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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. China and Bangladesh prepare Two-Plus-Two diplomacy and defence dialogue.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Bangladesh and China announced preparations on 30 August 2026 for a Two-Plus-Two dialogue combining diplomacy and defence. Initial engagement will be at Minister of State level, followed by a strategic dialogue at Foreign Minister level.

Key Highlights:

- The sides discussed a commercial contract to modernise Mongla Port and cooperation on a Mongla Export Processing Zone.
- Other projects include the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project.
- They also discussed a China-Myanmar-Bangladesh corridor and a China Economic and Industrial Zone.

Additional Information:

- Mongla is Bangladesh's second-largest and second-busiest seaport at the Pashur-Mongla river confluence.
- Bangladesh's capital is Dhaka, currency Taka, and its land border with India is about 4,096 km.

2. Depalpur becomes first Zero Legacy Waste city under Swachh Shehar Jodi.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Depalpur in Madhya Pradesh became the first city under Swachh Shehar Jodi to achieve Zero Legacy Waste after Indore mentored it in scientifically remediating 1,250 metric tonnes of waste accumulated over five years.

Key Highlights:

- The 100-day initiative began during Swachhata Hi Seva 2025 with an Each One Teach One model.
- It links 72 mentor cities with 200 mentee cities and enabled over 1,600 activities through municipal MoUs.
- The project recovered 4.5 tonnes of plastic, metal and glass and sent 50-60 tonnes of RDF to cement plants for co-processing.
- Depalpur adopted four-bin door-to-door segregation and converted the dumpsite into green and community space.
- Indore also launched the Basti Bemisal campaign for slum transformation.

Additional Information:

- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 was launched on 1 October 2021 by MoHUA.
- It aims for Garbage Free cities and 100% remediation of legacy dumpsites.

3. Bihar and Jharkhand settle Sone River water-sharing dispute.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Bihar and Jharkhand formalised an agreement that ended a 25-year dispute over distribution of Sone River water. The pact divides the total 7.75 million acre-feet share allotted to undivided Bihar under the 1973 Bansagar Agreement.

Key Highlights:

- The dispute continued after Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar in November 2000.
- The formula followed recommendations of a Centre-constituted Central Water Commission technical committee.
- The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti supervised the agreement process.

Additional Information:

- The Sone originates at the Amarkantak plateau in Madhya Pradesh and is a southern tributary of the Ganga.

- CWC was established in 1945 and is headquartered in New Delhi.

4. Ecuador declares nationwide red alert over El Niño.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Ecuador declared a nationwide red alert as the El Niño climate phenomenon intensified. The Ministry of Risk Management activated emergency committees to coordinate preventive evacuations and disaster-mitigation measures.

Key Highlights:

- El Niño raises surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific and alters winds, pressure and rainfall.
- Ecuador expected drought and wildfires in its eastern Amazon region; fishing and bird migration may also be disrupted.
- Panama, Honduras, El Salvador and Peru also declared emergencies, while Peru warned about food insecurity in one-third of its cities.
- Scientists expected the episode to peak by year-end and contribute to possible record global heat in 2027.

Additional Information:

- Ecuador lies on the equator in South America; its capital is Quito and currency is the US Dollar.
- El Niño is the warm phase of ENSO and is associated with weaker trade winds and eastward movement of warm water.

5. Centre notifies Legal Metrology Indian Standard Time Rules, 2026.

[02 SEP 2026] -



The Department of Consumer Affairs notified the Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 on 27 August 2026. After a 180-day transition, IST will become the common reference for legal, administrative, commercial and other official purposes.

Key Highlights:

- The rules aim to synchronise time-stamping in banking, digital payments, telecom, railways, power systems, computer networks and government records.
- A White Rabbit Technology-based IST Dissemination Demonstration Network was piloted at RRSL Bengaluru.
- NavIC and approved Indian sources will reduce dependence on foreign satellite timing for critical infrastructure.
- CSIR-NPL, ISRO, SEBI, BSNL and NSE collaborated on secure IST dissemination.

Additional Information:

- IST is based on 82.5° East longitude passing near Mirzapur and is UTC+5:30.
- CSIR-NPL in New Delhi maintains official time; NavIC is ISRO's regional navigation system.

BANKING & FINANCE

1. HDFC Bank CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan to retire in October 2026.

[02 SEP 2026] -



HDFC Bank Managing Director and CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan decided not to seek reappointment and will retire at the close

of business on 26 October 2026. He became MD and CEO on 27 October 2020, succeeding Aditya Puri.

Key Highlights:

- Jagdishan joined HDFC Bank in 1996 as a finance manager and served as CFO for 12 years from 2008.
- In 2019 he became Strategic Change Agent overseeing legal, HR and corporate communication functions.
- He led the July 2023 merger of HDFC Ltd with HDFC Bank.
- During his tenure the bank won Euromoney Best Bank in India in 2021 and 2022 and Financial Express Best Private Sector Bank in 2023.

Additional Information:

- HDFC Bank was established in 1994 and is headquartered in Mumbai.
- It was the first institution to receive RBI in-principle approval for a private bank and is India's largest private lender by assets.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

1. India emerges as a key petrol supplier to Russia.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Shipping and trade data showed India becoming a major gasoline supplier to Russia during a refinery-linked fuel shortage. Russia's seaborne gasoline imports reached a record of about 125,000 barrels per day in August 2026, projected at 470,000 tonnes for the month.

Key Highlights:

- Primary suppliers were India, Turkey and Morocco.
- Indian refiners supplied about one million barrels over two months, mainly from Nayara Energy's Vadinar refinery in Gujarat.
- Russia's Rosneft owns 50% of Nayara Energy.
- Russia's share in India's total oil imports reached an all-time high of 48%; India imported more than 2.6 million barrels per day in June and July, and Russian crude exceeded 50% of total crude imports.

- About 55%, or 260,000 tonnes, of August gasoline imports used sanctioned tonnage; cargo movements included dark ship-to-ship transfers in the Mediterranean and vessels switching off AIS signals.
- Russia extended its gasoline export ban for all producers through January 2027 and its diesel ban to 1 September 2026.
- Domestic production fell by 70% after 32 drone attacks on energy infrastructure in July and August.

Additional Information:

- Vadinar refinery has about 400,000 barrels-per-day processing capacity.
- Gasoline is petrol; AIS means Automatic Identification System used for vessel tracking.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

1. John Ternus succeeds Tim Cook as Apple CEO.

[02 SEP 2026] -



John Ternus became Apple CEO on 1 September 2026, succeeding Tim Cook after his 15-year tenure. Cook moved to the newly designated role of Executive Chairman of Apple's board.

Key Highlights:

- Ternus had served as Senior Vice President of Hardware Engineering.
- Cook became CEO on 24 August 2011 after Steve Jobs resigned and had joined Apple in March 1998.
- Cook became Chief Operating Officer in January 2007.
- He transformed supply-chain operations, reduced inventory from months to days, expanded contract manufacturing and secured flash-memory supplies.

Additional Information:

- Apple was founded on 1 April 1976 by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.
- Its headquarters is in Cupertino, California; the iPhone launched in 2007.

SPORTS

1. Germany defeats Spain to retain FIH Men's Hockey World Cup.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Germany defeated Spain 1-0 at the Belfius Hockey Arena in Wavre, Belgium, on 30 August 2026 to retain the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup and secure its fourth title.

Key Highlights:

- Michel Struthoff scored the only goal in the third quarter, in the 44th minute.
- Spain reached its first Men's World Cup final since 1998.
- Argentina took bronze after defeating the Netherlands 2-1.

Additional Information:

- Germany became the first men's side to win back-to-back World Cups on two separate occasions.
- FIH is the global governing body for hockey and is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland.

2. Sri Lanka loses 2027 Women's Champions Trophy hosting rights.

[02 SEP 2026] -



The ICC decided to move the inaugural 2027 Women's Champions Trophy away from Sri Lanka amid concerns over government interference in Sri Lanka Cricket and compliance with the ICC's independence and governance requirements.

Key Highlights:

- The tournament is scheduled for 14 to 28 February 2027 and will be its first edition.
- The action followed violation of ICC independence rules concerning government interference in a member board.
- A governance dispute involved the government-appointed Transformation Committee at Sri Lanka Cricket.
- Sri Lanka is ranked sixth; losing host status affects its automatic qualification and preparation.
- The 2024 ICC Men's Under-19 World Cup was similarly moved to South Africa after interference.
- The replacement venue will be assessed for weather and future broadcast technology, and the next ICC Board meeting will decide the host.
- Reports indicated that removal of hosting rights could cause major revenue losses to Sri Lanka.

Additional Information:

- ICC was founded on 15 June 1909 as the Imperial Cricket Conference and is headquartered in Dubai, UAE.
- Sri Lanka Cricket was established in 1975, is headquartered in Colombo and the PDF records its operational status as under ICC suspension.

AWARDS

1. PM Narendra Modi receives Uzbekistan's Oliy Darajali Do'stlik Order.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Prime Minister Narendra Modi received Uzbekistan's highest honour for foreign leaders, the Oliy Darajali Do'stlik (Order of Highest Friendship), from President Shavkat Mirziyoyev at the Kuksaroy Presidential Palace in Tashkent. He dedicated it to India's 1.4 billion people and the enduring India-Uzbekistan friendship.

Key Highlights:

- India and Uzbekistan upgraded bilateral relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- The word Dostlik means Friendship and reflects the cultural connection between the two countries.

- After the visit, the Prime Minister was scheduled to attend the 26th SCO Summit in Kyrgyzstan from 31 August to 1 September 2026.

Additional Information:

- Uzbekistan's capital is Tashkent.
- Its currency is Uzbekistani Som.

DEFENCE

1. India signs US deal to procure Javelin anti-tank missiles.

[02 SEP 2026] -



India signed a Letter of Offer and Acceptance with the United States on 29 August 2026 to procure shoulder-fired Javelin anti-tank guided missile systems for the Indian Army through a government-to-government route.

Key Highlights:

- The acquisition will strengthen the Army's anti-armour capability.
- India and the United States are working toward future joint production of the Javelin system in India.
- US Ambassador Sergio Gor supported defence-industry cooperation between the two countries.

Additional Information:

- Javelin is a fire-and-forget man-portable missile with a top-attack profile against thinner roof armour.
- It is made by the Javelin Joint Venture of Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.

2. Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan hold first Mecca defence-pact committee meeting.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Senior officials of Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan met in Istanbul on 31 August 2026 for the first committee meeting under the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement, signed on 7 August 2026 as a collective-security framework.

Key Highlights:

- Foreign and Defence Ministers and military chiefs participated in the mechanism.
- Its NATO Article 5-style clause treats an armed attack on one member as an attack on all three.
- The countries will deepen defence-industry cooperation, joint production and coordination among armed forces.
- The pact is open to new members, with Egypt identified as a possible candidate, and is intended to complement existing alliances.

Additional Information:

- Türkiye has NATO's second-largest military force.
- Pakistan is the pact's only nuclear-armed member; STEP informally refers to Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Egypt and Pakistan.

3. CENJOWS holds second Annual Trident Lecture in New Delhi.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth inaugurated the second Annual Trident Lecture of the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 1 September 2026 as part of the organisation's anniversary celebrations.

Key Highlights:

- The 2026 lecture theme was National Resurgence through the Lens of Defence Forces.
- Sanjay Seth delivered a special address on Leveraging the Potential of Next Generation for Nation Building.
- The event promoted informed debate on national security, joint warfare and strategic use of national power.

Additional Information:

- CENJOWS was established in 2007 under Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff.
- It is a tri-services think tank promoting integration and research on modern warfare.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Rare blue-violet Neelakurinji-like flowers bloom in Kudremukh.

[02 SEP 2026] -



A limited bloom of rare blue-violet flowers resembling Neelakurinji was recorded on 31 August 2026 along trekking trails in the Kudremukh region of Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka, in the Western Ghats.

Key Highlights:

- The flowers had appeared more abundantly in the 2022-23 season; the present bloom is scattered.
- The Tourism Department prohibited visitors from plucking flowers and urged responsible tourism.
- The event drew nature and trekking enthusiasts but protection of the fragile habitat remains the priority.

Additional Information:

- Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*) grows in Western Ghats shola forests and generally mass-flowers once in 12 years.
- Kudremukh means Horse-face in Kannada; the national park is in Chikkamagaluru and forms part of the UNESCO-listed Western Ghats.

2. New Delhi hosts 4th Indo-German Environment Forum.

[02 SEP 2026] -



The 4th Indo-German Environment Forum was scheduled in New Delhi on 1 September 2026 to strengthen cooperation on climate and environmental policy. Union Minister Bhupender Yadav and German Environment Minister Carsten Schneider were to co-chair the forum.

Key Highlights:

- The official theme was Together For More Resilience.
- MoEFCC and Germany's BMUKN jointly organised the forum with the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business and Indian industry associations.
- Sessions focused on transition to low-carbon industries.
- Other areas were biodiversity conservation in wetlands, mountains and forests; resource efficiency and circular economy; and sustainable finance, green skills and investment mobilisation.

Additional Information:

- The forum supports bilateral exchanges on environmental protection and climate policy.
- Policymakers, industry representatives, think tanks and other stakeholders participate in the platform.

3. UNCCD COP17 launches USD 1.2 billion Rangelands Flagship Initiative.

[02 SEP 2026] -



UNCCD COP17 concluded in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on 28 August 2026 and launched the first global Rangelands Flagship Initiative, mobilising USD 1.2 billion across 45 projects for grasslands, savannas, shrublands and pastures.

Key Highlights:

- Rangelands cover 54% of Earth's land surface and support about two billion people.
- A wider USD 1.3 billion land-restoration and drought-resilience portfolio covers 23 countries on five continents; USD 644.5 million is new finance and USD 216.4 million confirmed.
- Rangelands provide an estimated USD 21-47 trillion in annual ecosystem services.
- Each USD 1 invested in restoration returns USD 4-6, rising to USD 36 with benefits such as water supply.
- Mongolia's Steppe Plan includes Rangelands, Water-Land Nexus, and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Infrastructure initiatives.
- The Drought Resilience Index was unveiled under Phase II of the International Drought Resilience Observatory.

Additional Information:

- GEF is investing USD 3.3 million in the COP17 Legacy Project.
- COP17 recognised pastoralist knowledge and transboundary mobility as important for ecosystem stewardship.

GENERAL & OTHER NEWS

1. Himachal Pradesh announces first ozone-based drinking-water project in Dehra.

[02 SEP 2026] -



The Himachal Pradesh government announced the state's first ozone-based drinking-water treatment project for Dehra assembly constituency in Kangra district on 29 August 2026. An outlay of ₹46 crore was sanctioned to improve access to safe drinking water.

Key Highlights:

- A new Veterinary Hospital was approved at Baddal Thor to strengthen animal healthcare.
- Rajiv Gandhi Van Samvardhan Yojana will involve Yuva and Mahila Mandals in forest protection and plantation.

- Self-Help Groups will receive ₹1.20 lakh assistance, with incentives linked to plantation survival.
- Mukhyamantri Ka Apna Parivar Sukhi Parivar Yojana will provide resources to underprivileged families.

Additional Information:

- Himachal Pradesh became India's 18th state on 25 January 1971.
- Its summer capital is Shimla and winter capital is Dharamshala; it became the first state to achieve 100% LPG coverage.

2. Global study finds rising antimicrobial resistance among children.

[02 SEP 2026] -



A JAMA Pediatrics study led by University of Sydney researchers reported rising antimicrobial resistance among children, threatening treatment of infections such as pneumonia and sepsis. It analysed 106,581 bacterial isolates from patients aged 0-18 across 82 countries from 2004 to 2022.

Key Highlights:

- Reserve-antibiotic resistance in ICUs rose from 9% to 32%, while Watch-antibiotic resistance rose from 15% to 33%.
- Resistance was highest among children aged 0-2 and in resource-limited regions including Southeast Asia and Africa.
- Frequent pathogens included *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella* species and *Escherichia coli*.
- Mean resistance to WHO Access antibiotics was 36%; resistance to broader Watch and last-line Reserve drugs is rising in hospitals.
- The AMR in Kids platform provides pathogen-specific trends and forecasts through 2035.

Additional Information:

- AMR occurs when microbes evolve so medicines no longer work effectively.
- AMR contributed to an estimated 840,000 deaths among children under five in 2021.

3. Bihar announces state's first women's university.

[02 SEP 2026] -



Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary announced the state's first women-only university on 27 August 2026 during the Viksit Bharat-Samridh Bihar programme. The Vice-Chancellor, professors, employees and students will all be women.

Key Highlights:

- ₹600 crore was transferred to five lakh women under Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana.
- Loans were distributed to 10,000 beneficiaries through Jeevika Nidhi.
- Construction of 112 rural haats began under Viksit Bharat-Gramin Haat Yojana.
- TRE-4 will be held in one phase, and Bihar Eligibility Test will precede Assistant Professor recruitment.
- A Patna High Court judge-led expert committee will recommend examination reforms; a portal and camps will target grievance resolution within 30 days.

Additional Information:

- The university is intended to promote women's leadership, higher education and professional confidence.
- The announcement combines education reform with employment and rural-market support.

4. NASA launches Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope.

[02 SEP 2026] -



NASA successfully launched the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope on 1 September 2026 from Kennedy Space Center in Florida aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket. The mission will investigate dark energy and dark matter, discover and characterise exoplanets, map billions of galaxies and study black holes.

Key Highlights:

- The mission is expected to discover and characterise about 10,000 to 100,000 new worlds.
- Its field of view is 100 times larger than the Hubble and James Webb telescopes.
- Infrared cameras will detect heat light without interference from Earth or the Moon.
- The telescope is on a 100-day journey to a vantage point one million miles from Earth.
- Its primary lifespan is five years, with a goal to operate for ten years.

Additional Information:

- Nancy Grace Roman was NASA's first chief astronomer and first female executive.
- She is widely known as the Mother of Hubble.