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Weekly Current Affairs

September 2026 - Week 3

14 – 20 September 2026 | Exam Revision Notes

40+ Topics · 16 Sections · ~35 Min Read

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Dear Aspirants,

Greetings from ReadingRoomz! This week covered India's strategic engagements (BRICS Summit New Delhi, MERCOSUR PTA expansion), critical economy topics (EPFO wage ceiling revision, new UPI MDR framework, Bankers' Books Evidence Act), important AP news (Trishul strategy, patient safety rank 1st), and rich polity content on the UCC debate. Sports brought big records from Joe Root and Abhishek Sharma.

Read each topic carefully, revise the Quick Revision Table before your next practice session. **Every small step today brings you closer to your dream tomorrow.**

— Team ReadingRoomz | contact@readingroomz.com

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1. International Current Affairs

Houthis Expand Control Along Yemen's Red Sea Coast - Bab el-Mandeb; Perim Island; Ansar Allah

The Houthis (**Ansar Allah**) made major territorial gains along Yemen's Red Sea coast in September 2026, capturing **Mocha, Dhubab** and reaching **Perim (Mayyun) Island** in the **Bab el-Mandeb Strait**.

Key Detail	Fact
Houthi Origin	Emergled among the Zaydi Shia community of northern Yemen; named after Hussein al-Houthi; rebellion began 2004
Key Events	Captured Sana'a 2014 → Saudi-led coalition intervened March 2015 → UN-brokered truce April 2022 → renewed conflict 2026
Bab el-Mandeb Strait	Connects the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea; ships travelling Asia-Europe via Suez Canal pass through it; handles roughly 12-15% of global trade

Eritrea-Ethiopia Tensions Rise - Algiers Agreement 2000; Abiy Ahmed Nobel Peace Prize 2019

Eritrea accused Ethiopia of destabilisation on **12 September 2026**. Eritrea became independent from Ethiopia in **1993**, making Ethiopia a **landlocked country**. Both fought a major **border war from 1998 to 2000**, formally ending with the **Algiers Agreement (2000)**. In **2018**, Ethiopian PM **Abiy Ahmed** and Eritrean President **Isaias Afwerki** signed a **Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship**. Abiy Ahmed received the **2019 Nobel Peace Prize** partly for this achievement.

India and MERCOSUR Expand PTA - Treaty of Asunción 1991; e-CoO Protocol; In Force June 2009

India and MERCOSUR launched negotiations to expand their **PTA** on **14 September 2026** (Commerce Minister **Piyush Goyal**). Also signed: First Additional Protocol enabling **electronic Certificates of Origin (e-CoO)**.

MERCOSUR: Southern Common Market | Created by Treaty of Asunción, 1991 | Members: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, Uruguay | Secretariat: Montevideo, Uruguay | India-MERCOSUR PTA: signed 25 January 2004, in force 1 June 2009 | India: concessions on 450 tariff lines; MERCOSUR: 452 tariff lines.

India-Pakistan Naval Collision - PNS Hunain; North Arabian Sea; Article 10 of 1991 Agreement

An Indian Navy warship and **PNS Hunain** collided in the **North Arabian Sea** on **15 September 2026**. India described Pakistan's conduct as contrary to **Article 10 of the India-Pakistan Agreement on Advance Notice on Military Exercises, Manoeuvres and Troops Movements, 1991**. Same provision featured in a 2011 incident involving **PNS Babur and INS Godavari**.

Pakistan-China Boundary Joint Commission - Shaksgam Valley (~5,180 sq. km); 1963 Agreement; India Rejects

India rejected the newly operationalised **Pakistan-China Boundary Joint Commission** (inaugural meeting Islamabad, **16 September 2026**). Linked to the **China-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 2 March 1963**, under which Pakistan transferred approximately **5,180 sq. km in the Shaksgam Valley to China**. India describes the transfer as **illegal and invalid**.

2. National Current Affairs

Mysuru to Host India's First L'Étape by Tour de France - 4 October 2026; NEB Sports; Karnataka Tourism

Mysuru, Karnataka will host India's first **L'Étape by Tour de France** cycling event on **4 October 2026**. Part of the official amateur cycling series associated with the Tour de France. Organised by **NEB Sports** in association with **Karnataka Tourism**.

Varuna Elevated Corridor, Varanasi - ₹10,998 Crore; 43.218 km; NHAI; NH-31 to Ring Road

The **Varuna Elevated Corridor** is a **₹10,998 crore** urban transport project in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**; approved by the Union Cabinet in **July 2026**; total length: **43.218 km**; connects **NH-31 with the Varanasi Ring Road** along the Varuna River; developed by **NHAI** under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

Hyderabad Liberation Day - 17 September; Operation Polo; Sardar Patel; Last Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan

Observed on **17 September** to commemorate the integration of the erstwhile **Hyderabad State with the Indian Union in 1948** following **Operation Polo**. VP **C. P. Radhakrishnan** attended the 2026 celebrations at Parade Ground, Secunderabad, Telangana.

Operation Polo was led by India's first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel | Last Nizam: Mir Osman Ali Khan, Asaf Jah VII (seventh and final Nizam) | The erstwhile Hyderabad State broadly included present-day Telangana, the Marathwada region of Maharashtra, and parts of the Kalyana Karnataka region.

3. Andhra Pradesh Current Affairs

AP Launches 'Trishul' Strategy - Zero Drugs, Zero Atrocities, Zero Road Accidents; CM Chandrababu Naidu

AP CM **N. Chandrababu Naidu** directed police and district administrations to implement the **"Trishul"** strategy targeting: **zero drugs, zero tolerance towards atrocities against women, and zero road accidents**. State-level and district-level Trishul committees to be formed with time-bound action plans. Additional: **De-addiction Centres of Excellence** at Visakhapatnam, Tirupati and Amaravati; and a **"One Court-One Constable"** system to monitor pending court cases.

Project Vasudha - APSSDC; Overseas Nursing Jobs in Germany; German Language Training in Rajamahendravaram

APSSDC facilitated overseas nursing employment in **Germany** under **Project Vasudha**, implemented with **OMCAP** and **Skill Bee Pvt. Ltd.** First batch: three nurses from **Aditya Nursing College, Kakinada**; underwent German language training in **Rajahmahendravaram**. Project Vasudha is a GoAP initiative launched in **2025** to equip youth with foreign-language skills and international employability.

AP Ranks 1st in India in Patient Safety Standards - Score 86/100; World Patient Safety Day 2026

Andhra Pradesh secured the **first position in India in patient safety standards**, scoring **86 out of 100** in the national evaluation highlighted during **World Patient Safety Day 2026** (Ministry of Health, NHM and NHSRC). Rankings: **AP (86) > MP (84.5) > Gujarat (83.5) > DNH & DD (83) > Tamil Nadu (82)**.

4. Polity & Governance

Uniform Civil Code - Article 44 (DPSP); Uttarakhand UCC from 27 January 2025; 21st Law Commission 2018

Home Minister **Amit Shah** stated in September 2026 the government intends to implement UCCs in all **NDA States before the 2029 Lok Sabha election**. **Uttarakhand** has already implemented its UCC from **27 January 2025**.

Detail	Fact
What is UCC	Common set of civil laws governing marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance, irrespective of religion
Constitutional Basis	Article 44 in Part IV – Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP); not directly enforceable by courts
Supporters argue	Promotes uniformity and gender equality (Articles 14, 15) in marriage, divorce, maintenance and inheritance
Critics argue	Concerns about religious freedom (Article 25) and cultural diversity (Article 29)
21st Law Commission (2018)	Favoured addressing discriminatory provisions within individual personal laws rather than immediately introducing a UCC
Uttarakhand UCC	Governs marriage, divorce, succession and live-in relationships; does NOT apply to members of Scheduled Tribes; operational from 27 January 2025

5. Economy

Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 – Replaces 1891 Act; Cloud Records Recognised; In Force 1 October 2026

The **Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026** comes into force from **1 October 2026** (President's assent: 13 August 2026). Replaces the **Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891**. Recognises records in **physical, electronic, digital, virtual and cloud-based formats** including backup and disaster-recovery locations. Certified copies usable as evidence; certificates may use **manual, digital or electronic signatures**.

New Development Bank – HQ Shanghai; \$42.9 Billion; 30% Local Currency; Maharaja Bond Programme

NDB established by the original 5 BRICS countries; began operations **2015**. HQ: **Shanghai, China**. Headed by former Brazilian President **Dilma Rousseff**.

139 projects worth ~US\$42.9 billion approved | India: ~US\$10 billion across 32 projects by March 2026 (metro rail, Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS) | India Regional Office: GIFT City, Gujarat | 2022–26 strategy: 30% of total financing in local currencies | Proposed Maharaja Bond Programme: ~₹25,000 crore over 5 years in Indian Rupees.

New UPI MDR Framework – P2P Free; P2M MDR 0.4% Above ₹2,000; Cap ₹300 for Transactions ≥ ₹75,000

All **P2P** transactions remain completely free. For **P2M** payments:

Category	MDR / Charge
P2P (all amounts)	Free — no charge
P2M up to ₹2,000	Zero MDR
Small merchants (P2PM, ≤₹1 lakh/month via QR)	Zero MDR
P2M above ₹2,000 (general)	0.4% MDR
Transactions ≥ ₹75,000	MDR capped at ₹300 per transaction
Essential sectors (railways, telecom, insurance, fuel, agri inputs) above ₹2,000	Flat ₹5 per transaction
Capital markets (MF, securities, stockbrokers)	0.02% MDR, capped at ₹300

Nearly 96% of merchant transactions are expected to remain unaffected by the new framework.

EPFO Wage Ceiling Raised - ₹15,000 → ₹25,000/Month; 51 Lakh Additional Employees; Effective 17 September 2026

Union Cabinet raised the EPFO mandatory coverage wage ceiling from **₹15,000 to ₹25,000 per month**, effective **17 September 2026**. Expected to bring more than **51 lakh additional employees** under mandatory EPFO coverage.

EPFO Contribution Structure: Employee: 12% of EPF wages to EPF | Employer's contribution: 8.33% to EPS, remaining 3.67% to EPF | Employees do not directly contribute to EPS.

6. Science & Technology

Melanoma - mRNA Cancer Vaccine (Intismeran Autogene); INTERpath-001 Phase III; Moderna + Merck; Nobel 2018

Melanoma is a serious form of skin cancer arising from **melanocytes**. Treatment was transformed by **immune-checkpoint inhibitors**. **James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo** received the **2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine** for discovering immune checkpoints **CTLA-4 and PD-1** respectively — blocking these "brakes" enables T cells to attack cancer cells more effectively. In **August 2026**, Moderna and Merck announced positive **Phase III results** from the **INTERpath-001 trial** of **intismeran autogene**, an investigational personalised **mRNA-based cancer therapy**.

7. Environment

SW Monsoon 2026 - AP Records 42% Deficit; Third-Highest in India; Meghalaya (59%) Worst; IMD Classification

AP recorded a **42% rainfall deficit** during SW Monsoon 2026 as of 16 September — jointly the **third-highest in India**. AP received only **255.3 mm** against the normal **442.3 mm**. AP had the **highest deficit among Southern Peninsula States/UTs**.

Rank	State/UT	Deficit
1st (Highest)	Meghalaya	59%
2nd	Manipur	43%
3rd (Joint)	Andhra Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh	42%
5th (Joint)	Punjab and Puducherry	~40%

IMD Classification: Deficient Rainfall = 20% to 59% below normal | Large Deficient Rainfall = 60% to 99% below normal.

8. Defence

Colombo Security Conclave TTX 2026 - Visakhapatnam; 6 Members; Bangladesh & Seychelles Inducted Nov 2025

TTX under the **Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)** held **9-11 September 2026** at **Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam**.

Detail	Fact
Origin	2011 trilateral maritime-security arrangement (India, Sri Lanka, Maldives); revived as CSC in 2020
Mauritius	Joined as full member in 2022
Bangladesh and Seychelles	Inducted as full members at the 7th NSA-level meeting, New Delhi, November 2025
Current Members (6)	India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius, Bangladesh and Seychelles

9. Schemes

Aadi Farmer Carbon Programme - India's First Soil Carbon Payments; ₹2.9 Crore to 2,550 Farmers; Verra VM0042

India disbursed its **first-ever soil carbon payments** — more than **₹2.9 crore to 2,550 farmers** in Punjab and Haryana via DBT. First payments released at **PAU, Ludhiana** on **17 September 2026**.

Aadi programme: launched by Grow Indigo (2019) with ICAR guidance | Practices: Direct Seeded Rice (DSR), reduced tillage, crop-residue management | Credits under Verra VM0042 methodology | Covers 2 million+ acres, 1 lakh+ farmers across 7 States | Farmers received ₹3,000-₹15,000 per farmer depending on credits generated.

PMKKKY - Launched 17 September 2015; District Mineral Foundations; ₹1,09,938 Crore Sanctioned

PMKKKY was launched on **17 September 2015** to ensure mining-affected communities receive a share of benefits. Implemented through **District Mineral Foundations (DMFs)**.

DMF = non-profit trust under MMDR Act, 1957; provision introduced through 2015 MMDR amendment | DMFs established in 656 districts across 23 States | Projects sanctioned (July 2026): 4,70,020 projects worth ₹1,09,938 crore.

10. Awards & Honours

Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 - Anant Nag; 72nd National Film Awards on 22 September 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

Veteran actor **Anant Nag** selected for the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024**. Award to be presented at the **72nd National Film Awards on 22 September 2026** at **Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat**.

Detail	Fact
Born	4 September 1948, Karnataka
Film Debut	Kannada: Sankalpa Hindi: Ankur
Career	300+ films across Kannada, Hindi, Telugu, Malayalam, Tamil and Marathi TV: Malgudi Days
Other Honours	Padma Bhushan 2025

Dadasaheb Phalke Award: instituted in 1969; named after Dhundiraj Govind Phalke who directed Raja Harishchandra (1913) — India's first full-length feature film | First recipient: Devika Rani | Carries: Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), a shawl, and ₹10 lakh.

11. Ranks & Reports

Global Gender Gap Index 2026 - India 131/145; WEF; Iceland 1st (93%); 20th Edition; ~120 Years to Full Parity

India retained the **131st position** out of **145 economies** in the **Global Gender Gap Index 2026** (WEF, **16 September 2026**). India closed **64.5%** of its gender gap. Globally, **69.2%** closed; full parity estimated **~120 years away**. The **20th edition** of the index. Measures: Economic Participation, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, Political Empowerment.

Rank	Country	Note
1st	Iceland	93% gender parity
2nd	Finland	
3rd	Norway	
79th	Bangladesh	Best-performing South Asian country
131st	India	64.5% gap closed
143rd	Pakistan	
145th (Last)	Chad	

India Electric Mobility Index 2025 - Delhi 1st (Score 84); AP 9th (Score 52); Karnataka Highest Charging Infra (97)

NITI Aayog launched **IEMI 2025** (2nd edition) on **16 September 2026**, developed with **WRI India**. Assesses all **28 States and 8 UTs** through **16 indicators** under **3 themes**.

Theme	Weightage
Transport Electrification Progress	50%
Charging Infrastructure Readiness	30%
EV Research and Innovation Status	20%

Top rankings: Delhi (84) → Maharashtra (78) → Karnataka (73) → Chandigarh (71) → Goa (65) | Among Large States: Maharashtra 1st | Hilly/NE States: Manipur (46) 1st | Karnataka: highest Charging Infrastructure Readiness score (97) | AP: score 52, 9th overall (Frontrunner category, Large States).

12. Committees & Conferences

Dryland Congress 2026 – ICAR & ICRISAT; NASC New Delhi; Delhi Declaration on Dryland (3D); 50 Years of ICAR-ICRISAT

Dryland Congress 2026 (2nd edition) held **10-12 September 2026** at **NASC, New Delhi**. Jointly organised by **ICAR and ICRISAT**. Theme: **"Transforming Dryland Agriculture with South-South Cooperation."** Proposed outcome: **Delhi Declaration on Dryland (3D)**. Drylands cover **~45% of the world's land surface** and are home to more than **2 billion people**. Marked **50 years of ICAR-ICRISAT partnership**. ICRISAT HQ: **Patancheru, Hyderabad, Telangana**.

18th BRICS Summit 2026 – New Delhi; India's 4th Chairship; New Delhi Declaration; 11 Members; China Chairs 2027

18th BRICS Summit held **12-13 September 2026** at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi** under **India's Chairship**. Theme: **"Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"**. India's **4th Chairship** (after 2012, 2016, 2021); also marks **20 years of BRICS** (since 2006). Adopted: **BRICS New Delhi Declaration 2026**.

Key Outcome	Detail
Global Governance	Called for reforms in the UN and UNSC to increase representation of developing countries
Pahalgam Attack	Strongly condemned the 22 April 2025 terrorist attack in J&K; (26 killed); called for zero tolerance towards cross-border terrorism
Economic Cooperation	Faster/cheaper cross-border payment systems Trade/investment in local currencies
New India Proposals	BRICS Risk Lab at GIFT City (insurance/reinsurance) NIMHANS Bengaluru for BRICS mental health network BRICS Incubator Network BRICS Startup Innovation Fund BRICS Urban Mobility Hub
Next Chair	China — BRICS Chairship 2027; 19th BRICS Summit in China

BRICS Full Members (11): Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (original 5) + Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Indonesia | South Africa joined in 2011 (BRIC → BRICS).

World Circular Economy Forum 2026 – Gandhinagar, Gujarat; First WCEF in South Asia; Finland/Sitra; WCEF 2027: Columbia University

WCEF 2026 held in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat (15-16 September 2026)**. Theme: **"Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity."** First WCEF in South Asia. Global initiative of **Finland and Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra**. First WCEF: **Helsinki, Finland, 2017**. WCEF 2027 baton handed to **Columbia University, United States**.

13. Person in News

Acharya Vinoba Bhave - 131st Birth Anniversary; Bhoodan Movement at Pochampally (1951); Bharat Ratna 1983

Acharya Vinoba Bhave (full name: **Vinayak Narahari Bhave**) was born on **11 September 1895** in Maharashtra. Close disciple of Mahatma Gandhi; selected as the **first Individual Satyagrahi in 1940** (Nehru was the second).

Detail	Fact
Bhoodan Movement	Launched at Pochampally, present-day Telangana, on 18 April 1951; first major donation: 100 acres by Vedre Ramachandra Reddy
Associated Movements	Bhoodan, Gramdan and Sarvodaya
Famous Call	"Jai Jagat" — signifies welfare and unity of humanity beyond national boundaries
Ramon Magsaysay Award	1958
Bharat Ratna	1983 (posthumous)
Died	15 November 1982

14. Important Days

World Ozone Day - 16 September; Montreal Protocol (1987); Kigali Amendment (2016); 2026 Theme: "Global Action for a Cooler Planet"

World Ozone Day is observed every year on **16 September**, commemorating the signing of the **Montreal Protocol on 16 September 1987**. 2026 theme: "**Global Action for a Cooler Planet**" — celebrating **10 years of sustainable cooling** under the **Kigali Amendment**.

Kigali Amendment (adopted 2016): aims to phase down HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons) — potent greenhouse gases used in cooling | India: party to Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol since 1992 | Ratified Kigali Amendment September 2021; entered into force for India 26 December 2021 | India to phase down HFCs from 2032, reaching 85% reduction by 2047.

World Patient Safety Day - 17 September; WHO; 2026 Theme: "Safe Care for Noncommunicable Diseases"

World Patient Safety Day is observed on **17 September**; an official global public health day of the **WHO**. 2026 theme: "**Safe care for noncommunicable diseases.**"

15. Sports

Joe Root Breaks Sachin Tendulkar's Record for Most Test Fifties - 69 vs 68

England captain **Joe Root** became the batter with the most half-centuries in Test cricket during the third Test against Pakistan, taking his tally to **69 Test fifties** — surpassing **Sachin Tendulkar's previous record of 68**.

India Wins Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 - 8th Title; Defeats Sri Lanka; Shafali Verma Player of the Match

India won the **Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026**, defeating defending champions **Sri Lanka** in the final at **Dubai International Cricket Stadium, UAE**. India's **record eighth title**. Player of the Match: **Shafali Verma**.

Abhishek Sharma - Fastest T20I Century (30 Balls) Against a Test-Playing Nation vs Afghanistan; Arun Jaitley Stadium

Indian opener **Abhishek Sharma** scored a century in just **30 balls** against Afghanistan in the 3rd T20I at **Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi, 17 September 2026**. **Fastest T20I century by an Indian** and the **fastest T20I hundred by any batter against a Test-playing nation**.

16. Miscellaneous

Operation Deep Manifest - DRI; 362 MT Pakistan-Origin Dry Dates Seized; Third-Country Routing

The **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** seized more than **362 metric tonnes of Pakistan-origin dry dates** under '**Operation Deep Manifest**'. The operation targets illegal imports of Pakistan-origin goods **routed through third countries** to conceal their actual origin, circumventing India's prohibition on imports from Pakistan.

Nuakhai (Western Odisha Harvest Festival) and Samvatsari (Jain Festival)

Nuakhai: important agrarian and harvest festival of **Western Odisha** (especially Sambalpur region); "Nuakhai" broadly means "**eating the new crop**"; first produce offered to the presiding deity before family consumption. **Samvatsari**: important **Jain** religious observance centred on repentance, forgiveness and self-purification; observed mainly by followers of the **Shvetambara Jain tradition**; marks the **final day of the eight-day Paryushan festival**.

SPROUT / TAPAS / SHREYAS - Acronym Table

Acronym	Full Form	Purpose / Ministry
SPROUT	SpeedSeed Phenotyping and Resource Optimization for Unified Trait Analysis	Facility for climate-resilient crops at BRIC-NIPGR, New Delhi; inaugurated 15 September 2026
TAPAS	Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services	Online learning platform of NISD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
SHREYAS	Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme	Supports educational opportunities for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

Quick Revision Table

Topic heading on the left. One complete sentence with all key facts on the right.

Topic	One-Line Summary
Houthis - Bab el-Mandeb	Houthis (Ansar Allah, emerged from Zaydi Shia community, named after Hussein al-Houthi) expanded along Yemen's Red Sea coast in September 2026, reaching Perim (Mayyun) Island in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait (connects Red Sea with Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea; handles ~12-15% of global trade); captured Sana'a 2014, Saudi-led coalition intervened March 2015, UN truce April 2022.
Eritrea-Ethiopia Tensions	Eritrea accused Ethiopia of destabilisation on 12 September 2026; Eritrea became independent from Ethiopia in 1993 (making Ethiopia landlocked); both fought a border war 1998-2000 ending with the Algiers Agreement (2000); in 2018, PM Abiy Ahmed and President Isaias Afwerki signed a Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship; Abiy Ahmed received the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize partly for this.
India-MERCOSUR PTA Expansion	India and MERCOSUR launched negotiations to expand their PTA on 14 September 2026 (Piyush Goyal); also signed First Additional Protocol enabling e-CoO; MERCOSUR = Southern Common Market, Treaty of Asunción 1991; members: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, Uruguay; Secretariat: Montevideo; PTA signed 25 January 2004, in force 1 June 2009; India: 450 tariff lines, MERCOSUR: 452 tariff lines.
Pak-China Boundary Commission - Shaksgam Valley	India rejected the newly operationalised Pakistan-China Boundary Joint Commission (inaugural meeting Islamabad, 16 September 2026); linked to the China-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 2 March 1963, under which Pakistan transferred ~5,180 sq. km of the Shaksgam Valley to China; India has never recognised this agreement and describes the transfer as illegal and invalid.
Hyderabad Liberation Day - Operation Polo	Observed on 17 September to commemorate the integration of the erstwhile Hyderabad State with the Indian Union in 1948 via Operation Polo, led by India's first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel; last Nizam: Mir Osman Ali Khan, Asaf Jah VII; the erstwhile State broadly included present-day Telangana, Marathwada region of Maharashtra, and parts of the Kalyana Karnataka region.
AP - 'Trishul' Strategy	AP CM Chandrababu Naidu launched the "Trishul" three-pronged strategy targeting zero drugs, zero tolerance towards atrocities against women, and zero road accidents; State-level and district-level Trishul committees to be formed; also planned: De-addiction Centres of Excellence at Visakhapatnam, Tirupati and Amaravati, and "One Court-One Constable" system to monitor pending court cases.
AP - Patient Safety Rank 1st	Andhra Pradesh secured 1st rank in India in patient safety standards, scoring 86 out of 100 in the national evaluation during World Patient Safety Day 2026; AP (86) > MP (84.5) > Gujarat (83.5) > DNH & DD (83) > Tamil Nadu (82).
Uniform Civil Code - Article 44	UCC = common civil laws for marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance irrespective of religion; constitutional basis: Article 44 in Part IV (DPSP), not directly enforceable; supporters cite equality (Articles 14, 15); critics cite religious freedom (Article 25) and cultural rights (Article 29); 21st Law Commission (2018) favoured reform within personal laws; Uttarakhand UCC operational from 27 January 2025 (does not apply to STs); Amit Shah stated intent to implement UCCs in all NDA States before 2029 election.

Topic	One-Line Summary
Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026	Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 comes into force from 1 October 2026 (President's assent 13 August 2026); replaces the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891; recognises banking records in physical, electronic, digital, virtual and cloud-based formats including backup and disaster-recovery locations; certified copies usable as evidence; certificates may use manual, digital or electronic signatures.
New Development Bank	NDB established by original 5 BRICS countries; began operations 2015; HQ: Shanghai; headed by former Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff; 139 projects worth ~US\$42.9 billion; India: ~US\$10 billion across 32 projects by March 2026 (metro rail, Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS); India Regional Office: GIFT City, Gujarat; 2022-26 strategy: 30% financing in local currencies; proposed Maharaaja Bond Programme: ~₹25,000 crore over 5 years in Indian Rupees.
New UPI MDR Framework	All P2P transactions remain completely free; P2M up to ₹2,000: zero MDR; small merchants (P2PM, ≤₹1 lakh/month via QR): zero MDR; P2M above ₹2,000 (general): 0.4% MDR; transactions ≥₹75,000: MDR capped at ₹300; essential sectors (railways, telecom, insurance, fuel, agri inputs) above ₹2,000: flat ₹5; capital markets (MF, securities, stockbrokers): 0.02% capped at ₹300; ~96% of merchant transactions unaffected.
EPFO Wage Ceiling - ₹25,000	Union Cabinet raised EPFO mandatory coverage wage ceiling from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000 per month, effective 17 September 2026; expected to bring more than 51 lakh additional employees under mandatory EPFO coverage; contribution structure: employee 12% to EPF; employer's 8.33% to EPS, 3.67% to EPF; employees do not directly contribute to EPS.
SW Monsoon 2026 - AP Deficit	AP recorded a 42% rainfall deficit during SW Monsoon 2026 (as of 16 September) — jointly third-highest in India; received 255.3 mm against normal 442.3 mm; AP had the highest deficit among Southern Peninsula States/UTs; Meghalaya worst (59%), Manipur 2nd (43%); IMD: Deficient = 20%-59% below normal; Large Deficient = 60%-99% below normal.
Colombo Security Conclave - TTX 2026	CSC TTX held 9-11 September 2026 at Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam; CSC originated as a 2011 trilateral arrangement (India, Sri Lanka, Maldives), revived as CSC in 2020; Mauritius joined as full member in 2022; Bangladesh and Seychelles inducted as full members at the 7th NSA-level meeting, New Delhi, November 2025; current members (6): India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius, Bangladesh and Seychelles.
Aadi Farmer Carbon Programme	India's first soil carbon payments to farmers — ₹2.9 crore disbursed to 2,550 farmers in Punjab and Haryana via DBT, first released at PAU Ludhiana on 17 September 2026; Aadi programme launched by Grow Indigo (2019) with ICAR guidance; practices: Direct Seeded Rice, reduced tillage, crop-residue management; credits under Verra VM0042 methodology; covers 2 million+ acres, 7 States, 1 lakh+ farmers; farmers received ₹3,000-₹15,000 per farmer.
PMKKKY - DMFs	PMKKKY launched 17 September 2015 to ensure mining-affected communities receive a share of benefits; implemented through DMFs (non-profit trusts under MMDR Act, 1957; provision introduced through 2015 MMDR amendment); DMFs established in 656 districts across 23 States; as of July 2026: 4,70,020 projects worth ₹1,09,938 crore sanctioned.

Topic	One-Line Summary
Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024 – Anant Nag	Anant Nag selected for Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2024; to be presented at the 72nd National Film Awards on 22 September 2026 at Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat; born 4 September 1948, Karnataka; Kannada debut: Sankalpa, Hindi debut: Ankur; 300+ films; also known for TV series Malgudi Days; Padma Bhushan 2025; the award was instituted in 1969; first recipient: Devika Rani; carries Swarna Kamal, a shawl and ₹10 lakh.
Global Gender Gap Index 2026 – India 131st	India retained 131st rank (of 145) in the Global Gender Gap Index 2026 (WEF, 16 September 2026, 20th edition); India closed 64.5% of its gender gap; globally 69.2% closed; full parity ~120 years away; measures Economic Participation, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, Political Empowerment; Iceland 1st (93%), Finland 2nd, Norway 3rd; Chad 145th (last); Bangladesh 79th (best South Asian); Pakistan 143rd.
India Electric Mobility Index 2025	NITI Aayog launched IEMI 2025 (2nd edition) on 16 September 2026, developed with WRI India; assesses all 28 States and 8 UTs through 16 indicators under 3 themes: Transport Electrification Progress (50%), Charging Infrastructure Readiness (30%), EV Research and Innovation (20%); Delhi topped (84), Maharashtra 2nd (78), Karnataka 3rd (73); Karnataka: highest Charging Infrastructure Readiness score (97); AP: score 52, 9th overall (Frontrunner, Large States).
18th BRICS Summit – New Delhi 2026	18th BRICS Summit held 12–13 September 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; India's 4th Chairship (after 2012, 2016, 2021); theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"; adopted BRICS New Delhi Declaration 2026; condemned 22 April 2025 Pahalgam attack (26 killed); proposed BRICS Risk Lab at GIFT City; NIMHANS Bengaluru to coordinate BRICS mental health network; China to chair 2027; BRICS has 11 full members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Indonesia.
WCEF 2026 – Gandhinagar	World Circular Economy Forum 2026 held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat (15–16 September 2026); first WCEF in South Asia; theme "Circular Economy: Transition for People and Prosperity"; global initiative of Finland and Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra; first WCEF: Helsinki 2017; WCEF 2027 baton handed to Columbia University, USA.
Vinoba Bhave – Bhoodan Movement	Acharya Vinoba Bhave (Vinayak Narahari Bhave), born 11 September 1895, Maharashtra; first Individual Satyagrahi selected by Gandhi in 1940 (Nehru was second); launched Bhoodan Movement at Pochampally, present-day Telangana, on 18 April 1951; first major donation: 100 acres by Vedre Ramachandra Reddy; movements: Bhoodan, Gramdan, Sarvodaya; "Jai Jagat"; Ramon Magsaysay Award 1958; Bharat Ratna 1983 posthumous; died 15 November 1982.
World Ozone Day – Kigali Amendment	World Ozone Day observed on 16 September, commemorating the Montreal Protocol signed 16 September 1987; 2026 theme "Global Action for a Cooler Planet" celebrates 10 years under the Kigali Amendment (adopted 2016, aims to phase down HFCs); India party to Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol since 1992; ratified Kigali Amendment September 2021; in force for India 26 December 2021; India to phase down HFCs from 2032, reaching 85% reduction by 2047.
Joe Root – Most Test Fifties	England captain Joe Root broke Sachin Tendulkar's record for most half-centuries in Test cricket during the third Test against Pakistan; Root now has 69 Test fifties, surpassing Tendulkar's record of 68.
India Wins Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026	India won the Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026, defeating defending champions Sri Lanka in the final at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, UAE; India's record 8th title; Player of the Match: Shafali Verma.

Topic	One-Line Summary
Abhishek Sharma - Fastest T20I Century	Abhishek Sharma scored a century in 30 balls against Afghanistan in the 3rd T20I at Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi, 17 September 2026; fastest T20I century by an Indian and fastest T20I hundred by any batter against a Test-playing nation.
SPROUT TAPAS SHREYAS	SPROUT (SpeedSeed Phenotyping and Resource Optimization for Unified Trait Analysis): facility for climate-resilient crops at BRIC-NIPGR, New Delhi, inaugurated 15 September 2026 TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services): online learning platform of NISD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment SHREYAS (Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme): supports educational opportunities for SCs and OBCs.

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