

THE DAILY GK DOSE

MAHARASHTRA EMERGES AS INDIA'S GLOBAL INVESTMENT HUB

- **Record-Breaking Investment Pledges:** At the January 2026 Davos summit, Maharashtra signed 19 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) totaling ₹14.5 lakh crore (\$173 billion). These agreements, spanning sectors like green energy, data centers, and logistics, are projected to create over 15 lakh jobs.
- **Dominance in FDI:** The state remains India's "FDI Gateway," drawing about 31–39% of total FDI during 2024–26, driven by strong execution discipline and a high 75% conversion rate of investment intentions.

Footnotes: Maharashtra's Governor: Acharya Devvrat, CM: Devendra Fadnavis, Capital: Mumbai

JITENDRA SINGH LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST OPEN-SEA FARMING PROJECT

- **Pioneering Technology & Collaboration:** The project brings together the Ministry of Earth Sciences, NIOT, and the Andaman & Nicobar Administration to deploy NIOT-designed open-sea cages for resilient deep-sea farming beyond coastal aquaculture.
- **Dual Focus on Marine Flora and Fauna:** The initiative focuses on the cultivation of high-value marine species to meet both domestic and export

demands. This includes Marine Fauna, Marine Flora.

- **Economic & Livelihood Empowerment:** The project aims to create sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities by developing a commercially viable marine farming model that reduces pressure on coastal fisheries and can be scaled nationwide through PPPs.

SHAEA MUHSSIN MOHAMMED AL-ZINDANI APPOINTED AS YEMEN'S PM



- **Career Diplomat:** Al-Zindani is a veteran diplomat who previously served as Yemen's Minister of Foreign Affairs (appointed in March 2024) and as the Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, where he played a pivotal role in managing relations with Yemen's most influential regional ally.
- **Succession and Stability:** He replaces Salem Saleh bin Braik, who served as acting successor to Ahmad Awad bin Mubarak, and his appointment aims to strengthen leadership and improve governance during the ongoing political and economic crisis.

Footnotes: Yemen's Prime Minister: Shaea al-Zindani, Capital: Sanaa

IMPORTANT FACTS

NOBEL PRIZE 2025

- **Nobel Peace** – María Corina Machado (Venezuela)
- **Physics** – Awarded to John M. Martinis, Michel H. Devoret & John Clarke
- **Chemistry** – Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson & Omar M. Yaghi
- **Literature** – László Krasznahorkai
- **Economics** – Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion & Peter Howitt

INDIA, SRI LANKA & MALDIVES CONDUCTS 'DOSTI 17' EXERCISE

- **Focus on Non-Traditional Security:** The exercise focused on practical joint training for non-traditional maritime challenges, including MARPOL pollution response, VBSS drills, and coordinated search and rescue operations.
- **Strategic Participation:** India deployed assets such as ICGS Vajra, ICGS Atulya, and an ICG Dornier aircraft, with exercises held in a Harbor Phase at Malé for exchanges and a Sea Phase to test coordination and interoperability at sea.
- **Regional Cooperation & Vision:** Launched by Maldivian Defence Minister Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon, the exercise supports India's SAGAR vision and Neighbourhood First policy to promote stability in the Indian Ocean Region.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR APPOINTED AS DIRECTOR AT SJVN

- **Internal Leadership Transition:** Shri Rajesh Kumar Chandel currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SJVN Limited. His selection represents an internal promotion, ensuring continuity in the leadership and strategic direction of the company's massive project portfolio.
- **Strategic Responsibility:** As Director (Projects), he will be responsible for overseeing SJVN's ambitious expansion in the hydro, thermal, and renewable energy sectors. This includes steering critical domestic projects and international ventures in countries like Nepal and Bhutan to meet India's 2030 green energy targets.

Footnotes: SJVN's Chairman & MD: Bhupendra Gupta, HQ: Shimla, Estd: 1988

ILAIYARAJA TO RECEIVE PADMAPANI AWARD

- **Recognition of a Musical Legend:** The award celebrates Ilaiyaraaja's unparalleled career spanning over five decades, during which he has composed more than 7,000 songs and original scores for over 1,500 films across multiple languages,

including Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, and Marathi.

- **Prestigious Selection Committee:** The maestro was chosen by a high-profile committee chaired by film critic Latika Padgaonkar and including acclaimed filmmakers Ashutosh Gowariker, Sunil Sukthankar, and Chandrakant Kulkarni.

C-DOT WINS SKOCH AWARD 2025



- **Recognition for Life-Saving Innovation:** The award was conferred for C-DOT's indigenous Cell Broadcast Solution (CBS). This mission-critical platform delivers near real-time, life-saving emergency alerts directly to mobile phones in geo-targeted areas, bypassing network congestion to reach citizens instantly during disasters.
- **Unified National Alert System:** The CBS acts as a centralized hub, integrating various alert-generating agencies such as the IMD (weather), CWC (floods), INCOIS (tsunamis), and FSI (forest fires). It streamlines the flow of information between these

agencies and telecom operators to ensure swift public warnings.

Footnotes: C-DOT's Executive Director: Dr Rajkumar Upadhyay, HQ: Delhi, Estd: 1984

ITALIAN FASHION DESIGNER VALENTINO GARAVANI PASSED AWAY

- **The "Last Emperor" of Fashion:** Known mononymously as Valentino, he was considered one of the final giants of the golden age of haute couture. Over a career spanning nearly 50 years, he became the "King of the Red Carpet," dressing global icons ranging from Jacqueline Kennedy and Princess Diana to Hollywood stars like Elizabeth Taylor and Julia Roberts.
- **Signature "Valentino Red":** He was world-renowned for his mastery of elegance and his creation of a specific, vibrant shade of scarlet known as "Valentino Red" (Rosso Valentino). This signature hue became a hallmark of his brand, symbolizing the passion, glamour, and timeless femininity that defined his design philosophy.
- **National Tribute in Italy:** After his foundation's announcement, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni hailed him as an "undisputed master of style."

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

20.01.2026 / TUESDAY

- 1957 – India's first nuclear reactor "Apsara" was inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru.
- 1961 – John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the 35th President of the USA.