

RADIUS EDUCATION

10-08-2026



DISTANCE BETWEEN DREAM AND REALITY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

HIGHLIGHTS

- INTERNATIONAL NEWS
- NATIONAL AFFAIRS
- BANKING NEWS
- AWARDS NEWS
- DEFENCE NEWS
- SPORTS NEWS
- SCI-TECH NEWS

Add :- 2nd floor EK Arcade near planetarium Kozhikode



6235911112, 6235911113



TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **R. Praggnanandhaa wins St. Louis Rapid & Blitz 2026 title**
- **Silkyara Tunnel Rescuers Awarded 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak', An Outstanding Example of Bravery and Disaster Response**
- **Legal path opens for potential fees on UPI, a major change in the digital payments system**
- **RBI releases new list of NBFC-Upper Layer, four government financial companies included for the first time**
- **Assam's 'Nijut Moina' and 'Nijut Babu' schemes—emphasis on higher education, gender equality, and prevention of child marriage**
- **Bhawana Kanth becomes the IAF's first female 'Fighter Combat Leader', setting a new example of gender equality in military aviation.**
- **Successful test of Agni-4 strengthens India's strategic deterrence capability**
- **World Lion Day—a day for lion conservation and global biodiversity awareness**

1. R. Praggnanandhaa Wins St. Louis Rapid & Blitz 2026 Title

Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won his maiden St. Louis Rapid & Blitz 2026 Grand Chess Tour (GCT) title. He secured 23.5 points out of a possible 36, finishing 1.5 points ahead of Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov. Praggnanandhaa displayed remarkable consistency across both the Rapid and Blitz segments, clinching the title with a round to spare. Along with the title, he earned \$50,000 and 13 GCT points, strengthening his bid for the 2026 GCT Finals.



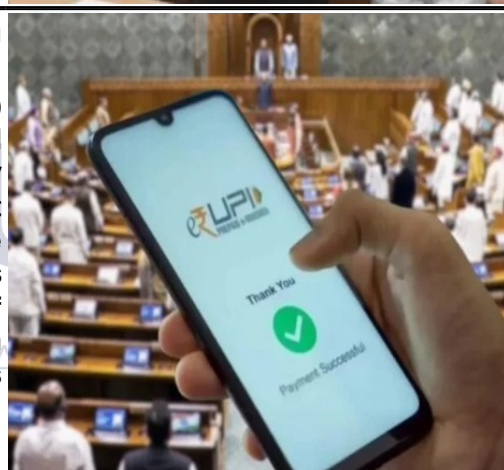
2. Silkyara Tunnel Rescuers Honoured with 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak': An Exemplary Display of Bravery and Disaster Response

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari honoured 12 'rat-hole' miners with the 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak' for their courage and selfless service during the Silkyara tunnel rescue operation. The Silkyara rescue mission stands as a significant example of India's disaster management capabilities, multi-agency coordination, and rapid rescue response. The 'Jeevan Raksha Padak' is awarded to individuals who demonstrate courage and promptness in saving human lives; it comprises three categories: Sarvottam, Uttam, and Jeevan Raksha Padak.



3. Legal path cleared for potential UPI charges; major shift in digital payment landscape

The Lok Sabha has passed the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, establishing a legal basis for future charge structures on digital payments. This does not mean that charges have been immediately imposed on all UPI transactions; charges will only come into effect following government notifications and rules. In the future, the government may prescribe a Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) or other fees for certain digital payments, while keeping other transactions free of charge. In July 2026, UPI recorded 23.66 billion transactions worth approximately ₹29.88 lakh crore, highlighting its growing role in India's digital payment ecosystem.



4. RBI Releases New List of NBFC-Upper Layer; Four Government Financial Companies Included for the First Time

The RBI has released the revised list of NBFC-Upper Layer (NBFC-UL) entities for the financial year 2026-27, comprising a total of 17 NBFCs, up from 15 in the previous list. REC, PFC, IRFC, and HUDCO have been included in the 'Upper Layer' for the first time, subjecting them to stricter regulatory oversight. Under the RBI's Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) framework, NBFCs are categorized into Base, Middle, Upper, and Top layers; the Upper Layer consists of large and systemically significant NBFCs. Tata Sons has been retained in the list, whereas PNB Housing Finance and Sammaan Capital have been excluded due to revised eligibility criteria.



5. Assam's 'Nijut Moina' and 'Nijut Babu' Schemes—Emphasis on Higher Education, Gender Equality, and Prevention of Child Marriage

The Assam government has launched the application process for the 2026-27 academic year for the 'Chief Minister's Nijut Moina' and 'Nijut Babu' schemes, aimed at promoting higher education and academic continuity. The Nijut Moina scheme focuses on encouraging female students to pursue higher education through financial assistance, while also addressing the prevention of child marriage and women's empowerment. In 2026, the scheme has been expanded to include female polytechnic students and eligible students in the seventh semester of integrated postgraduate courses, whereas the Nijut Babu scheme provides financial assistance to male students.



6. Bhawana Kanth Becomes IAF's First Female 'Fighter Combat Leader'; Sets New Benchmark for Gender Equality in Military Aviation

Indian Air Force Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth has become the first female fighter pilot to complete the Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course at the Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE) in Gwalior. This advanced training program, spanning approximately 20 weeks, covers air combat tactics, mission planning, tactical decision-making, and combat leadership. Bhawana Kanth joined the IAF in June 2016 and was among the first batch of female fighter pilots, alongside Avani Chaturvedi and Mohana Singh.



7. Successful Test of Agni-4: Strengthening India's Strategic Deterrence

On August 6, 2026, India successfully test-fired the Agni-4 ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha, under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC). Agni-4 is a Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM) developed by the DRDO to bolster India's strategic deterrence capabilities. The missile incorporates advanced navigation, guidance, and material technologies and can be operated from a mobile launcher. This test is significant in strengthening India's strategic autonomy, credible minimum deterrence, and self-reliance in the defense sector.



8. World Lion Day—A Day for Raising Awareness About Lion Conservation and Global Biodiversity

World Lion Day is observed on August 10th, aiming to raise awareness about lion conservation, the protection of their natural habitats, and the threats they face. As apex predators, lions play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance but face challenges such as habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and poaching. In India, Asiatic lions are primarily found in the Gir landscape of Gujarat, and various initiatives, including 'Project Lion,' are underway for their conservation.



1. Who won the 2026 St. Louis Rapid & Blitz title?

A - Javokhir Sindarov

B - R. Praggnanandhaa

C - Wesley So

D - Levon Aronian

Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa won the 2026 St. Louis Rapid & Blitz title with a score of 23.5/36, finishing 1.5 points ahead of Javokhir Sindarov. This victory earned him US\$50,000 and 13 GCT points, strengthening his position for the 2026 GCT Finals.



2. How many 'rat-hole miners' were awarded the 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak' for the Silkyara Tunnel rescue operation?

A - 10

B - 12

C - 15

D - 20

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari awarded the 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak' to 12 rat-hole miners for their courage and selfless service during the Silkyara Tunnel rescue operation. The 'Jeevan Raksha Padak' is awarded to individuals who display courage in saving human lives and comprises three categories: Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak, Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak, and Jeevan Raksha Padak.



3. The Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, amends provisions related to which of the following?

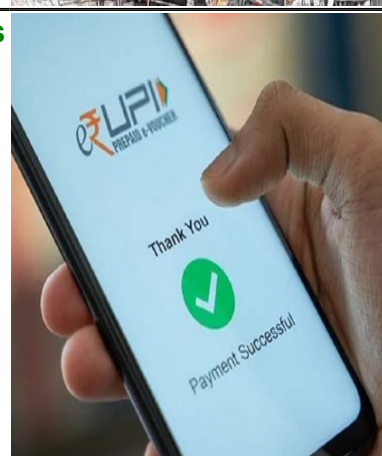
A - Income Tax Act

B - Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007

C - Companies Act, 2013

D - Banking Regulation Act, 1949

The Lok Sabha passed the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, providing a legal basis to determine MDR or other charges on certain digital payments in the future; however, charges have not been immediately imposed on all UPI transactions. In July 2026, UPI recorded 23.66 billion transactions with a total value of approximately ₹29.88 lakh crore, reflecting the growing expansion of digital payments in India.



4. How many NBFCs are included in the NBFC-Upper Layer list for the financial year 2026-27?

A - 15

B - 16

C - 17

D - 18

The RBI released the revised list of NBFCs in the 'Upper Layer' for the financial year 2026-27, comprising 17 NBFCs; REC, PFC, IRFC, and HUDCO have entered the Upper Layer for the first time. Under the RBI's Scale-Based Regulation, NBFCs are classified into Base, Middle, Upper, and Top Layers; Tata Sons remains on the list, while PNB Housing Finance and Sammaan Capital have been excluded.



5. To which category of female students was the Nijut Moina scheme extended in 2026?

A - Only school students

B - Only ITI students

C - Polytechnic students

D - Only PhD students

The Assam government launched the 2026-27 application process for the 'Chief Minister's Nijut Moina' and 'Nijut Babu' schemes, aimed at promoting higher education, academic continuity, women's empowerment, and the prevention of child marriage. In 2026, the Nijut Moina scheme was extended to polytechnic students and students in the seventh semester of integrated PG courses; additionally, financial assistance of ₹15.86 crore and ₹4.26 crore was provided for 793 flood-affected schools and 21,025 students, respectively.



6. Who became the first female fighter pilot to complete the FCL course?

A - Avani Chaturvedi

B - Mohana Singh

C - Bhawana Kanth

D - Shivangi Singh

Indian Air Force Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth became the first female fighter pilot to complete the Fighter Combat Leader (FCL) course at TACDE, Gwalior, which provides training in advanced air combat tactics and tactical leadership. Having joined the IAF in June 2016, Bhawana Kanth was among the first female fighter pilots alongside Avani Chaturvedi and Mohana Singh; her achievement reflects women's empowerment and gender equality in the military sector.



7. Which category of missile is Agni-4?

A - Short Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM)

B - Medium Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM)

C - Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)

D - Cruise Missile

On August 6, 2026, India successfully test-fired the Agni-4 MRBM from the ITR in Chandipur, Odisha; the test was conducted under the aegis of the SFC and utilized advanced navigation and guidance technology. Developed by the DRDO, this mobile-launcher-based missile strengthens India's strategic deterrence, strategic autonomy, and defense self-reliance.



8. In which region are Asiatic lions primarily found in India?

A - Kaziranga

B - Gir landscape

C - Sundarbans

D - Kanha

World Lion Day is observed on August 10 with the aim of raising awareness about lion conservation, the protection of natural habitats, and challenges such as human-wildlife conflict and poaching. In India, Asiatic lions are primarily found in the Gir landscape of Gujarat, and various efforts—including 'Project Lion'—are being undertaken for their conservation.



One Liner

1. In which region are Asiatic lions primarily found in India? - **Gir Landscape of Gujarat**
2. What is the primary social objective of the 'Nijut Moina' scheme? - **Prevention of child marriage and promotion of higher education for female students**
3. Under the aegis of which organization was the Agni-4 missile tested? - **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**
4. How many entities are included in the RBI's NBFC-Upper Layer list for the financial year 2026-27? - **17**
5. Which missile did India successfully test-fire on August 6, 2026? - **Agni-4 ballistic missile**
6. Provisions related to which digital payment system were amended in the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026? - **UPI**
7. Which Indian Grandmaster won the St. Louis Rapid and Blitz 2026 title? - **R. Praggnanandhaa**
8. On which date is World Lion Day observed every year? - **August 10**
9. Which award was conferred upon the 12 rat-hole miners involved in the Silkyara Tunnel rescue operation? - **Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak**
10. Who became the first woman fighter pilot to complete the Fighter Combat Leader Course at TACDE? - **Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth**