

Highlights of 12 September 2026 Current Affairs

- **Om Prakash (O.P.) Bhatt** resigned abruptly as the Non-Executive Independent Director and Chairman of **Coforge Limited**. An internal audit (conducted by KPMG) flagged governance concerns regarding the handling and presentation of the company's **Board Evaluation Exercise and Report (BER)**. He was chairman of State Bank of India.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) launched India's first AI-powered "**lights-out**" **factory lab** at Sahyadri Park campus in **Pune**, Maharashtra. A "lights-out factory" refers to a fully automated manufacturing facility where autonomous systems operate production lines with minimal or zero human intervention. The facility houses a **fully robotic battery pack assembly line** serving as a live, multi-stage testing environment. Combines **digital twins, robotics, industrial AI, Vision AI, factory control systems, and real-time operational intelligence** (Sensor-to-Cloud intelligence). Designed to help manufacturers prototype, validate, and scale AI-first production systems while mitigating deployment risks, enabling predictive maintenance, automated quality inspection, and human-machine collaboration.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) lifted the market-wide trading ban on **Copthall Mauritius Investment Ltd** (a unit of JPMorgan Chase & Co.) and **Mansi Share and Stock Broking**. The restriction was eased after Copthall deposited **₹2.96 crore** and Mansi Share deposited its share of alleged wrongful gains (totaling ₹3.68 crore combined) in compliance with an interim regulatory order. The entities were initially barred on August 19, 2026, over allegations of manipulative trading during the BSE's **Closing Auction Session (CAS)** on August 13, 2026, aimed at influencing the indicative equilibrium price of the **BSE Sensex** to benefit derivative options positions. While trading access has been restored, SEBI's broader investigation remains active pending formal responses, personal hearings, and a final confirmatory order. Copthall Mauritius is an independent foreign portfolio investor (FPI) entity and is legally separate from **J.P. Morgan India Pvt. Ltd.** (registered locally as a stock broker and merchant banker).
- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh virtually unveiled India's advanced multidisciplinary Ocean Research Vessel (ORV), **Sagar Manthan** (Yard 3041), at Rishi Bankim Shipyard, Kolkata. Designed and constructed indigenously by **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)** for the **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)**. Built at an estimated cost of approximately **₹840 crore**. Spearheads **Vertical-4 (Deep Ocean Survey and Exploration)** under India's flagship **Deep Ocean Mission**, aimed at replacing the aging imported vessel *ORV Sagar Kanya* (procured from Germany in 1983) and reducing reliance on foreign platforms.
- The **20th Asian Games (Aichi-Nagoya 2026)** will take place in Japan from **September 19 to October 4, 2026**. **Official Mascot HONOHON** derived from the Japanese word "*Honoho*", meaning "**flame**", symbolizing a burning bright fire shaped like an ear of rice.
- World Archery Para Series 2026 (Stage 3), hosted for the first time in India at the **Sabarmati Riverfront, Ahmedabad** (September 5–9, 2026). World No. 1 para-archer **Sheetal Devi** (19 years old) secured her **maiden individual gold medal** on the World Archery Para Series circuit. Defeated Kazakhstan's **Aizada Seidan** in a dramatic compound women's shoot-off after the regulation match ended in a **144-144 draw**. Sheetal shot a perfect **10 (inner ring X)** against Seidan's 9. Shot a season-best **698 in**

qualification, improving her own Asian record by one point. Also set a new world record in the compound mixed team qualification (1,400 points) alongside Rakesh Kumar.

- The Karnataka Cabinet formally approved the **Karnataka Aerospace Policy 2026-31**, aimed at expanding the state's aerospace, defence, and advanced tech manufacturing base. Offers tiered capital subsidies based on the Govinda Rao committee report on regional backwardness:
 - **Backward Taluks:** Incentives up to **10%**.
 - **Most Backward Taluks:** Incentives up to **20%**.
- India's **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)** has received official recognition from the United Kingdom to qualify as an acceptable carbon pricing scheme under its **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)** rules. Highly carbon-intensive export goods, most notably **steel, aluminum, fertilizer, and cement**. Prevents **double carbon taxation** by allowing Indian exporters to offset carbon costs already incurred under India's domestic CCTS against the UK's impending CBAM charges (scheduled to take effect in **2027**). India's CCTS framework is administered by the **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**, utilizing a market-based mechanism centered on Carbon Credit Certificates to lower greenhouse gas emissions. Follows closely on the heels of the India-UK **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)** signed on July 15, 2026, amid robust bilateral merchandise trade (\$25.1 billion in 2025–26).
- The final of the **2026–27 Duleep Trophy** concluded in a draw at the M. A. Chidambaram Stadium (**Chepauk, Chennai**) on **September 10, 2026**. **East Zone** clinched the championship title on the basis of a massive **first-innings lead**, ending a 13-year title drought.
 - **Match Scorecard Summary:**
 - **East Zone 1st Innings:** 708 all out
 - **South Zone 1st Innings:** 336 all out (trailing by 372 runs)
 - **East Zone 2nd Innings:** 388/7 declared
- Meta introduced **Muse**, a personal AI agent designed to shift from passive conversational chatbots to active, goal-oriented **agentic AI**. Capable of executing complex, multi-step tasks independently, such as organizing trips, sending emails, shopping online, completing forms, scheduling plans, and managing payments. Operates using a dedicated virtual machine called **Muse Secure VM**, providing a sandboxed computing environment equipped with its own browser and computing resources to monitor and execute agentic workflows safely. Built to address key agentic vulnerabilities identified during security research, including prompt injection, autonomous tool usage, long-running operations, and unintended agent behaviors. Released amid an intense race in agentic AI, coinciding with major developments like Apple's next-generation Siri and personal context frameworks unveiled at WWDC.
- The **22nd edition** of the annual India-US bilateral military exercise, **Yudh Abhyas 2026**, runs from **September 9 to September 28, 2026**. For the first time, the exercise adopts a **two-theatre format** spanning two distinct climatic and geographical terrains:
 - **Phase 1:** Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, **Bikaner (Rajasthan)**—focusing on desert warfare and long-range/precision fires.
 - **Phase 2:** **Auli (Uttarakhand)**—focusing on high-altitude and mountain warfare close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

- **Stanzin Tsangyang** has been commissioned into the Indian Army, making history as **Kargil district's first woman army officer** and the **first officer from the Zaskar district** of Ladakh. Commissioned at the **Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai** on **September 5, 2026**.
 - **Educational Background:**
 - Hails from the remote Zaskar valley, spending nearly 14 years away from home in a hostel while studying at Lamdon Model School in Leh.
 - Secured a scholarship to complete her Bachelor's degree in **Mechanical Engineering** from **Tezpur University** in Assam.