

15th January 2026

YES OFFICER

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★ RBI JUNCTION

① RBI suggests new rules for bank currency holdings.

- RBI proposed changes to rules governing bank's foreign exchange risk.
- Net Open Position (NOP) = Difference between a bank's total foreign currency assets & Liabilities.
- Proposed guidelines aligned with : Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS).

② RBI recognises FEDAI as an SRO.

- RBI recognised Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI) as a Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO).
- Coverage : SRO status applicable to all Authorised Dealers (ADs) in foreign exchange.
- FEDAI Established in 1958.
- FEDAI Members : Authorised Dealers (ADs).
- SROs are private bodies, Omnibus Framework for SROs; Launched on March 21, 2024. This serves as the primary "umbrella" framework for recognizing SROs across all regulated entities (REs) of the Reserve Bank.

③ RBI clears Japan's ^{Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation} SMBC to set up wholly owned subsidiary in India.

- SMBC received in-principle approval from RBI to set up wholly owned subsidiary (WOS) in India.
- SMBC holds 24.21% stake in Yes Bank.
- SMBC currently operates in India through branch mode.
- Existing Branches : New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru.

- SMBC is a subsidiary of : Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG).

(4) RBI mandate auto transfer of unresolved complaints to internal ombudsman.

- Banks & NBFs must implement a fully automated complaint Management System (CMS).

- CMS must provide access to :

- > Internal Ombudsman (IO) > Deputy Internal Ombudsman (DIO).

- > Unresolved complaints must be auto-escalated to the IO.

- ⊙ Card Networks Complaints : Minimum 10 days for IO review.

- All other complaints : 20 days from date of receipt.

- ⊙ Complaint Classification : Final decision must be communicated within 30 days from receipt.

- Applicability to NBFCs : Deposit-taking NBFCs with 10 or more branches.

- > Non-deposit-taking NBFCs with : Asset size ₹5,000 crore & above.

* BANKING & FINANCIAL

(5) Finance Ministry launches ₹ 20 lakh Paripooxna Mediclaim Ayush Bima.

- ⊙ Paripooxna Mediclaim Ayush Bima.

- > Launched by : Ministry of Finance.

- Beneficiaries : Central Government Health scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries.

- Insurer : New India Assurance.

- ⊙ Related Initiative : Composite Salary Account Package.

- Launched by : Dept of Financial Services.

⑥ Karnataka Bank wins IBA award.

- Karnataka Bank won major honours at the Indian Bank's Association (IBA) Banking Technology Awards.
- Winner : Best Fintech & DPI Adoption.
- Runner-Up : Best Tech Talent.
- Karnataka Bank Founded in 18 February 1924.

⑦ Kotak Mahindra Bank marks 30 years of listing on National Stock Exchange (NSE).

- Market Capitalisation : ₹4.2 trillion.
- MD & CEO : Ashok Vaswani. (Kotak Mahindra Bank).

⑧ Deloitte Forecasts Robust GDP Growth for India in FY26, slower pace in FY27.

- Deloitte projected India's GDP growth outlook :
- FY26 Growth : 7.5-7.8%.
- FY27 Growth : 6.6-6.9%.

* INTERNATIONAL

⑨ Global Passport Index 2026.

⑩ Henley Passport Index — Based on visa data from International Air Transport Association (IATA)

- India's Global Rank (2026) : 80th.
- Top Passport : Singapore (1st Rank).
- Second Rank : Japan & South Korea.
- Weakest Passport : Afghanistan.

⑪ Israel Withdraws from Seven UN Agencies over Alleged Bias.

- Reason for withdrawal : Alleged Political bias against Israel.

⑪ 16th Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

- Venue : Abu Dhabi

- IRENA Founded in 26 January 2009

⑫ World's safest airlines for 2026.

- AirlineRatings.com released the 2026 World's Safest Airlines rankings.

- Covers Top 25 Full-Service Airlines & Top 25 Low-Cost Airlines.

- IndiGo Ranked 19th in low-cost category in 2025.

- Top Safest Full-Service Airlines 2026.

- > Etihad Airways - Rank 1

- Top Safest Low-Cost Airlines 2026.

1> HK Express 2. Jetstar Airways 3. Scoot

★ NATIONAL

⑬ IOCL, BPCL discover oil in Abu Dhabi Onshore block.

- Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) & Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) announced an oil discovery in Onshore Block 1, Abu Dhabi.

- Operated through Uja. Bharat Pte (UBPL).

- Ownership : 50 : 50 Joint Venture (JV).

⑭ NITI's 2024 export preparedness index.

- Released by : NITI Aayog -
- Top Rankings (Large States)
- Maharashtra - Rank 1 • Tamil Nadu - Rank 2
- Gujarat - Rank 3 • Uttar Pradesh - Rank 4
- Total Parameters (EPI 2024) : 70

(15) National Turmeric Board is empowering farmers and promoting turmeric export.

- Launched by : Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- The NTB aims to promote : Cultivation, Production, Processing, Marketing of turmeric.

(16) Kochi to Host International Spice Conference 2026.

- The 9th ISC 2026 will be held in Kochi from 23-26 Feb 2026.
- Organiser : All India Spices Exporters Forum (AISEF)
- Theme (ISC 2026) : "Spice 360 - Getting Future Ready".

(17) Punjabi Singer Kaka Launches 'Friends' App to Strengthen Women's Safety.

(18) Responsible Nations Index.

- The World Intellectual Foundation (WIF) will launch the Responsible Nations Index (RNI).
- Developed in collaboration with :
 - Jawaharlal Nehru University • Dr Ambedkar International Centre.
 - Indian Institute of Management Mumbai (IIM Mumbai).
- Coverage : 154 countries.
- Three core dimensions :
 - Internal Responsibility
 - Environmental Responsibility.
 - External Responsibility.

★ DEFENCE

⑱ Shaksgam Valley.

- It is also known as Trans-Karakoram Tract.
- Lies in the Hunza-Gilgit region of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) : Claimed by India, historically controlled by Pakistan. Came under Chinese administration after 1963.

★ STATES

⑲ Rajasthan's First Fully Organic Village.

- Bamanwas Kanwar Panchayat in Rajasthan has been declared the first Fully Organic Village Body in the state.

⑳ Jharkhand Megaliths.

- Jharkhand has initiated efforts to secure a UNESCO world Heritage tag for its extensive megalithic landscapes.

★ APPOINTMENTS

㉑ TVS Supply chain Solutions appoints Vikas Chadha as Global CEO.

㉒ BSF, ITBP & NIA get new Chiefs.

- National Investigation Agency : Director General - Rakesh Agarwal.
- Indo-Tibetan Border Police : DG - Shatsujeet Singh Kapoor.
- Border Security Force : New Head - Praveen Kumar.

㉓ Olympic Snowboarding Pioneer Ueli Kestenholz Dies in Swiss Avalanche.

★ AWARDS

㉔ Pawan Kalyan becomes First Indian to Receive Rare Samukai Martial Arts Honour.