

ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026

India are the champions of the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup, securing their third title by defeating New Zealand by 96 runs in the final held on 8 March, 2026, at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.



Key Details

- ◆ It was the 10th edition of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup. The first edition of the Men's T20 World Cup was held in 2007.
- ◆ The T20 World Cup was organised by the International Cricket Council.
- ◆ The Cup was hosted by India and Sri Lanka from 7 February to 8 March 2026 and was played across India (5 cities) and Sri Lanka (3 venues).

Teams and Format

- ◆ Total Teams: 20
- ◆ All teams were divided into 4 groups (5 teams each).
- ◆ Groups were:
 - **Group A:** India, Pakistan, the USA, the Netherlands, Namibia
 - **Group B:** Australia, Sri Lanka, Ireland, Zimbabwe, Oman
 - **Group C:** England, West Indies, Scotland, Nepal, Italy

- **Group D:** New Zealand, South Africa, Afghanistan, Canada, UAE

Final Match Summary:



- ◆ **India:** Score - 255/5 in 20 overs.
- ◆ **New Zealand:** Score - 159 all out in 19 overs.
- ◆ **Winner:** Indian national cricket team, led by Surya Kumar Yadav.
- ◆ **Runner-up:** New Zealand national cricket team, led by Mitchell Santner.
- ◆ **Final result:** India won by 96 runs.

Key Statistics and Awards

- ◆ **Player of the Tournament:** Sanju Samson (India), who scored 321 runs at an average of 80.25.
- ◆ **Man of the Match (Final):** Jasprit Bumrah (India) for his spell of 4/15.
- ◆ **Most Runs:** Sahibzada Farhan (Pakistan) with 383 runs.
- ◆ **Most Wickets:** Jointly held by Jasprit Bumrah and Varun Chakravarthy (India) with 14 wickets each.

Historic Achievements

- ◆ India became the first team to win three T20 World Cups.
- ◆ India became the first team to win back-to-back titles.
- ◆ India became the first team to win at home.

National News

- ◆ On 25 March, 2026, the Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) under MeitY and the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) have signed an MoU under the initiative “BHASHINI for Seva/Sanchalan – A BHASHINI Sahayogi Programme.”
- ◆ On 26 March, 2026, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has signed an agreement with KRAFTON India Pvt. Ltd to support startups, innovators and entrepreneurs across India.
- ◆ On 25 March, 2026, the Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Immigration, Visa, Foreigners Registration and Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme for five years (2026–2031) to strengthen India’s immigration system.
- ◆ The Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, in collaboration with the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will organise the 9th Pharma-Med 2026 in New Delhi on 27 March under the theme “Healthcare Equity: Reaching Every Citizen of Viksit Bharat”.
- ◆ On 25 March, 2026, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has launched the PRISM-SG Portal in New Delhi to improve efficiency, co-ordination and transparency in the construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and railway bridges.
- ◆ On 24 March, 2026, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched ‘Nivesh Mitra 3.0’, a digital platform to simplify and enhance the investor experience, along with new schemes, including the UP Private Business Park Development Scheme-2025 and the Plug-and-Play Industrial Sheds Scheme.
- ◆ On 27 March, 2026, Meghalaya became the 12th state to sign a Reform-Linked MoU with the Union Government under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0, emphasising outcome-based rural water supply.
- ◆ On 27 March, 2026, India has organised the first BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting 2026 under the Department of Youth Affairs, marking the start of youth engagements during its BRICS Chairship.
- ◆ On 29 March, 2026, the Rajasthan Government has launched the Industrial Park Promotion Policy-2026 under CM Bhajanlal Sharma to boost industrial growth, attract investments and create employment opportunities.

- ◆ National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Steel, has created history by becoming the first mining company in India to produce 50 million tonnes (MT) of iron ore in a single financial year (2025–26).
- ◆ Renowned sand artist Sudarshan Pattnaik has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador for Census 2027 by the Ministry of Home Affairs to promote awareness and participation.
- ◆ On 25 March, 2026, India launched Operation Energy Security amid rising tensions in West Asia to safeguard energy supply routes in the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.
- ◆ On 25 March, 2026, the Cabinet approved the revamped UDAN Scheme to boost regional connectivity with ₹28,840 crore.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, Rashtrapati Bhavan has hosted Purple Fest to celebrate the talent and aspirations of divyangjan.
- ◆ On 15 March, 2026, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has revised the FASTag Annual Pass Fee to ₹3,075 for FY 2026–27.
- ◆ On 15 March, 2026, the Central Government has renamed Tuticorin Airport as Thoothukudi Airport in Tamil Nadu.
- ◆ Chapchar Kut has been celebrated with traditional fervour in Aizawl, Mizoram.
- ◆ On 6 March, 2026, Arpita Patra became the second Indian woman to scale Nevado Ojos del Salado.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, Safdarjung Hospital has launched India's first online critical care follow-up clinic for ICU patients.
- ◆ On 17 March, 2026, the Department of Posts has launched '24 Speed Post' with next-day guaranteed delivery in six major cities.
- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's first fully automated Haldia Bulk Terminal at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port.
- ◆ On 15 March, 2026, PM Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated the 120 MW Lower Kopili Hydroelectric Project in Assam.
- ◆ On 16 March, 2026, the Maharashtra Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Wadhvani AI to boost AI-driven public health services.
- ◆ On 16 March, 2026, the Himachal Pradesh Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Dairy Development Board to boost the dairy sector and milk processing capacity in the state.
- ◆ The Ministry of Education and IIT Kanpur have launched the Free SATHEE App for competitive exam preparation.



- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, Andhra Pradesh has launched the 'Divyang Shakti' Scheme for free bus travel to differently abled persons.
- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, Chhattisgarh has launched Gaudham Yojana to protect stray cattle.
- ◆ The Government has expanded the ALMM Framework to Solar Ingots & Wafers to boost domestic manufacturing.
- ◆ On 17 March, 2026, Odisha's Kusunpur became the state's first 'Smart Village' under the CSIR Initiative.
- ◆ On 17 March, 2026, Tata Steel has approved the merger with Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd (NINL) and a \$2 billion investment in its Singapore Arm.
- ◆ Bharat Tribes Fest 2026 has concluded in New Delhi to showcase Tribal Culture and Entrepreneurship from 18 to 30 March, 2026.
- ◆ On 18 March, 2026, the Union Cabinet has approved the ₹33,660 crore BHAVYA Scheme to develop 100 Industrial Parks across India.
- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has celebrated Phool Dei Festival, marking the arrival of Spring in Uttarakhand.
- ◆ India-Indonesia has launched the joint restoration of Prambanan Temple in Yogyakarta.
- ◆ On 19 March, 2026, the Ministry of Ayush has launched the "Yoga 365" campaign to promote daily yoga practice.
- ◆ On 19 March, 2026, the Ministry of Ayush has signed an MoU with CISF to promote preventive healthcare and wellness.
- ◆ The Union Cabinet has approved ₹1,718.56 crore MSP Funding to strengthen cotton procurement and support farmers.
- ◆ On 16 March, 2026, the Geographical Survey of India declared Kalinjar Fort Hill a National Geo-Heritage Site.
- ◆ On 18 March, 2026, the Punjab Government has launched 'Sikhya Kranti 2.0' with ₹3,500 crore investment to transform school education.
- ◆ On 21 March, 2026, India and Bhutan have signed an MoU to boost postal cooperation and technology collaboration.
- ◆ On 21 March, 2026, the National Biodiversity Authority formed an expert committee to combat invasive alien species and protect India's biodiversity.
- ◆ On 22 March, 2026, Narendra Modi became the longest-serving elected leader of India.
- ◆ The third North-East India Film Festival 2026 begins in Imphal, Manipur, on 21 March, 2026.
- ◆ On 22 March, 2026, Telangana CM Revanth Reddy has officially launched the ₹9,000 crore Rythu Bharosa disbursement for farmers.
- ◆ The 138-Year-Old 'Hatti Risala' Festival has been celebrated with grandeur in Jalna during Dhulivandan.

- ◆ Students in Tamil Nadu have launched a mini satellite to a height of 22 km.
- ◆ The Centre has set a procurement target of 30.3 million tonnes of wheat for the FY27 Rabi marketing season.
- ◆ On 7 March, 2026, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh has inaugurated the National Stakeholders' Meet on the coconut promotion scheme at IIT Madras.
- ◆ On 6 March, 2026, Karnataka has proposed a social media ban for children under 16 years.
- ◆ On 8 March, 2026, the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has launched ASMITA, a nationwide Athletics League to empower women athletes.
- ◆ On 7 March, 2026, Maharashtra has signed an MoU with Finnish Firms to modernise Mumbai's Sassoon Dock.
- ◆ On 7 March, 2026, Deepali Das, an Assamese woman, became the first to receive Indian citizenship under the CAA.
- ◆ On 6 March, 2026, Pondicherry University has signed an MoU with CCPD to promote disability inclusion and accessibility.
- ◆ Karnataka has launched a ₹100 crore 'Chief Minister's Krishi Vistara' Scheme in its state budget.
- ◆ On 5 March, 2026, Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has laid the foundation for India's First Riverine Lighthouses on the Brahmaputra River.
- ◆ On 9 March, 2026, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has launched Phase-2 of the 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme' in Delhi.
- ◆ On 9 March, 2026, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has launched the 'Say No to Proxy Sarpanch' Campaign to empower women leaders in panchayats.
- ◆ On 5 March, 2026, NITI Aayog has signed a Statement of Intent with UNICEF India to strengthen health and nutrition in aspirational districts.
- ◆ On 6 March, 2026, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has signed an MoU with Bajaj Auto Limited to boost automotive skills training.
- ◆ On 8 March, 2026, Punjab has launched Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhian Satikar Yojna to provide monthly financial aid to women.
- ◆ On 8 March, 2026, the Cabinet has approved the extension of the Jal Jeevan Mission up to December 2028.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Madurai Airport was declared as an International Airport by the Union Cabinet.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Uttar Pradesh has signed an MoU with OneOTT Intertainment Ltd to expand high-speed broadband under 'Project Ganga'.

- ◆ The International Malaria Conference 2026 was held in New Delhi from 7 to 9 March, 2026.
- ◆ On 6 March, 2026, NITI Aayog has partnered with Tata Electronics Private Limited to boost electronics and semiconductor manufacturing in India.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, the National Highway Authority of India has signed an MoU with commercial vehicle aggregator platforms to enhance safety and efficiency on national highways.
- ◆ Indian Railways has launched the 'SHINE' App to empower women and report workplace harassment.
- ◆ On 11 March, 2026, NITI Aayog has released the second edition of the Fiscal Health Index 2026 to assess the financial performance of Indian States.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated the 40th AAHAR International Food and Hospitality Fair in New Delhi.
- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, Union Minister Kirti Vardhan Singh represents India at Chile Presidential inauguration as José Antonio Kast takes office.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Gujarat has launched the 'Lake and Air Watch' Initiative to monitor urban lakes and air quality in real time.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Assam has disbursed ₹3,600 crore to 40 lakh women under Orunodoi 3.0 through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- ◆ On 8 March, 2026, Kerala Police has launched the 'Nirbhaya Nisha initiative' to enhance night safety for women in Kerala.
- ◆ Indian Orchid Festival 2026 has concluded in Pakyong District, Sikkim.
- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, Union Minister Prataprao Jadhav has launched the dedicated AYUSH store on Zepto.
- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, V.O. Chidambaram Port has launched India's first Digital Twin Platform for smart port management.
- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, India has launched the first integrated life-cycle support model for persons with hearing impairment.
- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, Oil India Ltd has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NSTFDC to strengthen healthcare in tribal areas.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released the 22nd instalment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi from Guwahati.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, India has launched indigenous small modular reactors under the ₹20,000 crore Nuclear Energy Mission.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, the Government has approved 104 projects worth ₹271 crore to boost 6G research in India.

- ◆ On 12 March, 2026, the Centre has approved the extension of the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana for mustard procurement in Madhya Pradesh.
- ◆ GI-Tagged Joha Rice has been exported from Assam to Europe for the first time.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, Coursera has partnered with Mission Karmayogi to upskill civil servants.
- ◆ The Petroleum Ministry has mandated the nationwide sale of E20 Petrol with a minimum RON 95 from 1st April 2026.
- ◆ The Casebook on AI and Gender Empowerment has been launched at the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a nationwide Free HPV Vaccination Drive for 14-year-old girls from Ajmer.
- ◆ The Sikkim Legislative Assembly on 26 March, 2026 adopted a government resolution to rename Pakyong Airport as Trilochan Pokhrel Airport.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, President Droupadi Murmu has launched the Delhi Lakhpati Bitiya Yojana at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.
- ◆ Over Rs. 275 Crore released by the Union Government to Jharkhand under the XV Finance Commission to strengthen rural governance.
- ◆ Larsen & Toubro has secured a ₹1,000–2,500 crore contract to build the LIGO Observatory in Maharashtra.
- ◆ Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia is going to represent India at MWC 2026 in Barcelona.
- ◆ On 5 March, 2026, 11th Raisina Dialogue 2026 was held in New Delhi with Finnish President Dr Alexander Stubb as the Chief Guest.
- ◆ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla reconstituted the Committee of Privileges.
- ◆ 1 March, 2026, Dol Jatra Festival has been celebrated across Assam with devotion and colours.
- ◆ 1 March, 2026, Assam has flagged off the first export of GI-Tagged Karbi Anglong Ginger to London.
- ◆ 2 March, 2026, Jual Oram has inaugurated Tribes Art Fest (TAF) 2026 at the Travancore Palace in New Delhi.
- ◆ 2 March, 2026, NITI Aayog and JICA have signed the Phase II Agreement to strengthen SDG Implementation in Aspirational Districts and Blocks.
- ◆ India will be hosting Bharat Steel 2026 Summit in New Delhi.
- ◆ 2 March, 2026, India and Canada have signed Uranium and Critical Minerals Pacts.
- ◆ 3 March, 2026, Andhra Pradesh has launched Project HANUMAN to reduce human-wildlife conflict.
- ◆ 5 March, 2026, Union Minister Amit Shah has unveiled Mascots 'Pragati' and 'Vikas' for India's First Digital Census 2027.
- ◆ 8 March, 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated two New Delhi Metro Corridors and launched Phase-V Expansion Projects in Delhi.

International News

- ◆ On 23 March, 2026, Japan has launched the world's first dedicated freight-only Shinkansen, converting its bullet train into a high-speed cargo carrier to improve logistics efficiency and sustainability.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit France to attend the G7 Summit, which will be held from 15 to 17 June.
- ◆ The 14th Ministerial Conference (MC-14) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 26 to 29 March, 2026, with participation from 166 member countries under the chairmanship of Luc Magloire Mbarga Atangana.
- ◆ Bangladesh has been placed in the 'red category' by the World Bank due to consistently high food inflation over the past 10 months, signalling serious food security concerns.
- ◆ Donald Trump has announced a \$300 billion 'America First Refining' Project with Reliance Industries in the US.
- ◆ China became India's third-largest export market in February 2026, overtaking the Netherlands. India's exports to China grew sharply by 32.4 per cent to \$1.67 billion, but even as overall exports declined slightly by 0.81 per cent to \$36.61 billion.
- ◆ India is all set to reopen the border trade with China through Lipulekh Pass in June 2026. This will end a 7-year suspension that began during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.
- ◆ Climate Change could reduce physical activity worldwide by 2050, as per a study published by The Lancet Global Health.
- ◆ Indian-Origin Surya Midha has secured the 6th position in the Top 10 Youngest Billionaires 2026 published by Forbes. 22-year-old Indian Americans — Brendan Foody, Adarsh Hiremath and Surya Midha have become the world's youngest self-made billionaires.
- ◆ Bhumika Shrestha, a 37-year-old activist, has become Nepal's first transgender woman lawmaker on 16 March, 2026.
- ◆ Archaeologists unearth missing piece of 3,200-year-old Ramesses II Statue in Egypt.
- ◆ India has submitted its first National Report on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity's Biosafety Clearing-House.
- ◆ José Antonio Kast Rist was sworn in as the President of Chile.
- ◆ Asia Africa Agri Alliance has formed to boost agricultural trade, investment and cooperation.
- ◆ Argentina has withdrawn from the World Health Organisation.
- ◆ Finland has secured the top position in the World Happiness Report 2026 for the 9th year, whereas India has been ranked 116th.

- ◆ WHO Foundation and Novo Nordisk have partnered to combat childhood obesity in India.
- ◆ Indonesia has banned social media access for children under 16 years, starting 28 March, 2026. Platforms like TikTok, YouTube, Instagram and Facebook must comply as the Government aims to protect minors from cyberbullying, addiction and harmful online content.
- ◆ The Brand Finance Banking 500 report has revealed the top 10 most valuable banks in the world in 2026, led by ICBC of China. Chinese and American megabanks dominated the rankings, while Indian banks like SBI and HDFC Bank are also featured in the global list.
- ◆ India and Finland have elevated their ties to a Strategic Partnership in Digitalisation and Sustainability during President Alexander Stubb's visit to India in March 2026. Key agreements include migration mobility partnership, environmental cooperation, 6G research collaboration and startup connectivity.
- ◆ Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CBSD) is spreading across Africa, threatening a staple crop relied upon by millions. Scientists warn that weak seed systems and whitefly transmission could expand the virus westward.
- ◆ Women hold only 64 per cent of Men's legal rights, as per the report published by UN Women on International Women's Day.
- ◆ Scotland has become the first country in the United Kingdom to legalise water cremation (alkaline hydrolysis), offering a greener alternative to burial and traditional cremation with lower carbon emissions.
- ◆ India has overtaken the United States to become the second-highest country globally for childhood obesity, according to the World Obesity Atlas 2026 released by the World Obesity Federation.
- ◆ Canada's Prime Minister Mike Carney has unveiled a comprehensive roadmap to reset bilateral ties between India and Canada during his visit to India.
- ◆ On 9 March, 2026, India has sent 1,000 metric tonnes of rice to the African nation of Malawi as humanitarian assistance after a severe drought caused by the El Niño effect. The shipment from Nhava Sheva Port (Mumbai) highlights India's support for Global South cooperation and food security.
- ◆ On 10 March, 2026, India and New Zealand have initiated discussions to expand bilateral sports cooperation in 2026, as both countries are celebrating 100 years of sporting relations between the two countries.
- ◆ India has become the largest exporter of cotton products to the United States in 2025 by surpassing China.

Imports from India reached 0.6 million tonnes, whereas China's exports fell to 0.5 million tonnes, driven by tariffs and shifting global supply chains.

- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, José Antonio Kast Rist was sworn in as the new President of Chile, marking a new political era as he promised stronger security, economic stability, and decisive leadership for the country's future.
- ◆ Denmark has become the first EU Country to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.
- ◆ The UAE has launched the world's first Sovereign Financial Cloud to strengthen secure digital finance.
- ◆ The world's largest Acidic Geyser has erupted again in the Yellowstone National Park after six years.

Banking and Financial

- ◆ Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has raised USD 400 million equivalent External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) from Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and MUFG via GIFT City branches.
- ◆ On 27 March, 2026, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY 2026–27 downward by 10 basis points to 6.1 per cent in its Economic Outlook Interim Report.
- ◆ On 27 March, 2026, the Government of Japan has committed an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of ₹16,420 crore to India for four major projects in urban transport, healthcare and agriculture.
- ◆ Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority has organised 'Niveshak Shivir' in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 27 March, 2026.
- ◆ Fitch Ratings has raised India's GDP Growth Forecast to 7.5 per cent for FY26.
- ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹3.1 lakh penalty on Cashfree Payments India Private Ltd for regulatory violations.
- ◆ India's WPI Inflation has risen to 2.13 per cent in February 2026.
- ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹2.7 lakh penalty on Manappuram Finance for KMP Pay Rule Violation.
- ◆ NPCI International Payments Limited has expanded UPI Acceptance in Sri Lanka via LankaQR Codes.
- ◆ Jio Payments Bank has launched a UPI-based cardless cash withdrawal facility to boost financial inclusion.
- ◆ RBI has won the Initiative of the Year Award for launching ".bank.in" Domain to boost digital banking security.
- ◆ Banks write off ₹9.75 lakh crore loans in the last 11 years up to FY25, as per the Government data.
- ◆ The World Bank has approved a \$300 million loan for the Clean Air Programme in Uttar Pradesh.

- ◆ The Union Government has decided to retain India's inflation targeting framework unchanged for another five-year period from 1 April, 2026, to 31 March, 2031.
- ◆ The SEBI has partnered with Google to curb the misleading activities of financial influencers (finfluencers) and protect investors.
- ◆ Paisalo Digital has partnered with the Indian Overseas Bank as a business correspondent.
- ◆ The Competition Commission of India has approved MUFG's ₹39,618 crore investment in Shriram Finance.
- ◆ L&T Finance has joined the UN Global Compact.
- ◆ DCM Shriram has secured a \$90 million investment from IFC for sustainable growth.
- ◆ Axis Bank is going to infuse ₹1,500 crore into Axis Finance to boost growth.
- ◆ Core industries growth has risen to 2.3 per cent in February 2026.
- ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹31.80 lakh penalty on HSBC for non-compliance.
- ◆ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched 'PRARAM-BH 2026' to promote awareness of the New Income Tax Act 2025.
- ◆ IIFL Home Finance has secured a \$300 million loan from the Asian Development Bank to boost affordable and green housing for women.
- ◆ NSE IX Soft has launched the Global Access Platform to enable Indian investors to trade in the US and global markets.
- ◆ Sri Lanka's first Blue Bond has been listed on NSE IX at GIFT City.
- ◆ RBI has imposed a ₹11.50 lakh penalty on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services due to non-compliance with its regulatory guidelines.
- ◆ India's Gross GST Collection has risen 1 per cent to ₹1.83 lakh crore in February 2026.
- ◆ Jio Finance Platform and Service Ltd has launched the 'Finsider' App powered by AI.
- ◆ The Central Bank of India has partnered with Canara Robeco AMC to distribute Mutual Fund Products.
- ◆ The RBI and Bank of Japan have signed the third amendment to the \$75 billion BSA to strengthen financial cooperation.
- ◆ EPFO has retained the Employees' Provident Fund interest rate at 25 per cent for FY 2025-26.
- ◆ Unified Payments Interface transactions dip 6 per cent in volume and 5 per cent in value in February 2026.
- ◆ SEBI has removed 1.2 lakh misleading Finfluencer Posts; Deploys 'Sudarshan' AI tool for digital surveillance.
- ◆ Axis Bank has partnered with Tesla to offer tailored EV Financing Solutions in India.
- ◆ NHA and ESIC have signed an MoU to integrate Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana with the ESI Scheme.

- ◆ Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited has secured \$100 million in funding from ADB to boost affordable housing.
- ◆ Yes Bank has launched 'YES Essence' Women's Salary Account, ahead of the International Women's Day.
- ◆ RBI will conduct ₹1 lakh crore OMO auctions to manage liquidity ahead of year-end.
- ◆ NABARD has launched the National Climate Stack Innovation Challenge to boost rural climate resilience.
- ◆ RBI has exempted AU Small Finance Bank Promoters from the NOFHC requirement for universal bank transition.
- ◆ Bank of Baroda has raised ₹10,000 crore through India's first domestic green infrastructure bond issue.
- ◆ L&T Finance Ltd. has launched the 'Spoorthi' Programme to empower women entrepreneurs.
- ◆ DEG and Citigroup have provided \$76 million co-financing to Shriram Finance Ltd to boost inclusive and green financing in India.
- ◆ Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has approved registration for Allianz Jio Reinsurance and Kiwi General Insurance.
- ◆ State Bank of India has launched a \$500 million social loan facility to promote women's empowerment.
- ◆ SBI has been named as the strongest Indian bank with an AAA+ brand rating.
- ◆ SBI and MUFG Bank have signed a strategic partnership to strengthen the India-Japan Economic Corridor.
- ◆ PhonePe Limited has launched the RuPay 'On-The-Go' Card to promote contactless public transport payments.
- ◆ India's Retail Inflation has risen to 3.21 per cent in February 2026, as per the Consumer Price Index (CPI) data.
- ◆ RBI has launched a pilot 'Awareness Programme on Digital Payments' in Maharashtra during the Digital Payments Awareness Week.
- ◆ Bank of Baroda has launched 'bob Women Sapphire Savings Account' with ₹10 lakh cancer care coverage for women.
- ◆ CRISIL has forecasted 7.1 per cent economic growth for India in FY27 amid global trade and West Asia risks.

Appointment and Resignation

- ◆ Periasamy Kumaran has been appointed as India's next High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, replacing Vikram Doraiswami.
- ◆ Lt. Gen. Pushpendra Pal Singh has been appointed the next General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Command.
- ◆ Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti has become Chairperson, and Kiran Umesh Mahalle became a Member of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).

- ◆ Balendra Shah, popularly known as Balen, has become Nepal's youngest Prime Minister at 35, after a landslide victory in the recent elections.
- ◆ Syed Ata Hasnain has taken the oath as the 43rd Governor of Bihar.
- ◆ The Union Government has appointed Kompella Venkata Ramana Murthy as a whole-time member of SEBI.
- ◆ Uniqlo has appointed Jasprit Bumrah as the Brand Ambassador for India.
- ◆ Keki Mistry has been appointed Interim Chairman of HDFC Bank after the resignation of Atanu Chakraborty.
- ◆ Vikram K. Doraiswami has been appointed as India's Next Ambassador to China.
- ◆ Anutin Charnvirakul has been re-elected as the 32nd Prime Minister of Thailand.
- ◆ South Indian Bank has appointed Jose Joseph Kattoor as the new Non-Executive Chairman.
- ◆ Yamaha Music India Private Ltd has appointed A.R. Rahman as its Brand Ambassador.
- ◆ Dr Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi has been reappointed as the Drugs Controller General of India.
- ◆ Bhavitha Mandava, a 24-year-old model from Hyderabad, has become the first Indian House Ambassador for Chanel.
- ◆ RM Nachammai has become the first woman at the helm of a functional nuclear power plant.
- ◆ Fino Payments Bank Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer Rishi Gupta has been arrested under the GST Act.
- ◆ Park Chan-wook has been appointed President of the Main Jury at the 79th Cannes Film Festival, first Korean to lead the jury.
- ◆ Ayatollah Alireza Arafii has been appointed as the Interim Supreme Leader of Iran.
- ◆ The Derma Co. has appointed Sania Mirza as the Brand Ambassador for Suncare.
- ◆ Shri B.P. Singh has assumed charge as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA).
- ◆ Lt. Gen. Dheeraj Seth is set to become the next Vice Chief of Army Staff from 1 April, 2026.
- ◆ Kavinder Gupta was sworn in as the 30th Governor of Himachal Pradesh on 10 March, 2026.
- ◆ Jishnu Dev Varma was sworn in as the new Governor of Maharashtra on 10 March, 2026.
- ◆ Mojtaba Khamenei has been appointed as the third Supreme Leader of Iran.
- ◆ Pieter Elbers Steps Down as IndiGo Chief Executive Officer; Rahul Bhatia to oversee operations temporarily.

- ◆ Parthanil Ghosh has been appointed the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of HDFC ERGO General Insurance, to succeed Anuj Tyagi.
- ◆ Vinay Muralidhar Tonse has been appointed the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer-Designate of Yes Bank.

Awards

- ◆ On 25th March, 2026, Veteran Actor-Filmmaker Amol Palekar will receive the 2026 META Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ◆ Jharkhand MLA Kalpana Soren has been honoured with the “Women Empowerment Trailblazer Award” at the BRICS CCI WE Annual Women Summit and Felicitation 2026 held in the capital.
- ◆ Sunil Bharti Mittal has received the GSMA Lifetime Achievement Award at Mobile World Congress in Barcelona.
- ◆ On 16 March, 2026, renowned Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu was awarded India’s highest literary honour, the 2025 Jnanpith Award. The award recognises his decades-long contribution to Tamil literature, poetry and film lyrics.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, the film ‘One Battle After Another’ has won the Best Picture award at the Oscars 2026, the top honour at the 98th Academy Awards. The film was directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, and it dominated the awards season, securing multiple Oscar wins.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, Michael B. Jordan has won the Best Actor award at the Oscars 2026 for his powerful dual performance in Ryan Coogler’s film Sinners. The win marks his first Academy Award and highlights one of the most memorable acting performances of the year.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, Irish actor Jessie Buckley has won the Best Actress at the Oscars 2026 for her powerful performance in Chloé Zhao’s film Hamnet. The win marks Buckley’s first Academy Award and highlights the film’s emotional storytelling and global acclaim.
- ◆ Chandrasekaran has been conferred Honorary Knighthood by the United Kingdom.
- ◆ Shubman Gill has been awarded the Polly Umrigar Award – Best International Cricketer (Men) at the BCCI Naman Award 2026.
- ◆ Roger Binny and Rahul Dravid have been awarded the Col. C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award at the BCCI Naman Award 2026.
- ◆ Smriti Mandhana has been awarded the Best International Cricketer (Women) at the BCCI Naman Award 2026.
- ◆ Mithali Raj has been awarded the BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award (Women) at the BCCI Naman Award 2026.
- ◆ Homebound, directed by Neeraj Ghaywan, is the only Indian film

shortlisted for Best International Feature Film at the Oscars 2026.

Science

- ◆ On 16 March, 2026, Researchers have discovered a new plant species, *Osbeckia zubeengargiana*, in Manas National Park, Assam, and named it after singer Zubeen Garg. The pink-flowered shrub from the Melastomataceae family highlights the region's rich biodiversity and scientific importance.
- ◆ Agnikul Cosmos Private Limited, an Indian private space startup, has successfully test-fired its 3D-printed rocket booster engine 'Agnite'.
- ◆ On 14 March, 2026, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has conducted a successful ground test of the CE20 Cryogenic Engine.
- ◆ On 13 March, 2026, AI giant Perplexity has launched Personal Computer, an AI agent that can research topics, write emails, manage files and automate tasks across devices. The AI tool runs on a Mac mini with secure safeguards and supports multiple AI models like Claude, Gemini and Grok for advanced automation.
- ◆ The defunct NASA satellite named Van Allen Probe A is all set to re-enter Earth's atmosphere in March 2026. This satellite returns after spending more than a decade studying space radiation around the planet. The spacecraft was launched 14 years ago.

- ◆ On 3 March, 2026, the first Dark Sky Park of Tamil Nadu was launched at Ariyur Shola Forest in Kolli Hills, Namakkal. Built at ₹1 crore, the eco-friendly astro-tourism site features telescopes, solar power, night camps and educational programmes to protect natural night skies from light pollution.
- ◆ AIIMS New Delhi and ISRO have signed an MoU to collaborate on Space Medicine Research.
- ◆ Gujarat has achieved a space milestone with the first sounding rocket launch at Dholera.
- ◆ India has Successfully Tests Indigenous Floating LiDAR Buoy System for Advanced Ocean and Wind Monitoring.

Defence

- ◆ The Indian Air Force has showcased Full-Spectrum Combat Power in Exercise 'Vayushakti-26' at Pokhran Range.
- ◆ The Indian Navy has participated in the U.S.-Led 'Sea Dragon 2026' ASW Exercise in Guam.
- ◆ Sagar Defence has laid the foundation of the world's first Autonomous Shipbuilding Centre in Nellore.
- ◆ INS Anjadip, built with indigenous SAIL Steel, is all set to join the Indian Navy fleet.
- ◆ Southern Air Command has conducted the 'Kalari Leap' Joint Maritime Exercise in the Lakshadweep Region.

- ◆ The Ministry of Defence has signed ₹5,083 crore defence deals for ALH Mk-III Helicopters and Shtil Missiles for the Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy.
- ◆ Exercise Lamitiye 2026, between India and Seychelles, was conducted from 9 to 20 March, 2026.
- ◆ DRDO and the Indian Navy have successfully conducted in-flight trials of the Indigenous ADC-150 air-droppable container from P-8I aircraft.
- ◆ The United States and South Korea have launched the 'Freedom Shield' joint military exercise amid regional tensions.
- ◆ The Indian Army and the Ladakh Forest Department have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to protect wildlife.
- ◆ Union Home Minister Amit Shah has addressed the 57th Raising Day of the Central Industrial Security Force at Mundali.
- ◆ The Indian Air Force has developed the Vayu Baan, India's first helicopter-launched autonomous drone system, to enhance modern aerial warfare capability.
- ◆ Virat Kohli has become the first player in the Indian Premier League history to score 4000+ runs in run chases, achieving the milestone during IPL 2026.
- ◆ India has won the third ICC Men's T20 World Cup Title by defeating New Zealand.
- ◆ On March 5, 2026, LeBron James broke the National Basketball Association All-Time Field Goal Record.
- ◆ Cricketer Smriti Mandhana has become the first cricketer to get her own Barbie Doll by Mattel, ahead of the International Women's Day.
- ◆ Mayank Chakraborty has become India's 94th Chess Grandmaster, the first person from Assam to achieve this title.
- ◆ Armand Duplantis has created a new pole vault world record of 6.31 metres at the Mondo Classic.
- ◆ Kimi Antonelli has won the Chinese Grand Prix and become the second-youngest F1 Race Winner.
- ◆ Former Pakistani captain Sarfaraz Ahmed has announced his retirement from International Cricket.
- ◆ India has the top medal table with 208 Medals at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026, New Delhi.

Sports

- ◆ Lokesh Satyanathan has become the first Indian to cross the 8-metre mark in indoor long jump, recording 8.01 metres at the Tyson Invitational 2026 in the USA.
- ◆ Chandrika Pujari has won Gold as India secures five medals at the World Boxing Futures Cup.
- ◆ India will host the World Indoor Athletics Championships 2028 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

- ◆ Lionel Messi has become the second footballer to score 900 career goals.
 - ◆ FIFA has fined the Israeli FA \$190,700 over anti-discrimination violations.
 - ◆ Chhattisgarh will host the First Khelo India Tribal Games 2026.
 - ◆ BCCI has announced a record ₹131 crore cash reward for Suryakumar Yadav and India's T20 World Cup-Winning Team.
 - ◆ Anant Rana has created history by completing the Ironman New Zealand Triathlon in 11 hours and 50 minutes.
 - ◆ Jammu & Kashmir has won its first-ever Ranji Trophy title.
 - ◆ The Indian Army has won the Khelo India Winter Games 2026 Team Title with 23 medals.
 - ◆ The Mumbai Cricket Association is going to name the stand at Wankhede Stadium after Ravi Shastri.
 - ◆ India's women's national cricket team has been nominated for the Laureus World Team of the Year Award 2026.
 - ◆ Indian Badminton star Lakshya Sen finishes runner-up at All England Open Badminton Championships after a loss to Lin Chun-Yi.
 - ◆ Iran has withdrawn from the FIFA World Cup 2026 amid tensions with the USA and Israel.
 - ◆ India is going to host the 2027 Asia Cup Archery Second Leg in Delhi after 22 years.
- Book and Author**
- ◆ Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has released a book titled "Mahatma: A Great Communicator", written by Dr Dhiraj Kakadia.
- Important day**
- ◆ 1 March: World Civil Defence Day (Theme 2026: Managing Environmental Risk for a Resilient Future: A Civil Defence Perspective)
 - ◆ 1 March: Zero Discrimination Day
 - ◆ 3 March: World Wildlife Day (Theme 2026 – Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods)
 - ◆ 3 March: World Hearing Day (Theme 2026 – From Communities to Classrooms: Hearing Care for all Children)
 - ◆ 5 March: International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness
 - ◆ 7 March: Jan Aushadhi Diwas
 - ◆ 8 March: International Women's Day
 - ◆ 10 March: International Day of Women Judges
 - ◆ 11 March, 2026 (second Wednesday of March): No Smoking Day
 - ◆ 12 March, 2026 (second Thursday of March): World Kidney Day (Theme 2026: Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet)
 - ◆ 13 March: World Sleep Day (Theme 2026 – Sleep Well, Live Better)
 - ◆ 14 March: International Day of Mathematics (Theme 2026: Mathematics and Hope)

- ◆ 15 March: World Consumer Rights Day (Theme 2026: Safe Products, Confident Consumers)
 - ◆ 15 March: International Day to Combat Islamophobia
 - ◆ 16 March: National Vaccination Day
 - ◆ 20 March: International Day of Happiness
 - ◆ 20 March: World Sparrow Day (Theme 2026: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities & Communities)
 - ◆ 21 March: World Forestry Day (Theme 2026: Forests and Economies)
 - ◆ 21 March: World Poetry Day (Theme 2026: Poetry as a Bridge for Peace and Inclusion)
 - ◆ 21 March: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Theme 2026: Mobilising Political Will: 60 Years of Commemorating the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)
 - ◆ 21 March: International Nowruz Day (Persian New Year)
 - ◆ 21 March: World Down Syndrome Day
 - ◆ 21 March: World Day for Glaciers
 - ◆ 22 March: Bihar Diwas
 - ◆ 22 March: World Water Day (Theme 2026: Water and Gender)
- Obituary**
- ◆ Lance Havildar KG George, Hero of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, has passed away at the age of 95.
 - ◆ Former General Secretary of the All-India Football Federation, Kushal Das, has passed away at the age of 66.
 - ◆ Actor Madhu Malhotra has passed away at the age of 71.
 - ◆ Syed Habibul Hassan, a former 1960 Summer Olympics Footballer, has passed away recently.
 - ◆ Veteran Tamil Filmmaker Thakkali Srinivasan has passed away at the age of 72.
 - ◆ Veteran Steel Industry Leader Jatinder Mehra has passed away recently.
 - ◆ Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khomeini has been killed in US-Israeli airstrikes.
 - ◆ Padma Shri Awardee and renowned Ghoda Nacha Artist Utsav Charan Das have passed away at the age of 80.
 - ◆ H.K. Dua, a veteran journalist and Rajya Sabha MP, has passed away at the age of 88.
 - ◆ Renowned German Historian and Indologist Hermann Kulke has passed away at the age of 87.