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THE HULAHUL TIMES

Evolving Today For A Better Tomorrow



ANANT CHATURDASHI: LESSONS OF LETTING GO FOR THE YOUNG GENERATION

Anant Chaturdashi is not merely the concluding day of the Ganesh festival; it is a beautiful reminder that every beginning eventually leads to an ending, and every ending carries the possibility of a new beginning. After days of devotion, celebration, music, cultural activities and togetherness, devotees come together to bid farewell to Lord Ganesha with the familiar chant of “Ganpati Bappa Morya.” For youngsters, this emotional farewell can become an opportunity to look beyond the rituals and understand the deeper lessons that Indian traditions have preserved for generations. In a world where young people are constantly encouraged to achieve more, acquire more and hold on to everything they value, Anant Chaturdashi quietly teaches the importance of accepting change, practising gratitude and learning to let go.

One of the most meaningful lessons of Anant Chaturdashi is the art of letting go. Young people often find it difficult to accept endings. Whether it is the end of school, college, a friendship, a relationship, a phase of life or even a dream that did not work out, letting go can be emotionally challenging. The farewell to Ganesha reminds us that loving something does not necessarily mean possessing it forever. We can be deeply grateful for an experience and still allow it to end. Life constantly changes around us, and maturity comes from understanding that change is not always something to fear. Sometimes, letting go is necessary to create space for growth, new opportunities and new experiences. The farewell therefore becomes a lesson in emotional strength: appreciate what you have, learn from what you experience and move forward without allowing the past to prevent you from embracing the future.

Anant Chaturdashi also reminds youngsters that external achievements are temporary, while values and character remain much longer. During Ganeshotsav, magnificent decorations, lights, stages and celebrations may create unforgettable experiences, but after the festival, everything is eventually removed. What remains is not the physical decoration but the memory, relationships and sense of community created during those days. Similarly, in life, marks, certificates, designations, wealth and social media popularity can change over time. What truly defines a person is honesty, discipline, kindness, courage, humility and the ability to contribute positively to society. Youngsters should therefore learn to measure success not only by what they achieve for themselves but also by the values they develop and the difference they make in the lives of others.

The festival also provides an important lesson about



responsibility. Celebration and responsibility should never be treated as opposites. As society becomes more conscious of environmental concerns, youngsters have an important role in ensuring that traditions are celebrated responsibly. Choosing environmentally considerate practices, reducing unnecessary waste, respecting public spaces and being mindful of noise and pollution can help create a balance between faith and responsibility. Tradition becomes more meaningful when the younger generation understands its spirit and finds thoughtful ways to carry it forward. Youngsters need not abandon their traditions to embrace modernity; instead, they can preserve the essence of their culture while adapting practices to meet the needs of the present and future.

Another powerful lesson of Anant Chaturdashi is the importance of community. Ganeshotsav brings together people from different backgrounds and generations. Families, friends, students, workers and senior citizens participate in celebrations, cultural programmes and social activities. In an age where digital communication has become a major part of everyday life, such occasions remind youngsters of the value of real human connection. Technology can connect people across distances, but compassion, cooperation and community require genuine participation. Young people can use the spirit of the festival to become more socially

responsible, volunteer for meaningful causes, support those in need and understand that personal success becomes more valuable when it contributes to collective well-being.

Ultimately, Anant Chaturdashi teaches youngsters that life is a continuous journey of beginnings, experiences, endings and new beginnings. The immersion of Ganesha symbolises a farewell, but it does not represent the disappearance of faith, wisdom or hope. The physical form may leave, but the values associated with the festival remain within people. This is perhaps the most important lesson for today's generation: do not be afraid of endings. Learn from them, be grateful for them and use them as a foundation for what comes next. As the final chants of “Ganpati Bappa Morya” echo through the streets, youngsters can carry forward a simple message: celebrate with joy, live with responsibility, work with discipline, care for others and learn to let go with gratitude. The true success of a festival is not measured by how grandly it was celebrated, but by how meaningfully its lessons continue to influence our lives after the celebrations are over.

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FROM ENTREPRENEUR TO SOCIAL WORKER: THE INSPIRING STORY OF S. K. M. MAEILANANDHAN

In a farmer's family in Erode district of Tamil Nadu, a boy was born on 18 June 1945. His name was S. K. M. Maeilanandhan. His family was not well off, and his formal education ended at the school-final level. But his education in life had only just begun. The farms, markets and struggles of rural families became his classroom. He saw farmers working hard while facing unpredictable prices, diseases and irregular incomes. These experiences stayed with him and led him to believe that success should not be measured solely on the basis of earnings but also of what one gives back to the society.

As a young man, Maeilanandhan got into business and slowly built the SKM Group. While his business succeeded, he stayed associated with agriculture and rural life. He understood the difficulties faced by the poultry farmers and wanted to help them to become stronger. In 1983, he set up the Poultry Farmers Welfare Association. Meetings and seminars were conducted, where farmers could learn about poultry diseases, marketing and prices. He also became editor and publisher of Kozhi Namban meaning “Poultry Friend”, to spread practical knowledge among farmers.

Maeilanadhan felt that knowledge should be given to ordinary people. He promoted rural self-employment and aided any opportunity that would supplement people's earnings, especially for a steady income throughout the year. One of his significant achievements was his involvement in the introduction of eggs to the Tamil Nadu Government's noon-meal programme. While addressing the nutritional requirements of the children, it also created a market for the eggs of the poultry farmers. It was an economic idea that served two communities at the same time.

His success and achievements brought him both wealth and recognition, but they also brought him responsibility. In 1999, he took upon himself to provide aid to two Dalit settlements, Rajiv Nagar and Gandhi Nagar, at Saminathapuram. This was not a one-time activity but rather a gradual process in which Maeilanadhan saw a long-term opportunity to help his community. Not only was there a provision of food, clothing, shelter, and medical support to the aged and children, but the women were also given free vocational training to enhance their economic position. Additionally, he also organized marriage support, maternity benefit, and aid in the case of a family member's death. With the resources of the Sangamam Trust, he was able to construct a gasifier

crematorium for the public in rural areas.

Want a This spirit reflects the Indian Knowledge System's idea of Seva. Service is not merely giving money to someone in need. It is recognising our responsibility towards other human beings. The related idea of Lok-Kalyan, or welfare of all, teaches that individual progress gains greater meaning when it contributes to social well-being. Maeilanandhan did not consider business and service to be separate



worlds. He used the strength created through enterprise to support communities around him.

His concern for people also led him towards consumer protection. He was associated for decades with the Erode District Consumer Protection Centre. Its activities expanded across all 299 village panchayats of the district, while consumer clubs were created in educational institutions. Books on citizen charters helped people understand their rights. The organisation received the National Best Consumer Protection Council Award in 1993. Maeilanandhan also edited the Tamil publication Nugharvore Khaavalan, or Consumer Protector. Through this work, he demonstrated another form of service. Instead of always solving people's problems for them, he helped people gain the knowledge required to protect themselves.

Another important chapter of his life was connected with yoga and value-based education. As President of the World Community Service Centre, he helped promote Yoga for Human Excellence. Yoga, meditation and moral education were taken to students, villagers and the wider public. Educational programmes were

also developed through collaborations with universities.

For Maeilanandhan yoga was not just a physical activity. It was also a means of gaining discipline, balance and clarity of mind. This approach is related to Indian wisdom, in which education is supposed to develop both knowledge and personality. A competent person without values can use knowledge for selfish purposes, while a disciplined mind can guide

knowledge to good ends. His work combined material progress and spiritual growth.

His concern also reached the environment. In particular, in 1992, he initiated the Periyar Nagar Park Maintenance Trust and played a major role in maintaining the park. His Clean and Green activities were recognized by the Tamil Nadu Environment and Forest Department. Through the National Welfare Awareness Movement, which was created in 1999, he also promoted national integration, social harmony, patriotism and voter awareness. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Community Service Centre under his leadership raised ₹2 crore for the Tamil Nadu Government, which is significant in the context of a pandemic.

Looking back at his journey, a clear pattern appears. Maeilanandhan learned from rural life and worked for farmers. Business gave him resources, and he used part of those resources for social welfare. Consumer activism became a means of empowering citizens. Yoga helped him promote discipline and moral education. Environmental work reflected his concern for the common good. His activities were different, but the purpose connecting them was the same

using one's abilities for the welfare of others.

His life offers a valuable lesson to anyone who believes that limited opportunities must lead to limited achievements. Maeilanandhan did not begin with advanced degrees or great privilege. He began by observing, learning and working. As his opportunities increased, he expanded the circle of people who could benefit from his success. That is what made his journey meaningful.

Moral of the Story

Maeilanandhan's life tells us that learning does not end with formal education. Much of what he learned came from work, experience and his interaction with people. Even after becoming successful in business, he remained connected with the problems around him. Farmers needed guidance, rural families needed opportunities and consumers needed awareness of their rights. He tried to respond in practical ways. This is where we can see the Indian values of **Seva and Karma Yoga** in his life. Service, after all, does not always require extraordinary acts. One can always begin by noticing someone's difficulty and doing what we can do help to them. His journey leaves us with a simple thought that as we move ahead in life, we should not forget the people around us.

Conclusion: His Contribution and Achievements

Maeilanandhan's contribution went far beyond business. He worked for poultry farmers, rural communities and consumer awareness, while the World Community Service Centre helped spread yoga, meditation and moral education. He stood with the marginalized and disadvantaged section of the society during the hard and difficult times. Our government has recognized him for social contribution and impact with the Padma Shriin 2013 and the Padma Bhushan award in 2026. His journey enlightens us how personal progress can gradually become an opportunity to serve the nation.

ANKE GOWDA: THE MAN WHO BUILT A TWO-MILLION-BOOK LIBRARY FROM A SUGAR FACTORY PAYCHECK



Some people dream of building an empire. Anke Gowda built a home for books, and in doing so, gave a nation something far more lasting than wealth.

He wasn't born into privilege. He was born around 1947 to Mari Gowda and Ningamma, farmers in a tiny village called Chinakurli, in a world where books simply didn't belong. His neighbours had never owned one. Nobody around him read for pleasure. But somewhere inside a young boy still in class IX, something stirred the moment he picked up the works of Swami Vivekananda. He looked around at a village with no books, and instead of accepting it, he asked himself a question that would define his entire life: what if someone brought books to people who had never known them?

That question didn't come with money, connections, or a plan. It came with a bus conductor's ticket punch and a security guard's night shift, the ordinary, unglamorous jobs of a young man just trying to get by. But even then, something was quietly building beneath the surface. He went back to school and earned a

master's degree in Kannada, and there, a teacher named K. Anantharamu said something that lodged itself permanently in his heart: never take a bribe, be good to your neighbours, and hold on to one good habit. Most people hear advice like that and forget it by evening. Gowda didn't. He chose his habit, collecting books, and decided to pursue it like it was his calling.

Then life handed him the one thing every dream secretly needs: stability. He took a job as a timekeeper at the Pandavapura Cooperative Sugar Factory, a position with no glamour and no spotlight, where he clocked in day after day for nearly 30 years. But instead of letting that paycheck slip away on comfort, he made a choice most people never would. Every rupee he could spare, his salary, even his retirement savings, went into buying books. Not for one year. Not for five. For decades. While others saved for houses or holidays, Gowda saved for shelves. That kind of quiet, stubborn devotion doesn't make headlines while it's happening. It just keeps going, one book at a time, until one day it becomes something the world can't ignore.

And it did. That lifetime of small sacrifices grew into Pustaka Mane "House of Books" a stunning, purpose-built library spanning nearly 1,500 square metres, funded by Hari Khoday. Walk through its doors and you're walking through almost 200 years of human thought: science, technology, over 5,000 dictionaries, literature, mythology, philosophy, sacred texts, rare and irreplaceable finds, tens of thousands of magazines, in more than 20 languages. And unlike so many great collections locked away behind glass, this one is wide open. Anyone can walk in. Students. Scholars. Curious strangers. Even politicians like Rahul Gandhi and H. D. Kumaraswamy have made the trip to see what one man, working an ordinary job, managed to build. Gowda still lives there today, in a modest corner of the very library he created, with his wife and son, sleeping every night surrounded by the dream he spent a lifetime building.

Recognition eventually caught up to him, the way it always does for people who never chased it. Awards came in 2009 and 2011. A Rajyotsava Award followed in 2014. In 2016,

he entered the Limca Book of Records for building the largest personal book collection in the country. And then came the moment that turned a lifetime of quiet devotion into a national story, in 2026, the Government of India honored him with the Padma Shri, one of the country's highest civilian awards, for his extraordinary contribution to literacy and learning.

Strip away the awards, and what's left is something far more powerful: proof. Proof that you don't need wealth to leave something enormous behind. Proof that a farmer's son, a bus conductor, a security guard, a sugar factory timekeeper, someone with no privilege, no shortcuts, and no safety net, can still build something the whole country ends up celebrating. Anke Gowda didn't wait for permission or resources. He just kept buying one more book, one more year, for fifty years, until an ordinary life quietly became an extraordinary one.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

Commerce Connect is a student-friendly column that turns money, markets, and management into everyday lessons. From canteen economics to digital wallets, it bridges classroom theory with real-world trends, making commerce not just a subject, but a life skill.

Picture three ordinary mornings. In Pune, a software engineer opens her laptop and pushes code for a client based in California. In Mumbai, an accountant reconciles the books of a firm headquartered in Sydney. In Bengaluru, a designer finalizes a brand identity for a startup in London. None of them will ever pack a box or visit a port. Yet each transaction adds to India's earnings from the rest of the world.

This is the quiet engine of "invisible exports," trade that moves not through containers and cargo ships, but through knowledge, skill, and creativity delivered across a screen. Where traditional exports like textiles, pharmaceuticals, and machinery are things you can touch and track through customs, invisible exports are services: expertise rendered for a fee to someone who may be thousands of kilometers away.

Beyond IT: A Much Wider Canvas

It's tempting to think this story begins and ends with software. It doesn't. The same borderless demand touches business consulting, financial analysis, research, online education, digital marketing, and animation. A market researcher in Delhi can compile a report for a European investor. A teacher in Hyderabad can run live classes for students

INVISIBLE EXPORTS: HOW INDIA EARNS WITHOUT SHIPPING A SINGLE BOX

abroad. An animator in Chennai can contribute frames to an international film production.

What connects all of these isn't a shared industry. It's a shared enabler: technology has made physical distance almost irrelevant to how many services get delivered. The client no longer needs to be down the street, or even in the same time zone, for the transaction to happen in real time.

A Different Kind of Business Model

This shift is also quietly rewriting what it means to start an export business. Manufacturing exports typically demand capital heavy infrastructure: factories, inventory, warehousing, logistics networks. A service export can begin far more modestly, with one person, a laptop, a specific skill, and access to a global client base.

Consider a commerce graduate who starts offering monthly bookkeeping services to small overseas businesses. What begins as freelance work can, over time, turn into a small agency employing several accountants, a scalable enterprise built entirely on expertise rather than physical goods. That trajectory, from solo skill to structured business, is becoming increasingly common precisely because the barriers to entry are so much lower than in traditional trade.

What It Means for Students Entering Commerce

For students studying accounting, finance, or business management, this changes the shape of the question they should be asking themselves. The default question, "which company will hire me?," is only half the picture now. The more interesting question is: "which problem can I solve well enough that someone, anywhere, would pay me to solve it?"

A finance student fluent in data analysis



and accounting software isn't limited to Indian employers. A marketing student who understands consumer behavior and digital campaigns can just as easily manage advertising for a brand based abroad. The global market isn't only shopping for what India manufactures. Increasingly, it's shopping for what Indian professionals can think through and build.

Ripple Effects at Home

The impact of a single overseas service contract rarely stays contained to one freelancer's income. A growing service business spends money locally, on software subscriptions, internet infrastructure, marketing, legal and accounting support. That spending supports other businesses and creates local jobs, meaning one international client relationship can ripple outward into a broader domestic economy.

The Catch

None of this comes without friction. Indian professionals aren't just competing with each other. They're competing with talent everywhere, and clients now expect not just skill but reliability, data security, and polished communication. Cross-border work also brings

tangled questions of taxation, contracts, and intellectual property that a purely domestic gig wouldn't involve.

There's also a moving target: as automation and AI reshape what services even look like, the skills that are valuable today may need constant updating. Standing still is not really an option.

The Larger Shift

For most of modern history, trade meant ships, ports, and warehouses. Increasingly, it also means laptops, cloud platforms, and video calls. The border between countries hasn't disappeared, but what crosses it has quietly expanded, from crates of goods to ideas, analysis, and design.

India's global economic strength, in other words, is no longer just about what it can produce. It's just as much about what its people know, and are willing to keep learning.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The study of language and literature is not just an academic pursuit, but a journey into the world of imagination, critical thinking, and cultural exchange. This page celebrates creativity, knowledge, and expression by bridging the classics with contemporary voices.

LITERARY TERM OF THE WEEK

Catharsis

Catharsis is the emotional release experienced by an audience through powerful feelings aroused by a work of art, particularly tragedy.

The concept is strongly associated with Aristotle's Poetics, where tragedy is connected with the arousal and subsequent purification or release of pity and fear.

In simple words:

Catharsis = an intense emotional experience followed by a sense of release.

LANGUAGE CHALLENGE

Correct the sentence: “Neither the teacher nor the students was aware of the change in the timetable.”

Answer: “Neither the teacher nor the students were aware of the change in the timetable.”

Reason: With neither...nor, the verb generally agrees with the subject nearer to it, in this case, students.

DID YOU KNOW?

- A group of flamingos is called a “flamboyance.” Their bright pink colour and dramatic appearance make the name especially fitting.
- Butterflies taste with their feet. Special sensory receptors on their legs help them identify suitable plants.
- Octopuses have three hearts. Two pump blood to the gills, while the third pumps blood to the rest of the body.
- Giraffes have seven neck bones, just like humans. The amazing difference is that each of a giraffe's neck bones is extremely long.
- Penguins actually have knees. Their knees are hidden inside their bodies, which makes their legs appear much shorter than they really are.
- Sharks have been on Earth for hundreds of millions of years long before the first dinosaurs appeared.
- Some dinosaurs had feathers. Fossil evidence shows that feather-like coverings existed in several dinosaur species.
- Elephants can recognise themselves in a mirror, a rare ability observed in only a small number of animal species.
- The Moon experiences moonquakes. These vibrations can occur beneath its surface, somewhat like earthquakes on Earth. and later thaw when temperatures rise.

GRAMMAR TIP

WHO vs. WHOM

Who is generally used for the person doing an action.
Whom is traditionally used for the person receiving the action.

Example:

Who called you?
Whom did you invite?

Easy Trick:

If you can replace it with he/she → WHO
If you can replace it with him/her → WHOM

Remember:

Who = subject
Whom = object

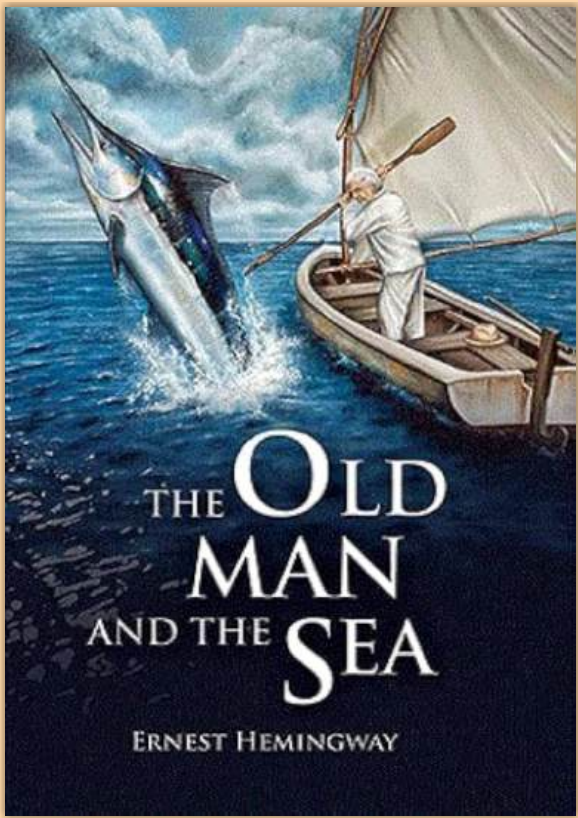
WRITER OF THE WEEK

Vijay Tendulkar (1928–2008)

Vijay Tendulkar was one of the most influential modern Marathi playwrights and a significant figure in Indian theatre. His plays often examined power, violence, social hypocrisy, gender relations and the complexities of human behaviour. His celebrated works include Shantata! Court Chalu Aahe, Sakharam Binder, and Ghashiram Kotwal. Tendulkar's writing challenged audiences to confront uncomfortable social realities and helped give modern Indian theatre a distinctive and powerful voice.

BOOK REVIEW

The Old Man and the Sea — Ernest Hemingway



Hemingway's The Old Man and the Sea tells the story of Santiago, an ageing Cuban fisherman who struggles to catch a giant marlin. The novella explores perseverance, courage, dignity, isolation and the human struggle against adversity.

The famous line, “A man can be destroyed but not defeated,” captures one of its central ideas: physical defeat does not necessarily mean the destruction of human dignity and spirit.

Why read it?

Its simple language carries profound philosophical meaning, making it an excellent example of literary economy and symbolism.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“A word after a word after a word is power.”

— Margaret Atwood

CREATIVE WRITING

The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children’s lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water
.And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Poetry by
- Wendell Berry

WORD OF THE WEEK

Perspicacious (adjective)

Meaning: Having a sharp understanding of people, situations, or ideas.
Example: Her perspicacious observations helped the students understand the poem from a new perspective.

IDIOM HIGHLIGHT

“Read between the lines”

Meaning: To understand a hidden or implied meaning rather than only the obvious meaning.
Example: Good readers learn to read between the lines and discover what the writer has not stated directly.

INDIAN PLANTATION SECTOR URGED TO BECOME GLOBAL SUPPLIERS



In a developed India, plantation sector should have higher value per hectare, better technology adoption, increased exports, higher income for growers, and higher productivity; its focus should move from commodities to value-added products, says Amit Kumar, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Technology and institutional finance, which are accessible to small-scale growers too, in the plantation sector are critical for the sector's growth, said Amit Kumar, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, on Wednesday (September 23).

Speaking at the annual conference of the United Planters Association of Southern India and presenting the TGLIA: STC awards at Coonoor, he said the future of the sector lies in partnership among all the stakeholders of the sector. An eco system should be built for inclusive growth of the sector, where every kilogram of plantation produce has better value addition and is globally recognised.

PUNJAB'S GROUNDWATER CRISIS DEEPENS RURAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

A study titled 'Unequal Burden of Groundwater Depletion in Punjab' reveals that the state's worsening water crisis is expanding socio-economic inequality among rural farming communities. Author Sandeep Kaur, an economics professor at the Central University of Punjab, highlights that 76.47 percent of Punjab's groundwater blocks are classified as over-exploited, the highest proportion nationwide. Heavy reliance on tube-well irrigation for water-intensive paddy and wheat cultivation, coupled with low surface-canal water utilization, has led to severe aquifer depletion, land subsidence, and water quality deterioration.



buy water from wealthier neighbors. Experts caution that blanket free electricity policies intended to aid smallholders have inadvertently subsidized over-extraction by large farmers, widening income disparities while leaving small growers to shoulder the environmental and financial costs.

The study emphasizes that the crisis disproportionately harms small and marginal farmers. Capital-rich large landholders dominate extraction by drilling deeper borewells, securing high returns over cost despite lower water productivity. In contrast, resource-poor farmers lack the capital to deepen drying wells and are forced to

FARM GROWTH POST-2015 MORE BROAD-BASED AND TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN

India's farm sector growth post-2015 has transcended the levels seen immediately after the Green Revolution, largely due to technological innovations and a growing emphasis on sustainability, making it more broad-based than in the past, according to a new paper published in the latest edition of The Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences (IJAS).

The paper said that sustaining this post-2015 average growth of 4.5 per cent in the coming years will require gradually realigning Green Revolution-era incentives-particularly input subsidies and price support-with the emerging priorities of resource conservation, climate resilience and sustainability, while enhancing agricultural productivity, food security and farmers' incomes. The paper, written by Dr Mangi Lal Jat, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Pratap Singh Birthal, Distinguished Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), and Sedithippa Janarthanan Balaji, Professor, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), titled 'Beyond the Green Revolution:



Unravelling new dynamics of India's agrifood system transformation', divided the country's agrifood system journey since the Green Revolution into three distinct phases. In the first phase, from 1967-1995, agricultural growth was driven by technology-led cereal intensification, the paper said; from 1996-2014, it was driven by demand-led diversification; and from 2015 onwards, it has been driven by sustainability-led diversification.

INDIA'S VAST CANAL NETWORK OFFERS LAND-FREE PATH TO SOLAR ENERGY

India's extensive surface irrigation network presents a compelling, land-neutral opportunity for expanding renewable energy through Canal-Top Photovoltaics (CTPV), avoiding the rising costs and policy bottlenecks associated with rural land acquisition.

A national assessment places India's combined potential for canal-top and canal-bank solar installations at approximately 131 GW across major agricultural states, including Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Karnataka, and Gujarat. Under CTPV design, solar panels are mounted on elevated specialized steel frameworks erected directly above active water channels.

Beyond generating clean electricity, canal-top installations yield double environmental dividends. Covering open water channels drastically reduces evaporation losses, saving millions of liters of irrigation water annually, while the cooling effect provided by the flowing water underneath improves solar panel efficiency during high-temperature operational cycles.



However, widespread deployment remains limited to a few tens of megawatts due to high initial capital expenditure. Elevated mounting structures require extra structural steel, specialized engineering, and customized access provisions, raising installation costs compared to standard ground-mounted arrays. Experts emphasize that scaling CTPV requires standardized structural guidelines, specialized Viability Gap Funding, and improved integration with regional power grids.

CPI(M) URGES GOVERNMENT TO DECLARE ANANTAPUR AS DROUGHT-HIT



The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has demanded that the Andhra Pradesh government immediately declare Anantapur district as drought-hit, urging the official designation of 31 affected mandals to unlock emergency state and central assistance.

Announcing district-wide demonstrations, the party's district committee highlighted the severe agrarian distress gripping the region. Extended dry spells have caused standing crops to wither across fields, while falling groundwater tables have dried up fruit orchards and created acute shortages of drinking water and livestock fodder.

Under a 12-point charter of demands, the CPI(M) urged the state government to grant a total waiver of farm loans and provide an input subsidy of 50,000 rupees per acre for farmers who suffered complete crop losses. The party also demanded 30,000 rupees per acre for growers in upland and ayacut areas who were entirely unable to take up sowing due to missing seasonal rains.

Furthermore, party leadership called on the Union Government to declare the regional drought a national calamity, demanding a special federal assistance package of 20,000 crore rupees for Anantapur to prevent distress migration, support tenant farmers, and sustain rural agricultural livelihoods.

This report highlights the ground-level drought conditions in the Anantapur district, showing official assessments of crop loss and water scarcity.

CA EDUCATION SET FOR AN AI-FOCUSED MAKEOVER

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is reviewing its Chartered Accountancy education and training structure to bring emerging technologies and new professional skills into the curriculum. A Committee for Review of Education and Training has been formed to examine the syllabus, practical training, soft skills, communication training and examination methods. The proposed changes will focus on artificial intelligence, data analytics, sustainability, ESG issues and forensic auditing. ICAI has said the review is intended to give future chartered accountants stronger practical exposure to technology and data tools as digital systems increasingly influence finance and auditing.



students and is preparing an advanced AURA 2.0 course focused on practical applications of AI in finance, audit and taxation. The institute has also expanded technology-related training for members, including AI, digital forensics, data protection and cybersecurity audit.

Alongside the domestic review, ICAI is developing an international version of its CA curriculum for overseas students. The proposed structure would largely follow the Indian curriculum while adapting taxation and law papers to individual countries. Collaborations are being explored with professional bodies in Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore and parts of Africa. The programme would retain the ICAI qualification framework.

The committee is expected to complete its work by December, after which its recommendations will be placed in the public domain. AI and related areas are currently supported through separate training initiatives rather than being fully integrated as standalone components of the formal CA curriculum. ICAI has already introduced the AURA programme for

IIT MADRAS OPENS A NEW HUB FOR CONSTRUCTION ROBOTICS

IIT Madras has inaugurated a dedicated construction Robotics laboratory to strengthen research and industry collaboration in robotics, automation and advanced construction technologies. The facility, valued at ₹3.30 crore, has been developed with CSR support from Bechtel India and is designed to connect academic research with practical challenges in the construction and infrastructure sectors.

The laboratory will provide a shared environment for researchers, students and industry professionals to develop and test technology for real-world construction applications. Its work will cover construction, procurement and infrastructure-related use cases, with the broader aim of improving automation and technological adoption in the sector.

The collaboration is expected to support joint research, consulting and technology development. Outcomes may include research publications, patents, prototypes and industry demonstrations. Bechtel India will also contribute industry perspectives to curriculum development and provide

opportunities for mentorship and possible internships for selected students.

For undergraduate and postgraduate learners, the laboratory offers exposure to emerging technologies and practical engineering applications. Students can take part in research and innovation activities while gaining insight into the challenges faced by the construction industry.

The initiative also highlights the growing role of industry-academia partnerships in higher education. By combining IIT Madras's research capabilities with Bechtel's engineering and project expertise, the laboratory aims to develop solutions that can move from experimental research toward real-world deployment. It is expected to contribute to future workforce development in construction robotics and related deep-tech fields.

WEST BENGAL SCHOOLS GET A 17-POINT SAFETY FRAMEWORK



The West Bengal education department has issued a 17-point safety advisory for government, government-aided and private unaided schools. The directions follow recent reports of snake and reptile bites and other safety incidents on school premises. District officials have been asked to monitor compliance.

Schools have been instructed to conduct comprehensive safety inspections covering classrooms, toilets, staircases, corridors, playgrounds, gardens, drains, storage spaces, kitchens, boundary areas and construction zones. Potential shelters for snakes, rodents and pests, including debris, garbage, unused materials and dense vegetation, must be removed.

The advisory also calls for regular monitoring of vulnerable areas and authorised pest, rodent and reptile-control measures. Every school is expected to maintain a written emergency response protocol covering incidents such as snakebites, injuries, fires and other medical emergencies.

In case of an injury or suspected bite, students must receive immediate medical attention and parents or guardians should be informed promptly when the situation is serious. Schools are also required to keep CCTV systems functional in permitted common areas and preserve relevant footage when incidents occur.

Teachers, security personnel, housekeeping workers and other staff should receive periodic training in child safety, first aid and emergency response. Schools must maintain incident and complaint registers and provide clear mechanisms for students and parents to raise safety concerns.

The advisory also requires compliance with fire, building, electricity, sanitation, drinking-water, hygiene, transport and student-welfare standards. Safety is to remain an ongoing responsibility, supported by periodic reviews and corrective action.

BIHAR'S VIDYA SATHI APP REACHES RURAL LEARNERS



and towns. The education department and examination authorities are also focusing on technology-based examination processes. Computer-based testing can support more structured exam management, while digital systems can help institutions coordinate information and improve administrative efficiency.

The Vidya Sathi platform forms part of a broader shift towards technology-supported education services in Bihar. Its continued use will depend on digital access and literacy. Officials are expected to continue reviewing the platform's reach and usage as more students join. With rural learners forming the majority of current users, the app's progress may provide useful information about how digital education initiatives can be expanded across Bihar while keeping access and examination management central to the process. The minister said the early enrolment was encouraging, and the board will continue monitoring the platform as participation grows.

More than three lakh students have joined the Bihar Vidya Sathi app within a month of its launch, according to Education Minister Mithilesh Tiwari. Around 73 per cent of the registered students are from rural areas, highlighting the reach of the digital platform beyond major urban centres. The figures were discussed during a review meeting at the Bihar School Examination Board auditorium. Officials also examined computer-based tests and measures to make examinations more technology-driven, transparent and secure.

The early response to Vidya Sathi indicates growing use of digital tools among students in Bihar. The large rural share shows that the platform is reaching learners beyond major cities

SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT GETS A NEW ROUTE

The scholarship system for the 2026-27 academic year has received important changes aimed at reducing confusion between merit-based and welfare-based financial assistance. Under the revised framework on the National Scholarship Portal, a student who qualifies for a merit scholarship will not be denied it merely because the student is already receiving a welfare-based scholarship, and the reverse will also apply. The revised rules follow problems noticed during the deduplication process for the 2024-25 academic year, when some students were flagged as duplicate beneficiaries. The government has now asked ministries and departments to clearly classify schemes into merit-based and welfare-based categories. Merit schemes reward academic performance or achievement, while welfare schemes support students from identified communities or socio-economic groups.

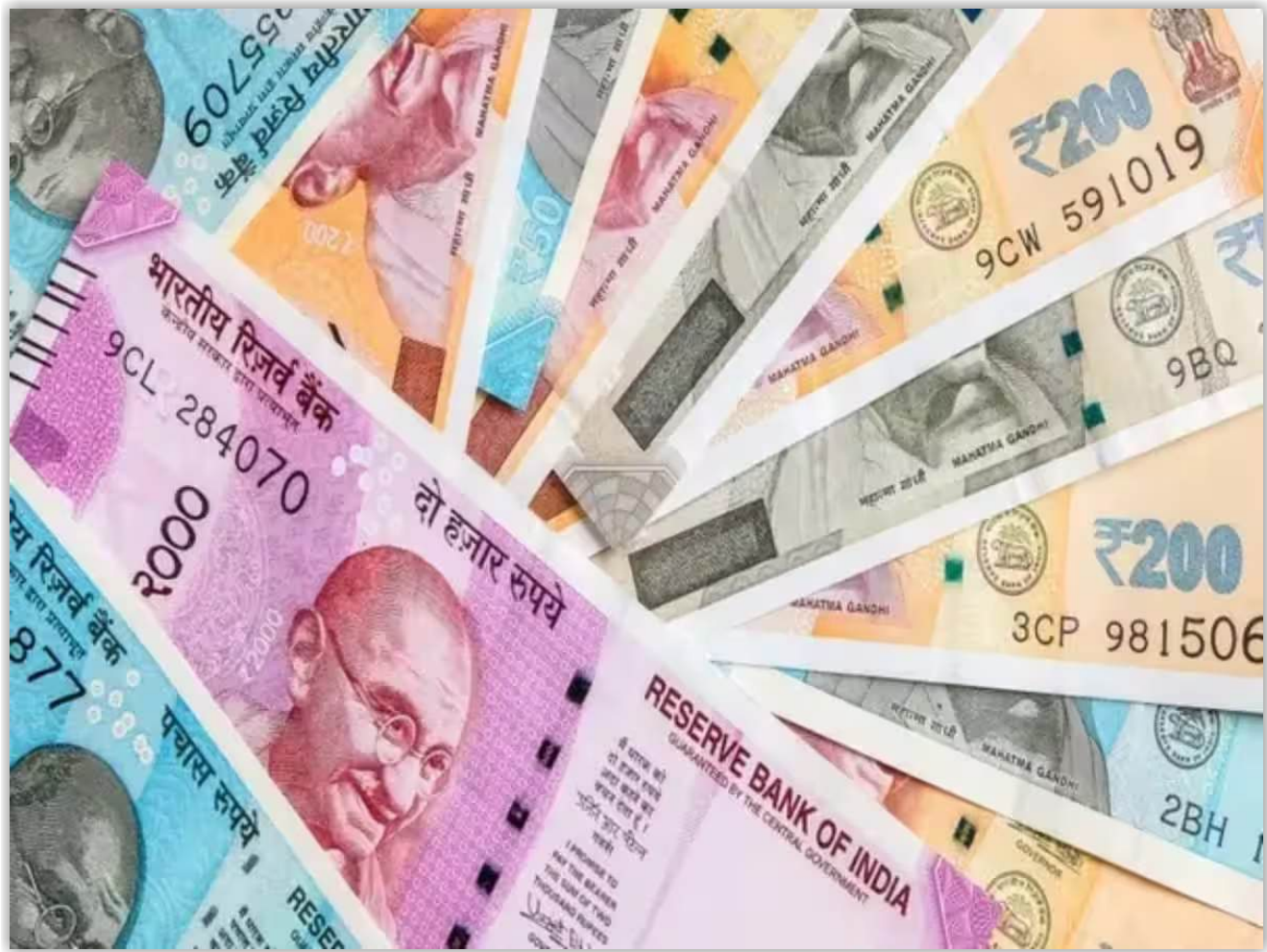
The application process has also been streamlined. Details entered in an initial application can be retained for later applications, meaning students will generally need to provide only



scheme-specific information and relevant documents again. If an application is marked defective, students can edit scheme-specific details without changing general information unless the application is withdrawn. During verification, nodal officers will be able to view applications submitted under different scholarship categories. This is intended to improve coordination and reduce duplication. The changes could make scholarship administration more consistent while giving eligible students clearer opportunities to access different forms of government support.

Students and families should still check the specific eligibility and documentation requirements of each scheme before applying.

INDIA TO BORROW LESS: WHAT THE ₹16 LAKH CRORE PLAN MEANS FOR THE ECONOMY?



The Central Government has cut its borrowing target for 2026-27 to around ₹16 lakh crore from about ₹17.2 lakh crore. In other words, the borrowing for the fiscal year could come down by around ₹1.2 lakh crore. Given that borrowing by the government has ramifications for interest rates, and by extension, investment and finances, it needs to be taken seriously.

The government proposes to borrow ₹7.86 lakh crore during the period between October 2026 and March 2027. The borrowing will take place through 23 weekly auctions of government bonds. The bonds to be issued would have varying maturities ranging from three to 50 years. The government borrowing program also includes issuing of ₹15,000 crore of sovereign green bonds which will be used to fund eligible climate and environment friendly projects. While the borrowing program might appear to be a borrowing exercise, it is rather similar to taking a loan, although a slightly more involved process.

The government issues securities to banks, insurance companies, mutual funds and other such investors. It then pays them interest on the securities and returns the money borrowed at the end of the term of the security. One point needs some clarity. The ₹7.86 lakh crore figure represents gross borrowing. A part of this money will be used to repay older bonds that are becoming due. Therefore, government debt will not increase by the entire ₹7.86 lakh crore. This distinction is useful when looking at such large borrowing numbers.

Why has the borrowing requirement come down? The annual estimate had already been reduced to about ₹16.09 lakh crore in March, partly following bond-switch operations used to manage future repayments. The latest plan is about ₹9,500 crore below that figure. Better government revenues may also have reduced the need to raise additional money from the market.

The immediate effect is likely to be visible in the bond market. If the government supplies fewer bonds, pressure on bond yields may ease, provided other market conditions remain supportive. Lower yields would

mean that the government can borrow at a relatively lower cost. This matters because interest payments take away resources that could otherwise be used for development and other public expenditure.

There can also be an effect on private investment. Government bond yields often serve as a reference point for borrowing elsewhere in the economy. If yields soften, companies may eventually find it cheaper to raise funds through bonds and other sources. Lower government borrowing can also leave more funds available for private borrowers. This may support business investment, although the effect will depend on credit demand and overall financial conditions.

For ordinary borrowers, however, cheaper home, vehicle or business loans should not be expected immediately. Lending rates depend on several other factors, particularly RBI policy rates, inflation, banking liquidity and credit conditions.

The revised borrowing plan is therefore a positive development, but it should be read carefully. Lower borrowing than originally budgeted can reduce financing pressure and improve market sentiment. Yet it does not by itself prove that India's fiscal position has changed substantially. Much will depend on government revenue, expenditure, inflation and interest rates during the remaining months of the financial year.

THE WORLD OWES \$365 TRILLION: IS INFLATION MASKING GREATER CHALLENGE?

The global debt crossed yet another record in the first half of 2026, having surged by more than \$10 trillion and moved above \$365 trillion. It includes debts of governments, households, financial and non-financial companies in over a hundred countries. The only surprising thing about this statistics is that several indicators of the rising debt are not so worrying since inflation eats away a significant amount of debt.

According to the latest figures, emerging markets accounted for a significant part of the surge in global debt. Their debt increased by nearly \$6.5 trillion to more than \$110 trillion, with China alone accounting for a considerable portion of this number. Still, the debt of developed countries grew, albeit at a more significant pace than that of emerging markets. Moreover, it was mainly companies and governments that drove the increase in global debt.

Therefore, a paradoxical situation is that while the global debt is at a record level, the debt-to-GDP ratio in most countries is not as high as the global debt. The reason for this is inflation that eats away at the value of money and, accordingly, at the size of the debt. In other words, the growth of prices in the baskets of consumers reduces the value of the GDP in nominal terms. Therefore, even if the debt is increasing, the debt-to-GDP ratio may decrease.

It is essential to understand that inflation does not solve the debt problem. It only hides it under a thick mask of rising prices. In reality, the situation is entirely the opposite: the higher the inflation, the more challenging it is for the borrowers to pay off the debt. The fact that

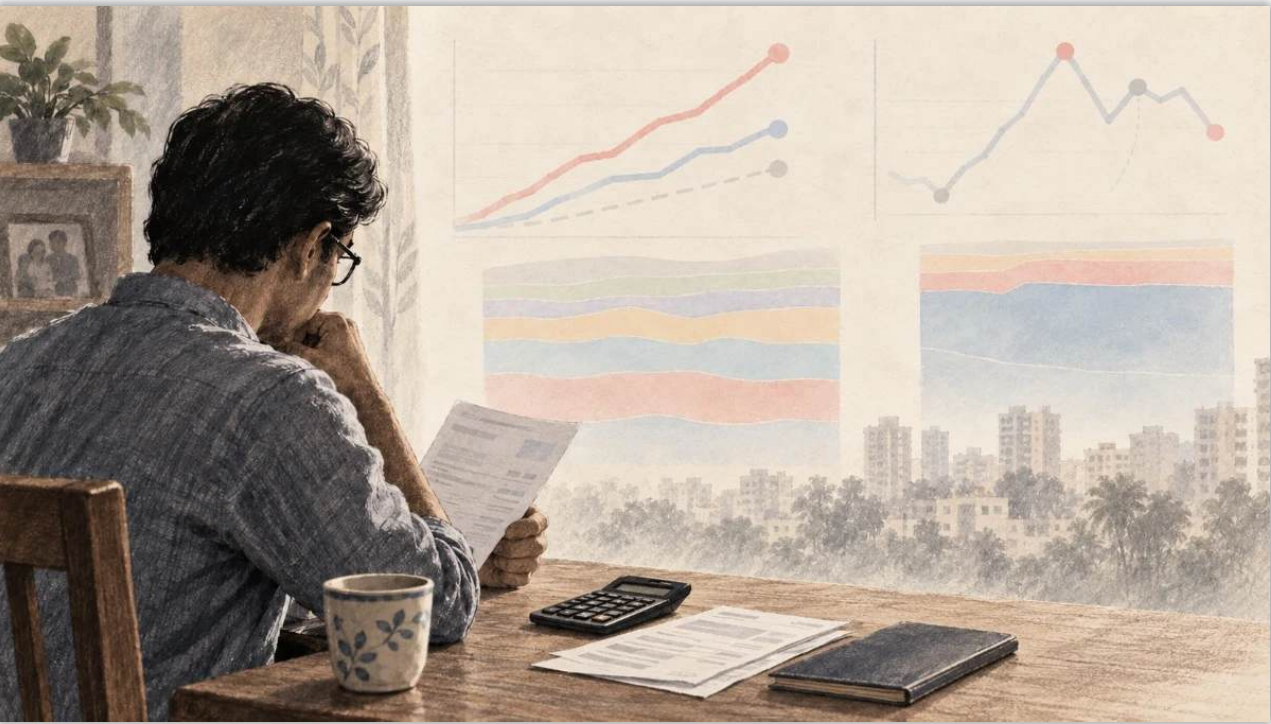
inflation is high indicates that the value of investors' money with every next year will be lower than it was the previous year.

Therefore, in the conditions of high inflation, the bond yield must necessarily grow to compensate for the loss of purchasing power. In other words, investors will expect higher returns, which will inevitably force governments to spend more money on interest payments.

It is this challenge that the world now faces as an uncomfortable debt cycle. Governments and companies have borrowed a lot in the last 15-20 years when interest rates were at historically low levels. Now, with their rapid increase, the cost of debt servicing for many states will be extremely high in the coming decades. If inflation remains high, bond yields will also remain high, attracting new investors who will want to preserve their money by tying it up in government securities.

The most significant risk of the current situation is the debt burden on governments. Rising interest rates reduce the ability of governments to finance other priorities. The money spent on interest payments to bondholders could have been spent on developing infrastructure, education, and health. For countries with weak revenues and budgetary capabilities, such a scenario can be catastrophic.

Emerging markets face the additional risk that rising yields on government bonds threaten their access to financing. Intraday fluctuations in the value of bonds against the background of fears of global recession can increase the cost of raising money for emerging markets several-fold. Moreover, for countries with significant external debt, everything will be



complicated by the devaluation of the local currency.

At the same time, this situation cannot be called a race to debt disaster since the capabilities of different countries and different types of debt vary significantly. The ability of an economy to increase revenues and the availability of financing tools differ considerably from country to country. For this reason, a large country with high GDP and good prospects for economic growth can borrow much more than a small one.

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Q. What is More Important in
Relationships: Love or Dharma?

Ans. The question of whether love or Dharma is more important in relationships has been discussed for thousands of years in Indian philosophy. Love is one of the most cherished human emotions. It creates bonds between parents and children, spouses, friends, teachers and students, and even between individuals and society. However, the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) teaches that while love is essential for meaningful relationships, it should always be guided by Dharma, which means righteousness, duty, moral responsibility, and ethical conduct. According to Indian wisdom, love without Dharma can become blind attachment, whereas Dharma gives love its purpose, direction, and stability.

The Indian Knowledge System views every relationship through the framework of Dharma. The Sanskrit word Dharma is derived from the root dhri, meaning "to

uphold" or "to sustain." Dharma is the principle that maintains harmony in individuals, families, organizations, and society. It is not merely a religious concept but a universal ethical principle that guides human behaviour. Love, on the other hand, is an emotional force that connects people. While emotions can change with circumstances, Dharma remains constant because it is based on truth, justice, and responsibility.

- The Bhagavad Gita presents one of the clearest examples of this principle. Before the great war of Kurukshetra, Arjuna was overcome with grief and compassion when he saw his relatives, teachers, and friends standing on the opposite side of the battlefield. Out of love and emotional attachment, he refused to fight. He believed that killing his own family members would be morally wrong. At this moment, Krishna reminded Arjuna that personal affection should not prevent the fulfillment of Dharma. Krishna explained that Arjuna's duty as a warrior was to protect justice and righteousness. The battle was not fought because of hatred but because injustice had to be stopped. This teaching illustrates that Dharma must guide love, especially when personal emotions conflict with moral responsibility.

- The Mahabharata provides another powerful lesson through the character of Dhritarashtra. As a father, Dhritarashtra deeply loved his son Duryodhana. However, his love became blind attachment because he repeatedly ignored his son's unethical behaviour. Instead of correcting him, he allowed greed, jealousy, and injustice to grow. His failure to uphold Dharma ultimately resulted in the devastating Kurukshetra war and the destruction of his own family. The epic teaches that love without moral wisdom can unintentionally encourage wrongdoing and lead to suffering.

- At the same time, Indian philosophy does not diminish the importance of love. Rather, it defines true love as selfless, compassionate, and guided by ethical values. The relationship between Krishna and Sudama demonstrates this ideal. Despite Sudama's poverty, Krishna welcomed him with affection, humility, and generosity. Their friendship was based not on wealth or social status but on mutual respect, gratitude, and virtue. This example shows that genuine love uplifts people and encourages goodness rather than selfishness or dependence.

- The Guru-Shishya tradition also reflects the harmony between love and Dharma. A teacher cares deeply for students and wishes to see them succeed. However, a true Guru also corrects mistakes, encourages discipline, and expects sincere effort. If a teacher only shows affection without maintaining standards of learning and

character, students may never reach their full potential. Likewise, students express respect and gratitude by learning with dedication and humility. Their relationship flourishes because love is balanced by responsibility.

- The institution of marriage offers another example. Indian tradition considers marriage a sacred partnership based on shared Dharma. Love strengthens the bond between husband and wife, but the relationship also requires trust, honesty, commitment, sacrifice, and mutual respect. During the traditional marriage ceremony, couples take seven sacred vows that emphasize responsibility toward each other, their families, society, and future generations. Thus, marriage is not sustained by emotions alone but by shared duties and ethical conduct. When Dharma guides love, the relationship becomes resilient even during difficult times.

- The Ramayana beautifully illustrates this balance. Rama is remembered as Maryada Purushottama, the ideal person who always upheld Dharma. His decisions were often painful because they required balancing personal love with public responsibility. His life demonstrates that leadership sometimes demands difficult choices for the greater good. Although scholars may debate specific episodes, the central teaching remains that Dharma should guide personal relationships and public responsibilities alike.

- The principle of Karma further explains why Dharma is indispensable. Every individual is responsible for the consequences of their actions. Loving someone does not mean supporting every decision they make. Instead, true love encourages individuals to act responsibly and ethically. Parents who lovingly guide their children away from harmful behaviour, teachers who correct students, and leaders who hold employees accountable are practicing compassion rooted in Dharma. Such actions may seem difficult in the short term but ultimately promote long-term well-being.

- Indian philosophy also distinguishes between attachment (Moha) and love (Prema). Attachment arises from possessiveness, fear, or self-interest. It often leads individuals to ignore truth for the sake of emotional comfort. Love, in contrast, is selfless and seeks the genuine welfare of others. Dharma transforms attachment into mature love by encouraging wisdom, self-control, and ethical responsibility. This distinction is essential because many conflicts arise when attachment is mistaken for love.

- The concept of Lokasangraha, explained in the Bhagavad Gita, broadens this perspective.

Lokasangraha means acting for the welfare and stability of society. Relationships should contribute to collective harmony rather than merely satisfy personal emotions. A parent who teaches honesty, a teacher who develops character, a leader who treats employees fairly, and a citizen who fulfills civic duties all demonstrate love expressed through Dharma. Their actions strengthen both individual relationships and society as a whole.

- This principle is equally relevant in modern organizations. Leaders often claim that employees are like family. While compassion and concern for employee well-being are valuable, organizations must also maintain fairness, transparency, and accountability. Promotions should be based on merit, policies should apply equally to everyone, and ethical standards should never be compromised out of personal attachment. Indian wisdom teaches that professional relationships become stronger when love and respect operate within the framework of Dharma.

The Indian Knowledge System therefore does not present love and Dharma as opposing values. Instead, it teaches that they complement one another. Love gives warmth, empathy, and emotional strength to relationships, while Dharma provides justice, stability, and moral direction. Love without Dharma may become partiality, possessiveness, or blind attachment. Dharma without love may become rigid, mechanical, and lacking in compassion. The highest ideal is to integrate both so that affection is guided by wisdom and duty is performed with kindness.

In conclusion, the Indian Knowledge System teaches that Dharma is more fundamental than love because it provides the ethical foundation on which true love can flourish. Love enriches relationships with compassion and emotional connection, but Dharma ensures that these relationships remain just, responsible, and beneficial to both individuals and society. The teachings of the Bhagavad Gita, Mahabharata, Ramayana, and other classical texts consistently emphasize that the strongest relationships are not built on emotions alone but on righteousness, mutual respect, selfless service, accountability, and truth. Therefore, according to Indian wisdom, the ideal relationship is one in which love is illuminated by Dharma, allowing both individuals and society to progress toward harmony, justice, and lasting well-being.

THE CHAIN OF MENTORSHIP: WHY TEACHING IS THE TRUEST FORM OF GRATITUDE

There is a particular kind of forgetting that happens quietly, almost without our noticing. It happens to the surgeon who no longer remembers fumbling with sutures, the executive who has forgotten the terror of a first presentation, the master craftsman who has long since stopped recalling what it felt like to hold the tool for the very first time. Competence, once achieved, has a way of erasing the memory of its own beginning. And in that erasure, we risk losing something far more valuable than the memory itself: our gratitude.

Every person who has ever achieved mastery in anything was, at some point, hopelessly unskilled. Someone, a teacher, a mentor, a colleague, a stranger with patience to spare, chose to invest their time in a beginner who had nothing to offer in return but willingness. That investment asked for nothing except the faith that the effort would not be wasted. It rarely came with immediate reward. It was, in the truest sense, an act of generosity.

Yet the world we inhabit today is unsentimental about origins. It does not ask how you learned; it asks only what you can now deliver. It demands experience, polish, and precision, and it rarely pauses to acknowledge the patient hands that shaped those qualities. This is precisely why remembering matters. To hold onto the memory of one's own beginning is to resist the world's tendency toward selective amnesia, and to preserve, within oneself, a debt worth honoring.

But gratitude that remains only a private feeling is incomplete. The truest way to repay a mentor is rarely through direct repayment at all; it is through transmission. Seek out those who possess the same qualities your own teacher once recognized in you: diligence, humility, and a genuine

hunger to learn. Offer them what was once offered to you. In doing so, the debt is not erased but multiplied, passed forward rather than paid back.

This is how mentorship becomes a chain rather than an isolated transaction. Each person who teaches creates the possibility of another who will, in turn, teach someone else. The strength of any organization, community, or legacy is rarely built by a single extraordinary individual working alone. It is built by networks of people connected through the quiet, often invisible work of teaching and being taught. A company does not endure because one person carries it indefinitely; it endures because knowledge, values, and skill are continuously passed between hands, generations after generation.

To build something lasting, then, is not merely to accumulate skill for oneself. It is to become a link, one deliberately connected to those before and after. It is to actively seek out the people worth investing in, and to do so not as an obligation, but as an extension of the same gratitude once received.

So remember the person who taught you when you knew nothing. Let that memory anchor you against the arrogance that competence so often invites. And then go further: become that person for someone else. A legacy is never sustained by one and only, it is sustained by all who chose keep the chain unbroken.



THE POWER OF PREPARATION: WHY PRACTICE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE



There's a simple truth that separates those who succeed under pressure from those who crumble: preparation. Not casual preparation, but the kind so thorough and relentless that no one can challenge or outperform you in your own domain. This isn't about arrogance, it's about earning the right to feel confident. When you commit

to mastering your craft, you create a zone of expertise that becomes uniquely yours. This means immersing yourself so deeply in your subject that you begin to think about it constantly, rehearsing scenarios in your mind long before you face them in reality.

Athletes visualize their performance before competition. Public speakers run through their speeches dozens of times. Students who excel don't just study once, they revisit material continuously until it becomes second nature. This continuous engagement does something powerful: it transforms conscious effort into instinct. When you've thought through a problem from every angle, when you've rehearsed your response to every possible curveball, you're no longer reacting, you're executing something you already know.

Here's what many people get wrong: they believe nervousness on the big day is a sign of weakness or inadequate preparation. The opposite is often true. Feeling nervous before a major test, presentation, interview, or performance is actually a good sign, it means you care, and it means your body is gearing up to perform at its peak.

That surge of adrenaline sharpens focus and heightens awareness. The key isn't to eliminate nervousness but to channel it, and preparation is precisely what allows you to do this. When you've rehearsed enough, that nervous energy doesn't paralyze you, it fuels you. Your training takes over, and when your moment arrives, you execute with precision even as your heart

races.

Think of your big moment, whether it's an exam, a competition, a job interview, or a performance, as your stage. It's the culmination of every hour you've invested, every rehearsal, every late night of practice. When that moment comes, it's not the time to second-guess yourself. It's the time to trust the work you've already put in and deliver. This is where preparation and performance meet. All the invisible work you did when no one was watching becomes visible in a single moment. That's your opportunity to show yourself, and everyone else, exactly what you're capable of.

Perhaps the most important audience you're performing for isn't anyone else, it's you. Before you can convince the world of your capability, you have to prove it to yourself. Every rehearsal, every hour of preparation, is a small deposit into your own self-belief. When you finally step into that moment, you're not hoping you'll succeed; you already know you can, because you've done the work.

Success rarely comes from talent alone. It comes from relentless preparation, from creating a zone of mastery around your field, from embracing nervousness as fuel rather than fear, and from recognizing that your big moment is the payoff for all your quiet effort. Prepare so hard that when your turn comes, you don't just perform, you prove it.

ISRO CRACKED IT! SPACE WIN

This September brings joyful excitement to the space industry of our country as our main research organization makes a remarkable comeback after facing major setbacks. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved a landmark success with the flawless launch of the GSLV-F17 mission, carrying the EOS-05 (also known as GISAT-1) Earth geo-spatial observation satellite. This satellite features real-time monitoring every 30 minutes from an orbit of over 36,000 km above our planet. Only a few nations, such as the US and China, with its Gaofen series used for military surveillance and border security, own this technology. This makes the launch a long-term milestone that helps in predicting natural disasters, preserving natural resources, and improving disaster management for neighboring countries. Traditionally, the GSLV launch vehicle was labelled the non-famous name "naughty boy" because of its inconsistent performance during beginner developmental phases, sometimes hitting the bullseye and many times missing. However, ISRO changed it into a launcher by executing a perfect flight into a geo-orbital transfer orbit. This high-definition space watcher gives India an unblinking gaze to track weather irregularities, manage natural disasters, oversee agricultural health, and strengthen national security monitoring. Looking ahead to October 15, ISRO is preparing for another vital mission to place an advanced satellite into space orbit, further accelerating India's growing satellite count. The catalyst of a new route highlights India's self-independence and emerging leadership in global space technology.



'RAAKA' CELEBRATED BEFORE RELEASE WITH A WIN

The Pushpa actor's new movie Raaka, starring megastar Allu Arjun alongside Deepika Padukone and directed by Atlee Kumar, this hit trio, has achieved a Guinness World Record for the "Most People Motion-Captured in Real-Time." While taking a single live session in February 2026, the team completely motion-captured 37 performers simultaneously. Recently, notified certifying on September 15, 2026; this achievement destroyed previous industry benchmarks, including records held by major franchises like Avatar. Achieving this record is exceptionally challenging, as normal filmmaking typically captures only one or two digital characters at a time. Tracking multiple individuals simultaneously introduces major technical hurdles, such as obstructed camera views and signal cross talk. Produced by entertainment giant Sun Pictures in technical collaboration with Apple Arts Studio, the landmark sequence was successfully executed in Mumbai. Fans of both superstars are extremely excited for this upcoming science-fiction creature movie. Major reports suggest Atlee's new film, Raaka, is targeting a theatrical release around December 2027. This is a major milestone for the Indian film industry as a whole, drawing global attention to its advancing technical execution, especially in regional cinema, with the South Indian film industry leading the trend. It will certainly be exciting to see what this new movie delivers.



OUR RAW MATERIALS, THEIR BOOM: HOW INDIAN EXPORTS FUELS CHINA'S INDUSTRY

A recently published trade analysis by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) reveals that China is working on the principle of hub-and-spoke trade models in which it becomes the main manufacturing center and considers various nations including India as spokes. As mentioned in the data released via PIB by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India's exports to China during the April–August period of the ongoing 2026–27 fiscal year recorded a 39% surge, reaching \$9.6 billion. During this same 5-month period, total exports to core BRICS nations reached \$19.9 billion. According to GTRI's analysis, around 20% to 30% of these exports are inclusive of iron ore, bauxite/aluminium, unwrought copper, and mineral fuels, capturing our potential industrial production capacity and value addition for their own industrial ecosystem. Based on GTRI's full-year data, India's trade deficit with China reached \$112.1 billion, driven by over \$131.6 billion in imports against just \$19.5 billion in exports. Overall figures highlighted by the Press Information Bureau of India show India's total trade with BRICS and key regional partners reached \$417.5 billion, led by China at \$151.1 billion, followed by a second major trade relationship with the UAE at \$83.6 billion (\$37.4B exports), Russia at \$65+ billion, and South Africa at \$16.6 billion (\$7.4B exports, \$9.2B imports). This comprehensive trade dynamic underscores India's strategic economic alignment and South-South cooperation within the region for expanding its exports strategically and for addressing the raw-material imbalance.



INDIA AND NETHERLANDS COLLABORATE ON AFFORDABLE TREATMENT OF RARE GENETIC DISEASE

The case of a 20-month-old boy suffering from a rare genetic disease in India has led to a collaboration between India and the Netherlands in making his treatment affordable. Arav Deb suffers from Allan-Herndon-Dudley Syndrome (AHDS) which stops the thyroid hormone, T3, from being taken to the brain. Doctors use tiratricol, which is an old medication, which bypasses the faulty pathway but which is not available in India. While they have been granted permission to import this drug from Germany, importing it would cost them close to ₹3 lakh a month. To fix this financial hurdle, Dutch and Indian experts are working on local compounding protocols. Success could slash monthly expenses and offer an accessible lifeline for affected children. Following coverage of Arav's case by Firstpost, some medicine access experts in the Netherlands contacted the family as well as his paediatrician. They are trying to see if pharmaceutical grade tiratricol can be sourced and compounding done here in India. As of now, doctors are aware of six such cases in India but some experts feel that there might be several other undiagnosed cases. This project is still in progress but the ultimate aim of the project is to look for a sustainable solution.



GEMINI AI TO POWER SAMSUNG'S LATEST APPLIANCE RANGE IN INDIA

Samsung is making its way forward with smart-home technology through the release of new AI-based home appliances in India, featuring refrigerators with Gemini AI by Google. The new appliance line is aimed at bringing convenience into household chores through a combination of regular appliances and artificial intelligence. With the help of AI features, the newest Samsung refrigerators can gain insights about the situation both inside and outside the device, thus giving users an opportunity to better manage food and household routines. In this way, the incorporation of Gemini AI demonstrates Samsung's efforts to move towards the era of interconnected homes, where the devices will be able to operate together and not function independently. Along with refrigerators, Samsung has released other AI-based devices as part of the new appliance line. It is noteworthy that people in India seek technological advancements offering them more than just automated solutions for common tasks. Samsung introduces new appliances as helpful tools that will not only ease their daily routine but also make the household products smarter. As the role of artificial intelligence in consumer electronics keeps growing, the latest release by Samsung proves that the technology is moving beyond smartphones and computers into everyday home appliances.



CENTRE MAKES CHANGES TO EMISSIONS TARGETS FOR REFINERIES & TEXTILE PLANTS

The Centre has made some changes in the emission intensity targets for petroleum refineries and textile plants under the efforts of India to cut down the emissions from the industrial sector. The Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change has amended the targets under the Carbon Credits Trading Scheme (CCTS) on September 22. The amended targets have modified the baseline emissions of seven Indian Oil refineries at Digboi, Gujarat, Guwahati, Haldia, Mathura, Panipat, and Paradip. Also, the targets for 2025-26 compliance have been scrapped and now targets will remain only for 2026-27. The new notification covers 21 petroleum refineries run by various firms like Indian Oil, BPCL, HPCL, Reliance Industries, and others. Apart from that, 173 textile units under three sub-sectors are also covered in the same. In the CCTS, industries which manage to do better than the set emission intensity targets can earn carbon credits and industries which fail to comply with the targets will have to pay compensation. The experts have emphasized the need for stable targets with predictable time frames.



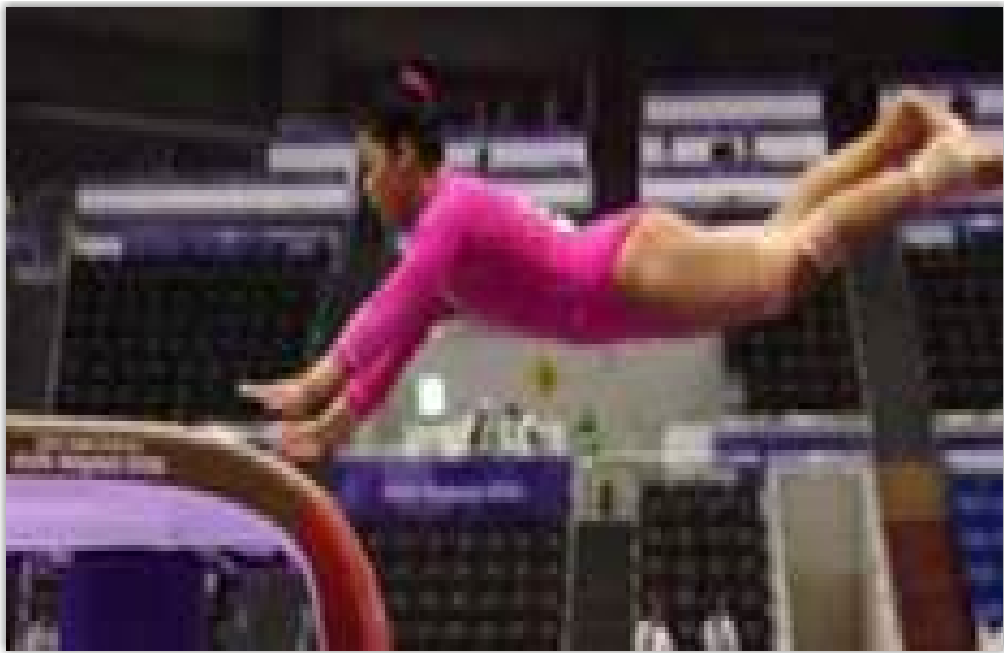
MIRABAI CHANU WINS SILVER AT ASIAN GAMES, ENDS LONG WAIT FOR MEDAL

Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu of India bagged her first Asian Games medal by winning the silver medal in women's 49kg category during the 2026 Asian Games which were held in Nagoya, Japan on September 23. The 2020 Tokyo Olympics silver medallist achieved a combined lift of 198kg after lifting 87kg in the snatch event and 111kg in the clean and jerk event. Chanu's victory was a redemption after two successive close calls in the Asian Games and she became the first Indian to win a weightlifting medal at the Asian Games since Karnam Malleswari's bronze in 1998. Chanu opened her game by lifting 83kg and then went ahead to lift 85kg and 87kg in her second attempt of snatch. She ranked third before entering the clean and jerk phase of the game and managed to claim the silver medal position with the help of her best lift of 111kg. North Korean athlete Ri Song Gum won the gold medal in the game with an overall lift of 215kg, breaking the Asian Games record.



PRANATI NAYAK FINISHES SIXTH IN ASIAN GAMES VAULT FINAL

The Indian gymnast Pranati Nayak bagged sixth place in the women's vault event final at the 2026 Asian Games in Nagoya on Thursday. The 31-year-old, who is India's only gymnast in attendance at the Asian Games, achieved a mark of 13.100 in the eight-strong final. Pranati got 12.900 scores in both her first and second vaulting routines. Her difficulty scores on both occasions were 4.4 each, earning her an execution score of 8.500. The bonus of 0.20 helped her clinch 13.100 as her overall score. She performed the feat following her recovery from a leg injury, enabling her to participate in the Asian Games. South Korean gymnast Yeo Seojeong claimed gold with 14.100, followed by An Chang Ok of North Korea with 13.033 and Du Siyu of China in third with 12.800. The Indian gymnast improved upon her eighth-place finish in the same competition at the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou, scoring 12.350 then. After the setback from her injury, she came back with a steadier finish. That shows how focused she is and how well she can keep up her level in events. Nayak's results also help India look stronger in artistic gymnastics across the continent. It also gives her useful practice for bigger meets later on.



CRICKET SHAKTI OF ASIA IN NAGOYA

A proud moment for Nagoya, Japan, as the Indian women's cricket team created history at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games by winning the country's first gold medal of the championship. The team asserted complete authority from beginning to end, resulting in a historic 147-run win over Sri Lanka in the final, where they set an Asian Games record total of 216/3 before bowling out their opponents for a modest 69 runs. The victory was launched by India's powerhouse opening pair, Smriti Mandhana and Shefali Verma. Mandhana was in majestic zone, hitting a splendid 79 runs off just 45 balls in the showdown, backed by 5 fours and 7 sixes. Previously in the semi-final against Bangladesh, she etched her name in history by becoming the all-time leading run-scorer in women's T-20 International cricket. Verma matched Mandhana's performance with an equally landmark initiative. In the semi-finals, Verma became the first player to score an Asian Games cricket century, blasting an unbeaten century in just 49 balls. Verma built on this confidence by forming a vital opening partnership of 99 runs with Mandhana, scoring a quick 48 off 29 deliveries. Verma then showed her skills as an all-rounder, by taking important wickets at the start of the innings and limiting Sri Lanka to a paltry total of 69 runs.



ISSF JUNIOR WORLD CUP: THE RISE OF A NEW SHOOTING STAR FROM INDIA

The ISSF Junior World Cup (Shotgun) is an international competition in the shooting sports discipline organized by the International Shooting Sport Federation for shooters under the age of 21. The 2026 stage of the tournament took place in Porpetto, Italy and saw participation from the best young shooters across the globe. An important headline for India was winning a gold medal in the tournament, thanks to 15-year-old Yugan Shaktivel Muthukumar, who won gold in the Men's Trap category on September 18, 2026. He secured the gold medal by targeting 27 out of 30 targets in the final, going ahead of his Italian host country opponent by 1 point. In the Women's Trap, Bhavya Tripathi secured 5th place in the final, while her teammates Sabeera Haris and Aadhya Tripathi placed 10th and 18th in qualification. In the Men's Trap event, alongside Yugan's gold, Arjun placed 12th, Vinay Pratap Singh Chandrawat, took 13th rank and Aditya Giri finished 57th in qualification. This impressive performance reflects a promising future for Indian shooting on the global stage.



INDIAN WOMEN ACHIEVED SILVER MEDAL IN WUSHU MADE HATTRICK

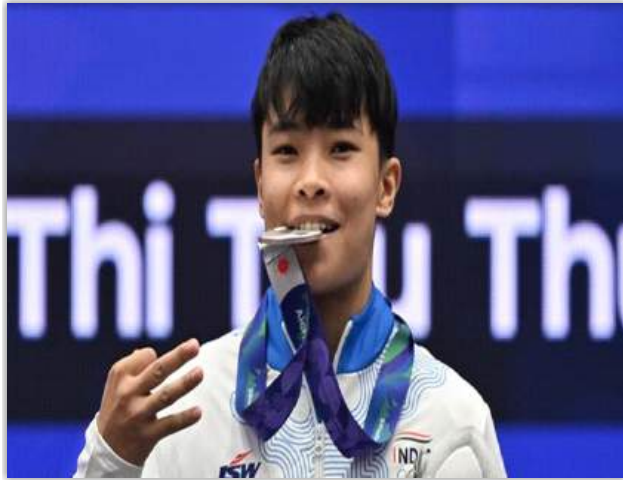
Indian women athletes have made a significant contribution to the country, winning medals and also becoming role models in the Indian sports scenario. In another outstanding achievement, Indian Wushu player Naorem Roshibina Devi has clinched her third consecutive Asian Games medal in the 60kg Sanda event during the 2026 Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games in Japan. Hailing from Manipur's Bishnupur district, Roshibina has created history by becoming the first Indian athlete to build a medal hat-trick across three straight Asian Games:

- A. Bronze medal – 2018 (Jakarta-Palembang)
- B. Silver medal – 2022/2023 (Hangzhou, China)
- C. Silver medal – 2026 (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan)

Her historic run caught the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who issued an official statement commending her exceptional grit and consistency. Alongside Naorem Roshibina Devi, who was India's sole medalist in the sport, the primary Indian Wushu competitors included:

- 1. Aryan: Quarter-finals (Men's 56kg Sanda)
- 2. Hanjabam Langlentombi Devi: 9th place (Women's Nanquan/Nandao)
- 3. Vikrant Baliyan: Round of 16 (Men's 75kg Sanda)
- 4. Suraj Singh Mayanglambam: 11th place (Men's Changquan)
- 5. Nyeman Wangsu: Participant (Women's Changquan)
- 6. Aparna: Participant (Women's 52kg Sanda) .

It is hoped that this historic achievement will continue to motivate other girls to take up Wushu and bring further glory to the nation.



INDIA CLINCHES SILVER AT 2026 CHESS OLYMPIAD AFTER FINAL-ROUND DRAW

India clinched the silver medal at the 2026 Chess Olympiad held in Samarkand by drawing 2-2 against Hungary in the final round. The game brought an end to India's defense of their open title and saw host nation Uzbekistan claim the gold medal. India and Germany were tied on 18 match points with India securing the silver medal via the Sonneborn-Berger tiebreaker. The last round proved tense for India, as World Champion D. Gukesh lost to Hungary's Gleb Dudin on Board 1. Arjun Erigaisi made up for the loss by beating veteran grandmaster Peter Leko on Board 2. On the remaining boards, R Praggnanandhaa drew with Richard Rapport, and Nihal Sarin drew with Benjamin Gledura on Board 4. Though India could not retain its championship title, it finished well enough to be among the winners while Uzbekistan regained its gold medal. The finish allows the Indian women's team to also clinch a bronze medal in their section. On top of this, India was able to hold on to the Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy, given to the nation with the highest overall score in both the open and women's sections.



DELHI HIGH COURT
RECRUITMENT 2026



The High Court of Delhi has released the notification for the Senior Personal Assistant (SPA) and Personal Assistant (PA) Examination 2026.

- Key Highlights**
- Organization: High Court of Delhi
 - Recruitment Name: SPA & PA
 - Job Location: New Delhi
 - Application Mode: Online

- Vacancy Details**
- Senior Personal Assistant: 117 Posts
 - Personal Assistant: 33 Posts
 - Total: 150 Posts

- Educational Qualification**
- Candidates must possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognised university.
 - English Shorthand Speed: At least 110 words per minute
 - English Typing Speed: At least 40 words per minute on computer
 - Computer Knowledge: Good working knowledge of computers

- Salary**
- Senior Personal Assistant: ₹47,600/-
 - Personal Assistant: ₹44,900/-

- Age Limit**
- The candidate should generally be between 18 and 32 years of age, with applicable age relaxation as per the rules.

- Important Dates**
- Online Application Starts: 15 September 2026
 - Last Date to Apply: 05 October 2026
 - Last Date for Fee Payment: 05 October 2026

- Selection Process**
1. English Typing Test
 2. English Shorthand Test
 3. Main Descriptive Examination
 4. Interview
 5. Document Verification

- How to Apply**
- Eligible candidates should visit the official High Court of Delhi website, open the recruitment section, select the Senior Personal Assistant and Personal Assistant Examination 2026, register online and complete the application form.
 - Candidates should upload the required documents, pay the applicable examination fee and submit the application before the deadline.

For more details, candidates can refer to the official notification.

BANK OF BARODA WEALTH MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT 2026 – APPLY
ONLINE FOR 1,100 POSTS



Baroda Global Shared Services Limited (BGSSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda, has released the recruitment notification for 1,949 vacancies across 18 job roles.

- Key Highlights**
- Organization: Baroda Global Shared Services Limited (BGSSL)
 - Major Posts: Apprentice, Executive, Collection Officer, Sales Officer, Aadhaar Operator & Others
 - Total Vacancies: 1,949 Posts
 - Number of Job Categories: 18

- Category: Banking/Corporate Recruitment

- Educational Qualification**
- Candidates should possess the educational qualifications prescribed for the respective post.
 - Depending on the position, eligibility may include 10th/12th pass, Graduation, Postgraduation or relevant professional qualifications, along with the required experience.

- Important Dates**
- Application Start Date: 31 August 2026
 - Online Application Start: 01 September 2026
 - Last Date to Apply: 30 September 2026
 - Closing Time: 11:59 PM

- Age Limit**
- Age limits vary according to the post.
 - Candidates should check the individual job description for the prescribed age criteria before applying.

Salary

- Salary/CTC will vary according to the position, qualifications, experience and job responsibilities.

- Application Fee**
- No Fee
- Selection Process**
- Application/Resume Screening
 - Shortlisting
 - Personal Interview/Assessment
 - Document Verification
 - Medical Examination (where applicable)
 - The selection process may vary according to the position.

- How to Apply**
- Visit the official BGSSL Careers portal,
 - Check the available job roles and eligibility requirements,
 - Select the suitable position,
 - Complete the prescribed application process and submit the required resume/documents before 30 September 2026.

For more details candidates are asked to visit the official website

RRB NTPC GRADUATE RECRUITMENT 2026 APPLY ONLINE FOR 3,477 POSTS

The Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs), under the Ministry of Railways, have announced 3,477 tentative vacancies for Graduate-level Non-Technical Popular Categories (NTPC) posts under CEN 06/2026.

- Key Highlights**
- Organization: Railway Recruitment Boards (RRB)
 - Ministry: Ministry of Railways
 - Recruitment: RRB NTPC Graduate Level
 - Vacancies: 3,477
 - Job Location: All India
 - Exam Date: To be announced

- Educational Qualification**
- Candidates applying for Graduate-level NTPC posts should possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognised university or equivalent qualification.
 - Post-specific requirements, including typing/skill requirements wherever applicable, will be given in the detailed CEN 06/2026.

- Age Limit**
- For the Graduate-level recruitment, the indicative notice specifies an age range of 18 to 33 years, with the applicable cutoff and relaxation conditions to be confirmed in the detailed CEN.

- Salary**
- Goods Train Manager: ₹29,200/-

- Chief Commercial-cum-Ticket Supervisor: ₹35,400/-
- Junior Accounts Assistant-cum-Typist: ₹29,200/-
- Senior Clerk-cum-Typist: ₹29,200/-

- Important Dates**
- Online Application Starts: 08 October 2026
 - Last Date to Apply: 06 November 2026
 - Last Date: 06 November 2026, up to 11:59 PM

- Selection Process**
- The detailed selection stages will be specified in CEN 06/2026. Depending on the post, the recruitment process includes computer-based examinations and applicable skill/typing tests, followed by document verification and medical examination as prescribed by the Railway Recruitment Boards.

- How to Apply**
- Eligible candidates can apply online through the official RRB application portal once the application



window opens. Candidates should select CEN 06/2026 – NTPC Graduate, register, enter their details, upload the required documents, pay the applicable fee and submit the application before 06 November 2026.

For more details candidates are asked to visit the official website



Why Is Bluetooth Called “Bluetooth”?

Ever wondered why a technology used to connect phones, headphones and speakers has such an unusual name?

The name Bluetooth comes from a 10th-century Danish king, Harald “Bluetooth” Gormsson. King Harald was known for bringing together different parts of Denmark and Norway. His ability to unite people and territories inspired the technology's creators. When Bluetooth technology was being developed in the 1990s, engineers wanted a name that represented the idea of connecting different devices and systems. The name was originally intended to be temporary. But it was so distinctive that it eventually became the official name.

Even the famous Bluetooth logo has a hidden story. It combines two ancient Scandinavian runes representing the initials H and B - Harald Bluetooth.

Today, the same symbol appears on billions of devices around the world.

THE TAKEAWAY: A technology name that sounds unusual today carries a centuries-old story about bringing different things together.



The Three-Switch Challenge

You are standing outside a closed room. Inside the room is one light bulb.

Outside the room are three switches. Only one switch controls the bulb.

You can turn the switches ON or OFF as many times as you want, but you may enter the room only once.

How can you determine which switch controls the bulb?

Answer

Turn Switch 1 ON for a few minutes, then turn it OFF. Turn Switch 2 ON and enter the room. Bulb is ON → Switch 2 controls it. Bulb is OFF but warm → Switch 1 controls it. Bulb is OFF and cold → Switch 3 controls it.



TRADITIONAL ASSAMESE ALOO PITIKA!

This Week, We're Relishing Traditional Assamese Aloo Pitika!

Aloo Pitika is a simple and comforting traditional Assamese dish made with boiled potatoes, onion, green chillies, fresh coriander, and mustard oil. Mild, rustic, and full of homestyle flavour, this popular Assamese preparation is a perfect example of how simple ingredients can create a delicious meal.

Ingredients:

4 medium potatoes, 1 small onion finely chopped, 2–3 green chillies finely chopped, 1 tablespoon mustard oil, 2 tablespoons freshly chopped coriander, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, and salt to taste.

Preparation

- Wash and boil the potatoes until they become soft and tender. Allow them to cool slightly, peel them, and mash them thoroughly in a bowl.
- Add the finely chopped onion, green chillies, and fresh coriander to the mashed potatoes. Mix gently so that all the ingredients are evenly combined.
- Add mustard oil and salt according to taste. The mustard oil gives Aloo Pitika its distinctive Assamese flavour.
- Add lemon juice and mix everything well. Traditionally, the ingredients can also be gently mashed together by hand to blend the flavours beautifully.
- Taste and adjust the salt, green chillies, or lemon juice according to preference. The final mixture should be soft, aromatic, and slightly spicy.



Serving Tip:

Serve Aloo Pitika fresh with hot steamed rice and dal. Garnish with fresh coriander and a few slices of green chilli for a traditional Assamese presentation.

Introducing Our New Column

ARTWORK OF THE WEEK

We invite all young artists to showcase their talent in our weekly e-newspaper, The HULAHUL Times. Submit your hand-drawn artwork to be featured!

CRITERIA	SUBMISSION DETAILS
- Age Limit: Up to 24 years - Artwork Size: A4 - Format: Hand-drawn only	- Email your artwork to: thehulahultimes@gmail.com - Subject Line: ARTWORK - Include: Your Name, Age, School/College Name, and Phone Number
CONTACT INFORMATION	Phone +91-7977005423 Email thehulahultimes@gmail.com

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