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MARCH 2026

TOP NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



Heat Stroke Management Units
launched across Karnataka hospitals



KSP Run 3rd Edition
promotes police-public relations



Mangaluru International Airport
wins 2025 ASQ Award



Karnataka Budget 2026-27
record 17th budget presented



Nine Cheetahs from Botswana
released at Kuno National Park



Jammu & Kashmir
wins first-ever Ranji Trophy title

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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- ✓ Sports, Awards & Appointments
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MARCH – 1 – 2026

1. Launch of Heat Stroke Management Units

The Karnataka Health Department mandated that all state-run health facilities operationalize dedicated '**Heat Stroke Management Rooms**' starting March 1, 2026.

- **Infrastructure:** Facilities are required to earmark specific beds: 10 beds at district hospitals, 5 at taluk hospitals, and 2 at community health centers.
- **Equipping:** Rooms must be equipped with essential cooling aids such as fans, ice cubes, thermometers, and dedicated ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution) corners.
- **Reporting:** Health institutions must submit daily reports on Heat-Related Illnesses (HRI) through the **Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP)** to prevent heat-related deaths during the summer months.



2. 3rd Edition of the Karnataka State Police (KSP) Run

A major public event, the **KSP Run**, was held in Bengaluru to **foster better police-public relations and promote a healthy lifestyle**.

- **Theme:** "Namma Police Namma Hemme" (Our Police, Our Pride).
- **Objective:** Organized in collaboration with SBI, the run focused on raising awareness about drug abuse, cybercrime prevention, and road safety.
- **Events:** The run featured 5 km and 10 km categories, starting from the Vidhana Soudha.

3. Mangaluru International Airport (MIA) Global Award

Mangaluru International Airport was recognized for excellence in passenger experience.

- **Award:** Won the **2025 ASQ (Airport Service Quality) Award** for "**Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally**" in its category.
- **Significance:** The award, announced by the Airports Council International (ACI), highlights the airport's efficiency and high service standards in handling arrival procedures.

4. Preparations for the "Record" 17th State Budget

Administrative activities on March 1st were heavily focused on the finalization of the **Karnataka State Budget 2026-27**, which was presented a few days later on March 6.

- **Fiscal Planning:** Discussions focused on **the ₹60,000 crore** allocation required to sustain the state's five flagship guarantee schemes (Shakti, Gruha Jyothi, Gruha Lakshmi, Yuva Nidhi, and Anna Bhagya).
- **Transport Fleet:** Plans were reviewed to strengthen public transport by procuring **1,000 additional diesel buses** for the state-run Road Transport Corporations (RTCs).

5. Drinking Water Scarcity Monitoring

With the onset of summer, the Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department began active monitoring of **102 villages** across 36



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taluks identified as vulnerable to water scarcity. Districts like **Tumakuru** and **Ramanagara** were prioritized for emergency tanker supplies and private borewell rentals.

MARCH -2 2026

- **Child Marriage-Free Gram Panchayat:** A reward of ₹25,000 is announced for Gram Panchayats that remain child marriage-free for three years, maintain child-focused Gram Sabhas, and include prevention plans in official documents.
- **KSP Run:** Organized by Karnataka Police and SBI in Bengaluru, this event featured 5 km and 10 km races to improve police-public relations and raise awareness on issues like cybercrime and drug prevention.
- **HPV Vaccination Drive:** A statewide campaign targeting girls aged 14 and above to prevent cervical cancer, aiming to vaccinate approximately 1.15 crore beneficiaries.
- **Snakebite Surveillance:** Karnataka is the first state to use the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) for real-time snakebite reporting. Shivamogga recorded the highest cases (1,002) in 2025.
- **Bangalore GAFX 2026:** Highlighted the growth of the AVGC-XR sector (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics) and the emerging "orange economy" driven by creative intellectual property.
- **Project Cheetah:** Nine cheetahs from Botswana were released at Kuno National Park, bringing India's total cheetah population to 48.
- **Iran-Israel-U.S. Conflict:** Escalation following the reported death of Iran's Supreme Leader; an interim leadership council was formed including senior cleric Ayatollah Alireza Arafati.
- **Ranji Trophy 2025-26:** Jammu & Kashmir secured their first-ever title by defeating Karnataka at the KSCA Rajnagar Stadium in Hubballi.



MARCH -3 2026

- **Arivu-Sunrise Entrepreneurship Program:** The Karnataka government launched this initiative to provide financial support and mentorship to 5,000 young entrepreneurs, focusing on rural and semi-urban areas.
- **Brand Bengaluru - Waste-to-Energy Plant:** A new 10 MW waste-to-energy plant was inaugurated in Bidadi to process 600 tonnes of municipal solid waste daily, contributing to the "Brand Bengaluru" sustainability goals.

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- **KSRTC "Ambaari Utsav" Expansion:** The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) added 50 new premium AC sleeper buses to its fleet to improve inter-state connectivity.
- **Elephant Task Force Strengthening:** Following increased human-animal conflict, the state government allocated ₹25 crore to establish three new Elephant Task Forces in Hassan, Kodagu, and Chikkamagaluru districts.
- **Mission Mausam:** The Union Government launched "Mission Mausam" to enhance India's weather forecasting capabilities using advanced AI and high-performance computing systems.
- **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA):** India officially signed a memorandum with 15 range countries to formalize **the headquarters of the IBCA in New Delhi**, aimed at protecting seven major big cat species.
- **INS Jatayu Commissioning:** The Indian Navy commissioned INS Jatayu at **Minicoy Island**, Lakshadweep, to strengthen maritime surveillance and security in the Indian Ocean Region.
- **Indigenously Developed NavIC Chip:** A Bengaluru-based startup, in collaboration with ISRO, unveiled the first commercial-grade NavIC-enabled chipset for civilian handheld devices.
- **Khelo India University Games:** Karnataka's Jain University emerged as the overall champion for the third consecutive year.
- **Hampi Utsav 2026:** The three-day cultural festival concluded with a focus on promoting "Digital Hampi," featuring AR/VR experiences of the Vijayanagara Empire ruins.



MARCH – 4 - 2026.

- **Deputy CM's Statement:** Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar stated that development work continues regardless of budget announcements, highlighting that many projects (like the 25 government schools in Bengaluru South costing ₹15 crore each) are often developed through existing Fiscal Planning: The government finalized preparations for the ₹4.48 lakh crore budget, which would mark Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's record 17th budget presentation.
- **2. Health Infrastructure & Education Significant updates were shared regarding the expansion of public health and educational facilities:**
 - **Super-Specialty Hospitals:** Updates on the progress of super-specialty hospitals in Karwar and Yadgir (estimated at ₹100 crore each) and the completed 450-bed multi-specialty hospital in Karwar.
 - **Residential Schools:** A plan was finalized to set up Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Residential Schools in northern Karnataka towns that have historical ties to Dr. Ambedkar's visits.
- **3. Bengaluru Urban Development : Second Airport Feasibility:** Technical discussions were held regarding a feasibility report for a second airport in Bengaluru to alleviate the load on Kempegowda International Airport.

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- **Transit Projects:** The Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) pushed forward plans for a tunnel and elevated road from Hebbal Junction to Mehkri Circle (estimated at ₹2,250 crore) and the development of the Outer Ring Road (Silk Board to K.R. Puram) into a global-standard corridor.
- **ASMITA League:** Karnataka saw district-level events for the ASMITA League (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action), part of the Khelo India Mission, ahead of International Women's Day.
- **Human-Animal Conflict:** A major ₹1,500 crore program was finalized in the budget draft to address man-elephant conflicts, including the construction of elephant-proof trenches and the establishment of a Leopard Rehabilitation Centre at Bannerghatta.

MARCH – 5 2026

1. BMTC "Vajra Vistara" Expansion

- **Update:** **BMTC launched AC** bus services from Bengaluru to **Ramanagara** and **Kanakapura**.
- **Key Change:** Operational limits extended from **25 km to 40 km** beyond the Greater Bengaluru Authority limits.
- **Service:** 6 buses to Ramanagara (36 trips) and 8 buses to Kanakapura (48 trips) daily.

2. Sanmitra Initiative

- **Purpose:** A new rehabilitation and monitoring program for drug users.
- **Implementation:** A **designated officer** at each police station in Karnataka will be appointed to monitor and support the recovery of individuals struggling with substance abuse.

3. Sahasralinga Site Infrastructure

- **Location:** On the banks of the **Shalmala River** in Uttara Kannada district.
- **Update:** The pilgrimage site, famous for its numerous Shiva Lingas carved in the riverbed, has been provided with **high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity** for tourists and devotees.
- **World Obesity Atlas 2026:** Report indicates a rising trend in high BMI among children globally.
- **Ranking:** **China** ranks first in the total number of children with high BMI, followed by India and the United States.
- **Vulture Conservation:** Renewed focus on protecting the **Ramadevarabetta Vulture Sanctuary** in Ramanagara, **India's only dedicated vulture sanctuary**, following reports of habitat encroachment.



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MARCH– 6 2026

- **Historic Milestone:** Chief Minister Siddaramaiah presented his **17th budget**, setting a new record for the highest number of budget presentations in Karnataka's history.
- **Fiscal Commitment:** Approximately **₹60,000 crore** is estimated to be required to sustain the state's five flagship guarantee schemes.
- **Key Focus Areas:** Social welfare for workers, women, and children. Notable proposals include establishing a dedicated corporation for the Buddhist minority community and addressing fiscal challenges posed by GST revenue adjustments.

Sharavati Pumped Storage Project

- **Geography:** Proposed in the **Western Ghats**, an ecologically sensitive mountain range.
- **Objective:** To enhance renewable energy storage and manage peak power demands.
- **Environmental Context:** The project has faced scrutiny from environmentalists regarding its potential impact on the biodiversity of the Ghats.

Brain Co-Processors **Moonshot Project**

- **Origin:** Launched by the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, Bengaluru.
- **Target Group:** Patients suffering from **stroke-related neurological impairment**.
- **Technology:** Development of advanced brain-machine interfaces to aid in cognitive and motor recovery.

Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:** **Gadag district**, Karnataka.
- **Significance:** Known for its immense **medicinal plant wealth**. It recently gained attention due to a High Court order regarding its conservation and protection status.

5. Mental Health Initiative: Tele-MANAS

- **Service:** Strengthening the **Tele-MANAS** framework to provide psychological support.
- **Contact:** Promotion of **the toll-free number 14416** for immediate mental health counseling and crisis intervention.

6. International Cooperation

- **Diplomatic Visit:** Finland's President **Alexander Stubb** met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **Collaboration Areas:** Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral ties in technology, sustainability, and education.

MARCH – 7 – 2026

1. ABV-Based Liquor Taxation Proposal

- **New Policy:** Karnataka has proposed moving toward an **Alcohol By Volume (ABV)** based taxation system for liquor.

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- **Mechanism:** Tax will be determined by the actual alcohol content rather than traditional price slabs.
- **Objective:** To promote public health by discouraging high-alcohol consumption and to simplify the excise duty structure for better "Ease of Doing Business."

2. Proposed Social Media Restrictions

- **Policy:** The state government is considering a ban on social media use for **children below 16 years of age**.
- **Rationale:** Aimed at protecting adolescents from digital addiction, cyberbullying, and negative mental health impacts.



3. BEL and Bellatrix Aerospace Partnership

- **Collaboration:** Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Bengaluru-based startup **Bellatrix Aerospace** signed an MoU.
- **Focus:** Development and manufacturing of satellite systems for **Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO)**.
- **Significance:** VLEO satellites offer high-resolution imaging and reduced space debris, strengthening Bengaluru's "NewSpace" ecosystem.

4. Digital Fraud Reporting & Recovery

- **Awareness:** Highlighting the importance of reporting digital financial fraud within the **"Golden Hour"** (ideally within 5 days).
- **Helpline:** Citizens are encouraged to use the national helpline **1930** or the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal to freeze fraudulent transactions.

5. SEBI's 'Sudarshan' Tool

- **Context:** Relevant to Bengaluru's fintech hub, SEBI has deployed an AI-powered tool named 'Sudarshan'.
- **Function:** Scans social media and digital platforms to identify and take action against unregistered "finfluencers" and **misleading financial advice**.

6. Women's Empowerment in Digital Commerce

- **GeM Success:** Ahead of International Women's Day, data showed that women-led enterprises in Karnataka and India significantly increased their footprint on **the Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**, contributing to a cumulative order value exceeding ₹83,000 crore.

MARCH – 8 – 2026

1. International Women's Day Celebrations

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- **World Women's Day Run 2026:** A massive marathon was held at the **Atal Bihari Vajpayee Stadium in HSR Layout, Bengaluru**. Organized by Gagner Sports, the event saw thousands of participants running under the theme "Celebrate Strength, Celebrate Equality."
- **"Give to Gain" Campaign:** Karnataka joined the global 2026 campaign "Give to Gain," focusing on collective mentorship and resource sharing to empower women.
- **KSRTC Milestone:** Following the recent launch of **115 new buses** for Women's Day, the state-run transport corporation reported a record surge in women passengers utilizing the **Shakti scheme** (free bus travel) for holiday travel.

2. Proposed Social Media Ban for Under-16s

- **Context:** Following the March 6 budget speech, public debate intensified on March 8 regarding the government's proposal to **ban social media for children under 16**.
- **Policy Detail:** Karnataka aims to be the first Indian state to implement such a ban to combat digital addiction and cyberbullying. The move is paired with the **"Mobile Bidi, Pustaka Hidi"** (Leave the phone, pick a book) awareness drive.



3. Health & Welfare Initiatives

- **Women-Centric Budgeting:** Details emerged of the **₹94,663 crore** earmarked for women-centric programs in the 2026-27 fiscal year.
- **IVF Centres:** On Women's Day, the government reiterated its plan to establish the state's first government-run **IVF centres** at Vani Vilas Hospital (Bengaluru) and in Kalaburagi to support affordable fertility treatments.
- **Devadasi Welfare:** An incentive increase from ₹30,000 to **₹45,000** was highlighted for former Devadasis to pursue self-employment.

4. Sports: India Wins T20 World Cup 2026

- **Victory:** In a massive moment for Indian sports on March 8, **India defeated New Zealand by 96 runs** to become the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Champions.
- **Bengaluru Connection:** Celebrations erupted at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium and across the city as local fans celebrated India's third T20 title. **Jasprit Bumrah** was named Man of the Match in the final.

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MARCH – 9 2026

1. 'Manosandesh' Mental Health Series

- **Expansion:** NIMHANS (National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences) has extended this awareness series to the **Kannada language**.
- **Content:** Includes 37 educational videos featuring experts discussing disorders like depression, anxiety, autism, and schizophrenia.
- **Goal:** To eliminate social stigma and educate the public on mental health treatment options.

2. Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE)

- **Jurisdiction:** DCRE police stations in Karnataka are specifically tasked with investigating and preventing **atrocities against SC/ST communities**.
- **Function:** Ensuring the effective implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

3. Shakuntala Grants Programme

- **Objective:** A new initiative launched in 2026 to **support women researchers**.
- **Focus Area:** Specifically targets research in **climate change and environmental studies**, aiming to bridge the gender gap in specialized scientific fields.

4. Vaishnavi Adkar's Achievement

- **Sport:** Tennis.
- **Achievement:** Won the singles title at the **Kalaburagi ITF W-35 Women's Tournament** in 2026, marking a significant milestone in her professional career.

5. Project Cheetah Update

- **Primary Site:** **Kuno National Park** in Madhya Pradesh remains the central hub for the reintroduction project.
- **Status:** Continued monitoring of the cheetah population to ensure successful integration into the Indian ecosystem.

6. Karnataka Police: 'Namma Tyagi' Initiative

- **Context:** A program focused on honoring the sacrifices of police personnel and supporting their families through welfare measures and public recognition.

MARCH - 10 2026

1. PM Surya Ghar Rooftop Solar Scheme

- **Implementation:** **BESCOM (Bangalore Electricity Supply Company)** is actively promoting rooftop solar installations in urban residential apartments.
- **Focus:** Encouraging apartment associations to use solar power for common areas (lifts, water pumps, lighting) to reduce electricity bills.

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- **Support:** The central government provides financial assistance, while BESCOM assists with grid connectivity and net metering.

2. Japan-India Mobility Summit 2026

- **Venue:** Bengaluru.
- **Focus:** Strengthening cooperation between India and Japan in **clean mobility** and sustainable transport technologies.
- **Significance:** Aims to foster innovation in the automotive and transportation sectors through international partnership.

3. Gruha Arogya Programme

- **Objective:** A state-wide public health initiative focusing on **door-to-door screening** for non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- **Target:** Early detection of conditions such as diabetes and hypertension to provide timely medical intervention.

4. Floating Solar Power Plant at Somambudhi Agrahara Lake

- **Project:** Proposal to install a floating solar power plant with a capacity of approximately **100 MW**.
- **Location:** Somambudhi Agrahara Lake, Karnataka.
- **Benefit:** Optimizes land use by utilizing water surfaces for renewable energy generation.



5. Badanavalu Khadi Centre Revival

- **Location:** **Mysuru district**, Karnataka.
- **History:** A historic site with deep links to the Khadi movement and Mahatma Gandhi's visit in 1927.
- **Update:** Efforts are underway to revive and preserve the centre as a heritage and sustainable textile hub.

6. Malayalam Bhasha Bill

- **Context:** While primarily a Kerala state news item, it was highlighted for its regional impact.
- **Mandate:** Makes **Malayalam compulsory** as the first language in schools up to Class 10 in Kerala.

7. National/International News

- **Indira Gandhi Peace Prize:** Awarded to the **International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)** for its efforts in nuclear disarmament.
- **AUKUS Partnership:** Continued developments in the security partnership between Australia, the UK, and the USA focusing on nuclear-powered submarines.

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MARCH – 11 2026

1. Decline in Central Transfers & Fiscal Impact

- **Financial Loss:** Reports (Economic Survey 2025-26 & Medium-Term Fiscal Policy) indicate Karnataka has lost approximately **₹2.88 lakh crore** since 2017-18 due to reduced central tax shares and grants.
- **Scheme Burdens:** The state has incurred an additional **₹13,000 crore** burden for the Jal Jeevan Mission and supports a significantly larger share of pensions compared to the Centre under the National Social Assistance Programme.

2. Pension Increase for Acid Attack Survivors

- **Policy Update:** The Karnataka government is considering increasing the monthly pension for acid attack survivors **from ₹10,000 to ₹50,000**.
- **Objective:** To provide better financial security and support for the long-term medical and rehabilitation needs of survivors.

3. National Para Badminton Championship

- **Success:** Karnataka shuttlers delivered a stellar performance, winning a total of **11 medals** at the National Para Badminton Championship.

4. 2026 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC)

- **Host:** Jointly hosted by **France and Costa Rica** in Nice, France.
- **Theme:** "Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean."
- **Key Focus:** Addressing plastic pollution, sustainable fisheries, and climate change impacts on marine ecosystems.

5. Mountaineering Achievement

- **Nevado Ojos del Salado:** Located in **Chile** (Andes Mountains), it is the world's highest active volcano.
- **Context:** Highlighted in the news due to recent Indian/regional mountaineering expeditions reaching its summit.

6. Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

- **Target:** Launched in 2019 to provide **Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC)** to every rural household by 2024 (and continuing phases).
- **Karnataka Context:** The state has faced additional fiscal pressure to maintain the pace of implementation despite shifting central funding patterns.

7. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

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- **Pension Gap:** In Karnataka, the Centre supports roughly 14 lakh beneficiaries, while the state government funds approximately 80 lakh beneficiaries to ensure wider coverage of social security.

MARCH – 12 2026

1. Organ Donation & Kidney Transplantation

- **Waiting List:** Over **5,000 patients** in Karnataka are currently waiting for kidney transplants.
- **Jeevasarthakathe:** The state program coordinating organ allocation from brain-dead donors.
- **Performance:** Karnataka ranks **third in India** for organ donation. In 2023-24, 198 brain-dead donors provided 564 organs (including 306 kidneys).
- **Financial Aid:** Under the **Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust**, the state provides ₹3 lakh for kidney transplants and ₹2 lakh for follow-up treatment for BPL cardholders.

2. State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)

- **Context:** The Karnataka SHRC has taken a "Suo Motu" case regarding the lack of basic amenities for farmers and laborers at the **Yeshwanthpur Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)** yard.
- **Issues:** Concerns include lack of drinking water, sanitation, and resting facilities for those bringing produce to the market.

3. Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) Laws

- **IT Act, 2000: Section 67B** criminalizes publishing, transmitting, or browsing child pornography in electronic form.
- **POCSO Act, 2012: Section 15** mandates punishment for the storage or possession of child pornographic material for commercial purposes.
- **Key Distinction:** Possession itself is punishable under specific legal provisions and is not restricted only to those who circulate or transmit the material.

4. Constitutional Provisions: The Speaker

- **Article 94:** Contains provisions for the removal of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- **Removal Process:** A resolution for removal requires **14 days' notice**.
- **Procedure:** When a motion for their removal is under discussion, the Speaker **cannot preside** over the House, though they have the right to speak and take part in proceedings.

5. 2026 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC)

- **Host:** France and Costa Rica (to be held in Nice, France).
- **Focus:** Addressing the global ocean crisis through international cooperation, focusing on the "Special Theme" of scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation.

6. International/National Snippets

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- **Nevado Ojos del Salado:** Identified as the world's highest active volcano, located in the Andes on the border of **Chile** and Argentina.
- **Acid Attack Survivor Welfare:** Reiteration of the state's intent to significantly hike monthly pensions to **₹50,000** for survivors.

MARCH – 13 2026

1. Striped Hyena Breeding in Agricultural Fields

- **Incident:** A striped hyena gave birth to two cubs in an agricultural field in **Nargund taluk, Gadag district**.
- **Significance:** Usually, hyenas inhabit dry scrub forests and rocky terrains. This unusual occurrence indicates habitat disturbance.
- **Action:** The Karnataka Forest Department safely relocated the hyena and cubs to the **Kulagere forest region**.
- **Nature:** Striped hyenas (*Hyaena hyaena*) are primarily scavengers but may consume fruits like watermelon during summer.



2. KSRTC "Dhwani Spandana" System

- **Innovation:** An audio-based announcement **system introduced by KSRTC**.
- **Purpose:** Designed specifically to assist **visually impaired passengers** by providing real-time bus information and stop announcements.

3. Social Security for Gig Workers

- **Regulation:** Under the **Code on Social Security**, digital platforms (aggregators) are mandated to contribute.
- **Contribution:** Aggregators must contribute **1-2% of their annual turnover** to a dedicated social security fund for gig and platform workers.

4. Health: Severe Aplastic Anaemia

- **Definition:** A condition where the **bone marrow** fails to produce sufficient red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets.
- **Context:** Highlighted in the news regarding patient cases and the need for specialized medical support in the state.

5. Geography: Strait of Hormuz

- **Location:** A critical maritime chokepoint connecting the **Persian Gulf** and the **Arabian Sea** (via the Gulf of Oman).
- **Global Impact:** Essential for international energy trade; often discussed in the context of global fuel prices and supply chain security.



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6. Inter-State Water Dispute

- **Context:** Renewed allegations between **Karnataka and Tamil Nadu** regarding water sharing and project implementations.
- **Developments:** Continued monitoring of reservoir levels and legal discussions surrounding the Cauvery water management.

MARCH - 14

1. Reorganisation of Greater Bengaluru Administration (GBA)

- **Structure:** GBA has ordered the creation of **50 divisions and 150 sub-divisions**.
- **Scope:** This reorganisation covers **369 municipal wards** across five corporations: Central, East, West, North, and South Bengaluru.
- **Objective:** To improve administrative efficiency, streamline governance, and facilitate better service delivery across the city.

2. KSRTC Fleet Expansion

- **Launch:** KSRTC **introduced 115 new buses** during International Women's Day celebrations.
- **Purpose:** To enhance public transport accessibility and provide better services for commuters in the state.

3. World Kidney Day Awareness

- **Campaign:** Organized to mark World Kidney Day, focusing on the prevention of kidney diseases and promoting organ health.
- **Context:** Follows reports of the high demand for kidney transplants in Karnataka (with over 5,000 patients on the waiting list).

4. Bengaluru Air Quality: Climate Trends Report

- **Finding:** Among major Indian cities analyzed, **Bengaluru recorded the lowest and most stable PM2.5 pollution levels**.
- **Significance:** Highlights the city's relatively better air quality compared to other metros like Delhi or Patna.

5. UDAN Scheme (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik)

- **Focus:** A regional airport development scheme aimed at making air travel affordable and improving connectivity to underserved regional airports.
- **Mechanism:** Provides subsidized air travel to encourage common citizens to fly.

6. Administrative Updates: e-Khata

- **Service:** The GBA is focusing on the **e-Khata digital service** to digitize property records and simplify municipal administrative processes for citizens.

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MARCH – 15 -2026

1. Historic Appointment at Kaiga Nuclear Plant

- **Milestone:** RM Nachammai was appointed as the **First Woman Chief** of a functional nuclear power plant in India.
- **Role:** She assumed the position of Chief Superintendent for Units 3 and 4 at the **Kaiga Generating Station** in Karnataka.
- **Significance:** With over 35 years of experience at NPCIL, her appointment is a significant step for gender representation in India's high-stakes nuclear energy sector.

2. Assembly & Budgetary Follow-ups

Following the presentation of **the 17th state budget**, several key details were discussed in the legislative sessions:

- **Social Media Regulation:** Public debate continued over the proposal to **ban social media for children under 16**, with the government clarifying that the move aims to protect student mental health.
- **Health Infrastructure:** The government reaffirmed its commitment to establishing **government-run IVF centres** in Bengaluru and Kalaburagi, as announced in the budget.
- **Education Upgrades:** Plans to upgrade **800 schools** to the **"Karnataka Public School" model** were set in motion, with specific focus on adding infrastructure for digital learning.
- **Bannerghatta Leopard Centre:** Preparations began for the construction of the **Leopard Rehabilitation Centre at Bannerghatta Biological Park** (estimated at ₹5 crore), aiming to mitigate increasing leopard-human conflict in the state's urban fringes.
- **Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary:** Reports emerged regarding the impact of invasive weeds on the nesting sites of **River Terns**, prompting calls for immediate ecological intervention.

MARCH – 16 2026

1. 2026 Assembly Elections Announcement

- **Context:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the schedule for **West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry**.
- **Scale:** Polling covers **824 assembly seats** and approximately **17 crore voters**.
- **Timeline:** Results and counting of votes are scheduled for **May 4, 2026**.

2. Ayushman Vayo Vandana Scheme

- **Target:** Provides health coverage for **senior citizens above 70 years**.
- **Status in Karnataka:** Despite an official order issued in 2025, implementation has faced delays in the state.
- **Feature:** Part of the central government's push for universal geriatric healthcare.

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3. Karnataka Women Well Being Leave Bill, 2025

- **Key Provision:** Proposes **menstrual leave** for women employees.
- **Objective:** To support the health, well-being, and workplace participation of women by acknowledging specific physiological needs.

4. Awards & Recognition

- **Jnanpith Award:** Renowned Tamil poet and lyricist **Vairamuthu** was honored with the prestigious Jnanpith Award.
- **Sangeeta Kalanidhi Award:** Presented annually by the **Madras Music Academy**; recently featured in the news regarding 2026 honorees.
- **Colonel C. K. Naidu Lifetime Achievement Award:** Part of the **BCCI Naman Awards**, this recognizes outstanding lifetime contributions to **Indian cricket**.

5. Environmental Update: **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)**

- **Context:** Discussions on protecting the GIB, particularly in its remaining habitats in Rajasthan and Gujarat, and preventing deaths due to power transmission lines.
- **Status:** Critically endangered; protected under **Schedule I** of the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

6. Election Commission of India (ECI) Structure

- **Composition:** Consists of the **Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)** and two Election Commissioners.
- **Constitutional Basis:** Governed by **Article 324** of the Indian Constitution, which grants the ECI the power of superintendence, direction, and control of elections.

MARCH – 17 2026

1. Maternity Leave Policy for Teachers

- **New Provision:** Women guest lecturers in government first-grade colleges, polytechnics, and engineering colleges are now entitled to **90 days of maternity leave** starting next academic year.
- **Regular Teachers:** Government teachers are entitled to **180 days** of maternity leave (for up to two children).
- **Placement Flexibility:** After returning from leave, teachers can work in a **school of their choice for five years** to support early child upbringing.
- **Efficiency:** Applications for maternity and childcare leave must be approved within **15 days** by education officers.

2. IPL 2026 in Bengaluru

- **Venue:** Matches approved at the **M. Chinnaswamy Stadium**.
- **Opening Match:** The inaugural match in Bengaluru is scheduled between **RCB and Sunrisers Hyderabad**.

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- **Governance:** The state government has mandated strict **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** for crowd management and safety.

3. Sahitya Akademi Award for Konkani Literature

- **Recipient:** **Wilson Kateel** (associated with the literary magazine 'Kital').
- **Achievement:** Recognized for his contribution to **Konkani literary criticism**.
- **Significance:** Highlights the continued growth and recognition of Konkani literature at the national level.

4. 2026 Assembly Elections Update

- **Poll Body:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) is overseeing elections for 824 seats across four states and one Union Territory.
- **Voter Base:** Approximately **17 crore voters** are eligible to participate.
- **Counting Day:** Scheduled for **May 4, 2026**.

5. Karnataka Budget Tracking

- **Guarantee Schemes:** Reiteration of the requirement for **₹60,000 crore** to sustain the state's five guarantee schemes (Shakti, Gruha Jyothi, Gruha Lakshmi, Yuva Nidhi, and Anna Bhagya).
- **Minority Welfare:** Proposal for a corporation dedicated to the **Buddhist minority community**.

6. Environmental Monitoring

- **Western Ghats:** Ongoing discussions regarding the **Sharavati Pumped Storage Project** and its ecological impact assessment.
- **Wildlife:** Continued focus on conservation efforts in **Kappatagudda** (Gadag) due to its medicinal plant diversity.

MARCH – 18 2026

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1. KISS Humanitarian Award 2025

- **Recipient:** **Nita Ambani**, Chairperson of Reliance Foundation.
- **Venue:** Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar.
- **Recognition:** Awarded for her extensive work in education, healthcare, sports, and women's empowerment.
- **Context:** KISS is one of the world's largest tribal institutions, providing free residential education to approximately 80,000 students.

2. Growth of Global Capability Centres (GCCs)

- **Report:** Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) FY25 report.
- **Finding:** **50 new GCCs** were added in Karnataka during the last financial year.

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- **Significance:** Reaffirms Bengaluru and Karnataka as the primary hub for global technology and operational back-offices for multinational corporations.

3. Fuel Supply & PNG Promotion

- **Infrastructure:** The government is actively promoting **Piped Natural Gas (PNG)** to reduce the logistical burden and dependency on LPG cylinders.
- **Logistics:** The LPG tanker "**Shivalik**" was diverted from Mangaluru to the **Dahej Terminal** to balance regional supply requirements.

4. Social Welfare: **Santwana Centres**

- **Function:** These centres are dedicated to providing support to **distressed women**.
- **Services:** They offer immediate assistance, including counseling, legal aid, and rehabilitation services for victims of domestic violence or social injustice.

5. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Award

- **Field:** Recognized for outstanding contributions to **socialist thought, ideology, and literature**.
- **Inspiration:** Named after the prominent socialist leader and freedom fighter Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.

6. Health & Empowerment

- **Swayam Siddha:** Reference to ongoing initiatives aimed at the self-reliance and empowerment of women in the state through skill development and social support.

MARCH – 19 – 2026

1. Ugadi (Kannada New Year)

- **Significance:** Celebrated as the beginning of the Hindu lunar new year (*Chaitra Masa*).
- **Rituals:** Traditional consumption of **Bevu-Bella (neem and jaggery)** to symbolize the balance of bitterness and sweetness in life.
- **Panchanga Shrivana:** Public readings of the new year's almanac were held across temples to forecast rainfall, agriculture, and social prosperity.
- **Status:** Observed as a **State General Holiday** with major cultural events in Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Hubballi.

2. Anti-Honour Killing Bill Tabled

- **Legislation:** The "**Prevention of Crimes in the Name of Honour and Tradition Bill**" was officially tabled in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly.
- **Objective:** To curb caste-based and tradition-linked violence and provide legal protection for inter-caste and inter-religious couples.
- **Provisions:** Includes stringent penalties for those inciting or committing "honour" crimes and mandates state protection for couples facing threats.

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3. Digital Addiction Management (NIMHANS)

- **Milestone:** Reports highlighted that over **7,000 parents** have registered for digital addiction management at the **NIMHANS SHUT Clinic** (Service for Healthy Use of Technology).
- **Context:** This surge in clinical interest aligns with the state's ongoing policy discussions regarding a social media ban for children under 16.

4. KPSC Reform Committee

- **Governance:** The State Assembly discussed the formation of a **House Committee** specifically to recommend structural reforms for the **Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC)**.
- **Focus:** Aimed at addressing exam delays, administrative irregularities, and improving transparency in civil service recruitment.

5. Agriculture & Climate

- **Weather Impact:** Unseasonal heavy rains were reported in **North Karnataka**, specifically in **Kalaburagi and Yadgir** districts.
- **Damage:** Caused significant disruption to standing summer crops and local power infrastructure; the Revenue Department initiated a crop loss assessment for compensation.

MARCH – 20 2026

1. Renewable Energy Target

- **Goal:** Karnataka has set an ambitious target to generate **25,000 MW** of electricity from renewable sources (solar and wind) over the next five years.
- **Announcement:** Made by the Energy Department (led by Gaurav Gupta) at a Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL) event.
- **Challenges:** The primary hurdles identified are land acquisition issues and local public opposition to large-scale projects.

2. Digital Addiction Management (SHUT Clinic)

- **Context:** Over **7,000 parents** have registered for the digital addiction management programme at **NIMHANS SHUT Clinic** (Service for Healthy Use of Technology).
- **Focus:** Addressing the rising concern of technology and social media addiction among children and adolescents.

3. Berlin's Representative Office in Bengaluru

- **Milestone:** Berlin (Germany) established its **first India representative office** in Bengaluru.
- **Global Context:** This is Berlin's third international office, following New York and Beijing.
- **Objective:** To strengthen bilateral ties in the startup ecosystem, talent exchange, and economic investment.

4. Sakala Scheme Efficiency

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- **Performance:** Recent reports indicate that the Sakala Scheme (Karnataka Guarantee of Services to Citizens Act) has achieved a **99.35%** success rate in processing applications within the stipulated legal timeframe.
- **Purpose:** Guarantees time-bound delivery of government services to citizens under a legal framework.

5. Karnataka Budget Tracking (Minority Welfare)

- **Proposal:** The state is moving forward with plans to establish a dedicated corporation for the **Buddhist minority community**, as highlighted in the current budget session.

6. International/National Snippets

- **Project Tiger:** The tiger population in India, as per the latest estimation (2022), stands at **3,682**.
- **Climate Change:** Discussions continue regarding the **Nevado Ojos del Salado** (Chile), the world's highest active volcano, in the context of recent scientific and mountaineering reports.

MARCH – 21 2026

1. Drinking Water Crisis in Bengaluru Urban

- **Context:** 7 villages in the Bengaluru Urban Zilla Panchayat are facing severe water shortages due to delayed maintenance of purification units.
- **Infrastructure:** Out of 831 drinking water units, 71 are currently dilapidated. Repair work is underway for 37 units, expected to finish by April.
- **Affected Areas:** **Bannerghatta and Tavarekere** are specifically mentioned as being vulnerable due to rapid groundwater depletion.

2. Bengaluru Sidewalk Policy & Street Vending

- **New Regulation:** Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar announced a policy restricting street vending on main and sub-main roads in Bengaluru.
- **Objective:** To ensure pedestrian safety and unhindered movement on sidewalks.
- **Relocation:** The government plans to create designated "Vending Zones" to balance the livelihoods of vendors with urban mobility.

3. Yuva Sangam (Phase VI)

- **Initiative:** Part of the **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat** program to promote cultural and educational exchange among youth.
- **Mechanism:** Karnataka is paired with other states to facilitate youth tours, focusing on five pillars: *Paryatan* (Tourism), *Parampara* (Tradition), *Pragati* (Progress), *Paraspar Sampark* (Interpersonal Connect), and *Devasthan* (Spirituality).

4. Yakshagana: Surikumeru Govinda Bhatta

- **Profile:** A legendary Yakshagana artiste who recently completed over **50 years of service** in the Dharmasthala Mela.

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- **Significance:** Known for his mastery in both *Tenkutittu* and *Badagutittu* styles and his iconic portrayal of diverse characters, including female roles (*StreeVesha*).

5. Geography: Strait of Hormuz

- **Strategic Importance:** Recognized as a primary global "chokepoint" for international oil transportation.
- **Location:** Connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. A significant portion of the world's daily oil consumption passes through this narrow strait.

6. Environmental & Legal

- **Plastic Waste Management:** Renewed focus on enforcing the ban on single-use plastics across Karnataka municipalities to mitigate urban flooding and soil degradation.
- **Atrocity Prevention:** The Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE) has intensified monitoring of cases related to the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in rural clusters.

MARCH – 22 – 2026

World Water Day

- **Theme 2026:** "Water for Peace," emphasizing water management as a tool for global stability.
- **Bengaluru Context:** The state government and local bodies organized workshops on Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) and the "5 R's" (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rejuvenate, and Respect) to combat declining groundwater.
- **Rural Monitoring:** The Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department reviewed purification units in water-scarce areas like Bannerghatta and Tavarekere.

2. Devara Dasimayya Jayanthi

- **Significance:** Birth anniversary of the 11th-century revolutionary saint and one of the earliest Vachanakaras of the Vachana movement.
- **Community:** Primarily celebrated by the Nekar (weaver) community.
- **State Event:** Official celebrations were held at Ravindra Kalakshetra, Bengaluru, honoring his contributions to social equality and Kannada literature.

3. Electric Vehicle (EV) Expansion

- **Bus Launch:** The Chief Minister formally launched 300 new electric buses to be integrated into the state-run transport fleet.
- **Digital Portal:** A new online portal was inaugurated to streamline the disbursement of pending EV subsidies to citizens, aiming to accelerate the transition to green energy.

4. Suraksha Sankalp Karyashala

- **Focus:** A state-level workshop held on the HIV Care Continuum.
- **Goal:** Karnataka reiterated its commitment to the 95:95:99 targets (95% knowing status, 95% on treatment, and 99% achieving viral suppression) by 2027–2030.

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5. Health Awareness: Down Syndrome

- **Observation:** Continued awareness drives following World Down Syndrome Day (March 21).
- **Institutions:** Major workshops were held at NIMHANS and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, focusing on early intervention and inclusive education.

6. Agriculture: Reservoir Monitoring

- **Action:** With the peak of summer approaching, the state intensified monitoring of water levels in the KRS and Almatti reservoirs to ensure a steady supply for standing summer crops and drinking water.

MARCH – 23 2026

1. Energy Logistics: New Mangalore Port

- **LPG Arrival:** The Singapore-flagged ship *Pyxis Pioneer* delivered **47,236 tonnes of LPG** from Texas, USA.
- **Crude Oil:** The tanker *Aqua Titan* delivered **96,099.80 tonnes of crude oil** to Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL), arriving from the Baltic region via China.
- **Significance:** Highlights the port's high-capacity cargo handling and Karnataka's integration into global energy supply chains.

2. SCSP & TSP Fund Allocation

- **Funding:** The Karnataka government allocated **₹14,198.93 crore** from the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP).
- **Purpose:** These funds are directed toward the state's **five guarantee schemes** (Shakti, Gruha Jyothi, Gruha Lakshmi, Yuva Nidhi, and Anna Bhagya) to ensure benefits reach marginalized communities.

3. Cybersecurity: 'Bharat Cyber Sanrakshak' Grand Challenge

- **Organizer:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) via the MyGov platform.
- **Winner:** **Cambrian Skillsda** emerged as the winner of this national competition.
- **Objective:** To foster innovation in cybersecurity solutions and strengthen India's digital defense framework.

4. Environmental Restoration: Chokramudi Hills

- **Conservation:** Focus on the restoration of Chokramudi Hills in the **Western Ghats**, a critical habitat for the endangered **Nilgiri tahr**.
- **Legal Action:** The Revenue Department cancelled illegal land titles to reclaim encroached areas where unauthorized road construction and tree felling had occurred.
- **Flora:** The region is also known for the **Neelakurinji** flowers, which bloom once every 12 years.

5. World Water Day (March 22)

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- **Theme 2026:** "Water for Peace," emphasizing the role of water management in global stability and cooperation.
- **Context:** Relevant to Karnataka's ongoing efforts to manage drinking water scarcity and interstate river disputes.

6. International/National Snippets

- **Project Tiger:** Reiteration of the 2022 census data showing India's tiger population at **3,682**.
- **Global Economy:** Focus on the "Orange Economy" and creative industries as seen in recent technology summits in Bengaluru.

MARCH – 24 2026

1. Electoral Reforms: Local Elections Amendment

- **Change:** The Karnataka Legislative Assembly passed an amendment to use **ballot papers instead of EVMs** for local body elections (Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj).
- **Reasoning:** The government cited a need to restore public trust and enhance transparency, though the move faced strong opposition from those concerned about administrative efficiency.

2. Prevention of Honour Crimes Bill

- **Legislation:** Approved the "Prevention of Crimes in the Name of Honour and Tradition" bill.
- **Objective:** To protect individuals who marry across caste or religion by choice and provide legal safeguards against honour-based violence and killings.

3. National AI Skilling Initiative

- **Collaboration:** A partnership between the Government of India, **Google, and YouTube**.
- **Goal:** To provide AI-based skill training to youth and content creators, fostering digital literacy and innovation in emerging technologies.

4. Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026

- **Purpose:** Aims to **decriminalize minor corporate offences** to improve the "Ease of Doing Business."
- **Focus:** Shifting from criminal penalties to civil monetary penalties for technical lapses, reducing the burden on the judiciary.

5. Cybersecurity: Ransomware Risks

- **Context:** Reports highlighted increasing cyber risks in Karnataka, specifically **ransomware attacks** targeting key infrastructure and the service sector.
- **Response:** Emphasis on strengthening digital defense frameworks and state-level cyber monitoring.

6. Karnataka Healthcare: TB Elimination

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- **Status:** Reiteration of the state's commitment to the **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme**, focusing on early screening and nutritional support (*Nikshay Poshan Yojana*) for patients.

MARCH – 25 – 2026

1. Bengaluru Karaga Festival 2026

- **Significance:** One of Bengaluru's oldest cultural festivals, celebrated by the **Thigala community**.
- **Schedule:** Inaugurated on March 25 at the **Shri Dharmaraya Swamy Temple** (Tigalarapete); the main procession is set for April 1.
- **Rituals:** The Karaga priest carries a sacred pot in a procession visiting 26 temples, including the Halasuru Anjaneya Swamy Temple, symbolizing religious and communal unity.

2. Bengaluru Traffic Training Programme

- **Initiative:** Bengaluru Traffic Police launched a massive training drive covering **1.21 lakh drivers** (including those for commercial and public transport).
- **Goal:** To improve road safety, ensure adherence to traffic rules, and reduce the city's high rate of accidents and congestion.

3. Infrastructure: IRC:103-2022 Guidelines

- **Focus:** These guidelines from **the Indian Roads Congress (IRC)** pertain to **pedestrian facilities and safety**.
- **Application:** Mentioned in the context of urban road design in Bengaluru to ensure sidewalks and crossings meet national safety standards.

4. Geography: Cauvery River

- **Origin:** Originates from **Talacauvery** in the Brahmagiri range of **Kodagu district**, Karnataka.
- **Context:** Highlighted as a vital lifeline for the state's agriculture and drinking water, particularly during the summer months.

5. Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (Constitution 106th Amendment Act)

- **Key Provision:** **Provides 33% reservation for women** in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
- **Implementation:** Linked to the completion of the next census and subsequent delimitation exercise.

6. Competition Commission of India (CCI)

- **Role:** A statutory body responsible for **promoting fair competition** and preventing activities that have an adverse effect on competition (monopolies) within India.
- **Significance:** Monitors corporate mergers and anti-competitive agreements to protect consumer interests.

7. Sports: IPL 2026

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- **Venue:** Ongoing matches and logistical preparations at the **M. Chinnaswamy Stadium** in Bengaluru, with a focus on strict security and crowd management protocols.

MARCH – 26 – 2026

1. Saraswati Samman 2025

- **Recipient:** Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay.
- **Work:** Awarded for his Bengali novel "**Har Parvati Katha**," based on the mythological story of Shiva and Parvati.
- **About the Award:** Conferred annually by the **K.K. Birla Foundation** since 1991. It carries a cash prize of ₹15 lakh.

2. Swavalambi Sarathi Scheme

- **Objective:** To provide self-employment opportunities to youth from marginalized communities (SC/ST and minorities).
- **Benefit:** The government provides a **50% subsidy** (up to ₹3 lakh) for the purchase of four-wheeler vehicles to help beneficiaries become self-reliant.
- **Distribution:** Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently distributed vehicles to beneficiaries under this scheme at Vidhana Soudha.

3. CALM-Brain Repository

- **Focus:** A national initiative focused on **psychiatric and brain disorder research**.
- **Function:** Acts as a centralized data repository for mental health, neurological disorders, and psychiatric research to foster scientific breakthroughs in brain health.

4. National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

- **Context:** India submits its **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** under the UNFCCC framework.
- **Objective:** Aimed at reducing particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10) concentrations in non-attainment cities across India, including several cities in Karnataka.

5. Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA)

- **Role:** The governing body responsible for organizing and managing all cricket activities and infrastructure within the state of Karnataka.

6. Khelo India Programme

- **Aim:** To strengthen the sports ecosystem in India by identifying and nurturing talent at the **grassroots level**.
- **Significance:** Provides a platform for young athletes to transition from local competitions to national and international excellence.

7. UNFCCC Framework

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- **Detail:** India's climate goals and progress reports are submitted to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** to align with global environmental standards.

MARCH – 27 – 2026

1. VRCT 2026 Liveability Report

- **Ranking:** **Hyderabad** was ranked as the most liveable city in India, surpassing **Bengaluru** (2nd) and Kolkata (3rd).
- **Parameters:** Cities were evaluated based on 15 parameters including connectivity, housing, infrastructure, and climate.
- **Travel Time:** Both Bengaluru and Hyderabad recorded an average travel time of 58–59 minutes for a 22 km distance, highlighting significant urban congestion.
- **Commercial Hubs:** The two cities combined account for **53% of premium office space** in India.

2. Havyaka Vibhushana Award

- **Recognition:** Honoured individuals for their lifetime contributions to society, culture, and community development.
- **Context:** Part of the cultural and community initiatives within the state to recognize long-term social impact.

3. World of Women (WoW) Awards

- **Purpose:** To recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of women across diverse fields such as business, science, arts, and sports.
- **Significance:** Aims to promote women's leadership and excellence.

4. Constitutional Provisions: Article 15(3)

- **Detail:** Empowers the State to make **special provisions for women and children**.
- **Welfare:** This article provides the constitutional basis for many of the state's welfare and empowerment schemes.

5. Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

- **Enforcement:** Monitored and enforced by the **Election Commission of India (ECI)**.
- **Context:** Essential for ensuring free and fair elections; recently in focus due to the upcoming 2026 Assembly elections in several states.

6. Urban Development: Future Growth Cities

- **Analysis:** The VRCT 2026 report **identified Ahmedabad** (last in the current major 8) and others as potential areas for future infrastructure focus to alleviate pressure on existing metros like Bengaluru.

MARCH – 28 - 2026

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1. IPL 2026 Season Opener

- **Event:** The 19th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) officially commenced.
- **Opening Match:** Held at **M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru**, featuring defending champions **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** against Sunrisers Hyderabad.
- **Impact:** Massive urban mobilization in Bengaluru with special BMTC/BMRCL services and strict traffic regulations around the Central Business District.

2. SSLC Exam-2 Eligibility Relaxation

- **Decision:** The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) allowed students with **less than 75% attendance** to appear for SSLC Exam-2.
- **Category:** These students are permitted to register as **private candidates**.
- **Condition:** Candidates must be at least 15 years old as of March 1, 2026.
- **Goal:** To prevent academic loss for students who missed Exam-1 due to attendance shortages or other personal constraints.

3. Renewable Energy Legal Victory

- **Court Order:** **The Karnataka High Court** issued a temporary stay on stricter federal penalties for solar and wind energy developers.
- **The Issue:** Challenged new CERC rules that imposed higher fines for deviations in power supply targets.
- **Outcome:** The court recognized that renewable energy is weather-dependent; firms can continue using the **older fee system** until the next hearing on June 10, 2026.

4. Maritime Energy Security

- **Operation:** Launch of **'Operation Urja Suraksha'** by the Indian Navy.
- **Context:** Aimed at protecting India-bound energy shipments (LNG, LPG, and crude oil) through the Strait of Hormuz.
- **Relevance:** Directly affects the energy security of **Mangaluru**, a major port for Karnataka's petroleum and gas imports.

5. National Policy Updates

- **Inflation Target:** The Union Government officially retained the inflation target at **4% (with a +/- 2% band)** for the next five-year cycle (2026-2031).
- **Digital Culture:** Ministry of Culture partnered with **YouTube** to promote Indian folk music; this is expected to give a global platform to Karnataka's folk arts like *Yakshagana* and *Dollu Kunitha*.

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MARCH – 29 - 2026

1. Special Peace Festival (Sister Shivani)

- **Event:** A large-scale spiritual and mental wellness gathering titled "**Being Light – Listen, Experience & Become**" held at Palace Grounds, Bengaluru.
- **Speaker:** Globally renowned spiritual teacher **BK Sister Shivani**.
- **Focus:** Stress management, emotional resilience, and mindfulness. The event featured interactive stalls aimed at promoting self-awareness among the city's urban workforce.

2. Aerospace & Tech Advancements (Bengaluru Hub)

- **Airbus India Technology Centre:** The 5,000-seater facility in Bengaluru scaled up its operations, focusing on "**Make in India**" initiatives for cybersecurity, robotics, and flight control systems.
- **ISRO & 3D Printing:** Bengaluru-based startup delivered the **Akasha300 3D printer** to ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre. This tech allows for the printing of complex, high-temperature rocket engine components, reducing manufacturing lead times.

3. IPL 2026: Economic & Social Impact

- **RCB Brand Value:** A report highlighted **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** as a top-tier franchise with a brand valuation of **\$269 million**, buoyed by their 2025 title win.
- **Urban Mobility:** The city observed "Super Sunday" logistics with increased **Metro (BMRCL)** and **BMTC** frequency to manage the fan influx for the ongoing cricket season at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

4. Energy & Maritime Logistics (Mangaluru)

- **LPG Supply:** The vessel **Apollo Ocean** docked at New Mangalore Port (NMPA) carrying **16,000 tonnes of LPG**.
- **Significance:** This shipment was crucial for stabilizing the domestic cooking gas supply in Karnataka and neighboring regions during the summer peak.

5. Entertainment & Culture

- **International Concert:** Legendary rock band **Def Leppard** performed at the NICE Grounds, marking a major milestone for Bengaluru's live music scene.
- **Folk Music Digital Push:** Following a Ministry of Culture tie-up with YouTube, plans were set to digitize and promote **Karnataka's Yakshagana and Dollu Kunitha** to a global audience.

MARCH – 30 -2026

1. Indian Pedestrian League (IPL) Cleanliness Campaign

- **Initiative:** Launched by **Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML)** under the **Swachh Survekshan 2026** framework.
- **Strategy:** Uses the "IPL" acronym creatively to promote civic awareness.

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- **Action:** Two chronic "black spots" (illegal dumping sites) in each of the **27 Assembly constituencies** in Bengaluru are being identified, cleared, and beautified.
- **Ambassador:** Arun Pai has been appointed as the cleanliness ambassador for the drive.

2. Anveshana Programme

- **Focus:** A **school-level science research initiative** aimed at fostering scientific temper and research-based learning among students.
- **Goal:** Encourages young students to develop innovative solutions for real-world problems through scientific inquiry.

3. Census Operations: House Listing Phase

- **Phase 1:** Known as the **House Listing and Housing Census Phase**.
- **Data Collection:** Focuses on identifying every building/structure, collecting data on housing conditions, household amenities, and assets.
- **Significance:** This phase provides the framework for the subsequent Population Enumeration phase.

4. MGNREGA Wage Employment

- **Statutory Guarantee:** The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act guarantees **100 days of wage employment per financial year** to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
- **Context:** Highlighted in relation to rural livelihood support during the summer months in Karnataka.

5. Energy: Composition of LPG

- **Technical Detail:** Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) used for domestic cooking is primarily composed of **Propane and Butane**.
- **Logistics:** Mentioned alongside the arrival of massive LPG shipments (like the *Pyxis Pioneer*) at the New Mangalore Port to meet regional demand.

6. Karnataka Local Governance

- **Administrative Update:** Ongoing discussions regarding the transition to **ballot papers for local body elections** to ensure transparency and "traceability" as per the recent legislative amendment.

MARCH – 31 – 2026

1. Census 2027: Self-Enumeration & Door-to-Door Survey

- **Digital Milestone:** Census 2027 will be India's first fully digital census, utilizing mobile applications and a self-enumeration portal.
- **Timeline:** Self-enumeration begins on **April 1, 2026** (lasting until April 15). The door-to-door verification phase follows from April 16 to May 15, 2026.

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- **Key Features:**

- Citizens can register online and receive a **Self-Enumeration ID (SE ID)**.
- It will include **caste enumeration** for **the first time in a digital format**.
- Individual data remains confidential and is **not accessible under the RTI Act**.

2. Cybersecurity: Intermediaries and "Safe Harbour"

- **Legal Framework:** Under **Section 79 of the IT Act**, intermediaries (social media platforms, ISPs) are granted "safe harbour" protection.
- **Protection:** This ensures platforms are not held legally liable for third-party content, provided they follow government-mandated "due diligence" and removal orders.

3. Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) Prevention

- **Definition:** Refers to any digital content involving the sexual exploitation of children.
- **Enforcement:** Karnataka and central agencies have intensified monitoring to curb the storage and transmission of such material under the POCSO and IT Acts.

4. Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Implementation

- **Context:** The GBA is the primary administrative body overseeing the rollout of the digital census and urban local body reforms in Bengaluru.
- **Digital Push:** Emphasis on using digital tools for city governance and population data collection.

5. Agriculture: Summer Crop Monitoring

- **Focus:** The state is monitoring water levels in major reservoirs (like KRS and Almatti) to ensure adequate supply for standing summer crops and drinking water in drought-prone districts.

6. International: 2026 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC)

- **Reminder:** The conference in Nice, France, continues to be a focal point for global environmental policy, specifically regarding the "Special Theme" of ocean science and innovation.

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Karnataka & National Affairs Quiz (March 2026)

1. Under the Karnataka Health Department's March 2026 mandate, how many beds must a District Hospital earmark for the 'Heat Stroke Management Room'?

- A. 2 beds
- B. 5 beds
- C. 10 beds
- D. 15 beds

2. Which digital platform is mandated for health institutions in Karnataka to submit daily reports on Heat-Related Illnesses (HRI)?

- A. COWIN
- B. IHIP (Integrated Health Information Platform)
- C. National Health Portal
- D. e-Sanjeevani

3. The "Namma Police Namma Hemme" run held in Bengaluru was organized in collaboration with which financial institution?

- A. Canara Bank
- B. NABARD
- C. State Bank of India (SBI)
- D. HDFC Bank

4. Mangaluru International Airport (MIA) won the 2025 ASQ Award for "Best Airport at Arrivals." Which organization announces these awards?

- A. IATA (International Air Transport Association)
- B. ACI (Airports Council International)
- C. DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation)
- D. Ministry of Civil Aviation

5. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's 2026 budget presentation is significant for being his:

- A. 10th budget
- B. 15th budget

C. 17th budget

D. 20th budget

6. Which Karnataka district recorded the highest number of snakebite cases in 2025?

- A. Tumakuru
- B. Shivamogga
- C. Ramanagara
- D. Kodagu

7. In the context of "Bangalore GAFX 2026," what does the "Orange Economy" refer to?

- A. Organic farming and agriculture
- B. Creative industries including AVGC-XR
- C. Solar energy and renewable sectors
- D. Space exploration and research

8. Nine cheetahs were released at Kuno National Park in March 2026. From which country were these cheetahs brought?

- A. Namibia
- B. South Africa
- C. Botswana
- D. Kenya

9. Which state won its first-ever Ranji Trophy title by defeating Karnataka in the 2025-26 season?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Saurashtra
- C. Jammu & Kashmir
- D. Vidarbha

10. The "Arivu-Sunrise Entrepreneurship Program" aims to support how many young entrepreneurs?

- A. 1,000
- B. 5,000
- C. 10,000

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D. 2,500

11. "Mission Mausam," launched by the Union Government, primarily utilizes which technology for weather forecasting?

- A. Blockchain
- B. Advanced AI and High-Performance Computing
- C. Manual satellite tracking
- D. Drone-based atmospheric mapping

12. The "Ambaari Utsav" bus service, which recently expanded, is a premium category of which corporation? A. BMTC

- B. KSRTC
- C. NEKRTC
- D. NWKRTC

13. Where is India's only dedicated Vulture Sanctuary, mentioned as being under protection due to habitat encroachment?

- A. Bandipur
- B. Ramadevarabetta (Ramanagara)
- C. Bannerghatta
- D. Ranganathittu

14. In March 2026, the Indian Navy commissioned "INS Jatayu" to strengthen maritime surveillance. Where is it located?

- A. Port Blair, Andaman
- B. Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep
- C. Karwar, Karnataka
- D. Kochi, Kerala

15. According to the World Obesity Atlas 2026, which country ranks second in the total number of children with high BMI?

- A. China
- B. USA

C. India

D. Brazil

16. The Karnataka Budget 2026-27 proposed the establishment of a dedicated corporation for which of the following minority communities?

- A. Jain
- B. Buddhist
- C. Sikh
- D. Parsi

17. The Sharavati Pumped Storage Project, aimed at enhancing renewable energy storage, is proposed in which ecologically sensitive region?

- A. Eastern Ghats
- B. Aravali Range
- C. Western Ghats
- D. Nilgiri Hills

18. Which premier institute launched the "Brain Co-Processors" moonshot project to assist stroke patients with neurological impairment?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. AIIMS New Delhi
- C. IISc Bengaluru
- D. NIMHANS

19. Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary, recently in the news due to a High Court conservation order, is located in which district of Karnataka? A. Gadag

- B. Dharwad
- C. Belagavi
- D. Uttara Kannada

20. What is the designated toll-free number for 'Tele-MANAS', the national mental health counseling and crisis intervention helpline?

- A. 1098
- B. 14416

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C. 1930

D. 112

21. Karnataka's proposed 'ABV-based' taxation for liquor determines the tax rate based on:

- A. The retail price of the bottle
- B. The volume of the liquid in milliliters
- C. The actual alcohol content by volume
- D. The age of the liquor

22. The state government's proposed "Mobile Bidi, Pustaka Hidi" awareness drive is aimed at:

- A. Encouraging smoking cessation
- B. Promoting digital literacy among seniors
- C. Discouraging mobile addiction and encouraging reading
- D. Distributing free tablets to rural students

23. Which Bengaluru-based startup signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) to develop VLEO (Very Low Earth Orbit) satellite systems?

- A. Pixxel
- B. Agnikul Cosmos
- C. Bellatrix Aerospace
- D. Skyroot Aerospace

24. In the context of digital financial fraud, what is the duration of the "Golden Hour" within which reporting offers the best chance of recovery?

- A. 2 hours
- B. 24 hours
- C. 5 days
- D. 10 days

25. SEBI's AI-powered tool 'Sudarshan' is specifically designed to monitor and identify:

- A. Insider trading in the stock market

B. Unregistered "influencers" and misleading financial advice

C. Counterfeit currency notes

D. Tax evasion by large corporations

26. Which state-run transport corporation reported a surge in ridership due to the 'Shakti' scheme on International Women's Day 2026?

- A. BMTC
- B. KSRTC
- C. APSRTC
- D. MSRTC

27. The "Shakuntala Grants Programme" launched in 2026 is specifically designed to support women researchers in which field?

- A. Artificial Intelligence
- B. Space Technology
- C. Climate change and environmental studies
- D. Classical languages

28. Vaishnavi Adkar, who won the Kalaburagi ITF W-35 tournament in 2026, is associated with which sport?

- A. Badminton
- B. Tennis
- C. Squash
- D. Table Tennis

29. The "PM Surya Ghar" scheme, being promoted by BESC in Bengaluru, focuses on:

- A. Providing free LPG connections
- B. Rooftop solar installations for residential apartments
- C. Subsidized housing for slum dwellers
- D. Solar-powered street lighting in rural areas

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30. Which international campaign was awarded the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for its efforts in nuclear disarmament?

- A. Amnesty International
- B. ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons)
- C. Greenpeace
- D. Doctors Without Borders

31. Reports indicate that Karnataka has faced a cumulative financial loss of approximately ₹2.88 lakh crore since 2017-18. What is the primary cited reason for this loss?

- A. Mismanagement of the state's agriculture budget
- B. Decrease in the state's share of central tax devolution and grants
- C. Total failure of the state's industrial sector
- D. High expenditure on the construction of the Upper Krishna Project

32. Under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the Central Government currently supports 14 lakh beneficiaries in Karnataka. How many additional beneficiaries does the State Government fund to ensure wider coverage?

- A. 20 lakh
- B. 40 lakh
- C. 60 lakh
- D. 80 lakh

33. The 2026 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC), focusing on sustainable marine ecosystems and plastic pollution, is being jointly hosted by which two nations?

- A. India and Sri Lanka
- B. France and Costa Rica
- C. Japan and Australia

D. Brazil and South Africa

34. Nevado Ojos del Salado was recently in the news due to successful Indian expeditions. In which mountain range is this world's highest active volcano located?

- A. The Himalayas
- B. The Andes
- C. The Alps
- D. The Rockies

35. Karnataka ranks third in India for organ donation. Which state-run program coordinates the allocation of organs from brain-dead donors in the state?

- A. Suvarna Arogya
- B. Jeevasarthakathe
- C. Ayushman Karnataka
- D. Arogya Kavacha

36. According to Section 67B of the IT Act, 2000, which of the following is considered a criminal offense regarding Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)?

- A. Only publishing the material
- B. Only transmitting the material
- C. Browsing, storing, or possessing the material
- D. Only circulating the material for profit

37. According to Article 94 of the Indian Constitution, how many days of notice are required for a resolution to remove the Speaker of the Lok Sabha?

- A. 7 days
- B. 14 days
- C. 21 days
- D. 30 days

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38. A striped hyena recently gave birth to cubs in an agricultural field in the Nargund taluk. In which district of Karnataka is this taluk located?

- A. Gadag
- B. Haveri
- C. Bagalkot
- D. Koppal

39. KSRTC has introduced the "Dhwani Spandana" system. What is the primary purpose of this innovation?

- A. To detect engine malfunctions using sound waves
- B. To provide audio-based bus information for visually impaired passengers
- C. To entertain passengers with regional music
- D. To monitor noise pollution levels in bus stations

40. Under the Code on Social Security, digital platforms (aggregators) are mandated to contribute what percentage of their annual turnover to the social security fund for gig workers?

- A. 0.5% – 1%
- B. 1% – 2%
- C. 5% – 7%
- D. 10%

41. The Greater Bengaluru Administration (GBA) has reorganised the city into 50 divisions and 150 sub-divisions. How many city corporations now manage these divisions?

- A. Three
- B. Five
- C. Eight
- D. Ten

42. Which city in India recorded the lowest and most stable PM2.5 pollution levels according to the 2026 Climate Trends Report?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Patna
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Mumbai

43. The UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme is a central initiative primarily focused on:

- A. Providing free air tickets to senior citizens
- B. Regional airport development and affordable air travel
- C. Increasing the number of international flights from metros
- D. Privatizing all state-run airports

44. RM Nachammai made history in March 2026 by becoming the first woman Chief Superintendent of a functional nuclear power plant in India. At which plant is she stationed?

- A. Kudankulam (Tamil Nadu)
- B. Tarapur (Maharashtra)
- C. Kaiga (Karnataka)
- D. Narora (Uttar Pradesh)

45. Ecological intervention has been sought in the Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary due to invasive weeds affecting the nesting sites of which bird species?

- A. Great Indian Bustard
- B. River Tern
- C. Malabar Whistling Thrush
- D. Indian Vulture

46. The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the schedule for 824 assembly seats across five regions. In which month are the results and counting of votes scheduled?

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A. April 2026

B. May 2026

C. June 2026

D. July 2026

47. Renowned Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu was recently honored with which prestigious literary award?

A. Sahitya Akademi Award

B. Jnanpith Award

C. Saraswati Samman

D. Vyas Samman

48. Under the new policy for guest lecturers in Karnataka, how many days of maternity leave are they now entitled to?

A. 60 days

B. 90 days

C. 120 days

D. 180 days

49. Wilson Kateel was recognized with the Sahitya Akademi Award for his contribution to the literary criticism of which language?

A. Tulu

B. Kodava

C. Konkani

D. Kannada

50. Nita Ambani was recently conferred with the KISS Humanitarian Award 2025. In which city is the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) located?

A. Bengaluru

B. Bhubaneswar

C. Mumbai

D. Hyderabad

51. According to the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) FY25 report, how many new Global Capability Centres (GCCs) were added in Karnataka in the last financial year? A. 25

B. 50

C. 75

D. 100

52. The LPG tanker "Shivalik" was recently diverted from Mangaluru to which terminal to balance regional fuel supply?

A. Kochi

B. Dahej

C. Haldia

D. Paradip

53. Which festival marks the beginning of the Hindu lunar new year (Chaitra Masa) and involves the ritual consumption of 'Bevu-Bella' in Karnataka?

A. Makara Sankranti

B. Ugadi

C. Vishu

D. Karaga

54. The Karnataka Legislative Assembly recently tabled the "Prevention of Crimes in the Name of Honour and Tradition Bill." What is its primary objective?

A. To preserve ancient folk arts

B. To curb caste-based and tradition-linked violence/honour killings

C. To promote religious tourism

D. To regulate traditional village festivals

55. How many parents have registered their children for digital addiction management at the NIMHANS SHUT Clinic as of March 2026?

A. Over 1,000

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- B. Over 3,500
- C. Over 7,000
- D. Over 10,000

56. In March 2026, which European city established its first India representative office in Bengaluru to strengthen startup ties?

- A. Paris
- B. London
- C. Berlin
- D. Amsterdam

57. The Sakala Scheme, which guarantees time-bound delivery of government services in Karnataka, reported a success rate of:

- A. 85.50%
- B. 92.15%
- C. 99.35%
- D. 100%

58. According to the latest estimation (2022) mentioned in recent reports, what is the total tiger population in India?

- A. 2,967
- B. 3,167
- C. 3,682
- D. 4,200

59. Karnataka has set a target to generate how much electricity from renewable sources (solar and wind) over the next five years?

- A. 10,000 MW
- B. 15,000 MW
- C. 25,000 MW
- D. 50,000 MW

60. The "Ayushman Vayo Vandana Scheme" specifically targets health coverage for which demographic group?

- A. Children under 5 years
- B. Pregnant women in rural areas
- C. Senior citizens above 70 years
- D. Persons with disabilities

61. Seven villages in the Bengaluru Urban Zilla Panchayat faced a severe water crisis in March 2026. Which two areas were identified as most vulnerable due to groundwater depletion?

- A. Whitefield and Electronic City
- B. Bannerghatta and Tavarekere
- C. Yelahanka and Dasarahalli
- D. Kengeri and Rajarajeshwari Nagar

62. Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar announced a new sidewalk policy for Bengaluru. What is the primary change regarding street vendors?

- A. Total ban on street vending across the city
- B. Restricting vending on main and sub-main roads and creating "Vending Zones"
- C. Allowing vendors to operate only during night hours
- D. Mandatory 50% tax on all street vendor earnings

63. Karnataka is paired with other states under Phase VI of which program to promote cultural exchange among youth?

- A. Khelo India
- B. Yuva Sangam (Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat)
- C. Digital India Internship
- D. Skill India Mission

64. Surikumeru Govinda Bhatta, who recently completed 50 years of service, is a legendary artiste of which traditional folk dance drama?

- A. Dollu Kunitha
- B. Yakshagana

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C. Kathakali

D. Bhoota Kola

65. Which 11th-century revolutionary saint and Vachanakara is primarily celebrated by the Nekar (weaver) community, with an official Jayanthi held at Ravindra Kalakshetra?

A. Basavanna

B. Devara Dasimayya

C. Allama Prabhu

D. Akka Mahadevi

66. The Karnataka government has reiterated its commitment to the "95:95:99" health targets by 2027–2030. These targets are specifically associated with which disease?

A. Tuberculosis (TB)

B. Malaria

C. HIV/AIDS

D. Diabetes

67. In March 2026, the ship Pyxis Pioneer delivered over 47,000 tonnes of LPG to New Mangalore Port. From which country did this shipment originate?

A. Singapore

B. Qatar

C. USA (Texas)

D. Russia

68. The Karnataka Legislative Assembly passed an amendment to use ballot papers instead of EVMs for which specific elections? A. State Assembly Elections

B. Lok Sabha Elections

C. Local Body Elections (Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj)

D. Rajya Sabha Elections

69. The Bengaluru Karaga Festival, one of the city's oldest, is traditionally celebrated by which community?

A. Kodava

B. Thigala

C. Billava

D. Lingayat

70. The Indian Roads Congress (IRC) guidelines mentioned in the context of Bengaluru's urban road design for pedestrian safety are:

A. IRC:37-2018

B. IRC:103-2022

C. IRC:58-2015

D. IRC:112-2020

71. Who was awarded the Saraswati Samman 2025 for the Bengali novel "Har Parvati Katha"?

A. Sivasankari

B. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay

C. Ramdarash Mishra

D. Mahabaleshwar Sail

72. Under the "Swavalambi Sarathi Scheme," the Karnataka government provides a 50% subsidy (up to ₹3 lakh) for marginalized youth to purchase:

A. Solar irrigation pumps

B. Four-wheeler vehicles for self-employment

C. Laptops for digital freelancing

D. Power looms for weaving

73. Which city was ranked as the "Most Liveable City" in India according to the VRCT 2026 Liveability Report?

A. Bengaluru

B. Hyderabad

C. Kolkata

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D. Pune

74. The "Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam" (106th Constitutional Amendment) provides 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies. Its implementation is legally linked to:

- A. The 2026 IPL conclusion
- B. The completion of the next census and delimitation exercise
- C. The direct order of the Supreme Court
- D. The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals

75. The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) allowed students with less than 75% attendance to appear for SSLC Exam-2 under which category?

- A. Regular candidates with a fine
- B. Private candidates
- C. Vocational trainees
- D. Distance Education scholars

76. The Indian Navy launched 'Operation Urja Suraksha' to protect energy shipments passing through which critical maritime chokepoint?

- A. Strait of Malacca
- B. Strait of Hormuz
- C. Suez Canal
- D. Palk Strait

77. Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) was reported to have a brand valuation of \$269 million in 2026. This surge was primarily attributed to:

- A. Their relocation to a new stadium
- B. Their 2025 IPL title win
- C. A partnership with Airbus India
- D. Their initiative in 3D printing

78. The "Indian Pedestrian League" (IPL) Cleanliness Campaign in Bengaluru identified how many "black spots" for beautification in each Assembly constituency?

- A. Two
- B. Five
- C. Ten
- D. Twenty-seven

79. Domestic cooking gas (LPG) is primarily composed of which two gases?

- A. Methane and Ethane
- B. Propane and Butane
- C. Oxygen and Nitrogen
- D. Hydrogen and Helium

80. Census 2027 will be India's first fully digital census. What is the specific window for the "Self-Enumeration" phase?

- A. March 1 – March 15, 2026
- B. April 1 – April 15, 2026
- C. May 1 – May 15, 2026
- D. January 1 – January 31, 2027

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Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer
1	C. 10 beds	41	B. Five
2	B. IHIP	42	C. Bengaluru
3	C. State Bank of India (SBI)	43	B. Regional airport development
4	B. ACI (Airports Council International)	44	C. Kaiga (Karnataka)
5	C. 17th budget	45	B. River Tern
6	B. Shivamogga	46	B. May 2026
7	B. Creative industries (AVGC-XR)	47	B. Jnanpith Award
8	C. Botswana	48	B. 90 days
9	C. Jammu & Kashmir	49	C. Konkani
10	B. 5,000	50	B. Bhubaneswar
11	B. Advanced AI and HPC	51	B. 50
12	B. KSRTC	52	B. Dahej
13	B.	53	B. Ugadi

Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer
	Ramadevarabetta (Ramanagara)		
14	B. Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep	54	B. Curb honour-linked violence
15	C. India	55	C. Over 7,000
16	B. Buddhist	56	C. Berlin
17	C. Western Ghats	57	C. 99.35%
18	C. IISc Bengaluru	58	C. 3,682
19	A. Gadag	59	C. 25,000 MW
20	B. 14416	60	C. Senior citizens above 70 years
21	C. Actual alcohol content by volume	61	B. Bannerghatta and Tavarekere
22	C. Discouraging mobile addiction	62	B. Creating "Vending Zones"
23	C. Bellatrix Aerospace	63	B. Yuva Sangam
24	C. 5 days	64	B. Yakshagana
25	B. Unregistered influencers	65	B. Devara Dasimayya

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Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer
26	B. KSRTC	66	C. HIV/AIDS
27	C. Climate change & Env. studies	67	C. USA (Texas)
28	B. Tennis	68	C. Local Body Elections
29	B. Rooftop solar for apartments	69	B. Thigala
30	B. ICAN	70	B. IRC:103-2022
31	B. Decrease in central tax share	71	B. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay
32	D. 80 lakh	72	B. Four-wheeler vehicles
33	B. France and Costa Rica	73	B. Hyderabad
34	B. The Andes	74	B. Census & delimitation exercise
35	B. Jeevasarthakathe	75	B. Private candidates
36	C. Browsing, storing, or possessing	76	B. Strait of Hormuz
37	B. 14 days	77	B. Their 2025 IPL title win

Q.No	Answer	Q.No	Answer
38	A. Gadag	78	A. Two
39	B. Audio info for visually impaired	79	B. Propane and Butane
40	B. 1% – 2%	80	B. April 1 – April 15, 2026

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MARCH 2026 EDITION

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Murthy R**

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SCORE-133.75

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(Stores & Materials)

Conducted by

KEA

Karnataka Examination Authority

He secured **FIRST RANK** for the post of
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in the provisional score list released by
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