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JULY 2026 ; NEWSLETTER



Modi and Takaichi jointly inaugurate Maruti's ₹35,000-crore mega car plant

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi inaugurated Maruti Suzuki India's new manufacturing facility at Kharkhoda — one of the largest single investments in India's automobile sector in recent years, and a marker of the deepening India–Japan industrial partnership as Takaichi makes her first visit to India as premier.

SOURCE: INDIATODAY / THE HINDU

01 GOVERNANCE & POLICY



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Centre notifies new wage rates under VB-

GRAM(G) Act, 2025

Daily wages for unskilled manual work have been fixed between ₹300 and ₹409 across states, with a special rate of ₹450 in select Gram Panchayats.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Rajiv Kumar named Non-Executive Chairman of HDFC Bank

The former Chief Election Commissioner has been appointed part-time Chairman for a three-year term, pending RBI approval.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Govt clears RBI trial of ₹10, ₹20 polymer notes

The Centre has approved a pilot for plastic banknotes, while confirming paper currency will continue in circulation alongside it.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Delhi approves Lakshmi Yojana for women

A new women-centric financial assistance scheme aims to strengthen economic security and financial inclusion across the capital.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Chhattisgarh grants 10% Agniveer reservation in govt jobs

The state cabinet has approved 10% reservation for Agniveers in direct recruitment to select Class III posts after their Agnipath service.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Uttarakhand becomes India's sixth fully literate state

The milestone was achieved under NEP 2020 and the ULLAS lifelong-learning programme, marking major progress on national literacy goals.



AL JAZEERA · THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Dharmendra Pradhan resigns; Pralhad Joshi named new Education Minister

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan stepped down following nationwide protests over alleged examination irregularities and paper leaks. Pralhad Joshi has been appointed his successor, tasked with strengthening the examination system and improving transparency.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Germany's Everlence SE eyes Indian engine manufacturing

The engine maker is in talks to license production of two-stroke ship engines in India, and is also weighing local output of its 175D four-stroke engine, boosting domestic shipbuilding.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

India's first bank-led Quantum Finance Hub opens in Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh and Punjab National Bank have launched a hub to advance quantum computing, AI, cybersecurity and digital banking innovation.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

VIYONA Fintech secures NPCI Bharat Connect COU approval

The startup can now operate as a Customer Operating Unit, expanding its role in India's digital bill-payment ecosystem.



ET GOVERNMENT

Uttar Pradesh ranks second nationally in rooftop solar

The state's growing rooftop installation numbers reflect rising renewable-energy adoption and support India's clean-energy targets.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Jupiter Wagons to build Vande Bharat, Metro coach plant in Hooghly

The new West Bengal facility will manufacture Vande Bharat and Metro train coaches, expanding India's passenger-rail manufacturing capacity.





THE HINDU

Sitharaman on 4-day visit to France

The Finance Minister's visit aims to strengthen the India–France Strategic Partnership through deeper economic cooperation and investment.



INDIA TODAY

Australia to return three Tamil Nadu antiquities

Following the India–Australia Annual Summit, artefacts including a Nandi idol will be returned, strengthening cultural cooperation.



HINDUSTAN TIMES

Sanjeev Jain named India's next envoy to North Korea

Currently Ambassador to Cabo Verde, Jain is expected to take up the new assignment to Pyongyang shortly.



THE HINDU

President Murmu makes first Indian head-of-state visit to North Macedonia

The stop is part of a three-nation European tour aimed at strengthening diplomatic, economic and cultural ties.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

India unveils SHANTI vision, launches UNSC seat campaign

EAMS. Jaishankar launched the campaign for a non-permanent Security Council seat for 2028–29, spotlighting the Global South's voice.



INDIA TODAY

Bihar-born Kanishka Narayan named UK's first AI Minister

The Labour MP, who made history as Wales' first ethnic-minority MP, now leads Britain's newly created AI portfolio.



THE TIMES OF INDIA · THE HINDU

PM Modi begins three-nation tour; announces IIM Bangalore's Indonesia campus

Modi's visit to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand aimed at deepening trade, defence and investment ties. In Indonesia, he announced that IIM Bangalore will open its first overseas campus, extending Indian management education across the ASEAN region.

04 BRICS FOCUS — INDIA'S CHAIRSHIP YEAR



THE TIMES OF INDIA

BRICS Transport Summit enters ministerial phase

Member nations are discussing sustainable transport and logistics connectivity, with a joint declaration expected soon.



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

India hosts 12th BRICS Labour Ministers' Meeting in Hyderabad

Discussions centred on social security, skill development, women's workforce participation and digital tools for workers.



HINDUSTAN TIMES

16th BRICS Health Ministers' Meeting convenes in Chandigarh

The meeting focused on public health cooperation, digital healthcare and pandemic preparedness among member states.



AL JAZEERA

NASA launches robotic mission to save falling telescope

A complex operation, expected to run several months, aims to stop an ageing telescope from burning up in the atmosphere.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Navy set to commission stealth frigate INS Mahendragiri

The sixth Project 17A frigate, designed by the Warship Design Bureau and built by Mazagon Dock, strengthens naval capability.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Skyroot Aerospace readies Vikram-1 launch

The mission marks a milestone for India's growing private space sector and commercial launch capability.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

India readies first hydrogen train under 'Hydrogen for Heritage'

Running the Jind-Sonipat route in Haryana on hydrogen fuel cells, the train emits only water vapour.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

India approves its first dengue vaccine, Qdenga

DCGI has cleared Takeda's two-dose vaccine, which protects against all four dengue virus strains.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

MeitY launches NIDAR 2.0 for indigenous drone innovation

The national challenge encourages students to build autonomous drones using India's homegrown VEGA processor.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Bengaluru's Lalbagh rock predates the Himalayas

The 3.4-billion-year-old Peninsular Gneiss formation is among the oldest exposed parts of Earth's crust.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Madhya Pradesh set to cross 1,000 tigers in next census

The state is on track to become India's first with over 1,000 tigers, a milestone for conservation efforts.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

7.1-magnitude earthquake strikes southern Japan

The quake damaged buildings and disrupted transport; authorities have warned residents to stay alert for aftershocks.



THE HINDU

Centre of Excellence on Human-Wildlife Conflict opens at WII-SACON

Inaugurated in Coimbatore, the centre will research solutions to reduce human-wildlife conflict nationwide.



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

CBN's 'Operation Vajra' seizes 30 tonnes of Tramadol

Conducted across Delhi, Bengaluru and Kochi, the crackdown recovered roughly 12 crore high-strength tablets.

“From the paddy fields of Uttarakhand to the launchpad at Sriharikota — a week that moved on every front.”

06 SPORT



HINDUSTAN TIMES

India Women win maiden Test at Lord's

A 270-run victory over England was powered by Yastika Bhatia's century and Kranti Gaud's five-wicket haul — a first at the historic venue.



AL JAZEERA

Nosková beats Muchová for maiden Grand Slam title

The young Czech claimed the Wimbledon 2026 Women's Singles crown, becoming one of the tournament's youngest champions.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

PV Sindhu becomes first Indian woman to win the Japan Open

Sindhu defeated Japan's Akane Yamaguchi in straight games to make history in badminton's singles event.



THE HINDU

Spain wins FIFA World Cup 2026

A Ferran Torres extra-time strike sealed a 1-0 win over Argentina, delivering Spain's second World Cup title since 2010.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Ronaldo bows out of his final World Cup “with a clear conscience”

At 41, after Portugal's defeat to Spain, Ronaldo confirmed the 2026 tournament was his last, reflecting on his career for country.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sharmila Dhankar wins India's first para-athletics gold at CWG

Her historic Commonwealth Games win marks a major milestone for Indian para-sports.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Chad le Clos becomes most decorated Commonwealth Games athlete

The South African swimmer claimed his 21st Commonwealth Games medal, setting a new all-time record for the Games.

07 PEOPLE & SOCIETY



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Legendary Pandavani singer Teejan Bai passes away at 69

The Padma Vibhushan awardee carried Chhattisgarh's storytelling tradition to audiences worldwide across a decades-long career.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

'Bridge Man of India' Girish Bharadwaj dies at 76

The Padma Shri awardee built over 140 low-cost suspension bridges, connecting remote villages across the country.



HINDUSTAN TIMES

Raghuram Rajan named to US Federal Reserve task force

The former RBI Governor joins a panel reviewing the Fed's balance-sheet policy and its institutional implications.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Maharashtra gives legal recognition to women farmers

The Women Farmers Empowerment Bill, 2026 formally recognises women in agriculture, easing access to schemes, subsidies and credit.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Sonam Wangchuk offers to end hunger strike on assurances

The climate activists said he would end his fast if the Centre assured that protesting students would face no punitive action.

IN BRIEF

DELHI — CJP supporters continue sit-in at Jantar Mantar Cockroach Janta Party supporters kept up their protest, demanding action on the alleged NEET paper leak and no FIRs against demonstrators.

J&K — Lakhanpur picked for PM SVANidhi Street Food Hub The town is among the first selected for organised, hygienic vending spaces that support street vendors' livelihoods.

DELHI — President Murmu marks four years in office with RAAHI, e-Audio launch The new initiatives aim to improve accessibility and digital learning at Rashtrapati Bhavan.