

## UAE Exit from OPEC

- ◆ The United Arab Emirates has decided to leave the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the broader OPEC+ group, starting from May 1.
- ◆ This decision is connected to Abu Dhabi's long-term economic plans, although it happens at a time when global oil markets are facing big changes due to the US-Iran conflict.
- ◆ After being part of the group for over five decades, this move represents a major change in the global energy scene. It raises questions about how it will affect oil supply, prices and market stability.



## Reasons Behind the UAE's Exit

### 1. Production Limits and Goals

- ◆ OPEC sets production limits to manage oil supply and keep prices steady.
- ◆ The UAE has spent enormously to increase its oil production capacity, aiming for about 5 million barrels per day.
- ◆ It wants more freedom to produce more oil, which current OPEC rules prevent.

### 2. Economic Diversification Plan

- ◆ The UAE wants to reduce its reliance on oil and invest in other areas like tourism, finance and renewable energy.
- ◆ An independent oil policy allows more flexibility in planning its revenue.

### 3. Disagreements with OPEC Members

- ◆ There are growing differences, especially with Saudi Arabia, over production targets and market strategies.
- ◆ The UAE is seeking more control over decision-making.

### 4. Focus on Energy Transition

- ◆ The UAE is investing in clean energy, such as solar and hydrogen.
- ◆ Hosting global events like COP28 shows its changing energy goals.

## Impact on the World

### 1. Weakening of OPEC's Power

- ◆ OPEC's ability to influence oil prices may decrease.
- ◆ This could lead to more division within the group.

### 2. Oil Price Fluctuations

- ◆ If the UAE increases production on its own, it could cause more oil supply, lowering prices.

- ◆ However, this uncertainty might also cause short-term price swings.

### 3. Move to Competitive Markets

- ◆ The oil market may shift from being controlled by a cartel to more competitive pricing.

### 4. Geopolitical Changes

- ◆ This could prompt other oil-producing countries to reconsider their membership in OPEC, shifting the balance of power in global energy politics.

## Impact on India

### 1. Possible Benefit: Lower Oil Prices

- ◆ India imports about 85 per cent of its crude oil.
- ◆ More oil from the UAE could lower import costs and help ease inflation and financial pressure.

### 2. Boost to Energy Security

- ◆ The UAE is one of India's main oil suppliers.
- ◆ An independent policy might allow for more flexible long-term contracts and stable supplies.

### 3. Strengthening Strategic Ties

- ◆ This move could improve India-UAE relations through agreements like the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

### 4. Risk: Market Instability

- ◆ If OPEC weakens, oil prices might become less predictable, making India's energy planning more challenging.

## About OPEC

- ◆ **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria
- ◆ **Leader:** Secretary-General Haitham Al Ghais (as of 2026)
- ◆ **Established:** 1960
- ◆ **Roles:** Stabilising oil markets and coordinating oil policies.

## National News

- ◆ On April 7, 2026, Telangana declared Cancer a Notifiable Disease; mandatory reporting within one month.
- ◆ On April 14, 2026, India Post and PM Museum signed an MoU to promote India's Democratic Heritage.
- ◆ On April 15, 2026, Telangana launched 'Project Sanjeevani' for Highway Trauma Care.
- ◆ On April 10, 2026, the Gujarat Government signed an MoU to set up the Indo-Taiwan Industrial Park in Sanand-Dholera Region.
- ◆ On April 16, 2026, the Financial Intelligence Unit and PFRDA signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen AML & Counter Terror Financing Efforts.
- ◆ On April 17, 2026, IIT Madras introduced OmegaBall in India; Hosted the First Inter-College Tournament on Campus.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, the Ministry of Minority Affairs signed an MoU with IIT Patna to train 600 Minority Youth in AI & Business Analytics.
- ◆ On April 22, 2026, Jyotiraditya Scindia unveiled the revised TDIP

- Scheme to boost 5G, 6G and Indigenous Telecom Innovation.
- ◆ On April 22, 2026, Pay Point India became the First Fintech to join the RBI's Centralised Payment System.
  - ◆ Six women have won the 2026 Goldman Environmental Prize; First All-Female Lineup Since 1989.
  - ◆ On April 20, 2026, Suraj Kumar Chand won the Men's Title at the HCL Squash PSA Challenger in Chennai.
  - ◆ On April 21, 2026, INS Sunayna reached Jakarta under IOS SAGAR. It was flagged off from Mumbai for the IOS SAGAR Mission with 16-Nation Participation.
  - ◆ On April 21, 2026, the Defence Ministry signed a ₹975 crore deal for TRAWL Systems to boost the Army's minefield-breaching capability.
  - ◆ On April 24, 2026, the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India (CCIC) launched the 'Soul Threads' Heritage Collection, showcasing India's Artisanal Excellence.
  - ◆ On April 24, 2026, BRO's Project DANTAK celebrated its 66th Raising Day.
  - ◆ On April 26, 2026, India launched a \$4.88 million Biodiversity Project in Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya (2025–2030).
  - ◆ On April 21, 2026, the Centre issued a draft notification declaring the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around UP's Barasingha Wildlife Sanctuary.
  - ◆ On April 21, 2026, Meghalaya launched the CM-INSPIRE Scheme to support UPSC Aspirants.
  - ◆ On April 25, 2026, Union Minister Scindia inaugurated the Adani Vikas Kendra in MP to empower women through skill development.
  - ◆ On April 26, 2026, PM Narendra Modi released a commemorative stamp for Shri Ram College of Commerce.
  - ◆ Guntur Municipal Corporation has won the UNIDO's GEM Award for Women Empowerment and Green Initiative.
  - ◆ India will host the 4th India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi on 31 May, 2026, after a 10-year gap.
  - ◆ On April 24, 2026, IITM Pune installed the X-Band Doppler Weather Radar at Mahabaleshwar to boost forecasting under Mission Mausam.
  - ◆ India's industrial growth slows down to 1 per cent in March 2026.
  - ◆ On April 16, 2026, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare hosted the First BRICS Health Working Group Meeting 2026 in New Delhi.
  - ◆ On April 17, 2026, the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, failed in Lok Sabha after missing a two-thirds majority. It was aimed to fundamentally restructure the Lok Sabha by increasing its seats (from 550 to 850 members) and fast-tracking the implementation of women's reservation.

- ◆ On April 17, 2026, Gautam Adani overtook Mukesh Ambani and became the richest person in Asia.
- ◆ On April 15, 2026, FSSAI banned the use of Ashwagandha leaves in supplements due to safety concerns.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, BECIL signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing to boost advanced tech collaboration.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved a 2 per cent hike in DA and DR for the Central Government Employees and Pensioners.
- ◆ On April 16, 2026, the Union Government formed a High-Level AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG) to steer the AI Governance Strategy.
- ◆ On April 15, 2026, Union Minister Manohar Lal launched the Urban Challenge Fund Guidelines to boost the ₹4 lakh crore urban infrastructure push.
- ◆ On April 16, 2026, Punjab partnered with IIT Ropar to develop an AI-based real-time crime-tracking system.
- ◆ China has become India's largest trading partner in FY 2025–26.
- ◆ On April 17, 2026, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has approved IOCL's 425 km Kochi–Thoothukudi Gas Pipeline to boost the Southern India Energy Network.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, MEITY formed the Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC) to strengthen AI Governance, which includes Experts Ravindran & Rajat Moona.
- ◆ On April 29, 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 594-km Ganga Expressway linking Meerut to Prayagraj.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, the Union Cabinet, led by Narendra Modi, extended the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana–III till 2028.
- ◆ On April 17, 2026, AICTE launched the 3rd edition of the VAANI Scheme to promote Indian Languages in Technical Education.
- ◆ On April 17, 2026, Meghalaya granted Full Official Status to Khasi and Garo, replacing the 2005 Language Act.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, the Kankaria Coaching Depot became India's First Water-Neutral Railway Depot.
- ◆ On April 18, 2026, the Cabinet approved the 'Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool' with ₹12,980 crore sovereign guarantee.
- ◆ On April 10, 2026, the World Bank approved a \$225 million loan for the Rajasthan Highway Modernisation Project.
- ◆ According to Union Minister Piyush Goyal, India has achieved a record \$860 billion exports in FY 2025–26 with 4.2 per cent growth.

- ◆ India's unemployment rate rises to 5.1 per cent in March 2026, up from 4.9 per cent in February 2026.
- ◆ On April 17, 2026, NITI Aayog launched the "Divya Bharat: A Window to the Soul of India" Anthology to promote tourism.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, India and South Korea agreed to increase bilateral trade to 50 billion dollars by 2030.
- ◆ On April 21, 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was scheduled to inaugurate India's First Greenfield Integrated Refinery-Petrochemical Complex in Rajasthan, but the planned inauguration was postponed due to fire that broke out at the site.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, the Ministry of Textiles launched the 'Vishwa Sutra – Weaves of India for the World' to globalise Indian Handlooms.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, CBI launched an AI Chatbot 'Abhay' to verify notices and combat digital scams.
- ◆ On April 21, 2026, the female Black Panther was introduced at Visakhapatnam Zoo after 40 years under the Animal Exchange Programme.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, Assam celebrated the 114th Suwari Festival with Cultural Grandeur in Boko.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, the Punjab Government notified a new law imposing stricter punishment for sacrilege against the Guru Granth Sahib.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, the Meghalaya Government scrapped the Luxury Resort Project at Umiam Lake amid local opposition.
- ◆ On April 20, 2026, Centre approved a ₹460 crore loan to revive the Alliance Air operations.
- ◆ On April 21, 2026, the Samriddh Gram Initiative was nominated for the WSIS Prizes 2026 for boosting the Rural Digital Infrastructure in India.
- ◆ The India Pharma 2026 was held in New Delhi on 13–14 April.
- ◆ On April 01, 2026, EaseMyTrip partnered with NSDC and Sanatan AI to launch the Spiritual Entrepreneurship Initiative.
- ◆ On April 01, 2026, the Lok Sabha passed a Bill declaring Amaravati as the sole capital of Andhra Pradesh.
- ◆ On April 01, 2026, Meghalaya signed a pact with Starlink to Pilot Satellite Internet in Remote Regions.
- ◆ On April 01, 2026, the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) extended the OTT SIM-Binding Deadline to Dec 31.
- ◆ On April 03, 2026, NCERT was granted the Deemed University Status under a Distinct Category by the Education Ministry.
- ◆ On April 03, 2026, seven railway stations were transferred from the Khurda Division of the East Coast Railway Zone to the Visakhapatnam Division of the South Coast Railway Zone.

- ◆ On April 05, 2026, Deendayal Port reclaimed the top spot among India's Major Ports with Record Cargo Handling in FY 2025–26.
- ◆ On April 14, 2026, Telangana launched the Bhu Bharati Portal, replacing Dharani for Land Records Management.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, India signed the KOICA Pact to boost shipbuilding skills, under the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.
- ◆ On April 01, 2026, India launched the SDG Dashboard in collaboration with the UN to track the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, the Income Tax Department launched a new website and an AI Assistant 'Kar Saathi', under the PRARAMBH 2026 Campaign.
- ◆ On April 04, 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Karmayogi Sadhana Saptah 2026 to mark 5 Years of Civil Services Reform.
- ◆ The Election Commission of India has urged voters to use the 'Know Your Candidates' module for informed voting in the 2026 elections.
- ◆ On April 05, 2026, Indian Railways had achieved a record ₹6,735 crore scrap revenue in FY26.
- ◆ On April 04, 2026, NITI Aayog launched the ATL Sarthi and Mentor India Academy in Telangana to boost school-level innovation.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, the Madhya Pradesh Government launched the 'School Chalen Hum' Campaign to boost Enrolment and Quality Education.
- ◆ On April 14, 2026, Rongali Bihu celebrations began in Assam.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, Puri Police launched the 'Puri Police Assistant' WhatsApp Chatbot for 24×7 Citizen Services.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, Microsoft signed an MoU with Chandigarh University to set up an AI Skill Centre at the Mohali Campus.
- ◆ On April 04, 2026, BRO's Project Chetak celebrated its 47th Raising Day in Bikaner, strengthening border infrastructure.
- ◆ On April 05, 2026, the University of Oxford's Bodleian Libraries launched a UK Tour of 'Shikshapatri' on the 200th Anniversary.
- ◆ On April 06, 2026, Uttar Pradesh launched the 'Safe Mobility Programme' to empower women and ensure safe transport.
- ◆ On April 06, 2026, Odisha launched the 'Mukhyamantri Annapurna Yojana' to strengthen food security.
- ◆ On April 06, 2026, Blackbucks were reintroduced in Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary to boost biodiversity conservation.
- ◆ On April 04, 2026, Jitendra Singh inaugurated the BIRAC-BioNEST

- Centre at CFTRI to boost food innovation and startups.
- ◆ On April 06, 2026, Tri-Service 'Ran Samwad' Seminar was held in Bengaluru to focus on Multi-Domain Warfare Strategy.
  - ◆ On April 06, 2026, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar launched the 'Gen Z Vote' Song in Kochi to boost the participation of youth voters.
  - ◆ On April 06, 2026, Divya Singh completed the Everest Base Camp Cycling Expedition in 14 Days.
  - ◆ On April 07, 2026, NCERT reconstituted NSTC with a 20-Member panel after the recommendation of the Supreme Court.
  - ◆ On April 06, 2026, India is going to set up an Indigenous Aviation Security Equipment Testing Centre via BCAS-Rashtriya Raksha University MoU.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, the PM Mudra Yojana completed its 11 years of success.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, the digital lending platform 'KreditBee' became the first unicorn of FY 2026-27.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, CCEA approved the ₹14,105 crore Kalai-II Hydropower Project of 1,200 MW in Arunachal Pradesh.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, CCEA approved the ₹26,069 crore Kamala Hydropower Project of 1,720 MW in Arunachal Pradesh.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, NHAI launched the 'Arogya Van' Initiative to boost the medicinal tree plantation along national highways.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, the Centre approved the development of two new airports to be developed in Telangana at Warangal and Adilabad to boost regional connectivity.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, NTPC signed an MoU with EDF to explore cooperation in Nuclear Power Projects in India.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, the Coal Ministry allowed the Insurance Surety Bonds as an alternative to bank guarantees for project security.
  - ◆ On April 09, 2026, FIU-IND and I4C signed an MoU to strengthen the fight against cyber and financial crimes.
  - ◆ On April 09, 2026, the Indian Army launched the 'Operation Him Setu' to rescue stranded tourists in North Sikkim.
  - ◆ On April 10, 2026, Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan released the first-ever Sindhi Version of the Constitution in the Devanagari Script.
  - ◆ On April 08, 2026, the 8th Poshan Pakhwada was launched to boost Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Awareness.
  - ◆ On April 11, 2026, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Unnat Krishi Mahotsav, showcasing modern agri technologies.

- ◆ On April 10, 2026, the Gujarat Police launched 'NARIT AI', India's first AI tool for narcotics investigations.
- ◆ On April 10, 2026, Deakin University and the Telangana Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost AI research and innovation.
- ◆ On April 10, 2026, Tata Power partnered with CORE to upskill the workforce in Wind Energy Operations and Maintenance.
- ◆ On April 13, 2026, the Labour Ministry signed MoUs with Porter & Gigin to boost jobs via the NCS Portal.
- ◆ On April 12, 2026, the World Bank released \$340 million for the Amaravati Capital Project in Andhra Pradesh.
- ◆ On April 14, 2026, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the ₹12,000 crore Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor to boost connectivity.
- ◆ On April 14, 2026, Birkbeck, University of London, received UGC Nod to set up the Bengaluru Campus.
- ◆ India has withdrawn its proposal to host the COP 33 climate summit in 2028.
- ◆ Seattle has become the first US City to install a Swami Vivekananda Statue at Westlake Square.
- ◆ On April 29, 2026, Finland launched Europe's first fully integrated lithium project near Kokkola, Finland. The project will execute extraction to refining and is expected to boost energy independence and support electric vehicle production.
- ◆ On April 29, 2026, the UAE has announced its exit from OPEC and OPEC+ from May 1, 2026, ending nearly six decades of membership. The move reflects the country's push for greater production flexibility and may reshape global oil supply and market stability.
- ◆ On April 27, 2026, India has submitted its revised climate targets for 2031-2035 to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The plan focuses on reducing emissions, expanding clean energy and increasing forest cover, aligning with the country's long-term net-zero goal.

### International News

- ◆ On April 15, 2026, the World Bank Group has launched the 'Water Forward' Initiative to ensure water security for 1 billion people by 2030.
- ◆ On April 02, 2026, Bharti Airtel became the world's 2nd-largest telecom operator with 650 million+ subscribers.
- ◆ From October 12-18, 2026, Thailand will host the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings 2026, after 35 years, in Bangkok.
- ◆ On April 28, 2026, Symbiosis Skills and Professional University has launched Asia's first UNESCO Chair on Gender Inclusion and Skill Development. The initiative, in collaboration with UNESCO, aims to empower women by promoting participation in emerging sectors such

as AI, robotics and advanced manufacturing.

- ◆ Annalena Baerbock, the President of the United Nations General Assembly, visited India on April 28, marking her first trip after assuming this role. This visit will highlight India's growing importance in global diplomacy and multilateral cooperation.
- ◆ On April 27, 2026, India and New Zealand have signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) at Bharat Mandapam, with Union Minister Piyush Goyal and Trade Minister Todd McClay leading the signing. The pact aims to reduce trade barriers, enhance market access and strengthen bilateral economic cooperation.
- ◆ On April 25, 2026, the US Department of Commerce has imposed a heavy anti-dumping duty of over 123 per cent on solar cell and panel imports from India, citing below-fair-value pricing concerns. The move may escalate trade tensions and impact India's solar export industry.
- ◆ On April 25, 2026, India has approved a ₹30 billion currency swap for the Maldives under the SAARC framework, boosting economic cooperation. The move supports financial stability amid global uncertainties, reinforcing India's role as a reliable partner in helping manage external shocks.
- ◆ On April 25, 2026, Turkey has passed a new legislation restricting social media access for children under 15. The law strengthens online safety by mandating strict age verification and parental controls amid growing global concerns over the impact of digital content on minors.
- ◆ On April 23, 2026, the UK Parliament has passed the Tobacco and Vapes Bill, banning tobacco sales to those born on or after 1 January, 2009. The bill aims to create a smoke-free generation.
- ◆ On April 21, 2026, Rumen Radev has won Bulgaria's 2026 parliamentary elections, leading Progressive Bulgaria to a decisive mandate. His victory marks a turning point after years of instability, raising hopes for a stable government following multiple elections.
- ◆ India and Russia have operationalised RELOS (Reciprocal Exchange of Logistic Agreement) in April 2026, enabling mutual access to military bases, ports and airfields. Signed in 2025, the pact boosts defence cooperation, strengthens strategic ties and enhances India's global reach, including in the Arctic region.
- ◆ The Philippines has joined the US-led Pax Silica initiative to boost semiconductor supply chains.
- ◆ U.S. President Donald Trump has unveiled his plan for the 'Arc de Trump' Monument in Washington, DC.
- ◆ Susan Coyle has been appointed the first female Army Chief of the Australian Defence Force.

- ◆ On April 13, 2026, Roman Gofman has been appointed as the next head of Mossad.
  - ◆ Newcastle Disease is spreading across Europe, raising concerns for poultry farmers and food supply. The virus has surged from Eastern to Central Europe, heavily affecting Poland—with over half a million birds culled—and Germany, where outbreaks were confirmed.
  - ◆ Uchral Nyam-Osor has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mongolia after the political deadlock and resignation of Zandanshatar Gombojav.
  - ◆ France has allowed a visa-free airport transit for Indian Nationals.
  - ◆ China has selected its first foreign astronauts from Pakistan for the Tian-gong Mission.
  - ◆ IFC has targeted \$10 billion annual investment in India by 2030.
  - ◆ UNESCO has expanded the Global Geoparks Network with 12 new sites, bringing the total to 241 Worldwide.
- Banking and Financial**
- ◆ India's Wholesale Inflation has risen to a 3-month high of 3.9 per cent in March on rising fuel and power costs.
  - ◆ Shriram Finance has got RBI nod for Primary Dealer Business; Shares rise on Positive Market Sentiment.
  - ◆ EXIM Bank has extended a \$100 million loan to the Africa Finance Corporation to boost infrastructure development.
  - ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹41.8 lakh penalty on Bandhan Bank for KYC and Compliance Violations.
  - ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹80,000 penalty on Muthoot Housing Finance for Fair Practice Code Violations.
  - ◆ The Government has formed a Panel under SBI Chief S. Setty to assess the AI Platform 'Mythos' Risks.
  - ◆ On April 22-23, 2026, PNB has partnered with Kiwi to launch a RuPay-based credit card for UPI Payments.
  - ◆ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched 'Mission Jagrook' at SEBI's 38th Foundation Day to boost investor awareness.
  - ◆ RBI has launched 'Mission SAKSH-AM' to strengthen Urban Cooperative Banks through nationwide capacity building.
  - ◆ As on 7th April reports, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has granted R1 approval to the M Pallonji Group for its proposed general insurance venture.
  - ◆ Razorpay has partnered with OpenAI to enable seamless payment integration in AI apps.
  - ◆ RBI has cancelled the licence of Shirpur Merchants' Co-operative Bank over financial weakness.
  - ◆ On March 28, 2026, Bank of Baroda has launched an AI-based 'bob SAM-VAD' Platform to enhance customer experience.

- ◆ PhonePe–SBI has launched a Co-Branded Credit Card with zero joining fee.
- ◆ Morgan Stanley has cut down India's FY26–27 growth forecast to 6.2 per cent, citing Gulf conflict pressures.
- ◆ The World Bank has raised India's FY27 growth forecast to 6.6 per cent, citing strong demand and export strength.
- ◆ In early April 2026, DBS Bank India has launched the 'DBS Aspire' programme. The programme is designed as a relationship-led banking service tailored for the emerging affluent segment, offering benefits such as zero forex mark-up on debit cards.
- ◆ PNB has partnered with GeM to provide collateral-free loans to sellers via the GeM Sahay Portal.
- ◆ UPI has completed 10 years with massive growth in transactions and value.
- ◆ RBI has unveiled the 'Utkarsh 2029' Strategy Framework to strengthen digital finance and its global role.
- ◆ ADB has projected India's GDP Growth at 6.9 per cent for FY27.
- ◆ India's Retail Inflation has risen to a 13-month high of 3.4 per cent in March.
- ◆ CSB Bank has launched a 'Smart Save Account' to boost its retail banking portfolio.
- ◆ Reliance Jio and Bank of Baroda have partnered to launch 'bob World Lite'.
- ◆ Visa and HDFC Bank have launched the FIFA World Cup 2026 Pixel Credit Card with the 'Spend & Win' Campaign.
- ◆ RBI has returned Ujjivan SFB's application to convert into a universal bank.
- ◆ National Stock Exchange (NSE) has got MCA approval for the 'National Coal Exchange of India' name.
- ◆ IMF has raised India's growth forecast to 6.5 per cent for FY 2026–27.
- ◆ RBI has cancelled the licence of the National Urban Cooperative Bank, Pratapgarh.
- ◆ PPFAS Asset Management has received PFRDA approval to sponsor a pension fund under NPS.
- ◆ Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched MyLIC & Super Sales Saathi Apps to boost digital services.
- ◆ DoT and SEBI have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to curb telecom-linked financial frauds.
- ◆ Ahana has launched the RBI Reporting Solution for Co-operative Banks with a Proprietary Data Model.
- ◆ India Post has achieved a record ₹15,296 crore in revenue in FY26, registering 16 per cent growth.
- ◆ BHIM App has introduced a new feature to check CIBIL Score directly via NPCI Support.
- ◆ CheQ and AU Small Finance Bank have launched India's First

- ◆ LED-powered co-branded credit card, 'CheQ AU Credit Card'.
- ◆ India's Eight Core Industries Contracted 0.4 per cent in March after five months of growth.
- ◆ NSE-Listed Companies' CSR Spending has jumped 23 per cent to ₹22,212 crore in FY25.
- ◆ The United Nations has projected India's Economy to grow by 6.4 per cent in 2026 and 6.6 per cent in 2027.
- ◆ Karnataka Bank has partnered with Pine Labs to boost digital payment and PoS solutions for customers.
- ◆ SEBI has slashed the minimum investment in Social Impact Funds to ₹1,000, boosting retail participation.
- ◆ RBI has launched the 4th Global Hackathon "HaRBinger", with the theme: 'Secure and Inclusive Banking'.
- ◆ SBI has aimed to expand its balance sheet to 25 per cent of India's GDP by 2030.
- ◆ As per the data released on 01 April, 2026, India's GST collections rise 8 per cent to cross ₹2 lakh crore in March 2026.
- ◆ IRDAI has retained LIC, New India Assurance & GIC as D-SIIs for FY 2025-26.
- ◆ RBI has approved Emirates NBD to acquire up to 74 per cent stake in RBL Bank, paving the way for Foreign Bank Status.
- ◆ UPI hits record 64 billion transactions in March 2026.
- ◆ On 01 April, 2026, Moody's cuts India's FY27 growth forecast to 6 per cent amid the West Asia Conflict.
- ◆ On April 04, 2026, the Bank of Baroda crosses ₹30 lakh crore Global Business Mark for the first time in FY26.
- ◆ As of April 08, 2026, RBI holds the repo rate at 5.25 per cent with a neutral stance.

### Appointment and Resignation

- ◆ Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana has partnered with Agilitas Sports for the One8 Brand. She has been appointed the brand ambassador and product co-creator for ONE8 by Agilitas.
- ◆ Infosys officially announced its partnership with 7-time Grand Slam champion Carlos Alcaraz as its Global Brand Ambassador on April 15, 2026.
- ◆ FICCI has appointed Anant Swarup as its Secretary General.
- ◆ Australian Government has appointed Gen. Susan Coyle as the First Woman Chief of Army in a Historic Military Reshuffle.
- ◆ Srikanth Velamakanni has been appointed as the NASSCOM Chairperson.
- ◆ RBI has approved Vivek Tripathi as a whole-time Director of AU Small Finance Bank.
- ◆ Ashok Lahiri has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the NITI Aayog.

- ◆ On April 24, 2026, Nitu Sarma has been appointed as the Interim Chief Executive Officer of Noida International Airport.
- ◆ Ramesh Babu has been reappointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Karur Vysya Bank.
- ◆ IFS officer Dinesh Trivedi has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh.
- ◆ Two-time Olympic medalist P.V. Sindhu joins the BWF Council with voting rights after becoming the Athletes' Commission Chair.
- ◆ Ajit Agarkar has been reappointed as the Chairman of the Selection Committee.
- ◆ Tim Cook is going to become the Executive Chairman, and John Ternus is named the next CEO of Apple Inc.
- ◆ HDFC Life has extended Vibha Padalkar's Tenure as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for five years.
- ◆ POWERGRID has appointed Burra Vamsi Rama Mohan as the new CMD (Effective 1 April, 2026).
- ◆ Lt. Gen. Dhiraj Seth has been appointed as the Vice Chief of Army Staff.
- ◆ Uchral Nyam-Osor has been elected as Mongolia's new Prime Minister.
- ◆ Ashwini Bhide was appointed as the first woman Municipal Commissioner of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on March 31, 2026. She officially took charge from the outgoing commissioner, Bhushan Gagrani, on that date, becoming the first woman to lead the civic body in its over 160-year history.
- ◆ Krishna Kumar Singh has assumed the additional charge as SAIL CMD.
- ◆ Chanchal Kumar has been named the Information and Broadcasting Secretary.
- ◆ On April 10, 2026, Min Aung Hlaing has been elected as 11th President of Myanmar.
- ◆ Blanka Vlašić has been named as the Ambassador for World 10K Bengaluru 2026.
- ◆ Menaka Guruswamy has become India's First Openly Queer MP.
- ◆ To Lam has been elected as Vietnam's President.
- ◆ UB Pravin Rao has been appointed the Chairperson of the NASSCOM Foundation.
- ◆ Sanjay Khanna has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of BPCL.
- ◆ India has been elected to the key ECOSOC bodies; Preeti Saran has been re-elected to the UN Committee.
- ◆ Satyanarayana Raju has been appointed as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Indian Digital Payment Intelligence Corporation (IDPIC).
- ◆ Rajive Kumaraswami has been appointed the MD Designate of Chola MS.

- ◆ Vibhor Jain has been appointed the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- ◆ Samrat Choudhary has become Bihar's First BJP Chief Minister.
- ◆ Iraq has elected Kurdish Leader Nizar Amedi as the new president.
- ◆ Djibouti President Ismail Omar Guelleh has been re-elected for a sixth term.
- ◆ Odisha Police has been conferred the President's Police Colour for Exceptional Service and Excellence in Policing.
- ◆ ISRO SAC and ATREE have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Sustainable Land Management and Grassland Mapping in India.

### Awards

- ◆ Sayani Gupta has been named the Harvard South Asian Association's Person of the Year 2026.
- ◆ N. Alim Yusuf from Kerala has won the WWF National Award for AI App 'NeophyteID' at ECHO Summit 2026.
- ◆ Sadhvi Satish Sail has been crowned Miss India 2026; Rajnandini Pawar secures the runner-up title.
- ◆ Geetanjali Om Parkash has won Mrs International World Classic 2026.
- ◆ Carlos Alcaraz and Aryna Sabalenka have been named the Laureus Sports Persons of the Year; PSG wins the Best Team Award.
- ◆ General Upendra Dwivedi has been inducted into the US Army War College International Hall of Fame.
- ◆ NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) and Dhruva Space signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the design, manufacture, testing, and supply of space-grade solar panels on April 4, 2026. The partnership focuses on scaling up manufacturing to meet growing global demand from satellite manufacturers.
- ◆ DRDO has handed over the AI-based 'Prajna' System to boost internal security.
- ◆ NASA has unveiled the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope to explore Exoplanets and map the Universe.
- ◆ Artemis II will be the first crewed mission to travel into lunar space since Apollo 17 in December 1972 — a gap of 54 years.
- ◆ The Maharashtra Cabinet has approved the AI Policy 2026 to boost investment and jobs.

### Science

- ◆ Amazon is going to acquire Globalstar in a \$11.57 billion deal to boost Project Kuiper and Rival Starlink.
- ◆ The World Health Organisation has approved the first-ever infant-specific malaria drug on World Malaria Day 2026.

- ◆ Skyroot Aerospace has begun the journey of Vikram-1, India's first privately built orbital rocket, transporting it from Hyderabad to the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ◆ The UAE has launched the World's First 10G Internet network using the 6 GHz spectrum.
- ◆ GE Aerospace has delivered the 6th F404-IN20 Engine to HAL for Tejas MK1A under the 99-Engine Deal.
- ◆ Artemis II Astronauts have created a new record, travelling the farthest from the Earth at 4.07 lakh km.
- ◆ Meta has launched 'Muse Spark' AI Model to boost Superintelligence Ambitions.
- ◆ Artemis II has returned successfully, marking the first crewed lunar mission in 50 years.
- ◆ Indian Army has departed for the 7th India-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK 2026'.
- ◆ The Indian Army has flagged off "Samudra Sahas" Blue-Water Sailing Expedition from Mumbai to mark Artillery Bicentenary.
- ◆ Indian Navy has hosted IMEX TTX 2026 in Kochi with IONS Nations; India Assumes Chairmanship 2026-2028.
- ◆ The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹1,950 crore deal with BEL for Indigenous Mountain Radars to boost air defence.
- ◆ India has conducted the Tri-Service Exercise "Dweep Shakti" to strengthen coastal and island defence.
- ◆ The Indian Navy has inducted the survey vessel INS Sanshodhak.
- ◆ The Indian Navy received the second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) named 'Malwan' on March 31, 2026. Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, the vessel is designed to enhance coastal defense, strengthen underwater surveillance, and detect, or neutralize, enemy submarines in littoral waters.
- ◆ INS Sunayna has flagged off from Mumbai for the IOS SAGAR Mission with 16-Nation Participation.
- ◆ India's Defence Exports hit record ₹38,424 crore in FY26 with 66 per cent surge.

### Defence

- ◆ The Indian Navy has released INMSS-2026 at the Naval Commanders' Conference in New Delhi.
- ◆ INS Nireekshak has reached Sri Lanka for the Joint Naval Training.
- ◆ INS Sudarshini has arrived in Spain under Lokayan 26; marks maiden visit to the Canary Islands.
- ◆ DRDO has unveiled Indigenous Advanced Armoured Platforms to boost Defence Capabilities.
- ◆ Indian Army has participated in India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise 'Cyclone-IV' at Anshas.

- ◆ India has participated in the 'Sea Dragon 2026' Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise with Quad+ Nations in the USA.
- ◆ Hockey Jharkhand has won its 3rd Consecutive Sub-Junior Women's National Title.

### Sports

- ◆ Mitchell Starc & Deepti Sharma have been named the Leading Cricketers in Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2025.
- ◆ Sanju Samson and Amelia Kerr have been named the ICC Players of the Month for March.
- ◆ FIFA has selected India for the Women's Development Programme 2026 to boost women's football.
- ◆ Sabastian Sawe has become the first athlete to break the 2-hour marathon barrier at the London Marathon 2026.
- ◆ Goa is going to host the SAFF Women's Championship 2026 for the first time.
- ◆ Dravid and Kumble have been honoured with Named Stands at Chinnaswamy Stadium.
- ◆ Murali Sreeshankar has won the Indian Athletics Series 2026 with an 8.15m Jump.
- ◆ Bhuvneshwar Kumar has become the first fast bowler to reach 200 IPL wickets.
- ◆ Palak Gulia and Mukesh Nelavalli have won Gold with a Junior World Record in the ISSF 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team Event.
- ◆ Hyderabad, Telangana, will host the Rugby Premier League 2026 from 16-18 June, 2026.
- ◆ Vaishali has won the FIDE Women's Candidates 2026.
- ◆ Viktor Axelsen has announced his retirement from Professional Badminton after a historic Olympic success.
- ◆ Pankaj Advani has won the Maiden National 9-Ball Pool Championship Title in Ludhiana, Punjab.
- ◆ Chitra Magimairaj has won the 9-Ball National Title, ending a 9-year drought with a dominant comeback.
- ◆ The International Olympic Committee has barred Transgender Women from Women's Olympic Events, citing fairness concerns.
- ◆ 11-Year-Old Bodhana Sivanandan has become Britain's Top-Rated Female Chess Player.
- ◆ Karnataka has emerged as the champion in Khelo India Tribal Games 2026, with Chhattisgarh hosting the maiden edition.
- ◆ Rassie van der Dussen has announced his retirement from International Cricket after an illustrious white-ball career with South Africa.
- ◆ Rubel Hossain has announced his retirement from International Cricket.
- ◆ Aronyak Ghosh has become the 95th Grandmaster of India.

### Book and Author

- ◆ Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan released Sudha Murty's book, Tides of Time: Bharat's History through

Murals in Parliament, on April 1, 2026. The release took place at Samvidhan Sadan (the old Parliament building) in New Delhi.

- ◆ Former CBI Director R.K. Raghavan has launched an autobiography, 'A Road Well Travelled'.
- ◆ Former Army Chief Manoj Naravane has released his new book named 'The Curious and the Classified'.

### Important day

- ◆ 1 April: Odisha Day (Utkal Divas)
- ◆ 2 April: World Autism Awareness Day (Theme 2026: Autism and Humanity – Every Life Has Value)
- ◆ 2 April: International Fact-Checking Day
- ◆ 2 April: International Children's Book Day
- ◆ 4 April: International Carrot Day
- ◆ 4 April: International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action (Theme 2026: Invest in Peace; Invest in Mine Action)
- ◆ 5 April: National Maritime Day (Theme 2026: Maritime India – Empowering Progress)
- ◆ 5 April: International Day of Conscience (Theme 2026: Reinventing Peace with Youth)
- ◆ 6 April: International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) (Theme 2026: Sport: Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers)
- ◆ 7 April: World Health Day (Theme 2026: Together for health. Stand with science)
- ◆ 10 April: World Homoeopathy Day (Theme 2026: Homoeopathy for Sustainable Health)
- ◆ 11 April: National Safe Motherhood Day
- ◆ 12 April: International Day of Human Space Flight
- ◆ 13 April: Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Remembrance Day
- ◆ 14 April: World Chagas Disease Day
- ◆ 15 April: International Wellness Day
- ◆ 17 April: World Haemophilia Day (Theme 2026: Diagnosis: First Step to Care)
- ◆ 18 April: World Heritage Day (Theme 2026: Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Contexts of Conflicts and Disasters)
- ◆ 19 April: World Liver Day (Theme 2026: Solid Habits, Strong Liver)
- ◆ 20 April: UN Chinese Language Day
- ◆ 21 April: World Creativity and Innovation Day (Theme 2026: Harnessing Creativity for Global Progress)
- ◆ 22 April: World Earth Day (Theme 2026: Our Power, Our Planet)
- ◆ 23 April: World Book and Copyright Day (Theme 2026: Read, Make Your Star Shine)
- ◆ 23 April: English Language Day
- ◆ 23 April: International Girls in ICT Day (Theme 2026 – AI for Development: Girls shaping the digital future)
- ◆ 24–30 April: World Immunisation Week (Theme 2026: For every generation, vaccines work)

- ◆ 24 April: International Day of Multi-lateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
- ◆ 24 April: National Panchayati Raj Day (Theme 2026: Sashakt Panchayat, Sarvangeen Vikas (Empowered Panchayats, Holistic Development))
- ◆ 24 April: World Day for Animals in Laboratories
- ◆ 25 April: World Malaria Day (Theme 2026: Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can. Now We Must)
- ◆ 25 April: World Penguin Day (Theme 2026: Save the Penguins)
- ◆ 26 April: World Intellectual Property Day (Theme 2026: IP and Sports: Ready, Set, Innovate)
- ◆ 26 April: International Chornobyl Disaster Remembrance Day
- ◆ 27 April: World Tapir Day
- ◆ 27 April: World Design Day
- ◆ 28 April: World Day for Safety and Health at Work
- ◆ 29 April: International Dance Day
- ◆ 29 April: International Sculpture Day
- ◆ 30 April: International Jazz Day
- ◆ Brazil Basketball Legend Oscar Schmidt has passed away.
- ◆ Senior Congress Leader and Former Union Minister Mohsina Kidwai has passed away recently.
- ◆ Legendary Playback Singer Asha Bhosle has passed away at the age of 92.
- ◆ Former Indian Cricketer C. D. Gopinath has passed away.
- ◆ Veteran Congress Leader Abu Hasem Khan Chowdhury 'Dalu Babu' has passed away at the age of 88.
- ◆ Jim Whittaker, the first American to Summit Mount Everest, has passed away.
- ◆ Former Rajya Sabha MP and renowned paediatrician Dr Gopalrao Patil have passed away at the age of 94.
- ◆ TDP Co-founder and Former Andhra Chief Minister Nadenla Bhaskar Rao has passed away at the age of 90.
- ◆ Padma Shri Awardee Bhagwandas Raikwar 'Dau' has passed away at the age of 83.
- ◆ Veteran Photographer Raghu Rai has passed away on 26, April 2026, at the age of 83, after battling cancer.
- ◆ Spiritual Leader Muni Narayana Prasad has passed away at the age of 87 in Thiruvananthapuram.

### Obituary

- ◆ Lion of Ladakh, Colonel Sonam Wangchuk (retd.), Maha Vir Chakra Awardee has passed away at the age of 61.