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WEEKLY — Current Affairs

NATIONAL NEWS

President Murmu Invokes Article 143 Over Governors' Bill Assent Powers

President Droupadi Murmu has invoked Article 143(1) of the Indian Constitution to seek the Supreme Court's advisory opinion on the powers and responsibilities of Governors and the President concerning the assent of state bills. This action follows the Supreme Court's April 8 verdict, which imposed timelines for Governors and the President to act on state legislation, prompting concerns about potential judicial overreach. The Supreme Court's forthcoming opinion, though advisory, is anticipated to have substantial implications for the balance of power within India's federal structure.

Foot notes:

- Article 143: Article 143 of the Indian Constitution allows the President to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court on any question of law or fact that is of public importance.
- Purpose: The purpose of Article 143 is to enable the President to obtain the Supreme Court's advisory opinion on matters that are significant and contentious, helping to resolve disputes and provide clarity on constitutional issues.
- Scope: The President can refer any matter to the Supreme Court under Article 143, and the Court is bound to provide its opinion. However, the Court has the discretion to decline to answer questions that are too vague or lack specificity.
- Binding Nature: The Supreme Court's opinion provided under Article 143 is not binding on the President. The President can accept or reject the opinion, although it carries significant weight due to the Court's authoritative interpretation of the Constitution.

Geeta Samota, First CISF Officer to Summit Mount Everest

Geeta Samota, a Sub-Inspector in the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), made history on May 19, 2025, by becoming the first officer from her force to summit Mount Everest, the world's highest peak at 8,849 meters. Hailing from Chak village in Rajasthan's Sikar district, Samota's journey from a rural upbringing to this monumental achievement is a testament to her determination and resilience. Initially a hockey player, an injury redirected her path towards mountaineering, leading her to join the CISF in 2011 and pursue specialized training in the field.

Foot notes:

- First Woman from CAPF to Scale: Mount Satopanth (7,075 meters) in Uttarakhand and Mount Lobuche (6,119 meters) in Nepal in 2019.
- Fastest Indian Woman to Complete Four Continental Peaks: Mount Kosciuszko (Australia), Mount Elbrus (Russia), Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), and Mount Aconcagua (Argentina) in six months and 27 days.
- Scaling Five Peaks in Ladakh's Rupshu Region: She climbed five peaks, including three above 6,000 meters, in just three days.

- Awards and Recognition: Geeta has received the International Women's Day Award 2023 from the Delhi Commission for Women and the Giving Wings to Dreams Award 2023 from the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- Inspiration and Impact: Geeta's achievement is a source of national pride and inspiration, especially for women in India's paramilitary forces. Her journey showcases the power of perseverance and highlights the growing contribution of Indian women in adventure sports and paramilitary excellence.

India ranked at 36th among 170 countries in Network Readiness Index 2025

India has achieved a significant milestone by ranking 36th out of 170 countries in the Frontier Technologies Readiness Index 2024, marking a notable improvement from its 48th position in 2022. This advancement underscores India's growing capabilities in research and industrial capacity, where it ranks 3rd and 10th respectively. However, challenges persist in areas such as ICT deployment and skills development, with rankings of 99th and 113th, highlighting the need for enhanced broadband infrastructure and formal training in emerging technologies. The country's overall progress reflects its commitment to embracing frontier technologies and fostering innovation.

Foot notes:

- Improvement in Ranking: India has shown significant improvement, jumping 12 spots from 48th in 2022 to 36th in 2024, indicating progress in readiness for frontier technologies.
- Frontier Technologies: The index focuses on readiness for frontier technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), green hydrogen, and gene editing, which can transform economic development, sustainability, and governance.
- Global Market Projection: The market for frontier technologies is projected to grow six-fold, reaching \$16.4 trillion by 2033, with AI expected to account for 29% of this market.
- Private Investment in AI: India has seen notable private investments in AI, ranking 10th globally with \$1.4 billion in investments in 2023, highlighting its growing presence in the AI landscape.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

China Launched 12 AI-Satellites to build World's 1st Supercomputer

China has embarked on an ambitious project to build the world's first space-based AI supercomputer by launching 12 satellites as part of its "Star Compute" initiative. Developed by Chengdu-based ADA Space in collaboration with Zhejiang Lab, these satellites are the initial components of a planned 2,800-satellite constellation designed to process data directly in orbit, thereby reducing reliance on Earth-based data centers. Each satellite is equipped with advanced AI processors capable of 744 tera operations per second (TOPS).

Foot notes:

- **Computing Power:** Each satellite can process 744 trillion operations per second, with a combined computing power of 5 peta operations per second (POPS) and 30 terabytes of onboard storage. The full constellation aims to achieve 1,000 POPS, equivalent to 1 quintillion operations per second.
- **Advanced Features:** The satellites are equipped with AI-powered computing systems, high-speed laser communication links, and advanced AI models with 8 billion parameters. They can process raw data directly in orbit, reducing reliance on ground-based computing infrastructure.
- **Potential Benefits:** The space-based supercomputer could offer a solution to Earth's growing energy and water consumption concerns. Orbital data centers can harness solar power and radiate heat into space, reducing energy needs and carbon footprint.

China's Miao Lijie & Japan's Yuko Oga Named as Ambassadors for FIBA Women's Asia Cup 2025

Chinese basketball legend Miao Lijie and Japanese icon Yuko Oga have been appointed as ambassadors for the FIBA Women's Asia Cup 2025, set to take place in Shenzhen, China, from July 13 to 20. Miao, a three-time Olympian and 2024 FIBA Hall of Fame inductee, led China to four Asia Cup titles and holds the distinction of being the first Chinese player to win both WCBA and WNBA championships. Oga, inducted into the FIBA Hall of Fame in 2023, was Japan's dynamic point guard for over a decade, earning multiple medals and becoming the top scorer at the 2010 FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup.

Foot notes:

- **Ambassadors:** Miao Lijie from China and Yuko Oga from Japan have been appointed as ambassadors for the FIBA Women's Asia Cup 2025.
- **Event Details:** The FIBA Women's Asia Cup 2025 is scheduled to take place from July 13 to 20, 2025.
- **Miao Lijie's Profile:** Although specific details about Miao Lijie's current basketball career aren't available, her appointment suggests she is a notable figure in Chinese basketball.
- **Yuko Oga's Profile:** Yuko Oga is a well-known Japanese basketball player, and her appointment as an ambassador highlights her influence in the sport.
- **Role:** As ambassadors, Miao Lijie and Yuko Oga will likely promote the tournament, inspire fans, and contribute to the event's success in their respective countries and across Asia.

USA Became India's 4th Largest Crude Oil Supplier

The United States became India's fourth-largest crude oil supplier, overtaking the United Arab Emirates. India's imports of U.S. crude oil nearly doubled year-over-year, reaching 0.33 million barrels per day, up from 0.17 million barrels per day in April 2024. This increase is attributed to a decline in U.S. exports to Europe and refinery closures, redirecting supplies toward Asia,

particularly India. Despite this shift, Russia remains India's top crude oil supplier, accounting for 37.8% of imports, followed by Iraq and Saudi Arabia. The growing energy trade between India and the U.S. reflects India's efforts to diversify its energy sources and strengthen bilateral relations.

Foot notes:

- **Increased Supply:** The US nearly doubled its crude oil supply to India in April, reaching 0.33 million barrels per day, and surpassing the UAE to become India's fourth-largest supplier.
- **Market Share:** The US achieved a 7.3% share of India's crude imports in April, exceeding the UAE's 6.4% share. Russia maintained its top position with a 37.8% share, followed by Iraq (19.1%), and Saudi Arabia (10.4%).
- **Reason for Growth:** The growth in US crude oil exports to India is attributed to slowing US exports to Europe, prompting a shift towards Asian markets. India's private sector refineries, operated by Reliance Industries and Nayara Energy, are the primary recipients of US crude oil.

India assumes Chairmanship of Asian Productivity Organization for 2025-26

India has officially assumed the chairmanship of the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) for the 2025–26 term, as announced by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The handover took place during a meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, marking a significant milestone in India's efforts to enhance regional productivity. This leadership role enables India to influence regional productivity strategies, foster cooperation among Asia-Pacific member countries, and promote sustainable socio-economic development through productivity growth. India's active participation in APO initiatives underscores its commitment to driving productivity and sustainable development in the region .

Foot notes:

- **Chairmanship Term:** India has officially taken over the chairmanship of the APO for the 2025-26 term, with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) leading the initiative.
- **Leadership:** The Indian delegation is led by Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Secretary of DPIIT and APO Director for India, who emphasized the importance of regional collaboration in driving digital transformation, sustainability, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- **APO Vision 2030:** As Chair, India aims to advance the APO Vision 2030 and contribute to programs addressing productivity challenges in the Asia-Pacific region, focusing on inclusive, responsive, and results-driven initiatives.
- **Capacity Building:** Over 100 Indian professionals participate in APO-led capacity-building initiatives annually through the National Productivity Council (NPC), significantly improving productivity across India's industrial, services, and agricultural sectors.

Denver Nuggets' president appointed David Adelman as head coach

The Denver Nuggets have officially appointed David Adelman as their full-time head coach, removing the interim tag after a commendable postseason performance. Adelman stepped in as interim coach in April following the dismissal of Michael Malone and general manager Calvin Booth, leading the team to three consecutive regular-season wins and a first-round playoff victory over the LA Clippers. Under his guidance, the Nuggets pushed the top-seeded Oklahoma City Thunder to a seven-game series in the Western Conference semifinals, earning praise from players like Nikola Jokic and Aaron Gordon for his leadership and communication style.

Foot notes:

- **Background:** Adelman has been with the Nuggets' coaching staff since 2017, serving as the lead assistant coach under Michael Malone.
- **Previous Experience:** Before joining the Nuggets, Adelman worked as an assistant coach with the Minnesota Timberwolves and Orlando Magic.
- **Interim to Permanent:** Initially appointed as the interim head coach, Adelman has been promoted to the permanent head coach position, showcasing the team's confidence in his leadership abilities.
- **Coaching Style:** Adelman is known for his positivity, attention to detail, and strong work ethic, which have already made a positive impact on the team.

Craig Kessler Appointed as PGA's New Commissioner

The PGA has appointed Craig Kessler as its new commissioner, marking a significant leadership transition for the organization. Kessler, who previously served as the Chief Operating Officer of the PGA of America, brings a wealth of experience from his tenure at Topgolf and Buff City Soap, as well as an MBA from Harvard Business School. The PGA's board, in collaboration with executive search firm Elevate Talent, conducted a comprehensive selection process to identify the right candidate to lead the organization into its next chapter. Kessler's leadership is anticipated to drive growth and innovation within the PGA, leveraging his diverse background to enhance the tour's global presence and commercial success.

Foot notes:

- **Background:** Kessler brings experience from his years as COO of Dallas-based Topgolf, where he oversaw explosive growth from 25 venues to 70 and managed over 25,000 employees.
- **Previous Role:** Before joining PGA of America, Kessler served as CEO of Buff City Soap, a fast-growing experiential retail company with stores in 32 states.
- **Education:** Kessler earned an MBA from Harvard Business School and an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.
- **Experience:** He has a passion for golf and extensive operating and financial background, having worked with global management consulting firm McKinsey & Company and private equity firms KKR and Providence Equity Partners.

Algeria Becomes New Member of BRICS' New Development Bank

Algeria has officially joined the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), marking a significant milestone in its integration into the global financial system. The announcement was made by NDB President Dilma Rousseff during the bank's ninth annual meeting held on August 31, 2024, in Cape Town, South Africa. This inclusion positions Algeria as the ninth member of the NDB, alongside founding nations Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, as well as newer members such as Bangladesh, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay. This strategic move also reflects Algeria's broader ambition to diversify its international partnerships and reduce reliance on Western-dominated financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Foot notes:

- **Membership Approval:** Algeria deposited its instrument of accession on May 19, 2025, officially becoming the newest member of the NDB, a multilateral development bank established by BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa).
- **Strategic Partnership:** NDB President Dilma Rousseff welcomed Algeria's membership, highlighting the country's significant role in Northern Africa's economy and its potential to enhance NDB's global financial presence. Algeria's dynamic economy, rich natural resources, and strategic geographic position make it an attractive partner.
- **Development Goals:** The NDB aims to support Algeria's sustainable development agenda through infrastructure and development projects. The bank will work with Algeria to finance impactful initiatives that drive progress and improve lives.
- **Global Significance:** Algeria's membership marks a significant step in its integration into the global financial system. The NDB provides an alternative to traditional international financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF, offering innovative solutions for growth and resilience.

World largest aerospace-grade titanium unit inaugurated in Lucknow

On May 12, 2025, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the world's largest aerospace-grade titanium and superalloy materials manufacturing plant in Lucknow. Operated by Aerolloy Technologies Limited, a subsidiary of PTC Industries, this state-of-the-art facility features a German-engineered Vacuum Arc Remelting (VAR) furnace with an annual capacity of 1,500 metric tons, capable of producing titanium alloy ingots up to 1,000 mm in diameter. This development positions India among an elite group of nations—such as the United States, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom—that possess the capability to produce high-grade titanium alloys for aerospace applications.

Foot notes:

- **Advanced Technologies:** The plant utilizes cutting-edge technologies like Vacuum Arc Remelting (VAR), Electron Beam (EB), Plasma Arc Melting (PAM), and Vacuum

Induction Melting (VIM) to produce high-grade materials critical for aerospace and defense sectors.

- **Reducing Import Dependence:** The facility aims to reduce India's reliance on costly imports, which are projected to reach 35,000 crore by 2026. By manufacturing aerospace-grade materials domestically, India can minimize its dependence on foreign suppliers.

STATE NEWS

Telangana is the first state to launch AI-based 'AgriGPT' service

Telangana has become the first state in India to launch an AI-based agricultural advisory service called 'AgriGPT'. This initiative is part of the state's broader efforts to integrate artificial intelligence into agriculture, aiming to provide farmers with real-time, personalized advice on crop management, weather forecasts, pest control, and market trends. Developed in collaboration with the World Economic Forum and the Indian Institute of Science, AgriGPT leverages data from various sources to offer actionable insights to farmers. The service is accessible through a user-friendly interface, ensuring that even farmers with limited technological proficiency can benefit from its features.

Foot notes:

- **AI-Powered Precision Agriculture:** AgriGPT integrates real-time climate data and advanced analytics to provide tailored farming advice, enhancing agricultural practices for higher productivity and sustainability.
- **Features and Benefits:** AgriGPT assists farmers in integrating sustainable practices feasible on a smaller scale and provides up-to-date, science-based information on regional conditions, helping agricultural consultants tailor guidance to specific needs.
- **Developer Background:** Anil Mishra, a visionary entrepreneur with a background in computer engineering, has been instrumental in building technology-driven startups for the Indian agriculture industry, leveraging AI to revolutionize the sector.
- **Partnerships and Innovation Hub:** Telangana's proactive approach to AI innovation is evident in its partnership with Google to establish an AI Accelerator in Hyderabad, empowering startups to develop AI-driven solutions for critical sectors like agriculture.

Anurag Dhankar appointed as new DGP of Tripura

Anurag Dhankar, a 1994-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, has been appointed as the Director General of Police (DGP) of Tripura. He brings extensive experience, having previously served in various capacities, including as Superintendent of Police in multiple districts of Tripura and as an officer in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Dhankar also held the position of Additional Director General of Police (Law & Order) in Tripura before his elevation to DGP. His appointment aligns with the state's compliance with the Supreme Court's directives on police reforms, ensuring a transparent and merit-based selection process for the DGP position.

Foot notes:

- **Experience:** Dhankar has extensive experience in policing, having served in various key positions in Tripura and on central deputation, including roles in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the United Nations Mission in Kosovo.
- **Notable Roles:** He led the CBI investigation against fugitive diamondaire Nirav Modi in the Rs 13,000 crore Punjab National Bank fraud case and served as the Chairman of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on the 1984 anti-Sikh riots under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Qualifications:** Dhankar holds a Master's degree in Police Management from Osmania University and a Post Graduate Diploma in Cyber Crimes from NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. He is also a Certified Fraud Examiner from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), USA.

Archaeological Survey of India restores 16th CE stepwell in Delhi's Mehrauli

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), in collaboration with the World Monuments Fund and funded by the TCS Foundation, has completed the restoration of Rajon Ki Baoli, a 16th-century stepwell located in Delhi's Mehrauli Archaeological Park. Built in 1506 during the reign of Sikandar Lodi, this four-tiered structure had suffered from decades of neglect, with silt and debris obstructing its water channels. The comprehensive six-month project involved desilting, structural repairs, restoration of decorative elements, and the installation of an automated water management system to maintain water quality and levels. This restoration is part of a broader initiative to rejuvenate Mehrauli Archaeological Park, which houses over 55 monuments spanning various historical periods.

Foot notes:

- **Restoration Project:** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has successfully completed the conservation work of Rajon ki Baoli, a 16th-century stepwell located in Mehrauli Archaeological Park, in collaboration with the World Monuments Fund India (WMFI) and the TCS Foundation.
- **Historical Significance:** Built around 1506 during the Lodi dynasty, Rajon ki Baoli is a testament to Lodi-era architecture and traditional water engineering, featuring elegant arched colonnades, ornate stucco medallions, and finely carved stone elements.
- **Conservation Efforts:** The restoration work included cleaning, desilting, structural repairs, and water quality improvements using traditional materials like lime plaster and mortar to preserve the original character of the structure. Fish were introduced to maintain water quality.
- **Community Engagement:** The ASI and its partners engaged local communities to promote awareness of the stepwell's cultural and ecological value through educational programs and participatory conservation activities, ensuring the site's long-term care.

Mizoram Becomes India's First Fully Literate State

Mizoram achieved a historic milestone by becoming India's first fully literate state, attaining a literacy rate of 98.2%. This accomplishment was realized under the ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative, also known as the New India Literacy Programme (NILP), which aims to promote lifelong learning and universal literacy. The program identified 3,026 illiterate individuals, with 1,692 enrolling as learners, supported by 292 volunteer teachers, including students and educators. This achievement reflects the Mizo cultural ethos of Tlawmngaihna—selflessness and altruism—and showcases the state's commitment to empowering its citizens through education. Building on this success, Mizoram now aims to broaden its educational goals to include digital, financial, and entrepreneurial literacy for holistic development.

Foot notes:

- **Achievement:** Mizoram has been declared India's first fully literate state, achieving a remarkable 98.2% literacy rate as per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2023-24.
- **ULLAS Initiative:** The Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) initiative, under the New India Literacy Programme (NILP), played a crucial role in achieving this milestone. The initiative aims to empower adults aged above 15 who missed formal schooling.
- **Volunteer Efforts:** A dedicated team of 292 volunteer teachers, including students, educators, and resource persons, contributed significantly to achieving full literacy. They worked with 3,026 identified illiterate individuals, of whom 1,692 showed interest in learning.
- **Future Goals:** Mizoram aims to expand literacy beyond basic reading and writing, incorporating digital, financial, and entrepreneurial skills to further empower its citizens.

Assam Introduces India's First AI News Anchor 'Ankita' in Regional Language

Assam has made a significant stride in integrating artificial intelligence into regional media by introducing 'Ankita', India's first AI news anchor proficient in the Assamese language. This innovative development aims to enhance news delivery by providing real-time updates in the local dialect, thereby strengthening the connection with the Assamese-speaking audience. 'Ankita' is designed to present news with human-like expressions and voice modulation, offering a seamless and engaging viewer experience.

Foot notes:

- **Debut:** Ankita made her debut by delivering a detailed report on the latest Cabinet meeting, showcasing her ability to present updates in fluent Assamese.
- **Features:** Ankita is a lifelike digital persona who can report on key developments with clarity and poise, similar to human news presenters.
- **Reaction:** The introduction of Ankita has sparked mixed reactions online, with some praising the innovation as a testament to Assam's digital transformation, while others have expressed concerns over potential job losses due to automation.

- Impact: This move marks a growing trend of AI integration in Indian media and may prompt other states and organizations to follow suit, sparking wider discussions on the role of technology in news broadcasting.

About Assam:**Capital:** Dispur**Largest city:** Guwahati**CM:** Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma**Uttar Pradesh govt launches India's 1st Vistadome jungle safari train**

Uttar Pradesh has launched India's first Vistadome jungle safari train, offering tourists a unique and immersive wildlife experience through the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary. The 107-kilometer journey, lasting approximately 4 hours and 25 minutes, features specially designed Vistadome coaches equipped with large glass windows and transparent roofs, allowing panoramic views of the lush forest landscape. Initially operating on weekends, the service is set to expand to daily operations to enhance eco-tourism and provide greater accessibility to visitors.

Foot notes:

- Route and Duration: The Vistadome train connects Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in Bahraich district to Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in Pilibhit, covering 107 kilometers in approximately 4 hours and 25 minutes.
- Special Features: The train features specially designed coaches with large glass windows and transparent roofs, providing tourists with breathtaking views of the jungle's natural landscapes, biodiversity, and wildlife.
- Operational Schedule: Currently, the train operates on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays), but plans are underway to expand it to daily operations, making it accessible to more visitors throughout the year.
- Ticket Price and Package: The ticket costs 275 per person for this route. The Uttar Pradesh Eco Tourism Development Board is also working on a package to transport tourists from Lucknow to Katarniaghat, which may include government subsidies to enhance affordability.

SPORTS NEWS**Miss Estonia Creates History by Winning Miss World 2025 Sports Challenge in Hyderabad**

Eliise Randmaa of Estonia made history by winning the gold medal at the Miss World 2025 Sports Challenge, held at Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad on May 17. This victory marks Estonia's first-ever win in this fast-track event, securing Randmaa an automatic spot in the Top 40 of the competition. Competing as part of the Blue Team, she outperformed contestants from over 100 countries, including runner-up Aurélie Joachim from the Americas and Caribbean

region. The Sports Challenge is a significant segment of the Miss World pageant, testing the physical fitness and endurance of participants.

Foot notes:

- Location and Context: Estonia is a country in Northern Europe, and its representative, Eliise Randmaa, has made history by winning the Miss World 2025 Sports Challenge.
- Achievement: Eliise Randmaa's victory marked Estonia's first advancement to the next round of the Miss World pageant in over two decades, specifically since 1999.
- Significance: This win is significant not only for Estonia but also for Randmaa, who secured a direct entry into the Top 40 quarter-finalists of the Miss World competition.
- Cultural Representation: Estonia's participation in the Miss World pageant showcases its cultural presence on a global platform, highlighting the country's beauty, athleticism, and cultural heritage.
- Eliise Randmaa's Performance: Randmaa's win in the sports challenge demonstrates her physical fitness, mental agility, sportsmanship, and resilience, making her a standout representative of Estonia.

India Clinches SAFF U-19 Title Against Bangladesh

India clinched the 2025 SAFF U-19 Championship title by defeating Bangladesh 4-3 in a dramatic penalty shootout after a 1-1 draw in regulation time at the Golden Jubilee Stadium in Yupia, Arunachal Pradesh. Captain Singamayum Shami gave India an early lead with a stunning free-kick in the second minute, but Bangladesh equalized in the 61st minute through substitute Md Joy Ahamed. The match proceeded to penalties, where India initially trailed 2-3 before rallying to secure victory, with Shami converting the decisive spot-kick. This triumph marked India's fourth SAFF U-19 title and extended their unbeaten record against Bangladesh in SAFF finals to four. The win was celebrated by a 13,000-strong home crowd, highlighting the rising enthusiasm for youth football in India.

Foot notes:

- Thrilling Final: India won the SAFF U-19 Championship title by defeating Bangladesh 4-3 in a penalty shootout after the match ended 1-1 in regular time.
- Goalkeeper's Brilliance: India goalkeeper Suraj Singh Aheibam made crucial saves during the penalty shootout, including denying Salahuddin Sahed's effort, to help seal the win.
- Tournament Performance: India's victory marked their fourth SAFF U-19 Championship title, demonstrating the team's dominance in the region and highlighting the emerging talent in Indian youth football.
- Match Details: The final match was played at the Golden Jubilee Stadium in Yupia, Arunachal Pradesh, India, from May 9-18, 2025, with six national teams participating in the tournament.

Paolini beats Gauff in Rome to become first Italian winner

Jasmine Paolini made history by becoming the first Italian woman in 40 years to win the Italian Open, defeating Coco Gauff 6–4, 6–2 in the final at Rome's Foro Italico . The 29-year-old showcased exceptional tactical play and composure, capitalizing on Gauff's 55 unforced errors and seven double faults to secure the title in just 89 minutes . This victory marks Paolini's second WTA 1000 title and propels her into the top four of the WTA rankings, solidifying her status as a leading contender on clay courts . Paolini's win not only ends a four-decade wait for an Italian champion in Rome but also highlights the resurgence of Italian tennis on the global stage .

Foot notes:

- **Historic Victory:** Jasmine Paolini defeated Coco Gauff 6-4, 6-2 in the Italian Open final, becoming the first Italian woman to win the tournament in 40 years, since Raffaella Reggi in 1985.
- **Impressive Performance:** Paolini dominated the match, converting five of seven break points and producing 12 winners, while Gauff struggled with 55 unforced errors and double faults.
- **Career Milestone:** This victory marked Paolini's second WTA 1000 title, following her win at the 2024 Dubai Tennis Championships, and her third WTA singles title overall.
- **Ranking Boost:** Paolini is projected to rise to No. 4 in the world rankings, overtaking Iga Swiatek, and will likely secure a top 4 seeding at the upcoming French Open.
- **Doubles Final:** Paolini and her partner Sara Errani will play in the women's doubles final on Sunday, aiming to defend their title and make Paolini the first player to sweep the singles and doubles titles at a WTA 1000 event since Vera Zvonareva in 2009.

Manika Batra's Dominant Win Highlights Indian Table Tennis at World Championships

Manika Batra delivered a dominant performance at the World Table Tennis Championships, showcasing her skill and determination. She defeated higher-ranked opponents with ease, reinforcing her status as India's top female paddler. Her aggressive playing style and precision shots drew praise from both fans and experts. Batra's win not only boosted her individual ranking but also brought attention to India's growing strength in international table tennis. Her success serves as an inspiration for young players across the country.

Foot notes:

- **Manika Batra's Victory:** Manika Batra, seeded 22nd, won 4-0 against Nigeria's Fatima Bello in the women's singles fixture, which lasted only 24 minutes. The scores were 11-5, 11-6, 11-8, and 11-2.
- **Manav Thakkar's Win:** India's top-ranked male singles player, Manav Thakkar, also had a strong start, defeating New Zealand's Timothy Choi 4-1 with scores 11-3, 11-8, 6-11, 11-7, and 14-12.
- **Mixed Results for India:** While Manika and Manav advanced, other Indian players like G Sathiyam and Ankur Bhattacharjee had disappointing outings, losing in the first round.

- **Doubles Performance:** The ninth-seeded pair of Manush Shah and Diya Chitale won 3-0 against Algeria's Mehdi Bouloussa and Malissa Nasri in doubles action.

Akani Simbine Shines Bright With Wind-Aided 9.86s Victory at Atlanta City Games

South African sprinter Akani Simbine continued his impressive 2025 season by winning the men's 100m at the Atlanta City Games with a wind-assisted time of 9.86 seconds. Although the tailwind exceeded the legal limit for record purposes, the performance underscored Simbine's dominance on the track. This victory adds to his undefeated streak this year, which includes wins at two Diamond League events and a bronze medal at the World Indoor Championships. Simbine also anchored South Africa's 4x100m relay team to a historic gold at the World Relays in Guangzhou.

Foot notes:

- **Wind-Aided Victory:** Akani Simbine won the 100m dash with a wind-aided time of 9.86 seconds, showcasing his exceptional speed and skill.
- **Historic Achievement:** Simbine's win marks a historic milestone, as he becomes the first athlete to run sub-10 seconds in the 100m for 11 consecutive years, breaking Usain Bolt's record.
- **Current Form:** This victory is part of Simbine's impressive 2025 campaign, which includes two Diamond League wins and a world-leading time of 9.90 seconds from the Botswana Golden Grand Prix.
- **Upcoming Challenges:** Simbine's focus now shifts to the World Championships in Tokyo and the Olympics, where he aims to capture the global sprint gold that has eluded him in past major events.

Carlos Alcaraz Clinches First Italian Open Title in Style

Carlos Alcaraz clinched his maiden Italian Open title with a commanding 7-6(5), 6-1 victory over World No. 1 Jannik Sinner, ending the Italian's 26-match winning streak. The 22-year-old Spaniard showcased exceptional tactical discipline and mental resilience, saving two set points in the first set before dominating the second. This triumph marks Alcaraz's seventh Masters 1000 title and 19th career title, solidifying his reputation as a formidable force on clay courts. With this victory, Alcaraz ascends to World No. 2 and emerges as a leading contender for the upcoming French Open.

Foot notes:

- **First Italian Open Title:** Carlos Alcaraz won his first-ever Italian Open title by defeating Jannik Sinner 7-6 (5), 6-1 in the final on May 18, 2025.
- **Dominance on Clay:** This victory marks Alcaraz's 7th Masters 1000 title and solidifies his dominance on clay courts, especially ahead of the 2025 French Open.
- **Head-to-Head Record:** Alcaraz now leads the head-to-head rivalry against Sinner 7-4, having won four consecutive matches against the Italian player.

- Sinner's Streak Ends: Alcaraz's win ended Sinner's impressive 26-match winning streak, with Sinner having won 40 of his last 41 matches prior to this loss.

First-Ever Khelo India Beach Games Inaugurated In Diu

The inaugural Khelo India Beach Games commenced on May 19, 2025, at Ghoghla Beach in Diu, marking a significant expansion of India's sports initiatives into coastal disciplines. Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the event, emphasizing its role in promoting youth development and employment opportunities through sports. The Games feature over 1,350 athletes from more than 30 states and Union Territories, competing in six medal events: beach soccer, beach volleyball, beach kabaddi, beach sepak takraw, pencak silat, and open water swimming.

Foot notes:

- Participating Athletes: Over 1,000 athletes from 36 states and union territories are participating in the games, competing in six medal events: beach soccer, beach volleyball, beach kabaddi, beach sepak takraw, pencak silat, and open water swimming.
- Demonstration Sports: In addition to the medal events, two demonstration sports - mallakhamb and tug-of-war - are also being featured during the games, showcasing India's rich sporting diversity.
- Objective: The Khelo India Beach Games aim to boost the popularity and reach of beach-based disciplines, promoting sports competition and talent development across the country. Prime Minister Modi described the event as a watershed moment in India's sporting history.
- Duration and Venue: The games are being held at Ghoghla Beach in Diu from May 19 to 24, 2025, and feature teams from across the country, with coastal teams like Goa and Gujarat already making their presence felt in the competitions.

India's Adriyan Karmakar Bags Silver Medal At ISSF Junior World Cup

Adriyan Karmakar, a 20-year-old Indian shooter and son of Olympian Joydeep Karmakar, made a remarkable debut at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, by clinching a silver medal in the men's 50m rifle prone event. He achieved a score of 626.7, narrowly missing the gold by just 0.3 points to Sweden's Jesper Johansson, who scored 627.0. This performance not only marked India's first medal at the tournament but also set a new junior national record in the event. His success continues the legacy of his father and underscores the rising prominence of Indian shooters on the global stage.

Foot notes:

- Junior National Record: Adriyan's performance set a new junior national record in the men's 50m rifle prone event with a score of 626.7.
- Competition Details: The ISSF Junior World Cup features over 630 athletes from 59 countries, including all the strong nations in shooting sports. The competition includes 17 Olympic and non-Olympic events.

- **Indian Contingent:** A 57-member Indian contingent is participating in the tournament, accompanied by 21 officials, including coaches and support staff. Other notable Indian shooters include Olympian Raiza Dhillon and mixed team trap bronze medalist Sabeera Harris.
- **Adriyan's Background:** Adriyan Karmakar is the son of former Indian shooter and national coach Joydeep Karmakar. This achievement marks a significant milestone in Adriyan's shooting career, showcasing his talent and potential in the sport.

Haryana's Kanak Won India's First Gold Medal At ISSF Junior World Cup

Seventeen-year-old Kanak Budhwar from Haryana secured India's first gold medal at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in Suhl, Germany, by winning the women's 10m air pistol event. She achieved a score of 239.0 in the 24-shot final, surpassing Moldova's two-time Olympian and reigning European champion, Anna Dulce, by 1.7 points. Kanak's victory was marked by a strong finish, including a crucial 10.5 shot that propelled her into the lead, followed by a series of high-scoring shots that solidified her top position. This triumph adds to her previous accomplishments, including a silver medal at the Junior World Championships in Lima last year.

Foot notes:

- **Opponent:** She defeated Anna Dulce, a two-time Olympian and reigning European champion from Moldova, by a margin of 1.7 points.
- **Performance:** Kanak showed remarkable composure in the final stages, hitting crucial high-scoring shots, including three high 10s and a 10.1, to secure the gold medal.
- **Qualification:** Kanak and fellow Indian shooter Prachi qualified for the final with scores of 572 and 571, respectively. While Prachi finished fifth, Kanak's consistent performance earned her the top spot.
- **Mentorship:** Kanak's victory is also attributed to her coach, Jitu Rai, a former Asian Games and World Cup medalist, who has been instrumental in her development as a shooter.

India's Raiza Dhillon secured a silver medal in the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025

Indian skeet shooter Raiza Dhillon clinched a silver medal at the 2025 ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, marking a significant milestone in her shooting career. In the women's skeet final, Dhillon hit 51 out of 60 targets, finishing just behind Great Britain's Phoebe Bodley-Scott, who secured gold with 53 hits. This achievement is particularly noteworthy as it represents Dhillon's first individual ISSF World Cup medal at any level, achieved during her final year as a junior competitor. Earlier in the competition, she advanced to the final after a tense three-way shoot-off in the qualifiers, where she posted a score of 116.

Foot notes:

- **Event and Location:** Raiza Dhillon won a silver medal in the women's skeet event at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.

- **Score:** She scored 51 targets in the 60-shot final, finishing behind Phoebe Bodley-Scott of Great Britain, who scored 53.
- **Qualification:** Raiza began the day in fourth place with a score of 71 after three qualifying rounds and then shot rounds of 22 and 23 to eventually qualify second.
- **Medal Significance:** This silver medal is Raiza's first individual ISSF World Cup medal at any level, showcasing her emerging talent in shooting sports.
- **India's Medal Tally:** The silver medal is India's third medal in the tournament, complementing Kanak's gold in the women's air pistol event.

Joe Root becomes Fastest to 13,000 Test Runs in Cricket

England's Joe Root has etched his name in cricket history by becoming the fastest player to reach 13,000 Test runs. He achieved this milestone during the one-off Test against Zimbabwe at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, reaching the mark in his 153rd match, surpassing the previous record held by Jacques Kallis, who took 159 matches to achieve the same feat. Root became the first English cricketer and the fifth overall to surpass 13,000 Test runs, joining the elite company of Sachin Tendulkar, Ricky Ponting, Jacques Kallis, and Rahul Dravid.

Foot notes:

- **Record-Breaking Achievement:** Joe Root has become the fastest player to score 13,000 Test runs in cricket history, achieving the feat in 153 matches.
- **Matches vs. Innings:** While Root is the fastest to reach 13,000 runs in terms of matches, Sachin Tendulkar remains the quickest in terms of innings, achieving the milestone in 266 innings. Root took 279 innings to reach the landmark.
- **England's First:** Root is the first English player to score 13,000 Test runs, solidifying his position as one of England's finest batsmen of all time.
- **Ranking Among Greats:** Root joins an elite group of cricketers who have crossed the 13,000-run mark, including Sachin Tendulkar, Ricky Ponting, Jacques Kallis, and Rahul Dravid.

Indian Javelin Thrower Neeraj Chopra Clinches Silver Medal At Janusz Kusocinski Memorial Meet

Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra secured a silver medal at the Janusz Kusocinski Memorial meet held on May 23, 2025, in Chorzów, Poland. Competing under challenging cold and wet conditions at the Silesian Stadium, Chopra delivered his best throw of 84.14 meters in his sixth and final attempt, moving from third to second place in the competition. Germany's Julian Weber clinched the gold with a throw of 86.12 meters, while Grenada's Anderson Peters took bronze with 83.24 meters.

Foot notes:

- **Silver Medal Achievement:** Neeraj Chopra secured a silver medal at the 2025 Janusz Kusocinski Memorial meet in Chorzów, Poland, with a throw of 84.14 meters in his sixth and final attempt.
- **Competition Results:** Julian Weber from Germany won the gold medal with a throw of 86.12 meters, while Anderson Peters of Grenada took the bronze medal with a throw of 83.24 meters.
- **Consistency:** This achievement marked Chopra's 22nd consecutive top-two finish since 2021, showcasing his remarkable consistency in the sport.
- **Next Event:** Neeraj Chopra's next competition will be the Ostrava Golden Spike meeting in the Czech Republic on June 24.
- **Event Details:** The Janusz Kusocinski Memorial meet is a World Athletics Continental Tour (Silver Level) event, which took place on May 23 in Chorzów, Poland.

Napoli Clinches Serie A Title in Dramatic Fashion

Napoli clinched the Serie A title in dramatic fashion, ending a decades-long wait for domestic glory. The team secured the championship with a crucial draw against Udinese, sparking wild celebrations among fans. Under the leadership of Luciano Spalletti, Napoli displayed consistent brilliance throughout the season. Key players like Victor Osimhen and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia played pivotal roles in their title run. This triumph marks Napoli's first Serie A crown since the era of Diego Maradona in 1990.

Foot notes:

- **Final Match Result:** Napoli secured the Serie A title with a 2-0 victory over Cagliari in the final round, thanks to goals from Scott McTominay's stunning bicycle kick and Romelu Lukaku's solo effort.
- **Title Race:** Napoli edged out Inter Milan by a single point, despite Inter winning their final match 2-0 against Como. Napoli's victory ensured they didn't need to rely on Inter dropping points.
- **Antonio Conte's Achievement:** Coach Antonio Conte made history by becoming the first manager to win Serie A titles with three different clubs: Juventus, Inter Milan, and Napoli. This marks his fifth Scudetto win.
- **Napoli's Dominance:** The win marks Napoli's fourth Serie A title, with previous wins in 1986-87, 1989-90, and 2022-23. They have now secured their second title in three years, showcasing sustained performance.

Sri Lankan all-rounder Angelo Mathews retires from Test cricket

Sri Lankan cricket stalwart Angelo Mathews has announced his retirement from Test cricket, with his final appearance set for the first Test against Bangladesh in Galle on June 17, 2025. At 37, Mathews cited his decision as a move to "make way for young players". Over a distinguished 16-year career, he played 118 Tests, amassing 8,167 runs at an average of 44.62,

including 16 centuries, and captained Sri Lanka in 34 matches . His retirement comes amid concerns over Sri Lanka's limited Test schedule, with only four matches slated for 2025.

Foot notes:

- **Career Highlights:** Mathews played 118 Tests for Sri Lanka, scoring 8,167 runs at an average of 44.62, with 16 centuries and 45 half-centuries. He also took 33 wickets and captained the team in 34 Test matches.
- **Leadership and Legacy:** Mathews led Sri Lanka to memorable victories, including a historic series win in England in 2014. His departure leaves a significant void in Sri Lanka's red-ball setup, given his resilience, composure under pressure, and leadership qualities.
- **Continued Availability for White-Ball Cricket:** Mathews has confirmed his availability for One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and T20Is, keeping the door open for future contributions to Sri Lanka's white-ball squads.
- **Tribute from Sri Lanka Cricket:** Sri Lanka Cricket hailed Mathews as a true servant of Test cricket, praising his 17 years of dedication, leadership, and inspirational presence, and wishing him well for the next phase of his career.

Indian Army officer Major Rohit Kadian shines in World Masters Games

Major Rohit Kadian of the Indian Army delivered an exceptional performance at the 11th World Masters Games in Taiwan, securing four medals across various track events. Competing in the 40–45 age category, he clinched a gold medal in the 1500m race, earning the title of world champion. Additionally, he won silver medals in the 800m and 5000m events, and a bronze in the 400m race. His achievements underscore not only his personal dedication and athletic prowess but also the resilience and discipline emblematic of the Indian Army.

Foot notes:

- **Gold Medal:** He won the gold medal in the 1500m race (40-45 age category) with a time of 4:31.72, earning the title of World Champion.
- **Silver Medals:** Major Kadian secured two silver medals in the 800m and 5000m races, finishing second in both events with times of 2:13.82 and 17:18.01, respectively.
- **Bronze Medal:** He also won a bronze medal in the 400m race, clocking 58.65 seconds in the final.
- **Competition:** Major Kadian competed against elite international athletes and former Olympians, showcasing his grit, determination, and world-class athleticism.

Monica Kezia Sembiring won talent finale at Miss World 2025

Monica Kezia Sembiring of Indonesia has won the Miss World 2025 Talent Final, held on May 22 at the Shilpakala Vedika in Hyderabad, Telangana. Her captivating piano performance earned her the top spot among 24 finalists selected from nearly 100 contestants worldwide . As the Talent Challenge winner, Monica secured a fast-track placement into the Top 10 of the Asia and Oceania continental group, significantly enhancing her prospects in the overall competition

. Cameroon's Issie Princesse and Italy's Chiara Esposito were named first and second runners-up, respectively .

Foot notes:

- Winner of Talent Finale: Monica Kezia Sembiring, representing Indonesia, won the gold medal in the talent competition at Miss World 2025, securing one of the 10 spots allocated for delegates from Asia and Oceania in the quarterfinals.
- Piano Performance: She delivered a spectacular piano performance that blended Indian and Indonesian music, impressing the audience and judges at the Shilpakala Vedika in Hyderabad.
- Competition Highlights: The talent finale featured 24 finalists from different countries, showcasing diverse performances such as singing, dancing, and spoken word, highlighting various cultures.
- Ranking: Monica Kezia Sembiring took the top spot, followed by Issie Princesse from Cameroon in second place and Chiara Esposito from Italy in third place.

AWARD NEWS

President Droupadi Murmu Confers 58th Jnanpith Award

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 58th Jnanpith Award upon Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya during a ceremony at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. Renowned Urdu poet and lyricist Gulzar was also honored with the award for his literary contributions; however, he was unable to attend the event due to health reasons. The Jnanpith Award, established in 1961 and presented by the Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust, is India's highest literary honor, recognizing outstanding contributions to Indian literature. She also emphasized the unifying power of literature in India's cultural and historical journey, citing examples from ancient to modern times.

Foot notes:

- Highest Literary Honor: The Jnanpith Award is India's highest literary honor, recognizing outstanding contributions to literature by Indian writers.
- Established in 1961: Instituted in 1961 by the Bharatiya Jnanpith, a research and cultural institute founded in 1944, the award aims to promote and nurture Indian literature.
- Eligibility Criteria: The award is open to Indian writers writing in any of the 22 languages recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, including English. Winners are chosen based on their overall literary contribution.
- Recipients: Notable recipients of the Jnanpith Award include Gulzar, a renowned poet-lyricist, and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya, a Sanskrit scholar, who were jointly awarded the 58th Jnanpith Award. Other notable winners include Amitav Ghosh, Ashapoorna Devi, and G. Sankara Kurup.

NTPC Simhadri bags gold and silver at Tusker Awards 2025

NTPC Simhadri has been honored with two prestigious accolades at the Tusker Awards 2025, organized by the ICTEP Council in Trivandrum, Kerala. The power station received the Gold Award for Excellence in Out-of-Home (OOH) Advertising, recognizing its innovative public outreach initiatives. Additionally, it secured the Silver Award for Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), highlighting its impactful community engagement efforts. These awards underscore NTPC Simhadri's commitment to both effective communication and meaningful societal contributions. The recognition further cements its position as a leader in integrating corporate responsibility with operational excellence.

Foot notes:

- **Double Win:** NTPC Simhadri won two prestigious awards at the Tusker Awards 2025: Gold in the Excellence in Out-of-Home (OOH) Advertising category and Silver in the CSR Excellence category.
- **Event Details:** The awards ceremony was held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, and was attended by notable figures, including MP Shashi Tharoor, who delivered the keynote address.
- **NTPC's Achievement:** This recognition highlights NTPC Simhadri's commitment to sustainable practices, meaningful CSR initiatives, and innovative outreach programs, aligning with its vision of responsible energy leadership.
- **CSR Initiatives:** NTPC's CSR efforts focus on creating positive impacts in local communities, promoting social development, and fostering inclusive growth.

Mr. Sivakumar conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award by United AP Govt.

Mr. Sivakumar S., the Head of Agri and IT businesses at ITC Limited, was honored with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Agritech by the India Startup Foundation. This accolade recognizes his transformative contributions to the agricultural sector, notably through initiatives like the e-Choupal model, which have significantly empowered farmers across India. His innovative approach has not only enhanced agri production and marketing but also uplifted rural communities economically. His recognition serves as an inspiration for continued advancements in agritech and rural development.

Foot notes:

- **Award for Excellence in Agritech:** Sivakumar S., Head of Agri and IT businesses at ITC Limited, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Agritech from the India Startup Foundation.
- **Empowering Farmers:** The award recognizes Sivakumar's exceptional contributions to reshaping the agricultural sector and empowering farmers across India through innovative initiatives like the e-Choupal model.
- **The Impact:** His transformative initiatives have brought about a paradigm shift in the lives of numerous farmers and redefined the potential within the agricultural domain.

- Global Recognition: Sivakumar's impact extends beyond national boundaries, with significant roles in global forums like the World Economic Forum and the UN Global Compact.

Banu Mushtaq Makes History with International Booker Prize Win

Banu Mushtaq has made history by becoming the first Kannada author and the first Muslim woman from India to win the prestigious International Booker Prize. Her award-winning work, *Heart Lamp*, is a collection of 12 short stories originally written in Kannada and translated into English by Deepa Bhashi. The stories, spanning over three decades, delve into the everyday lives, struggles, and societal constraints faced by women in southern India. This achievement not only represents a personal triumph for Mushtaq, who left her medical studies to pursue her creative passions, but also marks a significant milestone for regional Indian literature.

Foot notes:

- Winning Book: Banu Mushtaq won the International Booker Prize 2025 for her collection of short stories called "Heart Lamp", translated by Deepa Bhashi from Kannada to English. This marks the first time a collection of short stories has won the prize.
- Historic Achievement: Mushtaq is the second Indian author to win the International Booker Prize, following Geetanjali Shree who won in 2022 for "Tomb of Sand". Deepa Bhashi became the first Indian translator to win the prize.
- Book's Significance: "Heart Lamp" features 12 stories that chronicle the lives of women in patriarchal communities in southern India, showcasing their resilience, resistance, and sisterhood. The book is a radical translation that preserves the multi-lingual nature of southern India.

Octa receives the 'Best CSR program by CFD broker Asia 2025' award

Octa, a global CFD broker, has been honored with the 'Best CSR Program by CFD Broker Asia 2025' award by Global Banking & Finance Review. This recognition highlights Octa's commitment to corporate social responsibility, particularly its initiatives in education and disaster relief across Asia. In 2023, Octa executed 21 CSR projects, benefiting over 5,700 individuals, including equipping educational institutions in India and providing emergency aid in Malaysia and Indonesia. The company's efforts reflect its dedication to making a positive impact in the communities it serves.

Foot notes:

- Award-winning Program: The STATUS 200 coding bootcamp, organized in cooperation with Ideas International, aimed to create new career opportunities for dedicated Malaysian students passionate about programming.
- Partnership: Octa partnered with Ideas International, a Malaysian academy focused on providing high-quality, affordable education for youths with diverse backgrounds.

- **Charity Focus:** Octa's charity initiatives prioritize education and emergency relief. Previous initiatives include improving school infrastructure in Indonesia and contributing to children's literacy development in Nigeria.
- **Recognition:** The award from Global Banking and Finance Review highlights Octa's dedication to bringing long-lasting change to local communities through its corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects.

President Murmu Honours 39 Bravehearts with Gallantry Awards

On the eve of the 78th Independence Day, President Droupadi Murmu approved 103 gallantry awards for Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel, including 39 Mention-in-Despatches. These honors recognize acts of exceptional bravery and distinguished service in various military operations. Among the recipients, four Kirti Chakras were awarded, three of them posthumously, and 18 Shaurya Chakras, including four posthumous awards. These awards underscore the nation's gratitude towards its bravehearts who have demonstrated unparalleled courage and dedication.

Foot notes:

- **Number of Awards:** President Murmu approved 103 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on Independence Day 2024.
- **Types of Awards:** The awards include four Kirti Chakras (three posthumous), 18 Shaurya Chakras (four posthumous), one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry), 63 Sena Medals (Gallantry) including two posthumous, 11 Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry), and six Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).
- **Mention-in-Despatches:** In addition to the gallantry awards, 39 personnel, including Army Dog Kent (posthumous), received Mention-in-Despatches for their significant contributions in various military operations.
- **Operations Recognized:** The personnel were recognized for their bravery in operations such as Operation Rakshak, Operation Snow Leopard, Operation Sahayata, Operation Hifazat, Operation Orchid, and Operation Katchal.

Geoff Selig honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award at National Print Awards

Geoff Selig, the late Executive Chairman of IVE Group, was posthumously honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2025 National Print Awards in Sydney. The award was accepted by his brother, Paul Selig, who delivered a heartfelt tribute reflecting on Geoff's enduring legacy in the Australian print industry. Under Geoff's leadership, IVE Group evolved into Australia's largest printing and marketing communications company, employing over 2,000 people and generating \$1 billion in annual revenue. His strategic vision led to more than two dozen acquisitions, including significant deals such as Franklin Web, Salmat, Active Display Group, and JacPak, shaping the modern Australian print landscape.

Foot notes:

- Award and Year: Geoff Selig received the Industry Achievement Award in 2023, recognizing his outstanding contributions to the print industry.
- Industry Impact: As the former executive chairman of IVE Group, Selig had a significant impact on the Australian print industry, growing the business into a \$1 billion company with diverse services.
- Legacy: After his passing, a scholarship was established in his name to support emerging talent in the print industry, providing up to \$10,000 for personal and professional development.
- Industry Recognition: Selig was a pioneer and innovator in the industry for over 40 years, and his contributions went beyond his own business, earning him recognition as an industry legend.

APPOINTMENT & PERSON IN NEWS

Shri Megh Nath Goyal appointed as Director (Technical), National Fertilizers Ltd.

Shri Megh Nath Goyal has been appointed as Director (Technical) at National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), a Schedule 'A' and Mini Ratna (Category-I) Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. An accomplished mechanical engineer, Shri Goyal holds a degree from Guru Nanak Dev Engineering College, Ludhiana, and a master's in engineering from the University of Roorkee. This appointment underscores NFL's commitment to strengthening its leadership team to drive innovation and growth in the fertilizer sector.

Foot notes:

- Current Role: Goyal is currently serving as Chief General Manager (Unit Head) at National Fertilizers Ltd.'s Nangal Unit.
- Background: Although specific details about Goyal's background are limited, his current role suggests he has significant experience in the fertilizer industry.
- Responsibilities: As Director (Technical), Goyal will likely oversee technical operations, maintenance, and projects at National Fertilizers Ltd., ensuring efficient production and implementation of new technologies.
- National Fertilizers Ltd.: The company is a prominent player in India's fertilizer sector, with a history dating back to its establishment.

Sudan Appoints Kamil Idris as First PM Since 2023 Civil War

Sudan has appointed Kamil Idris as its first Prime Minister since the 2023 civil war, marking a significant step towards political stabilization. Idris, a renowned diplomat and former Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), brings decades of international experience to the role. His appointment is seen as a move to restore governance and rebuild public trust in the nation's institutions. The civil war, which caused widespread displacement and economic turmoil, had left the country without a formal political leadership.

for an extended period. With Idris at the helm, Sudan aims to initiate peace talks, boost economic recovery, and foster international cooperation.

Foot notes:

- **Background of Kamil Idris:** Idris is a respected legal expert and diplomat who has served as Sudan's legal adviser at the UN mission and is a member of the UN International Law Commission. His neutral and non-partisan stance is expected to improve acceptance across factions.
- **Objectives:** The appointment aims to form a transitional government that may lead to elections and civilian rule, restore political legitimacy domestically and internationally, and serve as a counter to the RSF's Nairobi charter.
- **Humanitarian Crisis:** The conflict has resulted in a devastating humanitarian crisis, with over 20,000 deaths reported, 13 million displaced, and 4 million refugees fleeing to neighboring countries. Half of Sudan's 50 million population faces severe hunger and food insecurity.
- **Significance:** Idris's appointment is seen as a crucial step toward stabilizing Sudan's political landscape, with journalist Osman Mirghani noting that his lack of political affiliations could increase his acceptance among various Sudanese communities, including RSF supporters.

Justice Kempaiah Somashekar Appointed as Chief Justice of MHC

Justice Kempaiah Somashekar has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court, effective May 22, 2025. His appointment follows the retirement of Justice D. Krishnakumar on May 21, 2025. Justice Somashekar began his legal career in 1990 and was directly appointed as a District and Sessions Judge in 1998. He served in various capacities, including as Registrar Judicial and Registrar Vigilance at the Karnataka High Court, before being elevated to the High Court bench as an Additional Judge in 2016 and becoming a Permanent Judge in 2018.

Foot notes:

- **Background:** Justice Somashekar is currently a judge of the Karnataka High Court. He will take charge as Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court after the retirement of Justice D. Krishnakumar on May 21, 2025.
- **Judicial Career:** Justice Somashekar began his judicial career as a District and Sessions Judge on June 17, 1998. He was elevated as an Additional Judge of the Karnataka High Court on November 14, 2016, and became a permanent judge on November 3, 2018.
- **Experience:** With over two decades of judicial experience, Justice Somashekar's appointment marks a significant development for the Manipur High Court, which has been grappling with a challenging law and order scenario.
- **Assumption of Charge:** Justice Somashekar will assume charge as Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court from the date he takes oath, succeeding Justice D. Krishnakumar.

Tamboli Ayyaj Fakirbhai appointed as Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat

Tamboli Ayyaj Fakirbhai, a 2009-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from the Chhattisgarh cadre, has been appointed as Joint Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat. His appointment, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, is for a tenure of five years, effective until March 20, 2029. Prior to this elevation, he served as Director in the Cabinet Secretariat, bringing valuable experience to his new role. He succeeds M.S. Srikar, who has been reassigned as Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office on a lateral shift basis.

Foot notes:

- **Current Role:** Currently, he is serving as Director in the Cabinet Secretariat, a position he was appointed to on March 14, 2024, and relieved by the Chhattisgarh government on March 16, 2024.
- **Empanelment:** Fakirbhai was recently empanelled for holding Joint Secretary or equivalent positions in the Government of India on March 21, 2025, paving the way for his current appointment.
- **Predecessor:** He replaces M.S. Srikar, a 1999-batch IAS officer of the Karnataka cadre, who was recently appointed as Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office on a lateral shift basis.

Professor Nick Webborn appointed as Chair of UK Sport

Professor Nick Webborn, a distinguished sports medicine specialist, has been reappointed as Chair of the British Paralympic Association (BPA) following an open recruitment process. He has held this position since 2017, bringing extensive experience from his roles at 11 Paralympic Games, including serving as Chief Medical Officer for ParalympicsGB at London 2012 and as President at Tokyo 2020. Webborn is also a Clinical Professor of Sport and Exercise Medicine at the University of Brighton and serves on the International Paralympic Committee's Medical Committee. His reappointment aims to continue the BPA's strategic initiatives, ensuring that ParalympicsGB remains a leading nation in Paralympic sport and leverages athletic success to drive social change.

Foot notes:

- **Background:** Professor Webborn is a world-leading expert in sport and exercise medicine with extensive experience in high-performance sports. He has worked on 13 Paralympic Games and provided performance support to British athletes for decades.
- **Previous Roles:** Before his appointment, Professor Webborn served as Chair of the British Paralympic Association (BPA) since 2017 and recently stepped down after serving the maximum eight years. During his tenure, ParalympicsGB sustained its position near the top of successive Paralympic medal tables while embedding social impact as a cornerstone of their work.
- **Expertise:** As a renowned sports medicine specialist, Professor Webborn has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. He was Chief Medical Officer for ParalympicsGB at the London 2012 Paralympics and for the Invictus Games 2014.

Rishi Verma appointed as Head Of AI Centre At FSS

Rishi Verma has been appointed as the Head of the Artificial Intelligence Centre at Financial Software & Systems (FSS), a prominent global provider of payment technology solutions. With nearly a decade of experience in innovation and intellectual property strategy, Verma has co-invented patents such as the AI-based “System and Method for Ocular Assistance” and has led analytics and commercialization initiatives across various technology sectors. An alumnus of Vellore Institute of Technology and BITS Pilani, he brings a multidisciplinary background in electrical engineering and data science to his new role.

Foot notes:

- **Experience:** Verma brings over 14 years of experience in AI/ML, analytics, and digital transformation, having led initiatives in Generative AI and built AI Centres of Excellence at organizations such as RBL Bank, Diebold Nixdorf, L&T Infotech, and FirstRand Bank.
- **Role:** As Head of AI-COE, Verma will focus on designing secure, scalable, and intelligent payment solutions while building enterprise-grade AI capabilities that align with global fintech demands.
- **AI-Driven Initiatives:** FSS has been actively enhancing its AI-driven initiatives, including strengthening fraud management capabilities and improving customer experience through digital intelligence.

Sanjay Banga appointed as MD & CEO of Tata Power Renewable Energy

Sanjay Banga has not been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL). Sanjay Banga currently serves as President of the Transmission and Distribution (T&D) vertical at Tata Power. He oversees operations across multiple regions, including Mumbai, Delhi, Ajmer, and the Odisha DISCOMs, as well as Tata Power Trading Company Limited and Powerlinks Transmission. With over three decades of experience in the power sector, Banga has held leadership roles at Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited and has contributed significantly to Tata Power's T&D growth strategy.

Foot notes:

- **Background:** Banga is currently the President of Transmission and Distribution at Tata Power, overseeing operations in Mumbai, Delhi, Ajmer, and Powerlinks Transmission.
- **Previous Experience:** Before joining Tata Power, Banga worked with Reliance Energy (formerly BSES Ltd) from 1996 to 2003 and started his career with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) as an Engineer Trainee.
- **Reason for Appointment:** Banga's appointment comes after Deepesh Nanda's resignation as MD & CEO of TPREL due to personal commitments, effective May 31, 2025.
- **Banga's expertise** in power generation and distribution is expected to strengthen Tata Power's renewable energy initiatives.

Anwesh Kumar Aileni appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Commerce
Anwesh Kumar Aileni has been appointed as the Deputy Secretary in the Department of Commerce, Government of India. This appointment comes as part of a recent administrative reshuffle aimed at strengthening key departments. Aileni, a 2013 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, brings with him a wealth of experience in economic and trade policy. His new role will involve formulating and implementing policies related to foreign trade and commerce. The appointment reflects the government's continued focus on enhancing administrative efficiency in vital sectors of the economy.

Foot notes:

- Appointment Details: Anwesh Kumar Aileni, an IRSME officer from the 2013 batch, has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) under the Department of Commerce.
- Tenure: His appointment is for a period of four years, starting from the date he assumes charge.
- Post Creation: This position was created by downgrading a vacant post of Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (ADGFT) in the DGTR.
- Clearance: The appointment was cleared by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet under the Central Staffing Scheme.
- Role Significance: As Deputy Secretary, Anwesh Kumar Aileni will play a key role in the DGTR, which is responsible for handling trade remedies and protecting domestic industries from unfair trade practices.

Actor Tamannaah Bhatia appointed as the brand ambassador for Mysore Sandal Soap

Tamannaah Bhatia has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Mysore Sandal Soap, a move by Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited (KSDL) aimed at enhancing the brand's visibility and expanding its market reach. The two-year contract, valued at 6.2 crore, was formalized on May 22, 2025. However, the decision has sparked controversy, with critics questioning the choice of a non-Kannada-speaking actress to represent a product deeply rooted in Karnataka's cultural heritage. Pro-Kannada groups and social media users have expressed disappointment, suggesting that local talents like Rashmika Mandanna or Rukmini Vasanth would have been more appropriate choices.

Foot notes:

- Purpose: The day aims to promote action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula, a condition that affects many girls and women in developing countries, causing physical and social suffering.
- Theme: This year's theme is "Her health, her right: Shaping a future without fistula," emphasizing the fundamental right to health and well-being, particularly sexual and reproductive health, for all women and girls.

- Causes and Consequences: Obstetric fistula is caused by prolonged labor without medical intervention, often resulting in chronic health problems, depression, social isolation, and deepening poverty. In 90% of cases, the baby dies.
- Prevention and Treatment: The condition is preventable and treatable with access to quality medical care, emergency obstetric services, and comprehensive rehabilitation. UNFPA has supported nearly 150,000 surgical repairs for fistula between 2003 and 2024.

Ram Mohan Appointed as New Director of MPEDA

Dr. M.K. Ram Mohan currently serves as the Joint Director (Quality Control) at the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. In this role, he oversees MPEDA's nationwide quality assurance initiatives, managing a team of over 100 professionals across five Quality Control and 14 ELISA laboratories situated in India's coastal states.

With a career spanning more than 30 years in the seafood and aquaculture sectors, Dr. Ram Mohan has held various significant positions within MPEDA.

Foot notes:

- Academic Credentials: Dr. Ram Mohan holds a postgraduate degree in mariculture from CMFRI (affiliated to CUSAT) and a PhD from ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, showcasing his expertise in the field.
- Leadership Roles: Apart from his new role as Director, Dr. Ram Mohan currently holds board positions at MIDCON, Seafood Park India Ltd, and Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd, demonstrating his leadership capabilities.
- MPEDA's Objectives: As Director, Dr. Ram Mohan will focus on promoting marine product exports from India, ensuring quality control, and potentially strengthening overseas ties and infrastructure planning, given his experience and industry expectations.

IMPORTANT DAYS

'International Human Resources Day' celebrated every year on 20th May

International Human Resources Day is celebrated every year on 20 May to recognize the vital role HR professionals play in shaping workplaces and supporting employees. The day highlights the importance of human resources in fostering organizational development, employee engagement, and a positive work culture. It serves as an opportunity to appreciate HR professionals for their contributions in areas like talent acquisition, training, conflict resolution, and compliance. The celebration also emphasizes the evolving role of HR in addressing modern workforce challenges and driving business success.

Foot notes:

- Recognition of HR Professionals: International Human Resources Day acknowledges the vital role HR professionals play in organizations, focusing on their contributions to strategic planning, talent management, and employee engagement.

- Theme: Each year, the day may have a specific theme, such as "Strategic HR Leadership" or "Empowering Workplaces", highlighting current HR trends and challenges.
- Global Celebration: HR professionals worldwide come together to share best practices, network, and discuss innovative approaches to human resource management.

Importance of HR: The day emphasizes the significance of HR in driving organizational success, fostering a positive work environment, and supporting employee development

National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed on 21st May

National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed annually on May 21 in India to commemorate the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was killed by a suicide bomber from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, in 1991. This day serves to raise awareness about the devastating effects of terrorism and to promote peace, unity, and harmony among citizens. Various activities, including pledge-taking ceremonies, seminars, and awareness campaigns, are organized across government institutions, educational organizations, and civil society to reinforce the nation's commitment to combating terrorism.

Foot notes:

Purpose: The day aims to spread awareness about the dangers of terrorism and promote peace and harmony among citizens. It also seeks to educate people about the need to uphold national unity and integrity.

Rajiv Gandhi's Legacy: Rajiv Gandhi was a significant figure in Indian politics, known for his efforts to modernize the country and promote technological advancements. His assassination by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was a tragic event that shook the nation.

Observance: On this day, various events and programs are organized across the country to promote anti-terrorism awareness and to pay tribute to Rajiv Gandhi and other victims of terrorism.

International Day for Biological Diversity observed on 22nd May

The International Day for Biological Diversity is observed annually on May 22 to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity and the need to protect it. The 2025 theme, "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development," emphasizes the interdependence between biodiversity conservation and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This observance marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, a pivotal treaty aimed at promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Foot notes:

- Biodiversity Importance: Biodiversity is crucial for sustaining life on Earth, providing essential ecosystem services such as clean air and water, soil health, pollination, and climate regulation.

- Biodiversity Loss: Human activities like deforestation, pollution, overfishing, and climate change have led to alarming rates of biodiversity loss, threatening ecosystems and species worldwide.
- Global Framework: The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted in December 2022, sets ambitious targets to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, including conserving 30% of land, sea, and freshwater ecosystems and mobilizing \$200 billion annually for biodiversity conservation.

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula 2025

The International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is observed annually on May 23, and in 2025, it falls on a Friday. This day aims to raise awareness and mobilize support to eliminate obstetric fistula—a severe childbirth injury resulting from prolonged, obstructed labor without timely medical intervention. The condition leads to chronic incontinence, social isolation, and often deepens poverty among affected women. The theme for 2025 is “Breaking the Cycle: Preventing Fistula Worldwide”, emphasizing the need for comprehensive strategies to prevent obstetric fistula through equitable access to quality maternal health services, social reintegration, and sustained investment in healthcare systems.

Foot notes:

- Rebranding Initiative: The company plans to unveil a rebranding initiative at the Invest Karnataka Global Investors Meet to increase the brand's presence, especially in North India, where it currently holds only a 6% market share.
- Global Expansion: Mysore Sandal Soap aims to expand its market reach to 80 countries by March 2026, from its current presence in 23 countries. The brand has already gained international attention, with celebrity chef Vikas Khanna gifting the soap to Hollywood star Anne Hathaway.
- Previous Ambassador: Tamannaah Bhatia follows MS Dhoni, the former Indian cricket captain, who was the brand ambassador from 2006 to 2007.
- Marketing Strategy: The company plans to boost revenue through aggressive marketing strategies, including e-commerce and quick commerce sites.

OBITUARY NEWS

Brian Glanville, journalist lauded as 'the greatest football writer', passed away

Brian Glanville, acclaimed as “the greatest football writer” by peers and critics alike, passed away on May 16, 2025, at the age of 93. Over a remarkable seven-decade career, he served as the football correspondent for The Sunday Times for 33 years and contributed to World Soccer magazine for over 50 years. Renowned for his intellectual rigor and sharp commentary, Glanville covered every World Cup from 1958 to 2006, earning respect for his investigative work and literary flair. Beyond journalism, he authored more than 30 books, including the seminal The Story of the World Cup, and wrote screenplays, plays, and short stories. A lifelong

Arsenal supporter, Glanville's legacy endures through his profound influence on football journalism and literature .

Foot notes:

- Glanville authored numerous books on football, including "The Story of the World Cup" and "Football Memories".
- Glanville was lauded as "the greatest football writer" by many, including American journalist Paul Zimmerman.
- Glanville's writing was characterized by his forthright views and insightful analysis.
- He was known for his ability to balance criticism with admiration, as seen in his praise for players like Paul Gascoigne.

Former Atomic Energy Commission Chairman M.R. Srinivasan passed away

Veteran nuclear scientist and former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. M.R. Srinivasan, passed away at the age of 95 on May 20, 2025, in Ooty, Tamil Nadu. A pivotal figure in India's nuclear energy development, he began his career in 1955 with the Department of Atomic Energy, working closely with Dr. Homi Bhabha on the nation's first nuclear research reactor, Apsara, which achieved criticality in 1956. Dr. Srinivasan played a central role in establishing India's indigenous nuclear power program, overseeing the construction and commissioning of multiple nuclear power plants across the country.

Foot notes:

- Contributions: Srinivasan played a pivotal role in shaping India's nuclear energy program, ensuring self-reliance in the energy sector. His leadership helped India withstand international pressure after the 1974 nuclear test.
- Awards and Recognition: He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honor, for his outstanding contributions to the nuclear energy sector.
- Tributes: Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Srinivasan, acknowledging his instrumental role in developing India's critical nuclear infrastructure and mentoring young scientists.

Padma Vibhushan Astrophysicist Jayant Narlikar passed away

Renowned astrophysicist and Padma Vibhushan awardee Dr. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar passed away peacefully in his sleep at his Pune residence on May 20, 2025, at the age of 87. Born in Kolhapur in 1938, Narlikar was celebrated for co-developing the Hoyle–Narlikar theory of gravity, an alternative to Einstein's general relativity, and for advocating the quasi-steady state cosmology, challenging the widely accepted Big Bang theory.

Foot notes:

- Contributions: Narlikar was a pioneer in cosmology and science popularization, known for his alternative cosmological theories challenging the Big Bang model. He played a crucial role in establishing key scientific institutions, including the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA).

- **Science Communication:** Narlikar was a passionate science communicator who authored books, articles, and created programs for radio and television to make complex scientific concepts accessible to the public. He was also known for his engaging science fiction writing.
- **Institutional Contributions:** Narlikar founded IUCAA in Pune and served as its director until his retirement in 2003. He also led the Theoretical Astrophysics Group at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) and was a Fellow of all three national science academies of India.

Saroj Ghose, father of India Science museum movement passed away

Dr. Saroj Ghose, renowned as the 'Father of India's Science Museum Movement,' passed away on May 17, 2025, in Seattle, USA, at the age of 89. As the founding Director General of the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) from 1979 to 1997, he was instrumental in establishing a nationwide network of interactive science centers, including the Science City in Kolkata, the National Science Centre in New Delhi, and the Nehru Science Centre in Mumbai. Dr. Ghose introduced the concept of Mobile Science Museums to bring science education to remote areas and played a pivotal role in modernizing India's museology landscape.

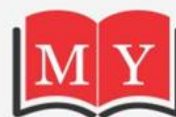
Foot notes:

- **Pioneering Work:** Dr. Ghose was a pioneer in science communication and popularization, transforming the way science is presented to the public through interactive exhibits and museums.
- **National Council of Science Museums (NCSM):** He served as the Director General of NCSM from 1979 to 1997, establishing a network of science centers across India, including the Nehru Science Centre in Mumbai and the National Science Centre in New Delhi.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Dr. Ghose received several prestigious awards, including the Padma Bhushan (2007) and Padma Shri (1989) for his contributions to science popularization.
- **International Impact:** He was a globally recognized figure, serving as President of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and leading international exhibitions like "India: A Heritage of Science," which showcased India's scientific achievements worldwide.

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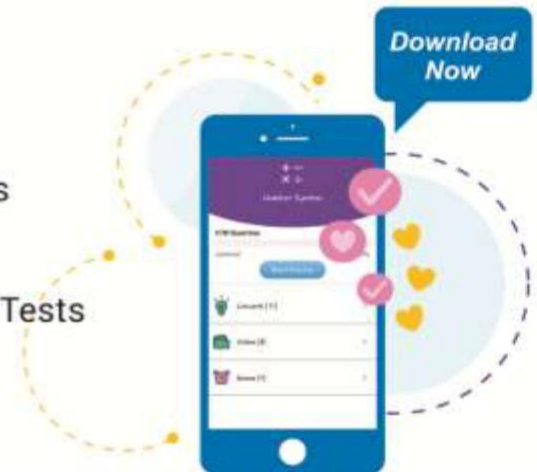
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