



31.08.2026 NEWS

INDIA-UZBEKISTAN

» Major agreements

- Agreement for long-term supply of uranium to India.
- Agreement between the National Archives of India under the Ministry of Culture and Uzbekistan's Uzarchive agency under its Ministry of Justice for cooperation in archival work.
- Cooperation in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine.
- Cooperation in geology and mineral resources.
- Agreement to establish an economic and financial dialogue.
- Cooperation in environmental protection.
- Stronger cooperation in higher education and scientific research.
- Agreement to establish partnership relations between Gujarat and Uzbekistan's Samarkand region.

» Announcements

- Upgrade the India-Uzbekistan relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- Provide about Rs. 9.50 crore in assistance for afforestation work in the Aral Sea region.
- Establish a Sanskrit Chair at the Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies.
- Introduce India's UPI service in Uzbekistan.

PRISONERS ALLOWED TO WORK OUTSIDE PRISONS

- Jharkhand has permitted selected prisoners to leave prison during the day to work outside.
- They must return to prison by 6 p.m.
- The scheme will be introduced through open or semi-open camps associated with four central prisons: Birsamunda Central Jail in Ranchi, Jai Prakash Narayan Central Jail in Hazaribagh, Ghaghadih Central Jail in East Singhbhum, and Dumka Central Jail.
- The benefit will apply only to selected eligible prisoners, not to all inmates.
- Prisoners in open or semi-open arrangements may leave around 6 or 7 a.m., work and earn income for their families, and return after roughly 12 hours.
- Because the facilities are near urban centres, the programme is intended to provide realistic livelihood opportunities and support rehabilitation.

NASA LAUNCHES POWERFUL SPACE TELESCOPE

- NASA has developed a space telescope designed to survey hidden and distant regions of the universe over a very wide field of view.
- The Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope is described as having a survey field more than 100 times wider than that of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, which has operated in space for decades.
- Scientists expect it to detect supernova explosions, thousands of planets, millions of galaxies and vast numbers of stars.
- It also carries an experimental instrument designed to block the bright light of stars so that faint planets orbiting them can be directly imaged.
- The telescope will help investigate dark matter and dark energy, which together are described as accounting for more than 90% of the universe's total content.
- Dark matter is a form of matter that does not emit, reflect or absorb light and therefore cannot be observed directly with ordinary telescopes, but its gravitational effects can be measured.
- Dark energy is the term used for the phenomenon thought to be driving the accelerating expansion of the universe.
- The source states that the Roman telescope was launched from Kennedy Space Center in Florida aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket.

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