

Important News Events 01 Jul to 21 Jul 2026

In a significant citizen-centric initiative aimed at ensuring seamless access to Aadhaar services, **India Post, Mumbai Region has launched a three-week Aadhaar Mobile Update (MBU) Campaign** across schools and educational institutions in Mumbai city and suburban areas. The campaign commenced on 20th July, 2026 and is being conducted through specially deployed Mobile Biometric Update (MBU) Units.

The initiative aims to facilitate Aadhaar enrolment and mandatory biometric updates, particularly for students and young citizens by bringing essential Aadhaar services directly to educational institutions. The campaign is designed to make the process more convenient, accessible and hassle free for parents and children.

Under the campaign, citizens can avail various Aadhaar-related services, including biometric updates, demographic corrections and mobile number updates through authorized India Post personnel equipped with secure digital devices. The initiative highlights India Post's continued efforts towards delivering essential government services at the doorstep of citizens.

Prime Minister's visit to Indonesia - Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Indonesia from **July 6 to July 8, 2026**. Hosted by Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto in Jakarta, the state visit marked Modi's fourth trip to the country and included a trip to Yogyakarta to launch a temple conservation project.

India-Indonesia Cooperation Agreements: Several major announcements were finalized, including the setup of an IIM Bangalore branch campus at Singhasari SEZ and the launch of the **Indonesia Open Network (ION)** using India's ONDC technology architecture.

India-Japan Energy Resilience Joint Statement: On July 2, 2026, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, and Prime Minister of Japan, met in New Delhi, India, and expressed their shared intention to work together as responsible powers and major energy-consuming countries in Asia to jointly strengthen energy resilience in light of the current geopolitical situation.

Both sides highlighted the importance of regional initiatives to strengthen energy resilience, such as India's support for energy security in South Asia and Japan's Partnership On Wide Energy and Resources Resilience (POWER Asia).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese PM Takaichi Sanae signed a landmark bilateral agreement to strengthen regional energy grids

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the **Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) Scheme** to ensure the social and economic rehabilitation of vulnerable communities with dignity and sustainable livelihood opportunities. The umbrella scheme includes the **Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons Engaged in the Act of Begging**, which aims to transform lives through rehabilitation, skill development, education, healthcare, counselling and economic empowerment.

SMILE Beggary Scheme is currently operational in 216 cities across the country with the target to cover 295 cities over the next 5 years up to financial year 2030-31. The official said as per the approved Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for the Financial Year 2026-31, the scheme would specially focus on metropolitan cities, religious, tourist and historical places. **He said the rehabilitation target under the SMILE Beggary Scheme is 35000 persons adding that over 10200 persons engaged in the act of begging have been rehabilitated till now.** The official added that the remaining target is planned to be achieved in a phased manner by FY 2030-31 in line with the approved implementation plan.

The scheme seeks to realise the vision of a "**Bhiksha Vritti Mukh Bharat**" (**Begging-Free India**) through coordinated efforts of the Central Government, State Governments, Union Territories, District Administrations, Urban Local Bodies, Municipal Corporations and implementing agencies. By adopting a convergence-based approach, the scheme facilitates identification, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons engaged in begging into mainstream society with dignity and self-confidence.

The Ministry has also strengthened digital monitoring through the **SMILE-Beggary National Portal**, enabling registration, monitoring and tracking of rehabilitation centres and shelter homes for effective implementation and transparency. The scheme continues to be supported by revised operational guidelines and capacity-building initiatives for implementing agencies across States and Union Territories. The Ministry continues to expand awareness, strengthen institutional support and promote community participation to ensure that rehabilitation efforts translate into long-term social and economic empowerment.

Dengue Vaccine Approved: In a Landmark step towards strengthening India's efforts for the prevention and control of dengue, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has granted marketing authorisation for the Dengue Tetravalent Vaccine (Live, Attenuated) – Qdenga®, manufactured by Takeda GmbH, Germany and to be imported by M/s Takeda Biopharmaceuticals India Pvt. Ltd. This is the first dengue vaccine approved in the country for the prevention of dengue disease.

Qdenga® is a live, attenuated tetravalent dengue vaccine developed using recombinant DNA technology. The vaccine is produced in Vero cells, with genes encoding serotype-specific surface proteins engineered into a dengue virus type-2 backbone. The product contains genetically modified organisms (GMOs). It is supplied as a freeze-dried powder for reconstitution and is administered as a subcutaneous injection.

The vaccine is indicated for the prevention of dengue disease in individuals 4 to 60 years of age. The recommended immunisation schedule consists of two doses of 0.5 ml each, administered at an interval of three months (0 and 3 months)

National Doctors' Day: Celebrated on **01 July 2026** with special congratulatory addresses from the Prime Minister to the medical community

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, reached Chisinau, Moldova on July 20, 2026, on the first leg of her State Visit to Moldova, North Macedonia and Romania. This is the first visit by an Indian President to Moldova.

Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS): The Union Cabinet approved the mega [Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme \(MPMS\)](#) with an outlay of **₹62,500 crore** spanning 5 years (FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31).

Salient Features :

- To further scale up the production, deepen domestic value addition, strengthen supply chain resilience, enhance global competitiveness, the Government has launched the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS).
- MPMS scheme also aims at building Indian brands to achieve technological sovereignty, capture large economic value and create Indian patents in design and R&D.
- The scheme tenure shall be 5 Years i.e. from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31.
- The scheme provides incentive support on eligible sales for manufacturing of mobile phones in India at differentiated rates ranging from 2.25% to 5%. Scheme also provides additional incentive of up to 1.5% linked to domestic sourcing of key components/ sub-assemblies. For building Indian brands, an additional incentive @3% on Eligible Sales for design and R&D of the product.

Digital India Milestone: The government marked **11 years of the Digital India initiative** on 01 July, tracking its success in citizen empowerment.

SVAMITVA Scheme Extension: The [SVAMITVA rural property mapping scheme](#) has been extended until **September 2026**, registering over 1.20 crore property cards in regions like UP. As on 13th July 2026, drone survey has been completed in all the notified 90573 villages in Uttar Pradesh and 1.01 Crore property cards have been distributed across nearly 67 thousand villages in the State. The SVAMITVA Scheme aims to provide Record of Rights to property owners in rural inhabited (abadi) areas through drone-based surveys and Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) technology for accurate mapping and demarcation of properties. The Scheme includes ground verification and resolution of objections/disputes by the competent State authorities before issuance of Property Cards, thereby ensuring transparency and fair demarcation of properties.

Underwater Museum Project: The Ministry of Tourism sanctioned the "**Ex-INS Guldar Underwater Museum, Artificial Reef, and Submarine Tourism**" project at Sindhudurg, Maharashtra with a budget of ₹46.91 crore. Ex-INS Guldar Underwater Museum Project in Maharashtra expected to be completed by March 2028. Museum Project is to boost Marine Tourism and generate 800 direct jobs in Maharashtra

Exercise Pitch Black 2026: The Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed a combat contingent featuring **Rafale fighter aircraft**, C-17 Globemaster-III, and IL-78 tankers to RAAF Base Darwin for [Exercise Pitch Black 2026](#) in Australia. Ex Pitch Black 2026 is scheduled from 20 July 26 to 07 August 26. Exercise Pitch Black is the RAAF's premier biennial multinational air combat exercise. The exercise derives its name from its emphasis on night flying over the vast un-populated areas of northern Australia. The exercise will provide the participating forces with a valuable opportunity to enhance interoperability, strengthen force integration and exchange operational best practices towards a collaborative conduct of operations in the global scenarios. The IAF has previously participated in the 2018, 2022 and 2024 editions of the exercise, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening defence cooperation and regional security.

Exercise PRAGATI 2026 Concluded: The inaugural edition of the [Multilateral Exercise PRAGATI 2026](#) concluded at Umroi, Meghalaya. It brought together over **400 troops from 13 regional nations** to practice joint counter-terrorism operations. PRAGATI, which stands for **Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region**, brought together more than

400 troops from India, Bhutan, Cambodia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Indonesia and Laos. The exercise was conducted in the spirit of equality, friendship and mutual respect, providing a common platform for regional partners to exchange experiences, share best practices and strengthen military-to-military cooperation.

Bilateral Defense Roadmap: India and Australia formalized their [Joint Declaration on Defense and Security Cooperation \(JDDSC\)](#) alongside a Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap to streamline operational coordination.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi undertook a landmark three-day official visit to **Melbourne, Australia from 08 to 10 July 2026** to co-chair the [3rd India-Australia Annual Leaders' Summit](#) alongside Australian PM Anthony Albanese. The trip yielded critical **pacts across defence, energy, and trade**. :

1. **Joint Declaration on Defense and Security Cooperation (JDDSC):** Renewed a historic security pact to ramp up **forces interoperability, military capacity building**, and defense industrial supply chain collaboration.
2. **Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap:** Formulated a concrete blueprint focused on strategic info-sharing and **enhanced operational coordination** across the Indo-Pacific region.
3. **Coast Guard Enforcement:** Signed a dedicated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the **Indian Coast Guard and Australia's Maritime Border Command** targeting maritime law enforcement and border protection.
4. **Strategic Academic Exchange:** Announced the landmark deployment of an **Indian military instructor** to the Australian Defence College for the 2028-29 academic term.
5. **Civil Nuclear Agreement Finalized:** Operationalized the administrative arrangement of the India-Australia Civil Nuclear Agreement, enabling the **direct supply of Australian uranium** to India.
6. **PACTS Initiative:** Formed the *Australia-India Partnership for Cyber, Critical Technologies, and Supply Chains* to safeguard **digital resilience and critical technology** networks.
7. **CECA Progress:** Both leaders committed to fast-tracking the comprehensive **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)** to boost bilateral investment windows.
8. **Offshore University Campuses:** Formally handed a Letter of Intent to Australia's Flinders University to open its new branch campus in **Bengaluru, India**.

Another achievement is that Australia successfully returned **three ancient Indian artifacts** to PM Modi, including a 11th-century basalt sculpture of *Skanda* and a granite *Sacred Bull Nandi* from Tamil Nadu.
