

8. Short News

1. Saturation Governance- Sampoonata Abhiyan 2.0

Launched by NITI Aayog on January 28, 2026, this campaign represents a transition to "outcome-based governance" by ensuring that every eligible beneficiary receives essential services.

Timeline- A 3-month mission concluding on April 14, 2026.

Geographic Focus- Targets 112 Aspirational Districts and 513 Aspirational Blocks known for their developmental gaps.

Goal of "Saturation"- Unlike traditional targets, "saturation" implies 100% coverage, leaving no room for last-mile delivery failures.

Aspirational Blocks (6 KPIs)- Focuses on local foundational services-

- ICDS Nutrition- Regular supplementary nutrition for children (6 months-6 years).
- Health Tracking- Measurement efficiency of children at Anganwadi Centres.
- Basic Infrastructure- Functional toilets and potable water in Anganwadis.
- Education- Schools equipped with adequate girls' toilets.
- Agriculture- Bovine vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

Aspirational Districts (5 KPIs)- Focuses on systemic district-level outcomes-

- Newborn Care- Proportion of live babies weighed at birth.
- Disease Monitoring- TB case notification rates (both public and private sectors).
- Community Health- Conduct of monthly Village/Urban Health Sanitation & Nutrition Days (VHSND/UHSND).
- Infrastructure- Functional girls' toilets in schools.
- Livestock- Overall animal vaccination coverage to prevent outbreaks.

2. Energy Strategy- India Energy Week (IEW) 2026

Held in **Goa** (Jan 27-30, 2026), IEW 2026 positioned India as the primary engine for global energy systems.

OPEC World Oil Outlook (WOO) 2025- A central highlight was the presentation by OPEC, projecting that India will be the largest global contributor to oil demand growth through 2050.

Demand Drivers- India is expected to add 8.2 million barrels per day of demand, primarily fueled by the transport, industrial, and petrochemical sectors.

Primary Energy Demand- India's energy consumption is set to nearly double by 2050, moving from 22 million to 43.6 million barrels of oil equivalent per day.

Operational Pillars- Discussions emphasized LNG affordability (target price \$6-7/MMBtu) and a "Prajjwala" approach to City Gas Distribution (CGD), moving beyond mere access to sustained fuel use.

3. Science & Technology- Quantum-Resilient Cybersecurity

India is transitioning from "computational security" (math-based) to "physics-based" security to neutralize future high-end cyber threats.

Institutional Partnership- BISAG-N (under MeitY) and QNu Labs signed an MoU on January 28, 2026, to integrate Indian software with quantum hardware.

The "Vedic Kavach"- India's indigenous cryptographic software is being paired with Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) and Quantum Random Number Generation (QRNG).

Security Principle- QKD provides "unconditional security" because the act of eavesdropping alters the quantum state of the exchange, immediately alerting users. This creates a future-proof infrastructure for defense, finance, and power grids.

4. Social Movements- The 4B Movement

The 4B movement, which originated in South Korea around 2015, has seen a resurgence in 2026 as a radical feminist response to structural patriarchy. It is defined by the Four "Nos"-

No Marriage (Bihon)- Rejection of marriage as an institution of unpaid labor and unequal power.

No Childbirth (Bichulsan)- Refusal to reproduce in a society that lacks gender justice.

No Dating (Biyeonae)- Avoidance of romantic relationships that normalize gendered emotional labor.

No Sex (Bisekseyu)- Withholding sexual intimacy as a form of political dissent against entitlement and violence.

Significance- It reframes personal choice as political resistance, withdrawing participation from systems deemed exploitative.

5. Health Innovation- Menopause Clinics

Maharashtra launched India's first dedicated government menopause clinics on January 14, 2026.

Mechanism- Specialized weekly OPDs held every Wednesday at district, sub-district, and municipal hospitals.

Service Scope- Integrated care covering gynaecology, mental health, and screenings for bone density (osteoporosis), cardiovascular risks, and hormonal disorders.

Objective- To provide dignity and preventive care for a phase of life that is often neglected by public healthcare systems.

6. Economic Survey 2025-26

Presented on January 29, 2026, the survey highlights India's emergence as a high-growth, resilient economy.

GDP Growth- Projected at 7.4% for FY26; the medium-term growth potential remains at 7%, with FY27 projected between 6.8-7.2%.

Inflation Management- CPI inflation fell to historic lows, averaging 1.7% (April-Dec 2025).

Banking Health- Scheduled Commercial Banks reported a record-low Net NPA of 0.5%.

External Stability- Foreign exchange reserves hit \$701.4 billion (Jan 16, 2026), providing an import cover of 11 months.

7. Lala Lajpat Rai (Punjab Kesari)- Birth anniversary on January 28.

Contributions- Co-founded the Punjab National Bank, founded the Servants of the People Society, and served as President of Congress (1920).

Martyrdom- His death in 1928, after being assaulted during a Simon Commission protest, sparked revolutionary fervour.

8. Bulleh Shah- A 17th-century Punjabi Sufi poet.

Philosophy- Championed humanism, equality, and tolerance; his *Kafis* (verses) challenged religious orthodoxy and the caste system.

Current Event- His shrine in Mussoorie was recently vandalized (Jan 24, 2026), triggering national discussions on communal harmony.

8. Indian Polity- Parliamentary Procedures

President's Address (Article 87)- Mandatory at the first session of the year and after each general election. It outlines the Cabinet-approved policy priorities for the year.

Joint Sitting (Article 108)- Triggered by a deadlock on Ordinary Bills.

Summoned by- The President.

Presided by- The Speaker of the Lok Sabha (followed by the Deputy Speaker or the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha).

Exclusions- Not allowed for Money Bills or Constitutional Amendment Bills.