

RADIUS EDUCATION

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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **Lionel Messi retires from the Argentina national team**
- **2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award – Focus on international law, human rights, and climate resilience**
- **UZQR–UPI Agreement – International Expansion of India's Digital Public Infrastructure**
- **Leadership change at Apple – John Ternus becomes CEO, Tim Cook becomes Executive Chairman**
- **INS Nipun – Strengthening India's deep-sea diving and submarine rescue capability**
- **Central Government Financial Accounts to July 2026 – Preliminary Assessment of Fiscal Position and Expenditure**
- **GST collections cross ₹2 trillion in August 2026 – a sign of economic activity and tax compliance**
- **Merchant Navy Day – Role of Merchant Navy in India's maritime trade and national economy**

1. Lionel Messi Retires from Argentina's National Team

Lionel Messi has retired from the Argentina national team after an international career spanning nearly 21 years. He scored 125 goals in 207 matches for Argentina, becoming the team's all-time leader in both appearances and goals. With Argentina, Messi won the 2021 and 2024 Copa América, the 2022 Finalissima, and the 2022 FIFA World Cup. His career saw a magnificent resurgence following early setbacks, and he holds numerous individual records, including eight Ballon d'Or awards.



2. 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award — Focus on International Law, Human Rights, and Climate Resilience

Tommy Koh, Runa Khan, and Bo Kyi have been honored with the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award for their contributions to international cooperation, social development, human rights, and democracy. Tommy Koh made significant contributions to international law and negotiations regarding UNCLOS, while Runa Khan contributed to the development of remote communities and climate resilience. Bo Kyi worked through the AAPP to document the plight of political prisoners and human rights violations in Myanmar. Awarded since 1958, this prize honors significant contributions to public service, social justice, democratic values, and human dignity in Asia.



3. UZQR–UPI Agreement — International Expansion of India's Digital Public Infrastructure

Indian users will be able to make Person-to-Merchant (P2M) payments directly from their Indian bank accounts using their UPI apps by scanning UZQR codes in Uzbekistan. A partnership between NIPL and HUMO, Uzbekistan's national payment system, will link the digital payment networks of both countries. This will reduce the reliance of Indian tourists, students, and business travelers on cash or international cards, while also boosting tourism and trade. The expansion of UPI into Uzbekistan strengthens India's Digital Public Infrastructure, FinTech diplomacy, and digital-economic ties with Central Asia.



4. Leadership Change at Apple — John Ternus Becomes CEO, Tim Cook Becomes Executive Chairman

51-year-old John Ternus assumed the role of Apple CEO on September 1, 2026; previously, he served as Senior Vice President of Hardware Engineering. Tim Cook led the company as CEO for approximately 15 years (2011–2026) and will now take on the role of Executive Chairman. Key challenges facing Ternus include increasing competitiveness in AI, driving product innovation, and integrating Apple's hardware ecosystem with AI-powered services. Amidst US-China tensions, issues such as supply chain diversification, expanding production in India and Vietnam, and robust succession planning also remain critical for the new leadership.



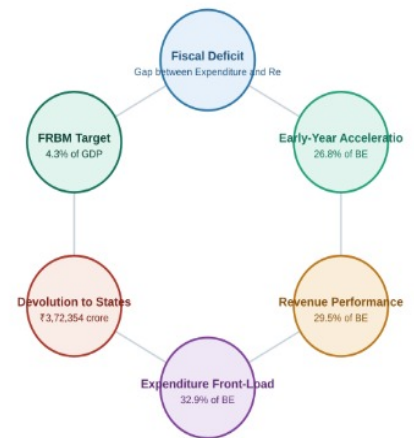
5. INS Nipun — Strengthening India's Deep-Sea Diving and Submarine Rescue Capabilities

INS Nipun is a specialized Diving Support Vessel (DSV) designed for deep-sea diving, underwater intervention, salvage, and submarine rescue operations. It boasts state-of-the-art capabilities, including support for Saturation, Air, and Heliox diving, alongside Remotely Operated Underwater Systems, Dynamic Positioning, and medical facilities. Together, INS Nipun and INS Nistar bolster India's submarine rescue capabilities and help establish the nation as a "Preferred Submarine Rescue Partner" in the region.



6. Central Government Financial Accounts up to July 2026 — Preliminary Assessment of Fiscal Position and Expenditure

During April–July 2026, the Central Government's total receipts stood at ₹13.06 lakh crore, with tax revenue—at ₹8.44 lakh crore—being the largest component. In the same period, ₹3.72 lakh crore was released to states as tax devolution, a crucial aspect of fiscal federalism and Centre-State financial relations. Total government expenditure up to July 2026 amounted to ₹17.61 lakh crore, comprising ₹13.11 lakh crore in revenue expenditure and ₹4.50 lakh crore in capital expenditure. The government spent ₹4.26 lakh crore on interest payments and ₹1.53 lakh crore on subsidies, highlighting challenges related to fiscal space and fiscal consolidation.



7. GST Collection Crosses ₹2 Trillion in August 2026 — Indicative of Economic Activity and Tax Compliance

Gross GST collection in August 2026 stood at approximately ₹2 trillion, recording a 14.8% increase compared to the previous year. Domestic GST collection rose by 9% to ₹1.37 trillion, while GST on imports increased by 29% to ₹62,604 crore. Net GST collection (after refunds) stood at ₹1.68 trillion, with GST refunds rising by 68% to ₹31,795 crore. For the April–August 2026 period, gross GST collection was ₹10.43 trillion and net collection was ₹8.89 trillion, signaling robust revenue collection and economic activity.



8. Merchant Navy Day — The Role of the Merchant Navy in India's Maritime Trade and National Economy

Merchant Navy Day honors the seafarers who contribute to the global transport of goods, fuel, and essential resources via commercial vessels. India's foreign trade relies heavily on maritime routes; thus, the Merchant Navy plays a crucial role in international trade and supply chain security. The Merchant Navy is a key component of the 'Blue Economy,' which encompasses shipping, ports, fisheries, offshore energy, and maritime tourism. Initiatives in India such as the Sagarmala Programme, Maritime India Vision 2030, and Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 focus on strengthening maritime infrastructure, trade, and maritime security.



1. How many international goals did Messi score for Argentina?

- A - 115
B - 120
C - 125
D - 130

Lionel Messi retired from the Argentine national team after an international career spanning approximately 21 years, having scored 125 goals in 207 matches. With Argentina, he won the 2021 and 2024 Copa América, the 2022 Finalissima, and the 2022 FIFA World Cup, and claimed 8 Ballon d'Or awards.



2. How many winners were selected for the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award?

- A - 2
B - 3
C - 4
D - 5

Tommy Koh, Runa Khan, and Bo Kyi were honored with the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award for their contributions to international law, social development, human rights, and democracy. Presented since 1958, this award honors outstanding contributions to public service, social justice, democratic values, and human dignity in Asia.



3. Which QR code will Indian users utilize for UPI payments in Uzbekistan?

- A - BharatQR
B - UZQR
C - HUMO QR
D - EuroQR

Indian users will be able to make P2M (Person-to-Merchant) payments from their Indian bank accounts via UPI apps by scanning UZQR codes in Uzbekistan, thereby reducing reliance on cash and international cards. The NIPL-HUMO partnership will strengthen India's digital-economic ties with Central Asia, alongside advancing UPI's international expansion, Digital Public Infrastructure, and FinTech diplomacy.



4. Who became the CEO of Apple starting September 1, 2026?

- A - Tim Cook
B - John Ternus
C - Craig Federighi
D - Jeff Williams

John Ternus assumed the role of Apple's CEO starting September 1, 2026, while Tim Cook became Executive Chairman after 15 years of leadership. Ternus faces key challenges such as AI competition, product innovation, and supply chain diversification amidst US-China tensions.



5. What type of vessel is INS Nipun?

- A - Destroyer
C - Aircraft Carrier
B - Diving Support Vessel
D - Frigate

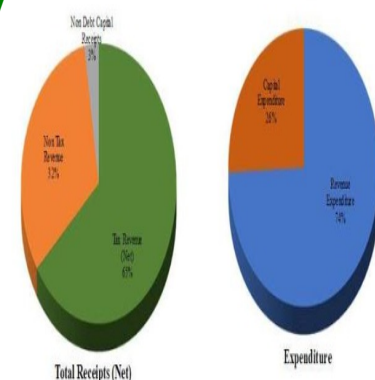
INS Nipun is an indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV) that strengthens the Indian Navy with state-of-the-art capabilities for missions such as deep-sea diving, underwater intervention, salvage, and submarine rescue. Along with INS Nistar, it enhances India's submarine rescue capabilities and contributes significantly to *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* (Self-Reliant India), maritime security, and HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief) operations.



6. What were the total receipts of the Central Government during April–July 2026?

- A - ₹10.06 lakh crore
C - ₹13.06 lakh crore
B - ₹12.06 lakh crore
D - ₹15.06 lakh crore

During April–July 2026, the Central Government's total receipts stood at ₹13.06 lakh crore and total expenditure at ₹17.61 lakh crore, with tax revenue being the primary source at ₹8.44 lakh crore. Tax transfers to states amounted to ₹3.72 lakh crore, while ₹4.26 lakh crore was spent on interest and ₹1.53 lakh crore on subsidies, highlighting the challenge of fiscal consolidation.



7. What annual growth was recorded in gross GST collections in August 2026?

- A - 10.8%
C - 14.8%
B - 12.8%
D - 16.8%

In August 2026, gross GST collections stood at approximately ₹2 trillion, marking an annual growth of 14.8%, while import GST rose by 29% to reach ₹62,604 crore. Net GST collection stood at ₹1.68 trillion after refunds, and gross GST collection reached ₹10.43 trillion during April–August 2026.



8. The Merchant Navy is a significant part of which sector of India's economy?

- A - Blue Economy
C - Digital Economy
B - Green Economy
D - Circular Economy

Merchant Navy Day honors the seafarers who contribute to commercial maritime transport and highlights the role of the Merchant Navy in India's foreign trade, supply chain security, and the Blue Economy. The Sagarmala Programme, Maritime India Vision 2030, and Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 focus on strengthening India's maritime infrastructure, trade, logistics, and maritime security.



One Liner

1. What is the primary objective of the Merchant Navy? - **Commercial maritime transport**
2. What type of naval vessel is INS Nipun? - **Diving Support Vessel (DSV)**
3. What were the Central Government's total receipts up to July 2026? - **₹13.06 lakh crore**
4. What is one of the key strategic capabilities of INS Nipun? - **Submarine Rescue**
5. Who became Apple's new CEO starting September 1, 2026? - **John Ternus**
6. What was the gross GST collection during April–August 2026? - **₹10.43 trillion**
7. Which QR code will Indian tourists use for UPI payments in Uzbekistan? - **UZQR**
8. How many international matches has Lionel Messi played for Argentina? - **207 matches**
9. How many winners were selected for the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award? - **3 winners**
10. What was the year-on-year growth in gross GST collection in August 2026? - **14.8%**