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UPI COMPLETES 10 YEARS

- UPI was introduced in India on August 25, 2016.
- Transactions increased from 1.78 crore in 2016-17 to 24,162 crore in 2025-26, an increase the Finance Ministry describes as about 13,000 times.
- » Monthly transaction records
 - The year 2026 is described as a milestone year. In May 2026, monthly UPI transactions crossed 2,320 crore for the first time.
 - The source states that another record was reached in July with around 2,366 crore transactions.
- » IMF recognition and expansion
 - Only 44 banks were connected to UPI in 2016-17; by 2025-26 the number had increased to 703.
 - A total of 24,162 crore transactions took place in 2025-26 alone.
 - UPI is described as the backbone of India's digital public infrastructure and as a platform enabling merchants, traders and ordinary citizens to participate in the digital economy.
 - UPI is credited with narrowing the digital divide and strengthening financial inclusion.
 - Growth in UPI transactions is also presented as a reflection of broader economic growth.
- » UPI available in 11 countries
 - India records an average of about 66 crore UPI transactions per day.
 - The source lists the United Arab Emirates, France, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Singapore, Mauritius, Qatar, Cambodia, Greece and the Maldives as the 11 countries where UPI services are available or integrated.

KERALA LAW STUDENT WINS MISS UNIVERSE INDIA 2026

- The Miss Universe India 2026 pageant was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan, with 52 contestants from across the country.
- Gazia Liz Mejo, a 19-year-old law student from Kerala, won the title and crown.
- Vaishnavi Ganesh of Tamil Nadu placed second.
- Anushree Satavlekar of Gujarat placed third. The source also connects the runners-up with Miss International India 2026 honours.