

THE DAILY GK DOSE

SBI EMERGES AS STRONGEST INDIAN BANK GLOBALLY

- **Global Strength Leader:** SBI is ranked as the 16th strongest banking brand in the world (up from 24th in 2025). It is the only Indian bank to receive the prestigious AAA+ brand strength rating, the highest accolade for brand resilience and stakeholder trust.
- **Dominant Market Share & Scale:** As of March 2025, SBI has solidified its position as a "proxy for the Indian economy" with a massive balance sheet of ₹66.76 Lakh Crore (approx. \$781 billion), commanding a 22.5% market share in deposits and nearly 20% in advances.
- **Digital & Financial Resilience:** The bank's "strongest" status is fueled by its digital transformation (87 million+ YONO users) and improved asset quality. Its Gross NPA ratio fell to 1.82% in FY2025, while standalone net profit grew 16% to a record ₹70,901 Crore.

Footnotes: SBI's Chairman: C. Sreenivasulu Setty, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1955

PM MODI INAUGURATES INDIA'S 1ST 'RING METRO' IN DELHI

- **Completion of the 72 km Loop:** The inauguration of the Majlis Park–Maujpur corridor closes the loop of the 71.56 km Pink Line, making it a continuous circular network. It is now the longest individual line in the Delhi Metro, significantly improving connectivity between North, East, and Northwest Delhi.
- **Engineering Marvels:** The new section features a double-decker

viaduct—a unique structure that carries the metro tracks on the upper deck and a road flyover on the lower deck—and a new bridge over the Yamuna River.

- **Massive Infrastructure Boost:** The project was part of a larger ₹33,500 crore development package. Alongside the Ring Metro, the PM inaugurated an extension of the Magenta Line.

US & SOUTH KOREA LAUNCHED MILITARY EXERCISE 'FREEDOM SHIELD'



- **Focus on All-Domain Operations:** The 11-day exercise (running through March 19) is a "combined, joint, all-domain" event. For the first time, it significantly integrates space, cyber, and information warfare alongside traditional land, air, and sea maneuvers to reflect the complexities of modern conflict.
- **Strategic Shift in Training:** While involving approximately 18,000 South Korean troops, the number of field training drills has been reduced to 22 (down from 51 last year).
- **North Korean Warning:** Pyongyang has reacted sharply, with Kim Yo-jong (sister of Kim Jong Un) condemning the drills as a "provocative and invasive war simulation."

IMPORTANT FACTS

- *Charles Babbage is known as father of the computer*
- *The Bengal Tiger is the national animal of India*
- *The Taj Mahal was ordered to be built by Shah Jahan*
- *The Moon is the only natural satellite of the Earth*
- *The Nobel Prize is awarded in Sweden*
- *The United Nations was established in 1945*
- *Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award in India*
- *The first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens.*

KETAN MERCHANT APPOINTED AS CEO OF FINO PAYMENTS BANK

- **Reason for Appointment:** The leadership change follows the arrest of the bank's MD & CEO, Rishi Gupta, by the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) in connection with an investigation into alleged GST evasion by third-party program managers.
- **Tenure and Transition:** Merchant, who was serving as the bank's Chief Financial Officer (CFO), will hold the interim post for a period of three months. His appointment is intended to ensure operational continuity while the board reassesses the "fit and proper" status of the regular CEO.
- **Strategic Stability:** Despite the leadership crisis, Merchant has assured stakeholders that the bank's operations remain stable and its plans to transition into a Small Finance Bank (SFB)—for which it received in-principle approval in December 2025—remain on track.

GARY KIRSTEN NAMED HEAD COACH OF SRI LANKA MEN'S CRICKET TEAM

- **Two-Year Tenure & Core Goal:** Kirsten has signed a two-year contract starting April 15, 2026, which runs until April 2028. His primary mandate is to overhaul the team's performance and lead them through the 2027 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, which will be hosted in his home country, South Africa (alongside Namibia and Zimbabwe).
- **Replacing a Legend:** He succeeds former Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya, who resigned following the team's disappointing Super Eight exit at the 2026 T20 World Cup.
- **Elite Coaching Pedigree:** Kirsten brings one of the most successful resumes in world cricket, having coached India to the 2011 World Cup title and guided South Africa to the No. 1 ranking in all formats in 2013.

INDIAN RAILWAYS LAUNCHES 'SHINE' APP

- **Dedicated Reporting for Harassment:** SHINE stands for Sexual Harassment Incident Notification for Empowerment. It is a customized module integrated into the existing HRMS that allows women employees to securely and directly lodge complaints regarding workplace sexual harassment.
- **Ensuring Confidentiality and Speed:** The app was developed to make the grievance redressal mechanism more transparent and expeditious. Once a

complaint is recorded through the Employee Self Service (ESS) portal, it is instantly routed to the specific internal committee responsible for such cases, bypassing traditional bureaucratic delays.

- **Inclusivity for Non-Employees:** In a significant move toward broader safety, the SHINE module also allows reporting on behalf of outsiders, contractual staff, visitors, and students who interact with the railway environment but may not have direct access to internal employee systems.

IIT BOMBAY & HONEYWELL LAUNCH SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS HUB



- **Massive Skilling Goal:** The initiative aims to train and certify over 100,000 students by 2030 in sustainability-related fields. It is designed to bridge the growing "green talent gap" in India, particularly as the country expects to create 3.4 million jobs in the green sector by the end of the decade.
- **Five Specialized Learning Tracks:** The CoE offers 40-hour certificate-based programs across five critical areas: Sustainability Reporting, Sustainable Finance, Energy Security, Sustainability Infrastructure, and Policy Advocacy.
- **Full Funding and Pilot Phase:** The center is fully funded by the

Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation. It will begin with a two-month pilot phase training an initial batch of 250 students before scaling up to engage approximately 20,000 students annually from across India.

NITI AAYOG & TEPL PARTNER TO DRIVE INDIA'S ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING GROWTH

- **Strategic Alignment for "Atmanirbhar Bharat":** The partnership focuses on scaling up domestic electronics production and reducing import dependency. NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery and TEPL CEO Dr. Randhir Thakur formalized this engagement to ensure that government policy is grounded in industry realities, specifically targeting semiconductor assembly, testing.
- **Strengthening Global Value Chains (GVCs):** A primary goal is to shift India from a "labor-intensive assembly" model to a high-value manufacturing hub. This involves bolstering resilient supply chains and increasing India's participation in GVCs.
- **Policy Support & Massive Funding:** The collaboration is backed by a significant increase in government support. The Union Budget 2026-27 recently boosted the outlay for the ECMS to ₹40,000 crore.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

10.03.2026 / TUESDAY

- **CISF Raising Day 2026 is observed on March 10 to mark the establishment of the CISF in 1969.**
- **The force protects airports, metros, nuclear plants, and key infrastructure, playing a vital role in India's national security.**