

Weekly One Liners 6th April to 12th April, 2026

RBI MPC Meeting 2026, Kept Repo Rates Unchanged at 5.25%

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India, in its **60th meeting held from April 6 to 8, 2026**, decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at **5.25%**. The meeting was chaired by Sanjay Malhotra and reflects a cautious approach amid global uncertainties and domestic resilience.

Key Policy Decisions

- Repo Rate: Unchanged at 5.25%
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 5.00%
- Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) & Bank Rate: 5.50%
- Policy Stance: Neutral

The MPC unanimously voted to maintain the current rates, emphasizing a “wait and watch” approach due to evolving global and domestic conditions.

Growth Outlook for India

The Indian economy continues to show strong resilience:

- GDP Growth (2025-26): Estimated at **7.6%**
- GDP Projection (2026-27): **6.9%**

Key growth drivers include:

- Strong private consumption
- Increased investment demand
- Robust services and manufacturing sectors

However, risks such as global conflicts and supply disruptions may impact growth momentum.

Inflation Outlook

- **CPI Inflation (Feb 2026): 3.2%**
- **Projected Inflation (2026-27): 4.6%**

Factors influencing inflation:

- Rising global energy prices
- Supply chain disruptions
- Weather-related risks (like El Niño)

Core inflation remains moderate, indicating controlled underlying price pressures.

Global and Domestic Challenges

The MPC highlighted several external risks:

- Ongoing geopolitical tensions in West Asia
- Disruptions in global supply chains
- Volatility in commodity and energy prices

Domestically, India remains stable due to:

Strong financial institutions

- Government focus on manufacturing and infrastructure
- Healthy demand conditions
- Rationale Behind the Decision

The MPC chose to keep rates unchanged due to:

- Balanced inflation levels but rising risks
- Strong but vulnerable growth outlook
- Uncertainty in global economic conditions

The committee emphasized flexibility and readiness to act based on future data and developments.

Upcoming MPC Schedule

- Minutes Release: April 22, 2026
- Next MPC Meeting: June 3–5, 2026

Important Facts for Exams

- Repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks
- MPC is responsible for setting India’s monetary policy
- Inflation target of RBI is 4% (±2%)
- RBI headquarters: Mumbai

PM Mudra Yojana Marks 11 Years of Supporting Small and Micro Entrepreneur

India is celebrating 11 successful years of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), a major government scheme that has helped millions of small entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses. Launched on April 8, 2015, by Narendra Modi, the scheme focuses on providing easy, collateral-free loans to people who were earlier unable to access formal banking services.

What is Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana?

The **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana** is a government initiative that **provides loans of up to Rs.20 lakh to small and micro businesses**. It mainly supports non-corporate and non-farm sectors such as small shops, service providers and rural businesses.

The **main aim of the scheme is “Fund the Unfunded”**, meaning to help those who were earlier ignored by banks and financial institutions.

Importance of MSMEs in India

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises plays a very important role in India’s economy. **They:**

- Create jobs for millions of people
- Support big industries
- Help in balanced development of cities and villages
- Meet both local and global market demands

Because of their importance, schemes like PMMY are crucial for their growth.

Key Features of PMMY

The scheme offers loans in four categories based on the stage of business:

- **Shishu:** Loans up to Rs.50,000
- **Kishor:** Loans from Rs.50,000 to Rs.5 lakh
- **Tarun:** Loans from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh
- **Tarun Plus:** Loans from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh



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These loans are:

- Given without any collateral
- Available for manufacturing, trading and service sectors
- Also cover activities like dairy, poultry, and beekeeping
- Offered with flexible repayment options as per RBI guidelines

Major Achievements in 11 Years

Over the last decade, PMMY has made a big impact:

- 57.79 crore loans have been given
 - Total loan amount reached Rs.40.07 lakh crore
 - Around two-thirds of loans went to women entrepreneurs
 - About one-fifth loans were given to first-time entrepreneurs
- This show how the scheme has helped common people become business owners.

Support for Women and Weaker Sections

The scheme has especially helped:

- Women entrepreneurs (around 67% beneficiaries)
- SC/ST and OBC communities (about 51% beneficiaries)
- Small and first-time business owners

This has increased financial inclusion and reduced dependence on local money lenders.

Government's View on the Scheme

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that PMMY has brought a **"silent transformation"** in the country by giving confidence to millions of people to start their own businesses.

Minister of State for **Finance Pankaj Chaudhary** also highlighted that the scheme has created self-employment opportunities and reduced exploitation by informal lenders.

Three Main Pillars of Financial Inclusion

The success of PMMY is based on three important goals:

- **Banking the Unbanked:** Bringing people into the banking system
- **Securing the Unsecured:** Providing financial protection
- **Funding the Unfunded:** Giving loans to those without access

These pillars ensure that even the poorest sections can grow financially.

Year-Wise Growth of the Scheme

Over the years, the scheme has grown steadily. **From Rs.1.37 lakh crore in 2015-16, the loan amount has increased to over Rs.5.65 lakh crore in 2025-26 (till March 2026).** This shows rising trust and demand for the scheme.

Chetak Screen Awards 2026 Honors Excellence in Indian Cinema: Full List of Winners

The Chetak Screen Awards 2026 celebrated the best performance of the Indian cinema with the grand ceremony in New Delhi. The film Dhurandhar emerged as the biggest winner of the night which bagging an impressive 14 awards. While the Homebound (Oscar Nominated) have secured the prestigious Best Film title. Also the top performance in individual category went to Ranveer Singh (As Best Actor Male) and Yami Gautam (As Best Actor Female). This event marked the memorable celebration of the talent and storytelling.

Top Winners That Defined the Night

In the top category there was a strong fight between the nominations and some them stand out performance won the award at night.

Some of the main Awards highlights the,

- **Best Film:** Homebound
- **Best Director:** Aditya Dhar (Dhurandhar)
- **Best Actor (Male):** Ranveer Singh (Dhurandhar)
- **Best Actor (Female):** Yami Gautam (Haq)

These awards highlight a mix of commercial success and critical acclaim.

Chetak Screen Awards 2026 – Winners List

Top Awards

- **Best Film:** Homebound
- **Best Director:** Aditya Dhar (Dhurandhar)
- **Best Actor (Male):** Ranveer Singh (Dhurandhar)
- **Best Actor (Female):** Yami Gautam (Haq)

Acting Awards

Supporting Roles

- **Best Supporting Actor (Male):** Akshaye Khanna (Dhurandhar)
- **Best Supporting Actor (Female):** Shalini Vatsa (Homebound)

Breakthrough Performances

- **Breakthrough Actor (Male):** Ahaan Panday (Saiyaara)
- **Breakthrough Actor (Female):** Aneet Padda (Saiyaara)
- **Breakthrough Director:** Shazia Iqbal (Dhadak 2)

Technical & Creative Awards

- **Best Cinematography:** Dhurandhar – Vikash Nowlakra
- **Best Editing:** Dhurandhar – Shivkumar V. Panicker
- **Best Production Design:** Dhurandhar – Saini S. Johray
- **Best Sound Design:** Dhurandhar – Bishwadeep Chatterjee
- **Best Special Effects (VFX):** Dhurandhar

Writing & Dialogue

- **Best Story & Screenplay:** Homebound
- **Best Dialogue:** Dhurandhar – Aditya Dhar

Music Awards

- **Best Song:** Saiyaara (Title Track)
- **Best Lyrics:** Gulzar (Gustaakh Ishq)
- **Best Playback Singer (Male):** Faheem Abdullah (Saiyaara)
- **Best Playback Singer (Female):** Shreya Ghoshal (Saiyaara)
- **Best Background Score:** Dhurandhar – Shashwat Sachdev

Other Key Awards

- **Best Choreography:** Dhurandhar – Shararat
- **Best Costume Design:** Chhaava & Dhurandhar (joint recognition)
- **Best Makeup & Hairstyling:** Dhurandhar
- **Best Action:** Dhurandhar

Special Category

Best Film for Gender Sensitivity: Haq

OTT Awards

- **Best OTT Film:** Stolen
- **Best OTT Actor (Male):** Abhishek Banerjee (Stolen)
- **Best OTT Actor (Female):** Sanya Malhotra (Mrs)
- **Best OTT Director:** Karan Tejpal (Stolen)
- **Best OTT Script:** Stolen

Dhurandhar: The Biggest Winner of 2026

The film Dhurandhar have dominated the across multiple categories and its proved its excellence in the both performance and technical aspects.

Key Awards Won by Dhurandhar

- Best Actor (Male) – Ranveer Singh
- Best Director – Aditya Dhar
- Best Supporting Actor – Akshaye Khanna
- Best Background Score – Shashwat Sachdev
- Best Cinematography
- Best Editing
- Best Action
- Best Sound Design
- Best Production Design
- Best Special Effects

Homebound Wins Best Film

Despite the dominance of Dhurandhar movie Homebound ha emerged victorious in the Best Film category. This films highlights the strong storytelling and emotional depth.

This film had already recognized at the global stage and nominated for the Oscars 2026 too.

This win reflects the importance of the strength of narration and audience connection.

Global Trade Hits New High in 2025: Key Winners, Losers, and India's Positions

Global trade showcased the strong performance in the 2025 as the exports of goods reached at \$26.3 trillion and it is reflecting the 7% rise compared to the previous year. This data are according to the World Trade Organization (WTO), as per this numbers the surge was driven by the rising demand and mainly in technology and services. Countries like China and the United States of America continue to dominates and India remains at the 19th position which is highlights the progress and the untapped potential in the global trade.

Global Export Rankings 2025: Who Dominates World Trade

As per the latest global export rankings show clear concentration of trade among the few major economies. The top 10 countries together contribute the nearly half of the global exports (49.6%) which is indicating highly competitive global market.

As per the list China leading at top while followed by the United States and Germany. These three economies alone account for nearly the 29% of global exports. Which showcasing their strong industrial base and global trade networks.

Also the other major exporters include the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Japan, Italy, South Korea, United Arab Emirates and France.

Asia Leads Global Trade Growth

One of the biggest highlights of 2025 is Asia's dominance in the trade growth. This region has recorded a 9.5% rise in exports and also 6% increase in imports and which had making it the fastest growing trade region.

This growth is largely driven by the,

- The rising demand for AI-related and technology products
- Also the expansion of manufacturing in Asian economies
- And strong supply chain networks

The regions like Europe saw a slight decline in export volumes and the Middle East and Africa showed the impressive growth though from a smaller base.

Top 10 Exporting Countries in the World (2025)

The top 10 exporter nations are together accounted for the nearly 49.6% of global exports and this shows how this trade concentrates to few nations.

Global Export Leaders

1. China – \$3,771,842 million
2. United States – \$2,185,220 million
3. Germany – \$1,764,188 million
4. Netherlands – \$989,237 million
5. Hong Kong – \$753,582 million
6. Japan – \$738,337 million
7. Italy – \$726,499 million
8. South Korea – \$709,330 million
9. United Arab Emirates – \$706,671 million
10. France – \$683,095 million

India's Position in Global Exports

India ranks at 19th in the exporters tally with exports valued at \$445,278 million and the 1.7% share in global exports.

Majorly, India exports this products like textiles and garments, generic medicines (pharmaceuticals), engineering goods and IT and services.

Despite India being as a fastest growing economy it still faces challenges to scaling its export capacity compared to global leaders.

National Affairs

- **Blackbucks** have made a remarkable comeback in **Chhattisgarh** after nearly a century, with around **130 animals now in the wild** and more awaiting release. Extinct since **1927**, their revival began in **2018** at **Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary** through **scientific reintroduction** under the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**. Measures like **stress-free translocation, acclimatization, and continuous monitoring** ensured success. Plans to expand to **Gomardha Sanctuary** aim to boost sustainability. As key **grassland grazers**, blackbucks support **ecosystem balance, biodiversity restoration, and strengthen India's wildlife conservation efforts**.
- **Sadhana Saptah 2026** (April 2–8) is a nationwide initiative to strengthen **citizen-centric governance, improve service delivery, and build civil services capacity**. Led under **Mission Karmayogi** by the Department of Personnel and Training and partners, it promotes **skill development, accountability, and technology-driven administration**. Platforms like **iGOT Karmayogi** enable **digital learning** for officials. With themes of **Technology, Tradition, and Tangible impact**, and initiatives like **UNNATI Portal and Karmayogi Kshamata Connect**, it aims to create a **responsive, efficient, and future-ready governance system**.
- India achieved a major clean energy milestone by adding a record **6.05 GW wind power capacity in FY 2025–26**, a **46% increase** from the previous year, taking total capacity beyond **56 GW**. This growth strengthens India's position as a **global renewable energy leader** and supports its **500 GW non-fossil fuel target by 2030**. Driven by **government incentives, better grid infrastructure, and wind-solar hybrid projects**, states like **Gujarat, Karnataka, and Maharashtra** led expansion. Overall, this progress accelerates **sustainability goals, boosts energy security, and promotes a green economy**.
- India has launched the first **Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)** in April 2026 to strengthen **economic data collection**. Conducted by the National Statistical Office under Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, it captures detailed insights into the **services sector, which contributes over 50% to GDP**. Covering **1.21 lakh enterprises** across India, it uses **GSTN data and a web-based system**. ASISSE complements **ASI and ASUSE**, enabling **better policymaking, data-driven decisions, and improved economic planning**.
- The impeachment motion against Gyanesh Kumar was rejected by both Houses of Parliament, with Om Birla and C. P. Radhakrishnan declining to admit it. The Opposition had

alleged **bias in electoral processes**, but the motion did not proceed. As per **Article 324(5)**, the CEC can only be removed like a **Supreme Court judge**, requiring **proved misbehaviour or incapacity** and a **special majority in Parliament**. This decision upholds the **independence and constitutional protection** of the Election Commission.

- The National Highways Authority of India has launched the **'Arogya Van'** initiative to plant **medicinal trees along national highways**, promoting **biodiversity, sustainability, and awareness of traditional medicine systems like Ayurveda**. In its first phase, around **67,000+ medicinal plants** across **36 species** will be planted over **62.8 hectares** in multiple states. Key species include **Neem, Amla, and Jamun**, known for their health benefits. By developing **green corridors at toll plazas and highways**, the initiative aims to enhance **ecological balance, support wildlife, and spread awareness of India's medicinal plant heritage**.
- **Droupadi Murmu** has notified the **Central Armed Police Forces (General) Administration Act, 2026**, establishing a **uniform administrative framework** for India's CAPFs. The law aims to **streamline recruitment, standardize service conditions, and improve coordination** across forces like **CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, and SSB**. It also formalizes the role of Indian Police Service officers in leadership positions. Overall, the Act enhances **efficiency, consistency, and operational effectiveness** in managing India's **paramilitary forces, strengthening the country's internal security system**.
- The **Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project**, approved by the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** chaired by Narendra Modi, is a **₹14,105.83 crore renewable energy project** in **Arunachal Pradesh**. Built on the **Lohit River**, it will have a **capacity of 1200 MW** and generate around **4,853 million units of electricity annually**, strengthening **clean energy and power supply** in Northeast India. Developed by THDC India Limited with state support, the project will also boost **infrastructure, connectivity, and regional development, contributing to India's energy security and sustainable growth**.
- **Yashwant Varma** has **resigned** from his position, submitting his resignation to **Droupadi Murmu** with immediate effect amid controversy over the **alleged recovery of burnt cash** at his residence. The case led to an **in-house inquiry** and possible **impeachment proceedings** under the **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968**. As per **Articles 124 and 218 of the Constitution**, High Court judges can be removed by the President on grounds of **proven misbehaviour or incapacity**. His resignation brings a significant development in the case, highlighting issues of **judicial accountability and ethics** in India.

- **Mundra Port** has become **India's largest automobile export hub**, setting a record by shipping **6,008 cars in a single vessel**. Operated by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, this milestone highlights India's **growing strength in automobile exports** and improved **logistics efficiency**. The achievement was enabled by advanced **Roll-on/Roll-off (RoRo) terminals**, ensuring faster and cost-effective vehicle handling. It also reflects rising global demand for **Indian-made vehicles** and positions India as a key player in the **global automobile export market**.
- The **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Zone VII Conference 2026**, held in **Goa**, concluded with a strong focus on **inclusive governance, women's representation, and youth participation**. Addressing the event, **Om Birla** emphasized expanding **women's role in policymaking** from grassroots to Parliament. The conference, attended by legislators, highlighted the importance of **youth engagement for 'Viksit Bharat 2047'**, along with discussions on **sustainable development, trade, and blue economy**. Overall, it reinforced the need for **stronger democratic practices and participatory governance** in India.

States in the News

- The Gujarat High Court has banned the use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** in **judicial decisions and judgment drafting**, stressing that **human reasoning** must guide justice. AI cannot be used for **adjudication, legal interpretation, or bail and sentencing decisions** due to risks like **bias, hallucinations, and data privacy concerns**. However, limited use is allowed in **legal research and administrative tasks**. This decision safeguards **judicial independence**, ensures **fairness and accountability**, and sets a precedent for **responsible AI use** in India's legal system.
- The proposed **Shree Jagannath International Airport** in Puri has received **Stage-I forest clearance** from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, allowing diversion of **27.886 hectares forest land**. This **in-principle approval** requires conditions like **compensatory afforestation, environmental safeguards, and wildlife protection** before final clearance. The project will boost **connectivity**, support **tourism (especially Rath Yatra)**, and reduce dependence on Bhubaneswar airport. Overall, it is expected to drive **economic growth, employment, and infrastructure development** in Odisha.
- Menaka Guruswamy has become India's **first openly queer Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)**, marking a historic step for **LGBTQ+ representation and inclusive politics**.

Known for her role in the landmark **Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India (2018)** case that decriminalized **Section 377**, her oath reflects growing **acceptance, equality, and diversity** in India. This milestone strengthens **democratic representation**, encourages **marginalized voices**, and signals a progressive shift toward **social inclusion** in governance.

- The Government of India has officially declared Amaravati as the **sole capital of Andhra Pradesh** through a **Gazette notification (April 6, 2026)**. The move amends the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014**, providing long-awaited **legal clarity** on the state's capital. N Chandrababu Naidu termed it a **major victory**. This decision ends the earlier **three-capital debate**, strengthens **administrative planning**, and boosts **infrastructure development** in Amaravati, marking a significant step in the state's governance and growth.
- Devendra Fadnavis launched the **"My Village, Healthy Village" (Majha Gaon, Arogyasampann Gaon)** campaign on **World Health Day**, aiming to strengthen **rural healthcare** in Maharashtra. With an outlay of **₹65.25 crore**, the initiative focuses on **preventive healthcare, sanitation, safe drinking water, nutrition, and maternal & mental health**. It promotes **accessible village-level services** and community participation, with monitoring committees ensuring implementation. Villages meeting health standards will be recognized as **"Arogyasampann Gaon"**, making it a major step toward **self-reliant and healthier rural communities**.
- Gurgaon was ranked **India's most polluted city in March 2026**, with **PM2.5 levels at 116 µg/m³**, far above safe limits, as per Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air. **Haryana** dominated the list with multiple cities, while Ghaziabad remained the most polluted overall for **FY 2025–26**. Many cities failed **NAAQS standards**, showing persistent air quality issues. Despite some success under **NCAP**, rising pollution in several regions highlights the urgent need for **stronger, science-based measures** to protect public health.
- The **Gujarat Police** has launched **NARIT AI (Narcotics Analysis & RAG-based Investigation Tool)**, India's first **AI system for handling drug-related cases** under the **NDPS Act, 1985**. Built on **RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation)** technology, it analyzes **FIRs** and generates **structured legal reports** using verified databases, improving accuracy and reducing errors. The tool helps officers identify **case strengths, procedural gaps, and required evidence**, ensuring better compliance with legal procedures. By speeding up investigations and minimizing lapses, NARIT AI enables **faster, smarter, and more efficient handling of narcotics cases**.

- The **Deakin University** and the **Government of Telangana** have signed an **AI-focused MoU** in Hyderabad to boost **applied artificial intelligence research, innovation, and skill development**. A key outcome is the creation of the **Aikam-Deakin Hub (DHRITI)**, a centre for **advanced AI research and real-world solutions**. The partnership aims to build an **AI-ready workforce**, support **startups**, and promote **ethical, scalable AI applications** in governance and industry. Overall, the initiative strengthens Telangana's position as a **leading AI innovation hub** and enhances India's role in the **global digital economy**.

International News

- Russia and China vetoed a **UN Security Council resolution** to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, escalating **global tensions**. The proposal, backed by 11 countries, aimed to ensure **safe oil shipping and free navigation**, but was opposed over concerns about **military implications** and focus on broader conflict resolution. As nearly **20% of global oil trade** passes through the strait, the blockade raises fears of **supply disruptions, rising oil prices**, and impacts on the **global economy**.
- India has withdrawn its bid to host the **COP33 climate summit (2028)** under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change after reviewing future commitments. Despite earlier preparations and support from **BRICS nations**, India chose to step back from hosting. However, its **climate goals remain strong**, including **60% clean energy capacity, 47% reduction in emissions intensity**, and increased **forest cover**. This move reflects a strategic shift while maintaining commitment to **global climate action and sustainability efforts**.
- United Arab Emirates has launched the world's first **10G internet network using U6GHz spectrum (6425–7125 MHz)**, marking a major leap in **digital connectivity**. The network offers speeds up to **10 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload** with **low latency**, enabling smoother **streaming, gaming, and data transfer**. This "**golden band**" ensures high speed with wide coverage, supporting **AI, smart cities, and virtual technologies**. It also paves the way for future **6G development**, positioning the UAE as a global leader in **advanced telecom innovation**.
- **Preeti Saran** was **re-elected** to a key UN committee as India achieved a **clean sweep in four elections** under the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in April 2026, all won **unopposed**. The victories include representation in **CESCR, CSTD, Committee on NGOs, and CPC**, showcasing India's **rising global influence, diplomatic strength, and credibility in international governance**. Saran's re-election highlights India's growing role in **human rights, sustainable development, and global policymaking**, reinforcing its position as a **trusted and responsible global partner** in multilateral institutions.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The Income Tax Department of India has launched '**Kar Saathi**', an **AI-powered platform** to simplify **tax filing** and provide **24x7 assistance**. It acts as a **one-stop digital hub** for **ITR filing, refund tracking, tax queries, and e-services**, improving **user experience** and accessibility. Led by Central Board of Direct Taxes under reforms like **PRARAMBH**, it supports the upcoming **Income Tax Act, 2025**, reducing **rules (510→333) and forms (399→190)**. Overall, it enhances **digital governance**, reduces dependency on consultants, and promotes **easy, transparent tax compliance**.
- Moody's has cut **India's FY27 GDP growth forecast** to **6% (from 6.8%)** due to **West Asia tensions** disrupting **energy imports**. As India depends heavily on the region for **crude oil (55%) and LPG (90%)**, rising **fuel costs** are increasing **inflation (4.8%)** and weakening **household consumption**. This may slow **industrial activity and investment**. The Reserve Bank of India may adjust **interest rates**, while the government could raise **subsidies**. Overall, higher costs and fiscal pressure may impact **economic stability** and growth.
- The Indian Railways has completed the **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC)**, a **1,506 km high-capacity freight route** from **JNPT (Maharashtra) to Dadri (Uttar Pradesh)**. Executed by Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited, it enables **faster, cost-efficient freight movement**, improves **port connectivity**, and reduces **logistics costs**. Along with the **Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC)**, it modernizes India's freight network, reduces congestion, and boosts **industrial growth, exports, and overall economic development**.
- India's maritime sector achieved a record **915.17 million tonnes (MT) cargo handling** at major ports in **FY 2025–26**, surpassing the **904 MT target** with **7.06% growth**. Led by Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, top performers included **Deendayal Port (160.11 MT), Paradip Port (156.45 MT), and JNPA (102.01 MT)**. Growth was driven by **infrastructure upgrades, better connectivity, digitalization, and faster turnaround times**. Supported by initiatives like **Sagarmala**, this milestone strengthens India's **global trade capacity, logistics efficiency, and maritime competitiveness**.
- **Vinay Tonse** has taken charge as **MD & CEO of YES Bank**, bringing over **30 years of banking experience** across **retail, corporate, and international sectors**. His leadership marks a new phase focused on **growth acceleration and financial strengthening**. He introduced a **four-pillar strategy—People, Product, Processes, Technology**—aimed at improving **customer experience, boosting performance, and enhancing operational efficiency**. This move is expected to strengthen **investor confidence** and position the bank for **long-term stability and competitiveness**.



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- Campbell Wilson has resigned as **CEO & MD of Air India** before completing his **five-year term**, marking a key **leadership transition**. Since taking charge in **July 2022** after the Tata Group takeover, he led the **Vihaan.AI transformation plan**, focusing on **fleet expansion, modernization, and improving customer experience**. His exit comes during a crucial **restructuring phase**, signaling a new strategic direction amid broader **leadership changes in India's aviation sector**.
- India's digital payments ecosystem is rapidly expanding, with **UPI QR codes growing 15% in 2025 to 731.38 million**, while **transaction volumes surged 33% to 228.5 billion**. Driven by **merchant adoption**, especially among small businesses, QR payments offer **low cost, ease of use, and instant transfers**. Compared to slower growth in **POS terminals**, UPI reflects a shift toward **mobile-based, cashless payments**. With an average ticket size of **₹1,314**, UPI dominates **daily transactions**, reinforcing India's position as a **global leader in real-time digital payments**.
- Bank of Baroda launched **AI-powered 'bob SAMVAD'** in Mumbai to enhance **multilingual communication** at bank branches. The platform enables **real-time translation in 22 languages** through text and voice, improving **customer-staff interaction** and reducing **language barriers**. Launched by M. Nagaraju, it promotes **inclusive banking, better service delivery, and ease of access**, especially for diverse users. Initially rolled out in **250 branches**, it reflects the bank's focus on **AI-driven innovation and customer-centric services**.
- The World Bank projects India to lead **South Asia's growth with 7.6% GDP expansion in FY26**, remaining the region's **economic driver** despite global challenges. Regional growth may slow to **6.3%** due to **rising energy prices, Middle East tensions, and market uncertainties**, but is expected to recover later. Risks include **inflation, energy dependence, and currency pressures**. While India's economy stays strong, the report emphasizes **structural reforms, job creation, and resilience to sustain long-term economic stability and growth**.
- The World Bank has raised India's **FY27 GDP growth forecast to 6.6%** (up by **30 basis points**), citing strong **domestic demand and consumer spending**. However, growth is slightly lower than **7.6% in FY26** due to **global uncertainties, West Asia tensions, and rising energy prices**. Challenges include **inflation pressures, slower investments, and export risks**, while support comes from **tax reforms and retail demand**. Overall, India remains one of the **fastest-growing major economies** despite global headwinds.
- KreditBee has entered the **unicorn club** after raising **\$280 million**, reaching a valuation of **\$1.5 billion**. The funding, led by major global investors, will support **business expansion and technology upgrades**, including **Generative AI (GenAI)**.

The company plans an upcoming **IPO** after regulatory approvals and restructuring. With strong growth—**₹30,000 crore loans disbursed** and **₹15,000 crore AUM**—KreditBee is expanding into **secured lending and digital payments**, strengthening its position in India's **fintech ecosystem**.

- The Reserve Bank of India has proposed easing **TReDS (Trade Receivable Discounting System)** onboarding for **MSMEs** by removing **due diligence requirements**, making registration **faster and simpler**. TReDS helps small businesses convert **unpaid invoices into immediate cash** through banks and NBFCs, improving **working capital**. The move aims to boost **MSME participation**, reduce **payment delays**, and enhance **ease of doing business**. While onboarding is simplified, safeguards like **invoice verification** ensure **transparency and security**, supporting smoother **business operations** across India.
- The Reserve Bank of India has proposed a **1-hour delay on UPI and bank transfers above ₹10,000** to tackle rising **digital payment fraud**, especially **Authorized Push Payment (APP) scams** where users are tricked into sending money. Under this **"lagged credit mechanism,"** users can **review, verify, or cancel transactions** within an hour, improving security. The move comes as high-value transactions account for a major share of fraud losses. Additional measures include **trusted person approval for large transfers, a credit cap system, and a kill switch** to block transactions. The aim is to balance **user safety with convenience** in digital payments.
- The Reserve Bank of India has launched **'Utkarsh 2029'**, a **medium-term strategy (2026–2029)** aimed at making India's financial system more **efficient, inclusive, and future-ready**. The framework focuses on **digital finance expansion**, including **CBDC (digital rupee)**, and improving **financial inclusion** through initiatives like the **Unified Lending Interface (ULI)** for easier credit access. It also emphasizes **rupee internationalization, cross-border payments, and adoption of emerging technologies like AI and quantum computing**. Built on six **key pillars**, the strategy aims to strengthen **regulation, innovation, global integration, and customer-centric financial services** in India.

Appointments/Resignations

- Narendra Bhooshan has assumed charge as **Secretary of the Department of Land Resources** (under the **Ministry of Rural Development**) on **April 6, 2026**. A **1992-batch UP cadre IAS officer**, he brings over **30 years of administrative experience** across sectors like **infrastructure, energy, and agriculture**. The department focuses on **land reforms, digitization of land records, and sustainable land use**. His prior roles include positions in **UIDAI, ITPO, and as District Magistrate**, highlighting strong **policy and field experience** for improving **rural development and governance**.

- Deep Jariwala has been appointed to the prestigious **UT-ORNL Governor's Chair for Quantum Devices**, a top research role in the United States. Associated with University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, he will lead work in **quantum materials, microelectronics, and future computing technologies**. Currently a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, he has **180+ research papers** and patents. This appointment highlights global recognition of his work and strengthens **innovation in quantum technology and advanced research**.
- **Sanjay Khanna** has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)**, with tenure till May 2029. A chemical engineer from National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and finance postgraduate from University of Mumbai, he brings over 30 years of experience in refinery operations. Previously Director (Refineries), he led key projects like the PDPP. Under his leadership, BPCL aims to boost refining capacity, expand petrochemicals, and execute a ₹75,000 crore investment plan, including the Bina Refinery expansion.
- **Sajja Praveen Chowdary** has been appointed as the new **CEO and Principal Officer** of Policybazaar Insurance Brokers, following the resignation of **Tarun Mathur**. His appointment, approved by the insurance regulator, also includes the role of **Whole-Time Director**, marking a key **leadership transition**. A long-time member of PB Fintech since 2011, Chowdary brings over **15 years of experience in fintech and insurance**, having led multiple business verticals, including the **Policybazaar for Business** and SME insurance segment, strengthening the company's strategic growth.
- **Vibhor Jain** has been appointed as the **Managing Director and CEO** of Open Network for Digital Commerce, after serving as acting CEO. His appointment marks a key **leadership transition** as ONDC expands its presence across India. With over **18 years of experience** in technology and consulting, Jain aims to build an **open, inclusive, and interoperable digital commerce ecosystem**, empowering **small retailers, farmers, artisans, and gig workers**. His leadership is expected to accelerate India's **open network-based e-commerce model**, reducing dependence on large platforms and boosting **digital commerce growth** nationwide.

Defence News

- **Project Chetak** of the Border Roads Organisation marked its **47th Raising Day**, highlighting its role since **1980** in strengthening **border infrastructure** in western India. Operating in **Rajasthan, Punjab, and Gujarat**, it has built over **4,000 km roads** and improved **all-weather connectivity**

in remote areas. The project supports **defence logistics**, enabling faster troop movement near the **India-Pakistan border**, thus enhancing **national security**. Guided by the motto "**Chetak ka Prayas, Desh ka Vikas**", it promotes **regional development, connectivity, and strategic preparedness**.

- INS Sunayna reached Malé on **April 6, 2026** under the **IOS SAGAR Mission**, strengthening **India-Maldives maritime cooperation**. Welcomed by the Maldives National Defence Force, the deployment features a **multinational crew from 16 countries** and joint **training exercises**. Activities include **professional exchanges, social interactions, and a PASSEX naval exercise**, enhancing **operational coordination**. This mission supports India's **Neighbourhood First policy**, promoting **regional security, friendship, and collaborative maritime engagement** in the Indian Ocean region.
- INS Aridhaman, India's **third nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN)**, has joined the Indian Navy fleet, boosting **maritime defence and strategic capability**. Commissioned in **Visakhapatnam**, it is more advanced than earlier submarines, with higher **missile capacity** and ability to carry **K-15, K-4, and future K-5 missiles**. As part of the **nuclear triad (land, air, sea)**, it enhances **second-strike capability and deterrence power**, placing India among top global military powers and strengthening its **underwater strategic dominance**.
- **Indian Army** has deployed a contingent to Egypt for the 4th edition of the **India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise 'Cyclone-IV'**, being held from April 9-17, 2026, at Anshas. This **bilateral military exercise** involves **elite special forces** from both countries, focusing on **interoperability, counter-terrorism operations, and combat training in desert conditions**. Around **25 Indian personnel** are participating alongside Egyptian troops, engaging in **joint mission planning, tactical drills, and survival exercises**. The exercise highlights the **growing defence cooperation** between India and Egypt, strengthening **strategic ties, mutual trust, and operational coordination** in regional security.
- **Indian Army** successfully conducted **Operation HimSetu**, rescuing over **1,400 stranded tourists and locals** in **North Sikkim** within **48 hours** after landslides and a bridge collapse near **Lachen** disrupted connectivity near the India-China border. Led by the **Trishakti Corps**, the mission evacuated **1,321 tourists and 84 residents** despite **extreme snowfall and harsh terrain**. The Army built **temporary bridges**, ensured **medical support**, and coordinated with the Border Roads Organisation for road restoration. The operation highlights the Army's **swift response, disaster management capability, and commitment to civilian safety** in critical situations.

Awards and Recognitions

- Indian Institute of Management Rohtak won **BIMTECH's 'Hermes' Dialogue 6.0**, a national-level debate hosted by Birla Institute of Management Technology, featuring participants from **12 countries**. The theme focused on **energy independence and global energy security amid geopolitical uncertainty**. With over **250 participants**, the event included **online tests, case studies, and a final debate simulating global forums like G20/UN**. Team **LeBroom (IIM Rohtak)** secured first place, highlighting strong **analytical thinking, policy understanding, and global perspective**.

Summits and Conferences News

- The **One Health Summit 2026**, held in Lyon (April 5–7) under France's **G7 Presidency**, brings together **global leaders, scientists, and organizations** to address interconnected **human, animal, and ecosystem health**. The summit promotes the **One Health approach**, focusing on **zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, pollution, and sustainable food systems**. Supported by bodies like World Health Organization, it emphasizes **science-based policies, global cooperation, and pandemic preparedness**, aiming to strengthen **health systems** and prevent future crises worldwide.

Sports News

- Murali Sreeshankar won the **men's long jump** at the **Indian Athletics Series 2026** with an impressive **8.15m leap**, marking his **best performance after knee surgery (2024)**. Competing at **Kanteerava Stadium**, he was the only athlete to cross **8m**, highlighting a strong comeback after missing the **Paris Olympics 2024**. In the event, **Sunny Kumar (7.90m)** and **Purushotham (7.87m)** followed. In women's long jump, **Ancy Sojan (6.54m)** won, ahead of **Shaili Singh (6.52m)**, showcasing competitive performances.
- Bhuvneshwar Kumar became the **first fast bowler to take 200 wickets in the IPL**, achieving the milestone during the **RCB vs CSK match** by dismissing **Ayush Mhatre**. This historic feat stands out as **spinners dominate IPL wicket charts**, with Yuzvendra Chahal still leading overall. Bhuvneshwar, who debuted in **2011**, is also known for winning **back-to-back Purple Caps (2016 & 2017)**. His achievement highlights **consistency, skill**, and marks a major milestone in **IPL history**.

- Divya Singh achieved a remarkable feat by cycling to **Everest Base Camp (5,364m)** in just **14 days**, showcasing extraordinary **resilience and determination**. Starting from Kathmandu, she faced **freezing temperatures, low oxygen levels, and rugged terrain**, riding **10–12 hours daily**. Battling risks like **altitude sickness**, she completed a journey rarely attempted by cyclists. Her viral moment holding the **Indian flag** at the summit symbolizes **national pride, mental strength**, and the spirit of overcoming extreme challenges.
- Payal Nag, an **18-year-old from Odisha**, made history by becoming the **first quadruple amputee to win an international gold medal in archery**. After losing all limbs in an **electric shock accident**, she rebuilt her life through **determination and resilience**. Trained at the **Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Archery Academy**, she uses a **unique technique** with prosthetic support, shoulder, and mouth. She won gold at the **World Para Archery Series Final (Bangkok, April 4, 2026)**, defeating **Sheetal Devi (139–136)**, inspiring millions with her **courage and perseverance**.
- Blanka Vlašić has been appointed **Global Ambassador** for the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2026, enhancing its **global appeal**. A former Olympic medalist, she aims to inspire runners with messages of **fitness, mental strength, and determination**. Scheduled for **April 26, 2026**, the event brings together **elite athletes and mass participants**, promoting **community spirit** and healthy living. Her presence adds prestige and motivates participants worldwide to engage in one of the **premier 10K races**.

Science and Technology News

- Meta has launched its new AI model **Muse Spark**, designed to power its **Meta AI assistant** and enhance everyday tasks like **image-based analysis, question answering, and visual simulations**. The model will be integrated across platforms like **WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook**, expanding its reach. While praised for **reasoning, writing, and visual coding**, it has faced criticism from experts over **real-world performance**. Meta has acknowledged feedback, calling it a **first step** toward more advanced **AI innovation and superintelligence development**.
- N. Chandrababu Naidu** will launch **India's first indigenous quantum computing testing facility** in **Amaravati** on April 14, 2026, coinciding with **World Quantum Day**. Set up at SRM University Amaravati, the facility marks a major step toward **self-reliance in advanced technology** and supports the **National Quantum Mission**. Part of the **Amaravati Quantum Valley**, it will feature cutting-edge technologies like **cryogenics and quantum hardware**, along with collaborations and an **IBM 133-qubit system**. The initiative aims to position India as a **global hub for quantum research, innovation, and high-tech development**.

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation** successfully conducted the **Gaganyaan IADT-02 (Integrated Air Drop Test)** on April 10, 2026, at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, marking a key milestone for India's **first human spaceflight mission**. A **5.7-tonne crew module** was dropped from 3 km using an **Indian Air Force Chinook helicopter** to test the **parachute-based landing system**. The test validated **multi-stage parachute deployment, controlled descent, and safe splashdown**, followed by successful recovery by the **Indian Navy** with support from Defence Research and Development Organisation. This confirms India's growing **readiness for human space missions** under the **Gaganyaan programme**.
- The Ahmedabad-based **AAKA Space Studio** has developed **Asia's first 3D-printed Mars radiation shield**, designed to protect astronauts from **harmful cosmic radiation** during long-term space missions. Tested in a Mars-like analog environment, the innovation uses **In-Situ Resource Utilisation (ISRU)**—building with **locally available materials** instead of transporting them from Earth—making space construction more **cost-effective and sustainable**. Using advanced **3D printing and robotic techniques**, the shield offers **radiation protection, thermal stability, and structural strength**, marking a major step toward **safe human habitation on Mars and the Moon**.

Important Days News

- **National Maritime Day 2026**, observed on **April 5**, celebrates India's **maritime heritage** and honors the historic **SS Loyalty voyage (1919)**, marking India's entry into **global maritime trade**. Officially recognized in **1964**, the day highlights the **shipping sector's role in economic growth, trade (90–95%), and national security**. The 2026 theme, "**Maritime India – Empowering Progress**", focuses on **modern infrastructure, sustainable shipping, and global competitiveness**. It also honors **seafarers, port workers, and marine professionals**. Celebrations include **port events, seminars, awards, and educational activities** across major ports like Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata.
- **Easter Sunday 2026**, celebrated on **April 5**, marks the **resurrection of Jesus Christ**, symbolizing **hope, renewal, and victory over death**. Based on a **lunar calculation** (first Sunday after the full moon post spring equinox), it concludes the **Holy Week**, including **Good Friday**. With origins dating back **2,000 years**, Easter represents **faith, forgiveness, and eternal life**. In modern times, it promotes **family bonding,**

community celebrations, and traditions like **Easter eggs**, symbolizing **new life**. Overall, Easter inspires **positivity, spiritual rebirth, and new beginnings** worldwide.

- **International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP)**, observed on **April 6**, highlights sport as a tool for **peace, unity, and social change**. Declared by the **United Nations (2013)**, it marks the **1896 Olympic Games**. The 2026 theme, "**Sport: Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers**", emphasizes **inclusion, global cooperation, and youth participation**. The International Olympic Committee drives impact through **Olympism365** initiatives. Events like the **Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games** promote **development and engagement**. Sport also supports **SDGs**, advancing **health, gender equality, and social inclusion** worldwide.
- **World Health Day 2026**, observed on **April 7**, promotes the theme "**Together for Health. Stand with Science**", highlighting the importance of **scientific research and global cooperation**. Led by the World Health Organization, it emphasizes the **One Health approach** linking **human, animal, and environmental health**. Marking WHO's founding in **1948**, the day raises awareness about **public health, disease prevention, and accessible healthcare**. Global events like the **One Health Summit** support **evidence-based policies**, encouraging **international collaboration** for a healthier future.
- **World Homoeopathy Day 2026** is observed on April 10 to mark the birth anniversary of Samuel Hahnemann. The 2026 theme, "**Homoeopathy for Sustainable Health**," highlights its role in affordable, accessible, and eco-friendly healthcare. Homoeopathy is based on principles like "**like cures like**" and **minimum dose**, focusing on holistic healing. India, with the world's largest homoeopathic network, promotes it through research, policy, and public health initiatives under the **Ministry of AYUSH**. It has also contributed to managing diseases like Japanese Encephalitis, Chikungunya, and COVID-19 through preventive approaches.
- **Jyotirao Phule Jayanti 2026** is observed on **April 11**, marking the beginning of his **200th birth anniversary year**. A pioneer against **caste discrimination, gender inequality, and social injustice**, Phule emphasized **education as a tool for social change** and, along with **Savitribai Phule**, opened India's first school for girls in 1848. He also founded the **Satyashodhak Samaj** in 1873 to promote **equality and rational thinking**. His contributions toward **empowering women, farmers, and marginalized communities** continue to inspire modern India, making the day a celebration of his **legacy of social reform and justice**.

- **National Safe Motherhood Day 2026** is observed on **April 11** across India to emphasize the importance of **maternal health, safe pregnancy, and quality childbirth care**. The 2026 theme, **“Equity in Maternal Healthcare: Leaving No Mother Behind,”** highlights the need for **equal access to healthcare**, especially in rural and underserved areas. The day marks the birth anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi and was initiated by White Ribbon Alliance India. It aims to reduce **maternal and infant mortality**, promote **prenatal and postnatal care**, and strengthen India’s healthcare system through **awareness campaigns, health camps, and policy support**.

an era, remembered for her **dedication, leadership, and contributions to Indian politics**.

- **C. D. Gopinath**, India’s oldest Test cricketer, passed away at 96 in Chennai, marking the end of a historic era. He was the last surviving member of the team that secured India’s first-ever Test victory against England national cricket team in 1952. Gopinath played 8 Tests, scoring 242 runs, including an unbeaten 50 on debut at Brabourne Stadium. Beyond playing, he served as selector, selection committee chairman, and team manager. His contributions laid a strong foundation for Indian cricket, and his legacy remains deeply respected.
- India mourns the passing of **Sonam Wangchuk (Retd.)**, known as the **“Lion of Ladakh,”** who died at **61** in **Leh** on April 10, 2026. A **Maha Vir Chakra** awardee, he became a hero during the Kargil War, leading troops in the **Batalik sector** under extreme conditions and securing key positions. His **courage, leadership, and tactical excellence** played a crucial role in early successes of the war. Remembered as a symbol of **bravery and patriotism**, his legacy continues to inspire generations of Indian soldiers.

Obituaries News

- Mohsina Kidwai, veteran Indian National Congress leader and former **Union Minister**, passed away at **94** in **Noida** on April 8, 2026. With a **six-decade political career**, she served in multiple ministries and held positions across **Legislative Council, Assembly, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha**. A trusted leader of **Indira Gandhi** and **Rajiv Gandhi**, she played a key role in party decision-making. Her demise marks the end of

Static Keyways

Aspect	Details
Arunachal Pradesh	CM: Pema Khandu, Capital: Itanagar
Andhra Pradesh	CM: Chandrababu Naidu, Governor: Abdur Nazeer
Gujarat	CM: Bhupendra Patel, Governor: Acharya Devvrat
Chief Election Commissioner	Gyanesh Kumar
RBI	Governor: Sanjay Malhotra
SBI	MD: Challa Sreenivasalu Setty
Russia	President: Vladimir Putin, Capital: Moscow
China	President: Xi Jinping, Capital: Beijing
World Bank	President: Ajay Banga
Policybazaar CEO	Sajja Chaudhary - CEO
BPCL (Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited)	Sanjay Khanna - CMD



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