



DID YOU KNOW?



Water Coverage (India)

- **PM Modi Inaugurates ₹3,350 Crore Ladakh Projects:** PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated five projects worth **₹3,350 crore** in Ladakh. Key highlights include a **₹640 crore** passenger terminal at Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport in Leh spanning **23,800 sq m**, designed for **35 lakh** passengers annually and using geothermal energy. The **298-km** Nimmu-Padum-Darcha Road by BRO boosts defence logistics. Also inaugurated: the **9 MW** Hanu hydroelectric project, a **66 kV** Dah-Hanu-Khaltsi transmission line, India's first Petroglyph Conservation Park, and **40** water bodies across **40** villages under Project Him Sarovar.





- **Air India Shifts Leh Flights to New Terminal:** Air India will shift all Leh flights to the new Kushok Bakula Rimpoochee Airport terminal from **October 16, 2026**. The **₹640 crore** terminal spans **23,800 sqm** and will handle **35 lakh** passengers annually, using geothermal energy. It was inaugurated by PM Modi alongside projects worth **₹3,350 crore** in Ladakh, including the **298-km** Nimmu-Padum-Darcha Road, **9 MW** Hanu hydro project, and **66 kV** Dah-Hanu-Khaltsi transmission line.
- **Deendayal Port Turns Oil Jetty for Rice:** Deendayal Port, India's largest state-owned port by volume, faces a capacity crunch with **70 ships** waiting up to **25 days** at anchorage; charterers lose **\$15,000-20,000/day**. Having crossed **100 MT** in six months (target: **190-195 MT** annually), it will load rice at an oil jetty and mooring points. A **₹47,000 crore**, four-phase waterfront expansion is proposed, beginning with a **₹6,400 crore** EPC phase to avoid Tuna Tekra exclusivity litigation.
- **MCD Sets Barrier-Free Toll Deadline for Winter Plan:** MCD will implement ANPR/Rfid-based barrier-free tolling at **20** major plazas by **October 31** and all **154** entry points by **December 31**, per a Supreme Court order. Road works cover **1,202 km** (**745 km** completed, **240 km** awaiting funds), with **8,343** potholes fixed. **66** mechanical sweepers will collect **180 tonnes** of dust daily across **4,000 km**. Enforcement sealed **446** water-polluting and **1,111** air-polluting units of **11,273** surveyed. Legacy waste bio-mining has cleared **220.06 lakh tonnes**, with **102.16 lakh tonnes** remaining; Okhla remediation is targeted for **October**, Bhalswa by **December**,

Source: ET Infra, India Water Portal (October 15, 2026)

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and Ghazipur by **December 2027**. New zonal waste contracts deploy **225 e-rickshaws** (West) and **176 electric vehicles** (South), while **530 EV** charging stations are installed.

- Nashik Groundwater Chromium Threatens Godavari Ahead of Kumbh:** A borewell sample from Ambad, Nashik, showed **50.5 mg/L** total chromium, including **50.3 mg/L** hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)), over **1,000 times** the **0.05 mg/L** limit under IS 10500:2012. With the Simhashta Kumbh beginning **October 31, 2026** (first Amrut Snan: **August 2, 2027**) and **15-20 crore** pilgrims expected, concerns center on the Godavari's safety. An earlier study found Cr(VI) up to **218 mg/L** in groundwater; remediation benchmarks include Ranipet's **₹206 crore** cleanup estimate.
- Kochi's Unopened Kumbalam Water Metro Terminal Decaying:** Kochi's Kumbalam water metro terminal, built **2.5 years** ago, is deteriorating before inauguration, with automatic fare gates, ticket machines, and computers decaying due to zero maintenance. Anti-social elements occupy the premises, and Panangad Police is investigating an incident where a security guard was trapped. Kochi Metro Rail Limited says operations will begin only after receiving additional boats and completing the **Nettoor** terminal, planned as a strategic intermediate hub.
- Uttarakhand Households Ill-Prepared for Flash Floods:** A study of **316** flood survivors across **17** villages in Uttarakhand found **98%** lacked prior flash flood awareness, with **39%** evacuating without any emergency items. Only **16%** carried water and **8%** medicines. Flash flood events rose from **22** in **2015–16** to **84** in **2021–22**. The study

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concludes that education and risk perception—not income—drive preparedness, urging Panchayat-level drills, supply pre-positioning, and annual household readiness assessments.

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