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ISRO Successfully Launches Earth Observation Satellite EOS-05

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the advanced Earth Observation Satellite EOS-05 aboard GSLV-F17 from the Second Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- The satellite was successfully injected into a Sub-Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (Sub-GTO) about 18 minutes after liftoff.

Key Highlights:

- Mission: GSLV-F17/EOS-05.
- Satellite: EOS-05, an advanced Earth observation spacecraft.
- Significance: India's first imaging satellite designed to operate from a geosynchronous orbit.
- Payload mass: 2,367 kg, making it the heaviest satellite carried by this GSLV flight.
- Applications: Real-time/rapid Earth imaging for agriculture, disaster management, weather monitoring, environmental monitoring, water resources and urban planning.
- The mission represents the 19th flight of India's GSLV programme.

Additional Key Facts:

- GSLV is a three-stage launch vehicle using solid, liquid and cryogenic propulsion.
- The indigenous cryogenic upper stage enables GSLV to launch heavier spacecraft toward geosynchronous orbits.

Q. Which launch vehicle carried ISRO's Earth Observation Satellite EOS-05? **GSLV-F17.**



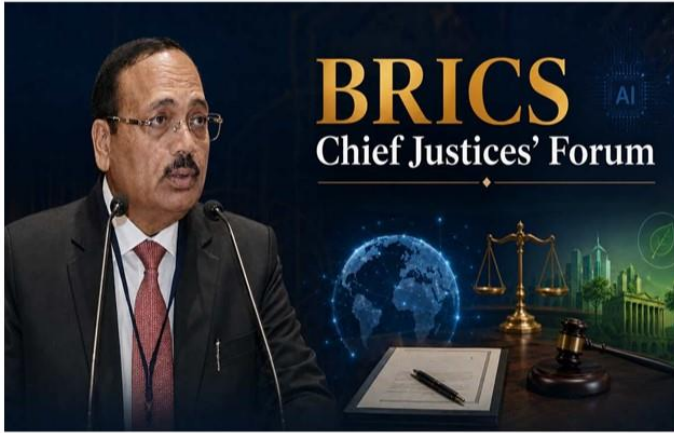
Government Forms 31-Member JPC to Examine FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026

- The government has constituted a 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to examine the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026.
- BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal has been appointed Chairman of the committee.
- The panel comprises 21 Lok Sabha members and 10 Rajya Sabha members. Both Houses approved the proposal to refer the Bill to the JPC on 12 August 2026.

Key Highlights:

- The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 25 March 2026 by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai.
- It seeks to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (FCRA).
- The primary objective is to make the receipt and utilisation of foreign contributions more transparent and accountable.
- The proposed Bill provides for a Designated Authority to take custody of, manage and dispose of foreign contributions and assets in specified circumstances.
- FCRA registration may cease when a certificate expires, is not renewed or renewal is refused.
- Foreign-funded assets may be provisionally vested in the Designated Authority; permanent vesting may follow if registration is not restored within the prescribed period.
- The Bill also proposes rationalisation of penalties, including reducing the maximum imprisonment from five years to one year.
- The JPC is expected to submit its report by the first week of the Winter Session of Parliament.

Q. How many members are there in the JPC constituted to examine the FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026? **31 members.**



BRICS Chief Justices' Forum 2026

- The Supreme Court of India is hosting the BRICS Chief Justices' Forum in New Delhi.
- The forum brings together Chief Justices, Presidents of Supreme Courts and senior judicial leaders from BRICS member and partner countries to exchange views on justice delivery, international dispute resolution, technology and sustainable development.

Key Highlights

- Host: Supreme Court of India.
- Venue: New Delhi.
- Chief Justice of India: Justice Surya Kant.
- On the opening day, CJI Surya Kant will hold bilateral meetings with judicial leaders from Russia, China, Egypt, Indonesia, UAE, Belarus, Kazakhstan, South Africa, Iran and Uzbekistan.

The forum will focus on four major themes:

- Mediation and International Commercial Disputes
- Cross-Border Enforcement of Arbitral Awards
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Judiciary
- Judicial Leadership and Sustainable Development
- The forum aims to strengthen judicial dialogue, institutional cooperation and exchange of best practices among participating countries.

Q. Which institution is hosting the BRICS Chief Justices' Forum 2026? **The Supreme Court of India.**





India to Appoint Defence Attaché in Brussels

- India has announced its decision to appoint a Defence Attaché in Brussels, Belgium, complementing Belgium's earlier decision to station a Defence Attaché in New Delhi. The move is aimed at strengthening India-Belgium defence cooperation, including collaboration in defence production.

Key Highlights

- The announcement was made during the visit of Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever to India.
- Sibi George, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, highlighted the growing defence engagement between the two countries.
- India and Belgium have set a target to double bilateral trade within the next five years.
- Current bilateral trade is around US\$13 billion.
- The partnership is focused on the “3Ts” — Trade, Technology and Talent.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Belgian universities and premier academic institutions to establish campuses in India.
- India also invited Belgium to participate in WAVES 2.0.
- The two sides discussed international developments, including the situations in Ukraine and West Asia, and reaffirmed the importance of dialogue and diplomacy.

Q. Which country will India appoint a Defence Attaché to? **Belgium, with the Defence Attaché based in Brussels.**



Supreme Court Rules BCI Has No Power to Punish Law Students

- The Supreme Court of India has ruled that the Bar Council of India (BCI) and State Bar Councils have no statutory power to take disciplinary or punitive action against law students. The ruling came in connection with a dispute involving students of NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad.

Key Highlights:

- A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant, along with Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V. Mohana, delivered the ruling.
- The Court held that disciplinary control over law students rests with their respective educational institutions, according to applicable university rules.
- The Advocates Act, 1961, which establishes the BCI, does not confer express or implied power on it to discipline students before they become advocates.
- The Court quashed BCI communications concerning the 2026 graduating batch of NALSAR students, declaring them to have been issued without jurisdiction.
- The controversy arose after NALSAR students protested against the invitation to the CJI as chief guest at their convocation.
- The BCI had directed State Bar Councils to defer enrolment of the graduating students as advocates and sought information regarding the protest.
- The BCI subsequently withdrew its directive and its chairman Manan Kumar Mishra apologised to the students.

Q. Which court ruled that the BCI has no power to punish law students? **The Supreme Court of India.**



GE Aerospace Delivers 3 More F404-IN20 Engines to HAL

- US aerospace major GE Aerospace has delivered a fresh batch of three F404-IN20 fighter engines to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for India's LCA Tejas Mk1A programme. The latest delivery, made in August 2026, takes the total number of engines supplied under the programme to 10.

Key Highlights:

- The engines are being supplied under a 2021 contract between HAL and GE Aerospace for 99 F404-IN20 engines.
- The 99-engine contract was valued at approximately ₹5,375 crore.
- Engine-delivery delays had emerged as a major bottleneck for the production and timely delivery of Tejas Mk1A aircraft.
- GE has committed to increasing production to 24 engines in 2026–27 and 30 engines annually thereafter.
- HAL has invoked the liquidated-damages provision in its contract with GE over delays in engine supplies.
- The F404-IN20 is a single-engine fighter turbofan specifically adapted for the Indian Tejas programme.

Additional Key Facts:

- Tejas is India's indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) developed by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and manufactured by HAL.

Q. Which US aerospace company delivered three more F404-IN20 engines to HAL? **GE Aerospace.**



Kakatiya-era Gollala Gudi Declared Monument of National Importance

- The Gollala Gudi Temple, a Kakatiya-era shrine at Palampet in Mulugu district, Telangana, has been declared a Monument of National Importance by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The notification was published in the Official Gazette on 31 August 2026.

Key Highlights:

- Gollala Gudi is located south-west of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Kakatiya Rudreshwara Temple (Ramappa Temple) at Palampet.
- It is a Trikutalaya temple, meaning it has three sanctums (garbhagrihas).
- The central sanctum houses a Shiva Lingam.
- Its architecture features intricately carved hamsas, jali (lattice-work), dvarapalas, musicians, dancers, madanikas and lions.
- The temple walls contain sculptures of Vishnu, Lakshmi, Ganesha and Mahishasuramardini.
- The temple stands on a high plinth decorated with animal and floral motifs.
- Following its national-importance status, the ASI will undertake its protection and conservation.
- Planned conservation includes roof repairs, ground levelling and restoration of flooring to improve public access.

Q. Which Kakatiya-era temple has been declared a Monument of National Importance? **Gollala Gudi Temple.**



India–Germany Sign Joint Declaration on Wetland Conservation

- India and Germany have signed a Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI) on the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands of International Importance during the 4th Indo-German Environment Forum (IGEF) held in New Delhi.
- The agreement aims to strengthen scientific cooperation, exchange best practices and promote sustainable wetland management.

Key Highlights:

- Forum: 4th Indo-German Environment Forum (IGEF).
- Venue: New Delhi.
- Key Focus: Conservation and wise use of wetlands of international importance.
- India and Germany will promote joint research, scientific cooperation and knowledge sharing in wetland conservation.
- The partnership will support wetland restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate adaptation.
- Both countries plan to develop public-private partnership models for wetland protection, wetlands-based livelihoods and ecotourism.
- Digital technologies will be explored for monitoring and managing wetlands.
- The IGEF is the highest-level bilateral platform between India and Germany on environmental policy and has been convened since 2008.
- The forum's theme was “Together for More Resilience.”

Q. With which country, India signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on wetland conservation? **Germany.**



NABARD–IMD MoU to Strengthen Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Rural Finance

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to integrate IMD's agro-meteorological data products into DiCRA (Data in Climate Resilient Agriculture), an open-source digital platform. The MoU was signed on 14 August 2026.

Key Highlights:

- The integration will combine IMD's weather intelligence with DiCRA's geospatial datasets to generate decision-ready information at district and block levels.

Key data to be integrated includes:

- District and block-level weather forecasts
- Agrometeorological advisories and weather alerts
- In-situ weather observations
- Weather-linked vulnerability assessments
- Seasonal risk alerts.
- The information will be freely accessible to farmers, financial institutions, policymakers and researchers.
- The initiative aims to improve climate-risk assessment, farm decision-making and rural credit delivery.
- Better weather-risk information can help financial institutions make more informed decisions regarding agricultural lending and risk management.

Q. Which two organisations recently signed an MoU to strengthen climate-resilient agriculture? **NABARD and the India Meteorological Department (IMD).**



RBI Approves Carol Furtado as Interim CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Carol Kripanayana Furtado as the Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (USFB) for three months or until a new Managing Director (MD) takes charge, whichever is earlier.
- The move follows the early retirement of MD & CEO Sanjeev Nautiyal, who stepped down citing health reasons.

Key Highlights:

- Carol Furtado, who was serving as an Executive Director/Whole-Time Director, will oversee the bank during the transition.
- Sanjeev Nautiyal, a former State Bank of India (SBI) executive, had joined Ujjivan SFB as MD & CEO on 1 July 2024 for a three-year term.
- Nautiyal ceased to be MD & CEO and Key Managerial Personnel from 1 September 2026 and is scheduled to formally retire on 30 November 2026.
- Ujjivan SFB will initiate the process of selecting a permanent successor and submit its recommendation to the RBI.
- Furtado has over three decades of experience in business, strategy, operations and institutional functions and was part of the leadership team that helped establish Ujjivan.
- The leadership transition comes as Ujjivan seeks to diversify beyond unsecured microfinance lending and strengthen business stability.

Q. Who has been approved by RBI as the Interim CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank? **Carol Kripanayana Furtado.**

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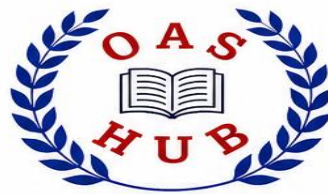
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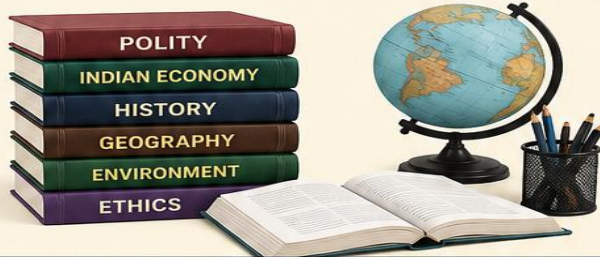
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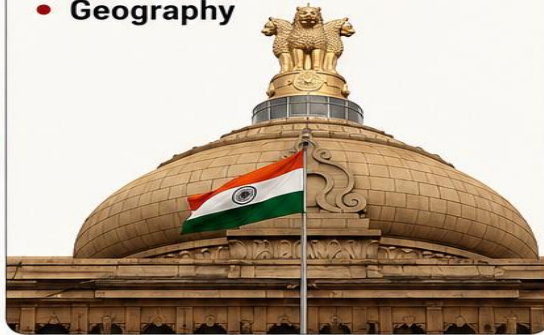
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