 'Rupantar Programme' under the newly launched 'Project Inclusion'.



### ***Neeraj Chopra Wins First Neeraj Chopra Classic in Bengaluru***

India's golden boy of javelin, Neeraj Chopra continued his strong form on Saturday by winning the first-ever Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025 at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru. He threw 86.18 metres to take the gold medal in this World Athletics gold-level event.



### ***Apple Appoints Sabih Khan as Chief Operating Officer***

In a significant leadership transition, Apple announced that Sabih Khan, senior vice president of Operations, will take over as chief operating officer later this month, succeeding longtime Apple veteran Jeff Williams. Williams, a key figure at Apple for 27 years, will continue reporting to CEO Tim Cook in the interim, overseeing the company's design team, Apple Watch, and health initiatives.

### ***ISRO Conducts Successful Gaganyaan Propulsion Tests***

ISRO has successfully conducted two hot tests of the Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) at the space agency's Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri on July 3. The short-duration tests, lasting 30 seconds and 100 seconds respectively, were aimed at validating the test article configuration, ISRO said in a statement on Wednesday (July 8, 2025). "The overall performance of the propulsion system during these hot tests was normal as per pre-test predictions.

### ***HCL Software Launches Domino 14.5 with Sovereign AI***

HCLTech's software division, HCL Software, has launched Domino 14.5, a sovereign artificial intelligence (AI) aimed at governments and regulated organisations concerned with their data privacy. "HCL Domino 14.5 ushers in significant enhancements to the Domino+ sovereign collaboration portfolio, including the introduction of Domino IQ, a sovereign AI extension to the Domino platform that protects an organisation's data privacy and ensures information security," the company said in a statement.

### ***Public Sector Banks to Raise ₹45,000 Crore via Share Sale in FY26***

The government has outlined a comprehensive strategy to raise capital and dilute stakes in public sector banks (PSBs) during the financial year 2025–26, with an estimated Rs 45,000 crore to be mobilised via Qualified Institutional Placements (QIPs), a senior government source said. The country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), will spearhead the fundraising drive, having secured the Ministry of Finance's approval to raise Rs 20,000 crore through QIPs.

### ***India's Solar Power Grows 4,000%, Says Piyush Goyal***

India has achieved a staggering 4,000 per cent increase in installed solar capacity and the country's renewable energy capacity now stands at a robust 227 GW, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday. Addressing the 11th India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2025 here, the minister said India is likely the first G20 nation to have met its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.



### ***Sachin Tendulkar's Portrait Unveiled at Lord's***

A portrait of the legendary Sachin Tendulkar was unveiled in the MCC Museum at Lord's before the start of the third Test between India and England in London on Thursday (July 10, 2025).



### ***India's Maratha Forts Added to UNESCO World Heritage List***

India has nominated the "Maratha Military Landscapes", a network of forts that showcase the strategic military powers of Maratha rule, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage list for 2024-25.



### ***Arthunkal Police Station Becomes India's First ISO-Certified Station***

The Arthunkal police station in Alappuzha has received the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001:2015 certification. The ISO certificate was handed over by Praveen Khanna, Deputy Director General (Southern Region) of the Bureau of Indian Standards, in the presence of State Police Chief Ravada Azad Chandrashekhar; Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) H. Venkatesh; and other officials at a function held on Thursday.

### ***E5 for Trials, E10 for Launch for India's Bullet Train***

NEW DELHI: The E5 variant of Japanese Shinkansen trains will be used for trial runs in the Gujarat section of the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train project in financial year 2026-27, railway officials have said. India will subsequently buy the state-of-the-art E10 variants, which will be rolled out in India and Japan simultaneously. E10 Shinkansen trains are likely to be launched in 2030. The country's first bullet train project is progressing well, a senior railway ministry official said.

### ***India's First AI Campus to Open in Andhra Pradesh***

Chairman and Chancellor of Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS Pilani) Kumar Mangalam Birla announced that they would develop a first-of-its-kind greenfield campus in Amaravati, capital city of Andhra Pradesh, by investing around ₹2,000 crore to accommodate more than 7,000 students per year. The Andhra Pradesh government, through APCRDA has already allocated land for the institute.

### ***PhonePe Tops UPI Chart with 46% Share in June 2025***

Fintech major PhonePe maintained its lead on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) leaderboard, processing over 8.54 billion transactions and capturing a 46.46 per cent market share, according to data from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Google Pay and Paytm processed more than 6.54 billion and 1.26 billion transactions, respectively, cornering 35.56 per cent and 6.90 per cent market share on the real-time payments system.

### ***ACKO Becomes Tesla's Insurance Partner in India***

New Delhi, As Tesla announced its foray into the Indian market on Tuesday, Liberty General Insurance and ACKO said they have become insurance partners for the American electric carmaker in India. Liberty General Insurance said it has developed a suite of finely tuned protection plans that complement Tesla's engineering and performance excellence while anticipating the distinct needs of EV users.



### ***₹4.77 Lakh Crore Refunded in FY25 as Tax System Improves***

Income Tax Return: India's Income Tax Refunds witnessed a nearly fivefold or 474% jump in the last 11 years to ₹4.77 lakh crore in 2024-25 due to the improvement in the nation's tax administration. The rise in tax refunds and the decrease in the number of days to issue those refunds are due to the adoption of digital infrastructure, including end-to-end online filing and faceless assessment, which helps to make the refund process faster and more accurate for processing ITRs, as per the people cited above, reported news agency PTI, citing people aware of the development.

### ***Zepto's Founders Top in Hurun India U30 List 2025***

The Aventus Wealth–Hurun India U30 List 2025 has spotlighted 79 of India's most promising entrepreneurs aged 30 or below, offering a glimpse into the country's next wave of business leaders who are scaling ventures across technology, finance, retail, healthcare, and more. This inaugural Under-30 edition, part of the larger Uth Series 2025, was unveiled on Thursday, which identifies both first-generation founders whose startups are valued at over \$25 million and second-generation leaders helping family businesses worth \$50 million or more.

### ***Google's Free Gemini AI Pro Offer for Indian Students***

Google is giving Indian college students a free Gemini upgrade. As part of its new special offer, the tech giant announced that eligible students can get a free one-year subscription to a Google AI Pro plan to help them with their academics. The tech giant says students aged over 18 are using Gemini for things like understanding complex topics, preparing for job interviews, and sparking creative ideas.

### ***Tesla opens first India showroom at Mumbai's BKC***

Mumbai: On a rainy Tuesday, Tesla Inc. opened its first showroom in India at the upscale Bandra Kurla Complex, marking the American electric vehicle maker's long-anticipated launch in the world's third-largest automobile market.



### ***Maharashtra Unveils Vidarbha's First Integrated Steel Plant in Gadchiroli***

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday laid the foundation stone for Maharashtra's first integrated steel plant at Konsari in Gadchiroli district. The facility will be developed by Lloyds Metals and Energy Limited (LMEL) and is expected to become operational in 30 months. It is projected to create 20,000 jobs.





### ***Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar Resigned Due To Health Reasons***

Jagdeep Dhankhar's shock resignation on the first day of the Parliament's Monsoon Session caught everyone by surprise with the opposition left speculating the reason behind the sudden exit. Dhankhar had, in his resignation letter, cited health reasons for vacating the post. His term was supposed to end on August 11, 2027.



### ***Election Commission's Stance on Aadhaar, Voter ID, and Ration Cards in Voter Eligibility Verification***

In its response to the Supreme Court, the Election Commission of India (EC) has said Aadhaar, voter ID card, and ration card cannot be treated as valid documents for verifying entries in the electoral rolls of Bihar under its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.



### ***SBI's Raise The Amount Of ₹25,000 Crore Via QIP***

Mumbai: The country's largest lender State Bank of India has raised ₹25,000 crore through a qualified institutional placement (QIP) of its equity shares, making it the largest QIP executed in Indian capital markets. The board of the public sector bank announced the close of the QIP late Monday evening, and approved the issue and allotment of 30.6 crore shares at an issue price of ₹817 each.

### ***Gross NPAs Reduce To 2.58% From March 2021 to March 2025***

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday said that the gross non-performing assets (NPA) ratio of public sector banks (PSBs) has declined from 9.11% in March 2021 to 2.58% in March 2025, marking a consistent improvement over the past five financial years. In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, minister of state for finance Pankaj Chaudhary said gross NPAs of PSBs stood at ₹6.16 trillion as of 31 March, 2021, and have since dropped by more than half to ₹2.83 trillion as of 31 March, based on provisional RBI data.

### ***Suhani Shah Became First Indian to Win 'Oscar for Magicians' at FISM 2025***

In a historic win, Rajasthan's mentalist Suhani Shah has won the prestigious 'Best Magic Creator 2025' award at the Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques (FISM), often referred to as the 'Oscars for magicians'. The FISM event, held in Torino, Italy from July 14-19, brought together magicians from around the globe, competing in various categories.



### ***SBI Adjudged World's Best Consumer Bank 2025 by Global Finance Magazine***

State Bank of India (SBI) on Friday said it has been adjudged the World's Best Consumer Bank for 2025 by Global Finance magazine. India's largest bank noted that the evaluation is based on the publication's research and analysis, supported by insights from corporate finance executives, analysts, and bankers across the globe. CS Setty, Chairman, SBI, said, "Customer experience remains central to our growth strategy."

### ***RBI Approves Warburg Pincus Investment in IDFC First Bank***

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Currant Sea Investments B.V., an affiliate of global private equity major Warburg Pincus, to acquire up to 9.99 percent stake in IDFC First Bank. The bank disclosed the development in a stock exchange filing on Saturday. "...we wish to inform that Currant Sea Investments B.V. has received the approval of the RBI with respect to its proposed investment of up to 9.99 percent of the paid-up share capital of the Bank," the filing stated.

### ***Fastest-Growing Economy in the World? India Tops ADB's Forecasts Again!***

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and India Ratings & Research (Ind-Ra) on Wednesday lowered India's growth forecast for fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26) by 20 and 30 basis points, respectively. While ADB now expects growth to be 6.5 per cent, Ind-Ra projected 6.3 per cent growth. ADB's forecast is at par with the RBI projection and within the range of the Economic Survey's estimates of 6.3 to 6.8 per cent. Ind-Ra's projection is lower than RBI's forecast of 6.5 per cent, but at par with the floor of the Survey's expectations.

### ***PM Modi Makes History: Breaks Indira Gandhi's Record as India's 2nd Longest Serving PM!***

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday (July 25, 2025) became the second longest serving Prime Minister of India in consecutive terms, surpassing former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's record.



### ***India Resumes Tourist Visas for Chinese Citizens After Five Years***

India has resumed issuing tourist visas to Chinese nationals after a five-year gap as the two countries continue to explore ways to mend their strained relationship. The Indian embassy in Beijing made the announcement on Wednesday via the Chinese social media app Weibo, the state-owned Global Times newspaper reported.



### ***Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai Hits \$1.1 Billion Net Worth Milestone***

Alphabet Inc. crossed a new milestone this week with a blockbuster earnings report, capping a dramatic rise that's seen the company add more than \$1 trillion in market value since early 2023. According to Bloomberg, Alphabet has delivered a 120% return to investors over that period, underscoring Wall Street's renewed confidence in the tech giant's AI-powered growth story.





# INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

## *India, UAE Forge Strategic Partnership in Green Steel & Aluminium Sector*

New Delhi: India and the United Arab Emirates are exploring deeper industrial collaboration in steel and aluminium under the India-UAE CEPA framework, with the Indian government seeking UAE's support in achieving its 300 million tonne steel production target by 2030. Union Minister of Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy met with UAE's Minister of Economy Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri as part of a high-level engagement focused on trade expansion, resource security and industrial innovation.

## *Pakistan Becomes President of the UN Security Council in July 2025*

Pakistan on Tuesday (July 1, 2025) said that it assumed the Presidency of the UN Security Council for the month of July with a "sense of purpose, humility and conviction" to promote respect of law and multilateralism. The presidency of the Security Council - the world body's power centre - is part of Pakistan's two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UNSC, which began in January 2025.



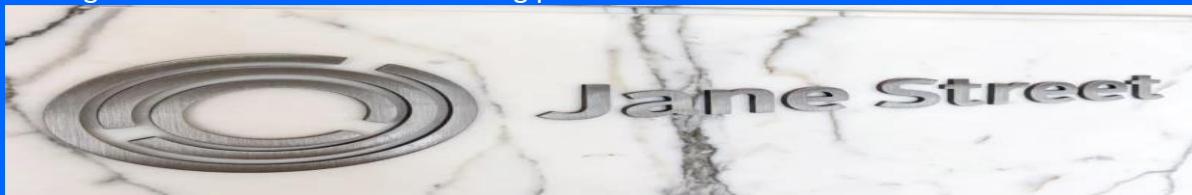
## *Russia Becomes First Country to Officially Recognise Taliban Government*

Russia has become the first country to formally recognise the Taliban government in Afghanistan, sparking outrage from opposition figures. The decision marks a major milestone for the Taliban almost four years after they swept into Kabul and took power.



### ***What is Jane Street? Why Has SEBI Banned This Global Trading Giant?***

New York based trading giant Jane Street has been in the eye of a storm over the past few weeks after India's market regulator banned it from the securities market. The regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has accused Jane Street of indulging in a "sinister scheme", alleging that its "manipulation" of India's stock market has led to small investors trading at "unfavourable and misleading prices".



### ***EU Sets New 2040 Climate Target with Flexibility***

New 2040 Climate Target: EU proposes a 90% reduction in net GHG emissions by 2040 (vs. 1990), introducing flexible mechanisms including international carbon credits and permanent carbon removals. Clean Industrial Deal Aligned: The target supports industrial competitiveness, energy security, and a fair transition through new tax incentives, state aid, and CBAM simplification.

### ***Microsoft Shuts Down Pakistan Office After 25 Years***

Microsoft has exited Pakistan. The software giant is quitting Pakistan after 25 years. Microsoft is said to have been reducing its headcount and operations in the country over the last few years, and has now fully pulled out of Pakistan. Microsoft started its operations in Pakistan in June 2000. The news of Microsoft shutting down its operations in Pakistan was first revealed in a LinkedIn post by Jawwad Rehman, the founding head and country manager of Microsoft Pakistan.

### ***Jennifer Geerlings-Simons Becomes Suriname's First Woman President***

Suriname has elected Jennifer Geerlings-Simons as its first female president, with parliament backing the 71-year-old physician and lawmaker to lead the crisis-hit South American nation. Her election came after a coalition deal was struck in the National Assembly, which voted by a two-thirds majority on Sunday.



### ***Elon Musk Launches New Political Party in the US***

Elon Musk says he is launching a new political party, weeks after dramatically falling out with US President Donald Trump. The billionaire announced on his social media platform X that he had set up the America Party, billing it as a challenge to the Republican and Democratic two-party system.



### ***Trinidad & Tobago Joins UPI Network for Indian Travelers***

The Caribbean nation has become the first in the region to adopt UPI, with PM Modi's visit emphasising the advancing digital transaction capabilities. Trinidad and Tobago has become the first Caribbean nation to enable transactions through India's BHIM app using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).



### ***PM Modi Awarded Brazil's Highest Civilian Honor***

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Tuesday (July 8, 2025) conferred with Brazil's highest civilian award, the Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross. The honour was presented by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, in recognition of PM Modi's notable contributions to strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing India-Brazil cooperation across key global platforms.





### ***Nvidia Becomes First Company to Reach \$4 Trillion Value***

Chipmaker Nvidia became the first public company in history to scale a \$4tn market value on Wednesday as its stock price continues a years-long stratospheric rise. Shares of the top chip designer rose roughly 2.4% to \$164, benefiting from the ongoing surge in demand for artificial intelligence technologies.



### ***India Launches World's First Traditional Knowledge Digital Library***

In a significant step towards global healthcare innovation, the World Health Organization (WHO) has released a technical brief titled "Mapping the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Traditional Medicine", acknowledging India's pioneering efforts in integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) with traditional medicine systems, particularly Ayush systems. The WHO release follows India's proposal on the subject, leading to the development of WHO's first-ever roadmap for applying AI in traditional medicine, the Ayush Ministry said in a release.

### ***Jannik Sinner Stuns Alcaraz to Win First Wimbledon Title***

Jannik Sinner clinched his first Wimbledon men's singles title after defeating two-time defending champion Carlos Alcaraz on Sunday (July 13). In the thrilling final played at the All England Lawn Tennis Club, Sinner outlasted Alcaraz in a thrilling 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 victory on Centre Court.



### ***OpenAI, Google, Anthropic, xAI Get \$200M Contracts from US Defense***

The U.S. Department of Defense on Monday said it's granting contract awards of up to \$200 million for artificial intelligence development at Anthropic, Google, OpenAI and xAI. The DoD's Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office said the awards will help the agency accelerate its adoption of "advanced AI capabilities to address critical national security challenges." The companies will work to develop AI agents across several mission areas at the agency.

### ***Yuliia Svrydenko Appointed as New Prime Minister of Ukraine***

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has appointed a new prime minister and other key leaders in the largest government reshuffle since Russia invaded three years ago. Yulia Svrydenko, 39, took over as prime minister from Denys Shmyhal, who had held the post since 2020, following her confirmation on Thursday by Ukraine's parliament.



### ***China's Construction of the World's Largest Dam on Yarlung Tsangpo (Brahmaputra)***

China has started building a mega-dam on the Yarlung Zangbo River in Tibet, which could become the world's largest source of hydroelectric power when completed, according to Chinese officials.

