

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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Centre has issued the notification for the first phase of Census of India 2027. Houselisting operations will be conducted between 1st April and 30 September this year across all States and Union Territories, during a 30-day period specified by each State and Union Territory . The notification issued by Home Ministry stated that provision for self-enumeration will be available for a period of 15 days prior to the commencement of house-to-house houselisting, as per the schedule notified by each State and UT. This will be the first Census by digital means in country, where data will be collected using mobile applications that will be available for both Android as well as iOS versions. About 30 lakh field functionaries including Enumerators, Supervisors, Master Trainers, Charge Officers and Principal or District Census Officers will be deployed for data collection, monitoring and supervision of Census operations. The Census would be conducted in two phases. The first phase will be of Houselisting and Housing Census - between April to September, 2026, while the second phase will be of Population Enumeration in February 2027.

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The real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been estimated to grow by 7.4 per cent in 2025-26 against the growth rate of 6.5 per cent during the last fiscal year. As per the first advance estimates of GDP for the current financial year, the real GDP is estimated to attain a level of over 201 lakh crore rupees in the current financial year, against the provisional estimates of GDP for 2024-25 of over 187 lakh crore rupees. Speaking exclusively to Akashvani, economic expert Deepshikha Sikarwar highlighted that the strong GDP performance reflects sustained domestic demand, improved capital expenditure, and resilience in key sectors of the economy.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday said that country's Reform Express continues to gain momentum. Responding to the GDP numbers, Mr Modi said this is powered by the NDA Government's comprehensive investment push and demand-led policies. He said that the government is working to realise the dream of a prosperous India, be it infrastructure, manufacturing incentives, digital public goods or Ease of Doing Business.

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Prime Minister's flagship platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, PRAGATI, has marked a significant milestone with the successful conduct of its 50th meeting. Since its launch by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015, PRAGATI has transformed governance by enabling real-time monitoring and resolution of key infrastructure projects and public grievances through direct Prime Ministerial review. The platform exemplifies cooperative federalism, bringing together the Centre, States, and Union Ministries on a single digital interface. Today, in this special series, we take a look at the AIIMS, Bibinagar project in Telangana which will be commissioned soon.

*(V/C-All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bibinagar is being established at Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, Telangana, under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana. The project commenced on July 2022 and has achieved around 86 percent physical progress as of 1st of December last year, keeping it on track for completion by the end of June this year. The project has recorded a rapid and impressive execution, with physical progress rising from 8.6 percent in 2022-23 to around 86 percent in 2025-26. Prime Minister reviewed the project under the PRAGATI mechanism on 28th of June, 2023, following which a clear progress in project execution was observed. The hospital is expected to generate around 3,000 direct jobs across faculty and non-faculty positions. Once operational, the institution will significantly strengthen tertiary healthcare, medical education and regional employment.)*

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The Ministry of Communications has signed two Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Rural development in New Delhi yesterday . These MoUs are aimed at benefiting rural citizens and farmers by combating misinformation and providing banking services. Speaking on the occasion, Communications Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia highlighted that the MoU signed between the Department of Posts and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare will address the long standing fake pesticides issue.

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