

# RADIUS EDUCATION

27-08-2026



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



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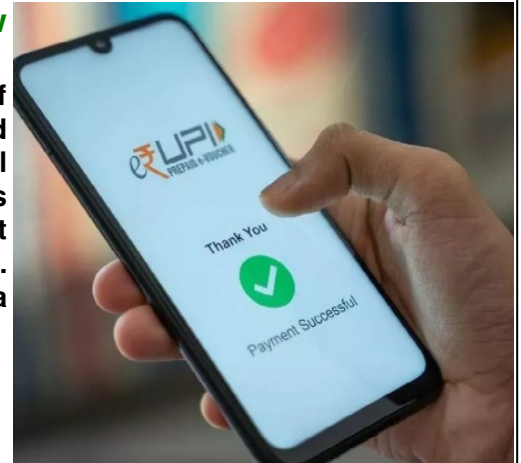


## TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **10 Years of UPI: India's Digital Payments Revolution and a New Era of Financial Inclusion**
- **Kazia Liz Mejo from Kerala is crowned Miss Universe India 2026 and will now represent India on the global stage.**
- **Tamil Nadu's 'Annapurni Super Six LPG Scheme': A New Initiative of Clean Energy, DBT and Targeted Welfare**
- **Mumbai enters the Work From Anywhere Index 2026: Recognizing India's emerging digital work and flexible workspace ecosystem**
- **Indigenous non-GMO popcorn maize hybrid: A milestone towards agricultural self-reliance and value addition**
- **China's humanoid robot 'Tiangong Ultra' sets record speed in 100 meters: Rapid progress in robotics and AI**
- **NSG's first women commando conversion course: The growing role of women in counter-terrorism operations**
- **US Operation Economic Outcast: A new strategy to exert global economic pressure and secondary sanctions on Iran**

## 1. 10 Years of UPI: India's Digital Payment Revolution and a New Era of Financial Inclusion

UPI, launched by the NPCI on August 25, 2016, has become a key pillar of India's digital public infrastructure. It has witnessed unprecedented growth in transaction volumes between the 2016-17 and 2025-26 fiscal years, boosting the digital economy and cashless payments. It has strengthened financial inclusion by connecting small merchants, street vendors, and ordinary citizens to the formal digital payment system. Alongside its global expansion, cybersecurity, digital fraud, and data security remain key challenges.



## 2. Kerala's Kaziya Liz Mejo Crowned Miss Universe India 2026; Set to Represent India on the Global Stage

Kaziya Liz Mejo, a 19-year-old from Kerala, won the Miss Universe India 2026 title after defeating 52 other contestants in a competition held in Jaipur. She will represent India at the 75th Miss Universe pageant scheduled to take place in Puerto Rico in November 2026. Vaishnavi Ganesh was named the first runner-up and Miss International India 2026, while other contestants also received various runner-up titles. Kaziya's achievement stands as an inspiring example of self-confidence, determination, persistent effort, and women's empowerment.



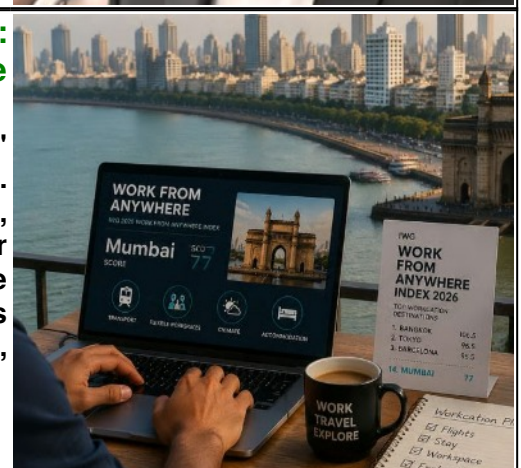
## 3. Tamil Nadu's 'Annapoorni Super Six LPG Scheme': A New Initiative for Clean Energy, DBT, and Targeted Welfare

The Tamil Nadu government has announced the 'Annapoorni Super Six LPG Scheme' to reduce domestic LPG expenses for eligible families; the scheme is set to be implemented starting from Pongal in January 2027. Under this scheme, beneficiaries will first purchase LPG cylinders, and the cost incurred will subsequently be reimbursed directly into their bank accounts via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Targeting families with an annual income of up to ₹2.5 lakh, as well as medium and marginal farmers and persons with disabilities, the scheme proposes an annual budget of approximately ₹4,000 crore.



## 4. Mumbai Enters 'Work From Anywhere Index 2026': Acknowledging India's Emerging Digital Work and Flexible Workspace Ecosystem

Mumbai has made its debut in IWG's 'Work From Anywhere Index 2026,' becoming the only Indian city to feature on the list with a score of 77. While the city performed well in areas such as transportation, accommodation, and flexible workspaces, there is a need for improvement in sectors like broadband speed and well-being. The expansion of flexible workspaces and hybrid work cultures in India is creating new opportunities for 'workations,' tourism, the service sector, and the local economy.



## 5. Indigenous Non-GMO Popcorn Maize Hybrid: A New Milestone Towards Agricultural Self-Reliance and Value Addition

India has developed indigenous hybrid seeds for non-GMO popcorn maize with high expansion capacity for the first time, reducing reliance on foreign hybrid technology. This initiative will curtail seed imports, save foreign exchange, and boost self-reliance in the agricultural sector. More than 17,500 farmers across eight states are involved in this initiative, fostering farmer-entrepreneur partnerships, improving market access, and increasing incomes. Value addition through the processing, packaging, storage, and marketing of maize will create new employment opportunities in rural areas.



## 6. China's Humanoid Robot 'Tiangong Ultra' Clocks Record Speed in 100m Dash: Rapid Progress in Robotics and AI

China's Tiangong Ultra humanoid robot completed a 100-meter dash in 9.39 seconds—a time faster than Usain Bolt's human world record, though it belongs to a different category of record. The World Humanoid Robot Games 2026, held in Beijing, showcased the speed, balance, and autonomous capabilities of these robots. The improvement from 21.50 seconds in 2025 to 9.39 seconds in 2026 highlights rapid advancements in AI, sensors, actuation, and balance control technologies. In the future, humanoid robots could play pivotal roles in manufacturing, healthcare, disaster management, search and rescue operations, and hazardous tasks.



## 7. NSG's First Women Commando Conversion Course: The Growing Role of Women in Counter-Terrorism Operations

The National Security Guard (NSG) has launched its first-ever Women Commando Conversion Course (MCCC) at its training academy in Manesar. This specialized 12-week training program is designed to train selected female personnel from state police forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) for counter-terrorism operations. The curriculum covers critical skills such as physical fitness, weapon handling, marksmanship, tactical intervention, and hostage rescue. Upon completion, these personnel will serve as 'force multipliers' within their parent organizations, strengthening coordination among security agencies and enhancing counter-terrorism capabilities.



## 8. US's 'Operation Economic Outcast': A New Strategy of Global Economic Pressure and Secondary Sanctions on Iran

The US has launched 'Operation Economic Outcast' to intensify global pressure on Iran's economic networks and revenue sources. Under this initiative, foreign companies engaging in trade or financial transactions linked to Iran may also fall within the ambit of US sanctions. The campaign primarily targets digital assets, technology, gold, aviation, shipping, and Iran's oil revenue networks. This could impact global oil markets, maritime trade, shipping, and supply chains, particularly given the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz.



**1. Which organization is primarily responsible for the development and operation of UPI?**

- A - RBI  
B - NPCI  
C - SEBI  
D - NABARD

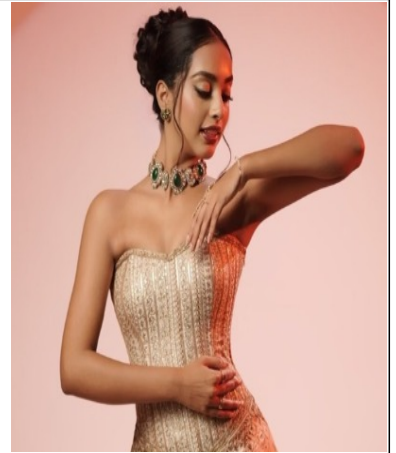
UPI was launched by NPCI on August 25, 2016, and has become a key pillar of India's digital public infrastructure and financial inclusion. It has expanded the reach of digital payments, while cybersecurity, digital fraud, and data security remain its major challenges.



**2. Who won the title of Miss Universe India 2026?**

- A - Vaishnavi Ganesh  
B - Kazia Liz Mejo  
C - Anushree Satavalekar  
D - Rhea Singha

Kazia Liz Mejo, a 19-year-old from Kerala, won the Miss Universe India 2026 title in Jaipur, defeating 52 other contestants. She will represent India at the 75th Miss Universe pageant to be held in Puerto Rico in November 2026.



**3. Which state government has announced the Annapoorni Super Six LPG Scheme?**

- A - Kerala  
B - Tamil Nadu  
C - Karnataka  
D - Andhra Pradesh

The Tamil Nadu government has announced the Annapoorni Super Six LPG Scheme to reduce domestic LPG expenses for eligible families; it will be implemented starting from Pongal in January 2027. Under this scheme, the cost of LPG purchases will be reimbursed via DBT, and the initiative aligns with clean energy, women's health, and SDGs 3, 5, and 7.



**4. Which is the only Indian city to feature in IWG's 'Work From Anywhere Index 2026'?**

- A - Delhi  
B - Bengaluru  
C - Mumbai  
D - Hyderabad

Mumbai became the only Indian city to feature in IWG's 'Work From Anywhere Index 2026' with a score of 77 points. This achievement highlights the importance of hybrid work culture, flexible workspaces, and improved digital and urban infrastructure in India.



**5. What type of hybrid maize seeds has India developed for the first time?**

**A - GMO wheat**

**B - Non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize**

**C - Bt cotton**

**D - Hybrid paddy**

India has developed indigenous hybrid seeds for non-GMO, high-expansion popcorn maize for the first time, which will reduce reliance on foreign hybrid technology. This initiative will boost agricultural self-reliance, farmers' income, value addition, food processing, and rural employment.



**6. Which country's humanoid robot is 'Tiangong Ultra'?**

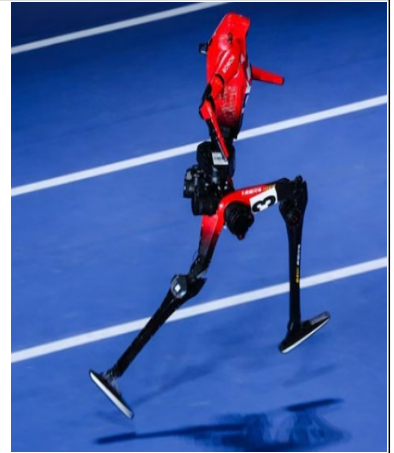
**A - Japan**

**B - China**

**C - South Korea**

**D - USA**

China's Tiangong Ultra humanoid robot demonstrated rapid advancements in AI, sensor, and robotics technology by completing a 100-meter dash in 9.39 seconds. Humanoid robots could play a significant role in sectors such as manufacturing, healthcare, disaster management, and search-and-rescue operations in the future.



**7. Which organization has launched the Women Commando Conversion Course (MCCC)?**

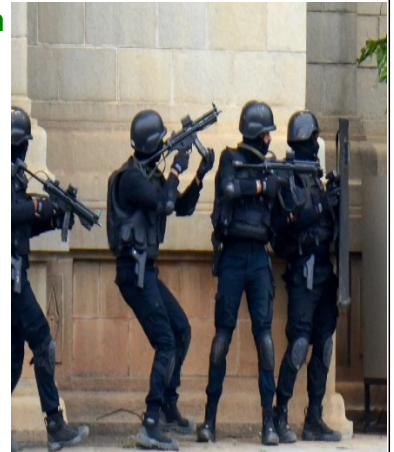
**A - CRPF**

**B - BSF**

**C - NSG**

**D - CISF**

The National Security Guard (NSG) has launched a 12-week Women Commando Conversion Course (MCCC) for the first time at its training academy in Manesar. This training will help enhance the counter-terrorism capabilities of female personnel and strengthen coordination among security forces.



**8. Which country has launched 'Operation Economic Outcast'?**

**A - Russia**

**B - China**

**C - USA**

**D - France**

The USA has launched 'Operation Economic Outcast' to increase pressure on Iran's economic networks and revenue sources; this operation includes provisions for secondary sanctions. By affecting Iran's oil, shipping, and other economic sectors, this campaign could impact global energy markets, maritime trade, and supply chains.



## One Liner

1. Which state government launched the Annapoorni Super Six LPG scheme? - **Tamil Nadu**
2. In how many seconds did Tiangong Ultra complete the 100-meter dash? - **9.39 seconds**
3. Which campaign did the US launch to increase economic pressure on Iran? - **Operation Economic Outcast**
4. 'Tiangong Ultra' is a humanoid robot from which country? - **China**
5. What type of indigenous maize hybrid seeds did India release for the first time? - **Non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize seeds**
6. In which year was UPI launched? - **2016**
7. How many weeks long is the MCCC training? - **12 weeks**
8. Which is the only Indian city included in the Work From Anywhere Index 2026? - **Mumbai**
9. Who won the title of Miss Universe India 2026? - **Kazia Liz Mejo**
10. Which special women's training program did the NSG launch for the first time? - **Women Commando Conversion Course (MCCC)**